



# How to Enter 4-H Contests at the Lancaster County Super Fair

*The information below is from the 2024 Lancaster County Super Fair Book, pages 14–18 and 62. See Fair Book for information about Prepared Speech & Public Service Announcement, Presentation, Shooting Sports, Rabbit Judging, Poultry Judging, Horse Judging and Livestock Elite Showmanship contests.*

All 4-H contests are open to 4-H'ers ages 8–18 unless otherwise stated. Premium payouts for all contests held before and during the fair must be picked up on Monday, August 5, 7–11 a.m. at the Sandhills Global Event Center – Ag Society Hall (except livestock judging, rabbit and poultry contests).

EACH INDIVIDUAL IS LIMITED TO ONLY 1 ENTRY PER CLASS NUMBER unless indicated otherwise. A specific project can only be entered in 1 category or class except Fashion Show garments must also be entered in the Static Exhibit clothing.

## Dog Virtual Trivia

The 4-H Dog Virtual Trivia Contest is an opportunity for youth to test their knowledge of dog science and skills in working with dogs — as well as expand their knowledge.

Held before the fair, this contest will be available:

**Wednesday, May 8, Noon through Wednesday, May 15, 11:59 p.m. Registration is not required.**

The contest consists of questions including, but not limited to, breed identification, dog body language, grooming, parasites and nutrition/feed (age/stage). This year's contest will focus on Sporting and Foundation Stock Service/Miscellaneous dog breeds.

Contest links for each age division, as well as study resources, will be posted at <https://lancaster.unl.edu/4h/fair/virtualanimals>. No study resources are to be used online while participating in this contest.

## Life Challenge

The 4-H Life Challenge judging contest helps youth learn more about issues related to family and consumer science (FCS). Held before the fair, this contest will be **Thursday, May 30, 8:30 a.m.** at the Nebraska Extension in Lancaster County conference rooms, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Suite A, Lincoln. **Register by Monday, May 20** by calling 402-441-7180 (there is no entry form) or emailing Kristin Geisert at [kristin.geisert@unl.edu](mailto:kristin.geisert@unl.edu). A study packet is available online at <https://lancaster.unl.edu/4h/lifechallenge>.

## Plant Science Contest

Open to all 4-H'ers ages 9–18 (by Jan. 1 of the current year) from all counties. Held before the fair, this contest will be on **Tuesday, June 18, 10 a.m.–Noon** at the Nebraska Extension in Lancaster County conference rooms, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Suite A, Lincoln. **Register by Monday, June 17** by calling 402-441-7180. Youth choose which contest(s) to participate in. Participants will be able to use a list of plants while identifying samples. Ribbons will be awarded at the Super Fair or mailed.

- **Tree Identification** — identify tree samples. See “Tree Identification Manual” (4H332) for list of trees that will be used.
- **Weed and Grass Identification** — identify weed and grass samples.
- **Horticulture Contest** — identify samples of vegetables, fruits, nuts, herbs and landscape ornamentals. The plant list contains plants that are commonly used or sold in Nebraska.



### RESOURCES: STUDY RESOURCES

A compiled list of study resources, including plant lists, publications and PowerPoints with photos, are available online at <https://lancaster.unl.edu/hort-fair>

## Fashion Show

Fashion Show is open to 4-H'ers ages 5–18.

**Judging and a Clover Kids optional modeling practice session will be held before the fair on Tuesday, July 23**, beginning at 8 a.m. at the Nebraska Extension in Lancaster County conference rooms and lobby, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Suite A, Lincoln. Time slots will be assigned for judging. Clover Kids may practice modeling any time after 8 a.m.

**The public Fashion Show will be Thursday, Aug. 1, 7:30 p.m.** at the Sandhills Global Event Center – South Hall (formerly Exhibit Hall).

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Fashion Show garments must also be entered in the Static Exhibit clothing area. Garments should be age appropriate. Clothing garments to be modeled shall display tasteful design and modestly cover the body. Examples of design features to avoid include, but are not limited to, revealing low-cut necklines, extremely short hemlines, extremely short shorts and swimwear with minimal body coverage.

Once you have exhibited in a higher level, you are not eligible to exhibit in a lower level. Example: once you exhibit in STEAM Clothing 3, you are not eligible to exhibit in STEAM Clothing 2. Exhibitors may only exhibit in 1 level each year.

If a 4-H'er sewed a garment(s) for someone else to wear, garment(s) may be modeled by the individual it was sewn for.

Participants need to fill out one of the following entry forms for EACH entry:

- Fashion Show Narration Entry Form — sewn item(s); ages 8–18
- Shopping in Style Fashion Show Written Report With Narration — purchased item(s); ages 8–18
- Clover Kids Fashion Show Entry Form; ages 5–7

**Forms MUST be emailed by Monday, July 15** and are available online as fill-in PDFs at <https://lancaster.unl.edu/4h/fair#contest>. Email forms to Kristen Geisert at [kristin.geisert@unl.edu](mailto:kristin.geisert@unl.edu). For sewn garments, a printed copy of the completed Fashion Show Narration form including a fabric sample and sketch/picture of pattern **MUST** also be mailed or delivered to: Nebraska Extension in Lancaster County, 444 Cherrycreek Road, Suite A, Lincoln NE 68528. If computer submission is not possible, mail or deliver handwritten entries.

For each entry, 4-H'ers write the narration which will be read as they model their garments.

#### RESOURCES: HANDOUTS & VIDEO



A how-to handout, "4-H Fashion Show — Procedures and Information," is available online at <https://lancaster.unl.edu/4h/fair#contest> and at the Extension office. All participants are strongly encouraged to read the handout.

Three YouTube livestreamed videos, "4-H Fashion Show at Super Fair" from 2021, 2022 and 2023 are at <https://lancaster.unl.edu/4h/fair#contest>

## Table Setting Contest

4-H'ers may enter only one category and must bring a card table for the display (except for the picnic category, in which an appropriate blanket or other covering may be placed on the floor). **Contest will be Friday, Aug. 2** at the Sandhills Global Event Center – South Hall (formerly Exhibit Hall). **Register by Tuesday, July 23** by calling the Extension office at 402-441-7180 (there is no entry form). Time slots are assigned at 5 p.m., 6 p.m. or 7 p.m.

Participants are to display 1 place setting — include table coverings, dishes, glassware, silverware, centerpiece and menu. **DO NOT PREPARE FOOD.** Participant's attire should correspond with the theme/occasion of their table setting.

Why participate in the Table Setting Contest? It is a fun way to learn how to: properly set a table, plan nutritious meals, express originality and creativity in choosing a theme, present to a judge and express knowledge of food, nutrition and food safety.

#### RESOURCES: HANDOUTS & VIDEOS



A how-to handout, "4-H Table Setting Contest Procedures and Guidelines," is available online at <https://lancaster.unl.edu/4h/fair#contest> and at the Extension office. All participants are strongly encouraged to read the handout.

Two YouTube video examples, "4-H Table Setting Judging Example: Birthday Senior Division (Re-enactment)" and "4-H Table Setting Judging Example: Casual Junior Division (Re-enactment)" are online at <https://lancaster.unl.edu/4h/fair#contest>

## Livestock Judging Contest

Open to 4-H and FFA members. Come join the fun judging livestock and bring your parents! There will be a short orientation before the contest outlining how to fill out the judging cards and where to answer questions for those who have never judged before.

**Contest will be Sunday, Aug. 4, Noon–2 p.m.** at the Sandhills Global Event Center – Currency Pavilion Arena, West Side (formerly Pavilion 1). **Register by Thursday, Aug. 1, 6 p.m.** in the livestock office.

Youth may judge as individuals or teams. Teams will consist of 4 youth and 1 adult.

Seven classes shall consist of 2 beef, 2 sheep, 2 swine, 1 meat goat. Classes will be decided day of contest and could consist of market and/or breeding animals. Contestants will have 12 minutes to judge each class. No reasons will be given, however questions will be asked on 3 classes.



#### RESOURCE: VIDEO

A YouTube video, "4-H & FFA Livestock Judging Contest - Judge's Comments," is online at <https://lancaster.unl.edu/4h/fair#livestock>

## Horse Judging Contest

Open to all 4-H'ers ages 8–18 — need not be enrolled in the horse project. **Contest will be Saturday, June 1, 2 p.m.** at the Sandhills Global Event Center – LivestockMarket Pavilion. Enter day of contest. The Horse Judging Contest may consist of 4 classes of 4 horses, 2 halter and 2 performance, to be judged by 4-H members in the Elementary, Junior and Senior age divisions. 4-H members in the senior age division may be asked to judge 1 additional class. All division participants must complete 1 set of oral reasons to be eligible to win the championship buckle. The required dress for judging is a 4-H shirt or plain white T-shirt, blue jeans, belt, boots and 4-H armband OR English attire. No hats, shorts or sandals are permitted. Volunteers and handlers should be properly attired, while in and out of the ring. Note: This is a premium event but does not count as one of the premium events in the horse division.