



4-H Communications: Zone and Area Competitions

Recommendations for Members, Leaders

To help provide consistency across zone and area competitions, the following competition recommendations have been suggested.

All rules and evaluation guidelines and standards used at provincial finals will apply at zone and area competitions. Please see the “4-H Communications-Speeches” and “4-H Communications-Visual Presentations” guidelines (2013) for full details.

These fact sheets include information on:

- Categories and Time Limits
 - Developing a Speech or Presentation
 - Referencing Information
 - Delivering a Speech or Visual Presentation
 - Provincial Scoring System
 - Judging Process and Providing Feedback
 - Speeches or Visual Presentation Summary/Checklist
 - Visual Presentations: Visual Aids, Technology and Question Period
 - Speeches—Introductions and Thanks
 - Provincial Competition Eligibility
 - Communication Resources
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Zone and area competitions may determine their own eligibility criteria, including but not limited to:

- how many representatives per category may take part from each club
- how many competitors are sent from zone to area competition
- what types of communication categories will be included at the event
- what age categories may move on from club level to zone and /or area level
- Number of judges which will be used for the competition

What If?



From time to time unusual situations may develop or questions be brought forward about communications competitions and eligibility. A number of examples have been described on the following pages.

In reading the examples, 4-H members Jack and Jill are followed through a variety of scenarios. Please note, the examples are only representative of some of a variety of situations and meant to offer guidance in decision making.

A 4-H member may participate in as many competition categories as they wish in any given year.

Example - Jack, a 4-H member from the 4-H Beef Booster Club could compete in the Speech, One Person and Two Person Visual Presentation categories in the same year.

****NOTE:** If members choose to participate in more than one event, it is the members' responsibility to notify the event organizers so the organizers can try to arrange program orders.



A 4-H member in more than one club may enter the same speech/presentation in the appropriate communication category in both clubs.

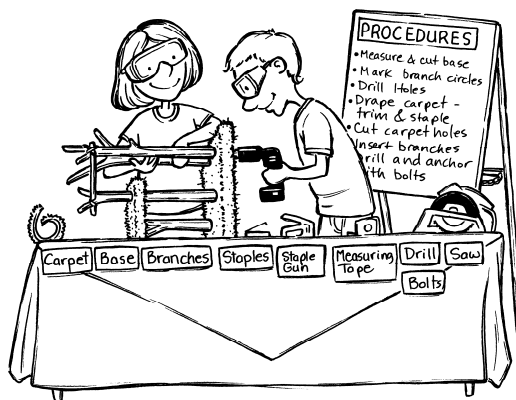
Example - Jill, a 4-H member in both the Happy 4-H Riders and the Smalltown 4-H Multipurpose Club, could enter her speech "My Summer Vacation" in both clubs' competitions.

For any two or more person communication categories (e.g. two person visual presentation) 4-H members from different clubs may partner. They may choose to compete at one or all of their club, zone or area competitions.

Example - Jack, a member of the 4-H Beef Booster Club and Jill, a member of the Happy 4-H Riders may partner to do a two person visual presentation together. This is possible even though they are from different clubs

In the event that a 4-H member or team acquires, through winning, more than one competition spot within the same communications category, one spot will be assigned to him/her/them at the next level of competition.

This will allow opportunity for an alternate to participate. The assignment will be made by the area competition administrator in a manner they deem equitable. In the case where no alternates are available, the member shall decide which club/zone or area they will represent.



Example - Jill won twice with her Summer Vacation speech at both her clubs' competitions. The event organizers checked to see if either club had an alternate.

Jill was asked to represent the Happy 4-H Riders and the Smalltown 4-H Multipurpose was asked to send their alternate.

OR

Neither club had an alternate and Jill was asked to choose the club she wished to represent.

For any two or more person communication categories (e.g. Two person visual presentation), 4-H members may not substitute partners between levels.

Example - Jack had a family emergency just before he and Jill were to compete at the zone/area/provincial competition with their two person visual presentation. The rules do not allow Jill to participate with a substitute partner. Therefore the decision was made to give their spot to an alternate team.

Eligibility to compete at subsequent levels of competition (e.g. club to zone or area, area to provincials) is based on participation and selection at each level. However, club or area competition administrators may determine exceptions in extenuating circumstances. Examples may include but are not limited to; illness, death in the family, only competitor in category, no competitive events offered at the level, etc.

Example - Jack got laryngitis just before he and Jill were to compete at club competition with their two person visual presentation. The rules do not allow Jill to substitute partners. However, they were the only entry in their senior two person visual presentation category in their club. The club chose to submit Jack and Jill's entry to area level as the club reps. rather than leave the spot vacant.



“Competition Administrators” refers to the decision making team at each level of competition. Identification of these team members prior to the event will facilitate effective decision making.

When making decisions, the administrators should consider if the decisions contribute to the development of members through promoting character traits of responsibility, respect, trust, honesty, fairness, sportsmanship, team mindedness and caring. Will the decision result in a quality experience for all participants—a well rounded competitive experience that balances skill, personal development, and self esteem?

This team may include representatives from club/council executive, host club/council and/or other appropriate individuals which might include a MAFRD staff member.

The purpose of the 4-H Communications Program is to encourage and facilitate the development of 4-H members’ public communication skills. Any opportunities designed to enhance this objective are supported and encouraged even if a provincial level competition is not available.

Current examples include non-competitive streams and “Creative Expressions”.



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