

**BRITISH COLUMBIA
SPECIFIC REGULATIONS FOR
POULTRY PROJECT**



Minimum Number of Days to Achievement: 60 days

1. The poultry project includes:

Unit 1 – Beginner Poultry

This project is designed for the 4-H member who does not presently own any poultry, but who wishes to learn more about the project while participating as an active member of the club. During the year, the member will become familiar with the 4-H poultry project, gain knowledge of poultry husbandry, and prepare for ownership of poultry. On Achievement Day, each member will exhibit their record book (4-H BC publication #1116) indicating completion of at least 8 poultry-related activities selected from the poultry project materials, or as identified by the Club Leader.

Unit 2- Chicken

Member to raise 3-6 chickens of healthy, quality stock. Member to learn basic poultry feeding, husbandry, showmanship, grooming and judging. A trio to be exhibited on Achievement Day.

Unit 3 - Duck

Member to raise 3-6 ducks of healthy, quality stock. Member to learn basic poultry feeding, husbandry, showmanship, grooming and judging. A trio to be exhibited on Achievement Day.

Unit 4- Turkey

Member to raise 3-6 turkeys of healthy, quality stock. Member to learn basic poultry feeding, husbandry, showmanship, grooming and judging. A trio to be exhibited on Achievement Day.

Unit 5- Goose

Member to raise 3-6 geese of healthy, quality stock. Member to learn basic poultry feeding, husbandry, showmanship, grooming and judging. A trio to be exhibited on Achievement Day.

Unit 6- Specialty Bird

Member to raise 3-6 specialty birds of healthy, quality stock. Member to learn basic poultry feeding, husbandry, showmanship, grooming and judging. A trio to be exhibited on Achievement Day.

Specialty Birds may include:

- Quail
- Pigeon
- Pheasant
- Peacock

Unit 7 –Beginner Poultry Breeder

Member to raise a female bird, learning the principles of flock mating, establishing a breeding program, and gaining knowledge of supporting the bird hatching the eggs or collecting eggs and using an incubator. The member may use a previous year's 4-H project. Female bird to be shown with two- to three-week-old chicks, ducklings, poult, goslings, or other speciality young, or a trio of brooder birds, at Achievement Day.

Unit 8- Market Layer

Member to care for 6 laying chickens, ducks, turkey, geese, or specialty birds. At Achievement Day, members to exhibit 3 dozen eggs of different sizes, egg production records and a trio.

Unit 9- Market Meat

Member to raise 6 chicks, ducklings, poult, goslings or specialty young of quality, healthy stock to market weight. Member to learn about feed nutrition, market readiness and processing meat birds. A trio to be exhibited on Achievement Day.

Note: Minimum duration of the project is 60 days, but for some types of birds the project may take longer (ex. Turkey takes approximately 6 months to achieve market weight).

Unit 10- Market Carcass

The member is to select a quality bird and raise it to market weight, to be shown at Achievement Day. The carcass is to be graded and/or evaluated at time of slaughter. The member is to inspect the carcass, obtain relevant information on marketing and grading, and gain an appreciation of poultry marketing, and poultry information promotion to the consumer.

Note: It is suggested that a young and/or inexperienced member, who wishes to raise a bird for market, commence with the Market Layer or Market Meat units. A more experienced member should be encouraged to take the Market Carcass Project and gain an appreciation of poultry carcass judging. Placings of market and carcass birds may be separate or combined.

Unit 11 – 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).

Possible projects could be:

- Poultry breeding, with a minimum of 15 birds in the flock
 - Poultry marketing, raise and sell 50 or more market poultry
 - Poultry laying, raise 100 or more layers and carry through at least a 6-month laying period
 - Comparison of housing systems in the poultry industry
 - Marketing of various poultry meats
 - Raising game birds, pheasants, or other birds
 - Waterfowl refuge study
2. All show birds must be properly identified with numbered or multi-coloured (i.e., two bands with different colour) leg bands 60 days prior to Achievement. Meat birds are exempt from the 60 days but are still required to be identified at Achievement Day.
 3. All 4-H project birds must be kept separate from the farm flock, in separate pens or housing, for the duration of the 4-H project.
 4. 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 under the terms of the 4-H Livestock Lease (Form #140-E).
 5. Each 4-H bird must be kept on the property where the 4-H club member resides or on property leased by the member or their parents or kept on another property under the terms of the 4-H Land and/or Stall Space Lease (Form #140-F).
 6. a) Each 4-H club member enrolled in Units 2-10 must exhibit their project birds at the Club Achievement Day.
b) Members enrolled in Unit 11 may exhibit their project at the Club Achievement Day, recognized field day or have a home inspection of their projects by the leader.
 7. A club member must personally feed and care for their birds for the duration of the project and must maintain and complete their Project Record Book.

8. On the death of bird(s) in the flock, or in the event of incurable sickness, serious permanent injury, or other physical limitation 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 20 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 20-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 2022)
9. 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 40 days prior to Club Achievement Day.
 - (ii) There will be no substitution of dangerous birds under any circumstances after the 40-day deadline.
 - (iii) A District 4-H Council committee reserves the right to inspect the animal.
10. A **Trio** can consist of any variation of males and females.
11. 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. 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 or a screened volunteer. See Publication #115 - Volunteer Recruitment and Screening Instructions for information about screening requirements for 4-H leaders and screened volunteers.

4. **Club Requirements**

A 4-H Club Shall:

- (A) Consist of not less than six members between the ages of 6 – 21.
- (B) Have two or more registered 4-H leaders or screened volunteers age 22+. A minimum of one trained 4-H leader and one screened volunteer is required per club.
- (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@4hbc.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.

