

**BRITISH COLUMBIA
SPECIFIC REGULATIONS FOR
POULTRY PROJECT**



Minimum Number of Days to Achievement: 30 days

Very Important Notes:

1. The poultry project includes chickens, ducks, turkeys or geese. A member wishing to raise birds outside of these types may consider Unit 10 – “Contract System”.
2. For units 6 to 9 a member must have passed the poultry junior proficiency and qualified as a senior 4-H poultry member by enrolment date.
3. The poultry project includes:

Unit 1 – Exploring the Poultry Project

Member to raise 4-6 birds from day old chicks, ducklings, goslings or poults of purebred stock or a commercial type breed. Member to learn basic poultry feeding, husbandry, showmanship, grooming and judging. A trio is to be exhibited on Achievement Day.

Unit 2 – Beginning Poultry Breeder

Member to raise 4-6 purebred ‘brooder’ birds and show a trio or female with young from current project on Achievement Day. Member to learn the principles of flock mating, establish a breeding program and gain knowledge of collecting eggs for hatching. Member would also learn the disqualifications of the breed.

Unit 3 – Breeder Replacement Stock

Member to raise 6-8 pure breed birds hatched from previous years’ projects using pure breed stock. The member is to know the disqualifications and serious defects of the breed and know what characteristics to select for future breeding stock.

Unit 4 (To select a, b or c)

a) **Poultry Raising - Layer**

Member to raise 15+ day old chicks or 6+ ducklings/goslings/poults to point of lay. Member to show 3 dozen eggs of different sizes, graded where possible, at project completion. A trio is to be exhibited on Achievement Day.

b) **Hatchery**

Member to incubate and brood 15+ chicks or 6+ ducklings/goslings/poults for 6-8 weeks. A trio is to be exhibited on Achievement Day.

c) **Poultry Raising - Meat**

Member to raise 15+ day old chicks or 6+ ducklings/goslings/poults to market weight and to learn about processing meat birds. A trio is to be exhibited on Achievement Day.

Unit 5 (To select a or b)

a) **Layer Production**

Member to maintain a flock of 25+ birds and keep production records for 6 months. Show 1-3 birds, 3 dozen graded eggs, and egg production records at Achievement Day.

b) **Meat Production**

Member to raise and market of 25+ birds and learn about processing meat birds. A trio is to be exhibited at Achievement Day.

Unit 6 – Poultry Breeder (Senior Management)

Member to establish a (15 bird minimum) breeding project, either flock mating or single mating. Member to learn the fundamentals of open and closed line breeding and how to breed away from a genetic defect, as well as the fundamentals of genetics as it applies to poultry and their particular breed. Member should be breeding to the American Poultry Association Standard. Member to exhibit 2 trios showing genetic improvements made (at least one trio must be from the current project birds) with breeding records on Achievement Day. (It is required that the Senior Management Project Approval Request – Publication #5016 be submitted for project approval. Approval from Youth Development Staff is required to start this project. Senior Management projects must have records kept for 10-12 months. Projects may include a research component to fulfill the 10-12 month project period.)

Unit 7 – Market (Senior Management)

Member to raise 50+ day old broiler chicks to market, or 25 geese or turkeys to 4.5-7.0 kg dressed market weight, or 25 ducks. Sell market birds keeping detailed records. (It is required that the Senior Management Project Approval Request – Publication #5016 be submitted for project approval. Approval from Youth Development Staff is required to start this project. Senior Management projects must have records kept for 10-12 months. Projects may include a research component to fulfill the 10-12 month project period.)

Unit 8 – Layer (Senior Management)

Member to raise 100+ layer pullets or 50+ ducks to lay and carry through a 6 month laying period. For Achievement, member will show 5 dozen graded eggs and all records. (It is required that the Senior Management Project Approval Request – Publication #5016 be submitted for project approval. Approval from Youth Development Staff is required to start this project. Senior Management projects must have records kept for 10-12 months. Projects may include a research component to fulfill the 10-12 month project period.)

Unit 9 – Poultry Senior Management

The member is to select, upon approval of the club leader, a project of interest to the member related to the Poultry project. It is required that the Senior Management Project Approval Request – Publication #5016 be submitted for project approval. Approval from Youth Development Staff is required to start this project. Senior Management projects must have records kept for 10-12 months (projects may include a research component to fulfill the 10-12 month project period).

(updated Jan 2020)

Possible projects could be:

- Comparison of housing systems in the poultry industry
- Marketing of poultry meats
- Raising game birds, pheasants or other birds
- Waterfowl refuge study

Unit 10 – “Contract System”

A club leader and member may choose to use the “Contract System of Achievement” as an alternative to Units 1-5. The purpose of this system is to provide flexibility in setting requirements for Achievement and to allow the use of different types of birds. Consult Youth Development Staff for information and assistance. The contract system is outlined in Poultry Leader Guide, B.C. 4-H publication #1105.

4. All show birds must be properly identified with leg bands or wing clips 30 days prior to Achievement.
5. Birds in all units must be the property of the club member or their family, or if by other arrangement, such as leasing, only on a sound written basis.
6. All birds must be kept on the property where the club member resides unless specific permission is granted by the club leader.
7. Each club member must exhibit 1 to 3 achievement birds at a time and place designated as club Achievement Day, except for those units where completion is stated.

8. The club member is expected to follow recommended practices of feeding and management.
9. A club member must personally feed and care for their birds for at least one month, maintaining and completing their Project Record Book.
10. All 4-H project birds must be kept separate from the farm flock, in separate pens or housing.
11. On the death of bird(s) in the flock, or in the event of incurable sickness or serious permanent injury so as to render the bird(s) totally unfit to be maintained as a poultry club project, a member must notify the club leader at once. At the discretion of the club leader, and by a motion of authorization from the club membership, a member may apply to replace their birds with others of the same age and weight.
 - (i) The District 4-H Council must approve this change at least 10 days prior to Club Achievement Day.
 - (ii) There will be no substitution of deceased, incurably sick, or permanently injured birds under any circumstances after the 10-day deadline.
 - (iii) A District 4-H Council committee reserves the right to inspect the animal. This committee may seek the advice of a veterinarian.

(updated Nov 2018)
12. In the event that an animal is deemed dangerous so as to render the animal totally unsafe to be maintained as a poultry club project, a member must notify the club leader at once. At the discretion of the club leader, and by a motion of authorization from the club membership, a member may apply to replace their birds with others of the same age and weight.
 - (i) The District 4-H Council must approve this change at least 20 days prior to Club Achievement Day.
 - (ii) There will be no substitution of dangerous birds under any circumstances after the 20 day deadline.
 - (iii) A District 4-H Council committee reserves the right to inspect the animal.

(updated Nov 2018)
13. Birds having external parasites at any stage of development brought to Achievement Day will result in the member not achieving with that project.
14. DEFINITION: A **Trio** must consist of 1 male and 2 females of the same age and breed. The exception is an **urban trio**, which is for members who live in urban areas where municipal or city by-laws prohibit them from raising a rooster or cockerel. An **urban trio** consists of 3 females of the same age and breed.
15. Each 4-H family should in addition to this publication have 4-H Publication #150, "BRITISH COLUMBIA GENERAL REGULATIONS FOR 4-H CLUBS".



**BRITISH COLUMBIA
GENERAL REGULATIONS
FOR 4-H CLUBS**



1. Club Membership

Youth who have reached their **6th** birthday before January 1st of the 4-H enrollment year, and who have not reached their **22nd** birthday before January 1st of 4-H enrollment year, are eligible for membership in a 4-H club, based upon enrollment in one of the following categories:

- (A) **Cloverbud Project** for 6, 7 and 8 year olds – youth who have reached their 6th birthday by January 1st of 4-H enrollment year, and who have not reached their 9th birthday by January 1st of 4-H enrollment year. (See Cloverbud Project Regulations #6301 for specific unit guidelines.)
- (B) **General 4-H Projects** for 9 to 19 year olds – youth who have reached their 9th birthday by January 1st of 4-H enrollment year, and who have not reached their 20th birthday by January 1st of 4-H enrollment year. (See 4-H project specific regulations for specific unit requirements.)
- (C) **Specialty Senior Projects:**
 - **4-H 20 & 21 Year Olds** – Young adults who have reached their 20th birthday by January 1st of 4-H enrollment year, and who have not reached their 22nd birthday by January 1st of 4-H enrollment year
 - [20, 21 year old 4-H members] may take only the following projects: Junior Leader Project, and/or Self Determined Project, and/or Senior Management unit in a Project. 20 and 21 year old members may participate in judging competitions but not communications competitions.
 - **4-H British Columbia Ambassadors** – Young adults who have reached their 16th birthday by January 1st of 4-H enrollment year, and who have not reached their 22nd birthday by January 1st of 4-H enrollment year [16 -21 year old 4-H members] and who meet the requirements, may be selected as a 4-H BC Ambassador (See 4-H BC Ambassador Program application form for details, 4-H BC Pub. #129). 4-H BC Ambassadors must be selected through a regional process. They will remain members of general 4-H clubs but will serve in their Ambassador capacity for their entire 4-H region.

2. Independent Projects

The AgMent project provides opportunity for older youth to complete a standalone professional development project independently, without joining a traditional 4-H club. AgMent Projects are for youth who have reached their 18th birthday by January 1st of 4-H enrollment year, and who have not reached their 25th birthday by January 1st of 4-H enrollment year (see AgMent regulations, 4-H BC Pub. #6700 for specific requirements).

3. Leadership

4-H club leaders must be age 22 and older. Leaders must complete the screening, registration and training as per the Provincial Leader Registration Policy (BC-03-01). Any adult working with 4-H members on a regular and ongoing basis (more than a guest speaker or judge who participates occasionally) should be registered as a 4-H leader.

4. Club Requirements

A 4-H Club Shall:

- (A) Consist of not less than six members between the ages of 6 – 21.
- (B) Have one or more registered 4-H Leaders age 22+.
- (C) Have an official 4-H club sponsor.

General 4-H Clubs may set their own calendar of events and activities for the year as long as they include the following minimum required elements:

- (A) Club Business Meetings run by 4-H Members
- (B) Communications
- (C) Judging
- (D) Project Work

- (E) Safety Education
- (F) Achievement Day

Participation opportunities in each element must be offered in 4-H clubs each year. Cloverbuds and Speciality Senior Projects are exempt from some of these elements; see specific project regulations for details.

5. **Enrollment**

Returning 4-H members and leaders must re-enroll annually by **January 15th** via the online enrollment system. District Key Leaders have until January 31st to sign off on enrollments, receive club membership assessment fee cheques, and mail a verified district enrollment summary with fees to the Provincial 4-H office.

New members, new leaders, or new clubs can enroll at any time (365 days) during their first year of enrollment. Key Leaders are to work with the Provincial 4-H office to support the enrollment of brand new individuals.

6. **Projects**

All 4-H Projects are divided into a “Unit” classification and specific regulations governing individual projects should be carefully reviewed by the club leader and the club member.

Members may choose to enroll in a **maximum of four units** in one 4-H year. These units may all be from one project, or from a variety of projects as long as the total number does not exceed four.

- “Project” is beef, clothing, junior leadership, self-determined, etc.
- “Unit” is Unit, 1, 2, 3, etc. of each Project.
- At the time of enrollment, members must select and identify the particular unit(s) they wish to enroll in.
- A 4-H member may only be enrolled in the same unit once in a 4-H year.
- A project animal or article may only be used to fulfill the requirements of one unit in a single year, unless an exception is noted in the specific project regulations.

A 4-H Club should endeavour to have a minimum of four members enrolling in any one project. A lesser number completing at Achievement Day will **not** eliminate them from achievement.

7. **Project Identification**

Only an animal or an article that is properly identified as a 4-H project and is an enrolled unit, shall be eligible to enter a 4-H Club Achievement Day, and appropriate 4-H event classes and competitions at fairs, exhibitions, shows and sales. Animal projects must be identified using project ID sheets (General ID Publication #395, Dog ID Publication #5402, Horse ID Publication #1020, Cavy ID Publication #1620)

- (A) 4-H livestock projects are subject to identification check on Achievement Day, and 4-H events. Projects must be the same as that identified on project identification forms. Incorrect identification will result in the 4-H member being disqualified.
- (B) Each 4-H project must be inspected **at least twice** by the club leader or someone designated by the leader, during the course of the project. In the case of animal projects, at least one inspection must be at the location where the animal is regularly housed. The other inspection of animal projects can take place at a field day or club event. Inspection of non-animal projects can take place at any suitable club activity or event where project work is taking place.

8. **Achievement Day**

All club members, except those enrolled in units specifically designated not to be, must exhibit their project at the Achievement Day of the club. If a member is unable to participate in the scheduled club Achievement Day due to extenuating circumstances (e.g. - family, medical, unavoidable project circumstances), the leader may at their discretion offer an alternative Achievement Day that would allow the member to complete their project. Alternative Achievement Days are a privilege, not a right, and are offered at the discretion of the club leadership. Alternate Achievement Days must ensure that unit requirements have been met as per specific project regulations.

Units that do not have to be shown on Achievement Day, such as multi-livestock projects and senior management projects, should either be:

- (A) Exhibited at a field day, etc.; or
- (B) Inspected at home by the leader or someone designated by the leader.

Sale of completed 4-H projects is optional. If projects are to be sold please note:

- Projects are not eligible to be sold until after they have completed Achievement.
- A 4-H member is not allowed 4-H show rights of a market animal after the sale of the animal.

9. Achievement Certificate Requirements

Achievement certificates are awarded on the basis of work done by the club member throughout the entire year. Scoring is done by the club leader and/or designated person, based upon the following three categories:

1. **MANAGEMENT OF THE PROJECT:** (satisfactory or unsatisfactory)
 - An assessment to determine achievement of unit level standard of husbandry and care for livestock projects, or project work and skill for non-livestock projects.
2. **COMPLETION OF THE PROJECT:** (satisfactory or unsatisfactory)
 - A member must show their completed project at Achievement Day.
3. **COMPLETION OF RECORD BOOK:** (satisfactory or unsatisfactory)
 - A member must satisfactorily complete a project record book and turn it in to a club leader.

Note: Those members receiving “satisfactory” in all three areas will be awarded an Achievement Certificate.

Refer questions on the interpretation of any 4-H Club Regulation to your **4-H Key Leader**

or: **4-H British Columbia Provincial Council**

1150 Kalamalka Lake Road, Vernon, BC V1T 6V2

Toll Free: 1-866-776-0373 Email: mail@bc4h.bc.ca Website: www.4hbc.ca

Background Information to General and Specific 4-H Regulations

General and Specific 4-H Regulations are for each individual 4-H member and individual 4-H Club to complete a 4-H year and achieve. (They are not designed to be used across or between any two 4-H members or 4-H Clubs competing or achieving at an inter-club event or competition.)

General Regulations are provincial 4-H policy governing each/all 4-H members/Clubs.

