Club Display Judging Guidelines for 4-H Livestock Clubs at Fair

First through third place ribbons for club displays will be awarded to all 4-H animal project areas that exhibit at the Eastern Michigan Fair for the following categories:

Best Kept Club Area
Best Decorated Club Display
Best Educational Club Display

Exceptions:
1. The Dog Project Area will be judged only on the Best Educational Club Display. Their Club Displays will be with the 4-H Indoor Projects in the 4-H Indoor Exhibit Building.

2. The Rabbit Project Area has chosen to recognize the club displaying the best overall citizenship during the fair with a good sportsmanship award rather than the Best Kept, Best Decorated, and Best Educational ribbons. The award is decided by a vote of members and leaders in the project area.

The Pocket Pet Project, Dairy Cattle, and Sheep area are not included at this time.

The judging will be done on a point system as follows:

Best Decorated: 0 – 10 points each for creativity, originality, and neatness in and around display.

Best Educational: 0 – 10 points each for creativity, originality, and educational value.

Best Kept: 0-10 points each for neatness in and around display, care of animal (food, water, fresh bedding, etc.), and area supervision. The judges for best kept will score each area twice, on different days, but not on show day for the area.

Score sheets for the judges are available from the 4-H Office.

The Superintendents for each of the Project Areas will select judges for their project area, with input from leaders, members, and staff, who are fair and impartial. The judges should be individuals who understand positive youth development and the 4-H program and do not have children, family members, or club members involved in the displays being judged. It is recommended that each Project Area select 2 to 3 judges to evaluate the exhibits and score them separately. The superintendent or person to whom this has been delegated, with staff assistance, will provide an orientation for the judges using the written guidelines for judges available from the 4-H office. The superintendents will add the judges’ scores and circle the three highest scores in each category. The score sheets are to be given to the 4-H office. The superintendents will get ribbons from the fair office and place them on the winning club displays. These judges are not paid, but lunch is provided for them at the Lions’ Den. The superintendent will accompany the judges to the Lions’ Den and have the cost of the meal charged to the 4-H Livestock Committee.

If the judges will need a pass to enter the fairgrounds for judging, please notify the 4-H staff at least 1 week before fair begins so the passes can be mailed or given to the judges. They will receive a 1-day pass (no rides) for the day they are judging.