



Poultry Member Booklet

Name: _____ **Club:** _____ **Age:** _____

This poultry project is great for both new and experienced poultry enthusiasts. Members will learn about showing, fitting, judging, and caring for poultry animals, as well as explore other poultry industry related topics.

Project Completion Requirements (PCR)

- Conformation
- Showmanship
- Fitting Clinic
- Judging
- Industry or Animal Husbandry Educational Activity
- Industry and Animal Husbandry Activity Page **6 years of the project only*
- Member Booklet *(see next page for details)*

Please make sure that **ALL PCR's** are completed and present at your Club's Achievement Day.

Resource material is available from the 4-H PEI Office.



Members must show all of their project animals at their Achievement Day in order to show those animals in 4-H Classes at the Island Fairs and Exhibitions.

Exhibition Requirements

Members show their 4-H animal(s) in conformation & showmanship classes.

Members are strongly encouraged to participate in the 4-H Classes at PEI Fairs & Exhibitions.

Please check with your Project Leaders for more exhibition information and review both the [General Livestock Rules](#) and [Poultry Rules & Classes](#) on the Fairs & Exhibition pages of the PEI 4-H website: www.pei4h.ca

** Updated rules, entry forms, and class lists are available in May of each year. **

4-H Year Completion

In order to complete the 4-H year members are required to:

- Complete the PCR's (Project Completion Requirements) as outlined above
- Complete a **Communication** Project
- Complete a **Community Service** Activity
- Complete an **Agriculture Awareness** Activity

Completing Your Member Booklet



To complete this project you are required to display this completed member booklet at your club's Achievement Day where it will be reviewed by your region's 4-H Specialist.

If your project is not completed by the date of your club's Achievement Day it becomes the responsibility of the **member** to make alternate arrangements with your 4-H Specialist to have your member booklet reviewed.

You should aim to take your member booklet to all meetings and activities for this project.

We recommend protecting your member booklet in a small binder and including a few blank sheets of paper for taking notes. Please remember to take a pen or pencil to all your meetings.

There are several pages in this booklet that will need to be completed for your Achievement Day:

- Fitting Clinic** (*date, location, and signature of leader*)
- Judging** (*score card*)
- Industry or Animal Husbandry Educational Activity** (*date, location, description, and signature of leader*)
- Industry and Animal Husbandry Activity Page:** *These are available to download and print from the 4-H PEI website. There are six activity pages in total and each member is to complete one a year to include in their member booklet. They are to be done in order from one through six. Once a member has completed all six for this project they are no longer required of that member for completion of this project.*
- Member Reflection**
- 4-H Year Completion Checklist**

Not required but encouraged > Feel free to add additional project related materials to your binder such as educational resources, photos of your animals or project activities, etc.

Preventing Disease

Many poultry diseases are under control because of vaccinations, medicated feed and better disease prevention. Prevention is the easiest and most economical way to combat disease and parasites.

Always follow these guidelines:

1. Select healthy, vigorous, disease free chicks.
2. Keep birds of different ages well isolated from each other.
3. Isolate poultry from other livestock.
4. Provide adequate commercial feed or carefully formulated home mixed feeds along with a continuous supply of clean water.
5. Don't crowd poultry.
6. During brooding, regulate temperature, humidity and ventilation to the comfort of the chicks and pouts.
7. Keep unauthorized people out of the poultry house.
8. Incineration is the most satisfactory and economical method of dead bird disposal.
9. Change litter and thoroughly clean and disinfect barn and equipment after each group of birds.
10. In disease outbreaks, promptly obtain a reliable diagnosis. Then use the best treatment for control of that particular disease.
11. **It is highly recommended that all birds shown at exhibitions be vaccinated for Infectious Laryngotracheitis (I.L.T.).** This is a highly contagious respiratory disease for which there is no cure. Flocks found to have this disease must be destroyed.

Poor management is the greatest single cause of losses to poultry. Most diseases caused by nutrient deficiencies should not occur if premixes are added to feed in the proper amounts. Feeding your chicks correctly will create healthier birds that are able to fight off infectious diseases.

The Creed of the 4-H Animal Caretaker

I WILL: Be kind to my animals. I will not take my frustrations out on animals. I will be patient while training my animal. I will never physically abuse my animal and I will only use low-stress handling methods and tools.

I WILL: Provide comfortable and sufficient housing for my animals. I will house my animal with enough space to prevent crowding and fighting. When I tie my animal, I will make sure the rope is not too tight and that there is nothing nearby that can harm the animal. This also means that I will help to prevent my animal from being too hot or too cold, both at home or during transport.

I WILL: Feed my animal on time each day. I will make sure that I can financially afford to feed my animal the right amount and type of feed every day on a regular schedule. This will provide the nutrition my animal needs and ensure the daily comfort of my animal.

I WILL: Provide my animals with clean water. Every day I will check that the water supply for my animal is clean, free of ice, easily accessible and working properly.

I WILL: Keep my animals free from disease and parasites. To ensure the good health of my project animal, I will observe it carefully every day, to see that it is eating and behaving normally. If my animal appears unhealthy, I will see that it receives immediate attention. I will keep accurate and complete records of any health problems that occur. I will never subject my animal to undue suffering.

I WILL: Learn as much as possible about the best methods of feeding and caring for animals. By learning about different methods, my animals will benefit from new ideas that help to ensure that my animals receive the best possible care. I can explore new animal husbandry ideas through reading, asking questions, attending workshops and participating in 4-H activities.

I WILL: Strive to improve the breeding and quality of my animals. The more structurally sound, efficient and productive our animals are, the less stress will be placed on them.

I WILL: Always be a good sport in competition. Events, including Achievement Days, are one way that the public can see how important proper care of our animals is to us. Good manners and a courteous disposition go a long way in presenting a good impression to my fellow members and the public.

I WILL: Talk to my 4-H volunteers or fellow members about others who are not following this creed and are not setting a good example of animal care.

I WILL: Complete my project and take part in all the activities of my 4-H club each year. By taking part in all the activities and completing the project each year, I am allowing myself to learn and experience all that I can about my project. This will help me to improve my understanding of animals and my methods of caring for them.

The Five Freedoms

Farmers, 4-H members, animal owners and caretakers are all responsible for providing their animals with these five freedoms:

Freedom from thirst, hunger and malnutrition by ready access to fresh water and a diet to maintain full health and vigor.

Freedom from discomfort by providing a suitable environment including shelter and a comfortable resting area.

Freedom from pain, injury and disease by prevention or rapid diagnosis and treatment.

Freedom to express normal behavior by providing sufficient space, proper facilities and company of the animal's own kind.

Freedom from fear and distress by ensuring conditions that avoid mental suffering.

For more information on the standard of care for poultry animals see the:
National Farm Animal Care Council's

Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Hatching Eggs, Breeders, Chickens and Turkeys

www.nfacc.ca/codes-of-practice/chickens-turkeys-and-breeders

Showmanship Classes

Ages for 4-H members as of
January 1st of the 4-H year:

Junior: 9-13 years **Senior:** 14-21 years

PLEASE REMEMBER!!!!

Animal Identification Forms & Exhibition Entry Forms
are due to the 4-H Office by

July 15th!

Conformation Class Categories:

- ⇒ Maximum of 4 birds can be shown at any 4-H exhibition or fair. Example: 3 Standard Chickens and 1 Bantam Chicken or you could have one bird in each of the 4 classes.
- ⇒ Conformation Class Categories are: Standard Chickens, Bantam Chickens, Waterfowl, Pigeons, and Turkey (note: if member is also taking the Market Turkey Project they cannot use their Market Turkey animal for the Poultry Project)
- ⇒ You are allowed only one substitution for all classes. When registering at exhibitions, let them know of any changes.
- ⇒ Animal used for your showmanship class must be one of the animals you have entered in the conformation classes.

*Be A
Good Sport!*

In the spirit of "learn to do by doing" all those involved in 4-H are encouraged to practice good sportsmanship, use common sense at all 4-H activities, and the work in any 4-H project should be the member's own work.

Please Note

In this project you are required to raise chicks and/or buy (or borrow) adult birds. The 4-H member is responsible for ordering the chicks from a supplier. Chick orders are usually placed in April. Adult birds can be purchased year round from breeders.

EXHIBITING POULTRY

Birds are generally judged according to the American Poultry Association Standard of Perfection. This book provides a comprehensive guide to type, colors and characteristics of most of the birds shown in North America as well as descriptions of the features that make each breed distinct from any other. ***The PEI 4-H office currently has one copy of the Standard that can be signed out!***

Most exhibitions and fairs have a number of divisions for the entries. There are STANDARDS (sometimes called large fowl or large landfowl) and BANTAMS. BANTAMS are generally a miniature of the STANDARDS size. Normally they are 1/5 to 1/4 the size of their standard counterpart and most important thing to remember is that the breed characteristics are the same. Strangely there are some BANTAMS that do not have a standards counterpart. At the shows you will also see WATERFOWL there is three classes of waterfowl; HEAVY, MEDIUM and LIGHT, as well as a TURKEY class. More information on these divisions can be found in the Standard of Perfection.



The recommended dress code for Poultry classes is:

- ⇒ **Shirt** - dress t-shirt, collared or button up shirt **PLUS** white lab coat
- ⇒ **Pants** - Long pants or shorts (no rips or tears)
- ⇒ **Footwear** - Hard soled footwear for member's safety

Fitting Clinic

As part of your project, you are required to participate in a fitting clinic. Your leader will make the arrangements for a session in which you and other project members will learn how to prepare your own animals for showing.

DATE OF CLINIC: _____ LOCATION: _____

SIGNATURE OF LEADER: _____

Industry or Animal Husbandry Educational Activity

As part of your project, you are required to participate in a **poultry** industry or animal husbandry educational activity. This activity is usually arranged by the project leader for the project group, but, with their project leader's permission, the member can choose to participate in this activity independently (i.e. by attending a workshop, lecture, tour, etc.).

DATE OF ACTIVITY: _____ LOCATION: _____

DESCRIPTION: _____

SIGNATURE OF LEADER: _____

4-H Judging

Judging is an important skill that you will use in 4-H and beyond. As a 4-H member, judging will help you develop important assessment skills, and with practice, you will learn to carefully observe, evaluate, make decisions, communicate with confidence. The skills learned from 4-H judging are used in everyday life situations, so it is always a useful skill to build!

The judging activity will be arranged by your project leader.

Members must fill out the score card below showing that the activity has been completed.

Score Card for Judging

I place this class of: _____ in the order of _____
(Description - specify type of animals or items) (1st) (2nd) (3rd) (4th)

I place _____ over _____ because:

Reasons: _____

I place _____ over _____ because:

Reasons: _____

I place _____ over _____ because:

Reasons: _____

I place _____ at the bottom of this class because:

Reasons: _____

For these reasons, I place this class of: _____ in the order of _____
(1st) (2nd) (3rd) (4th)

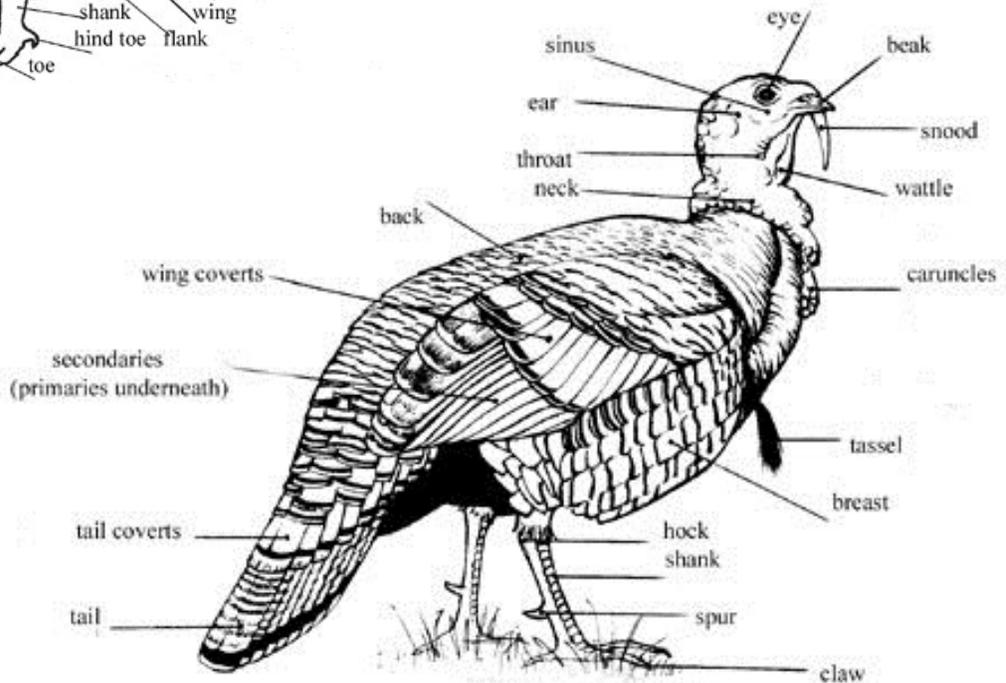
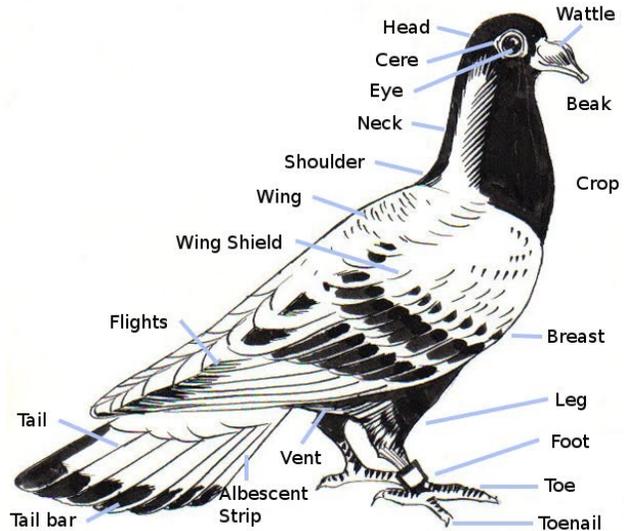
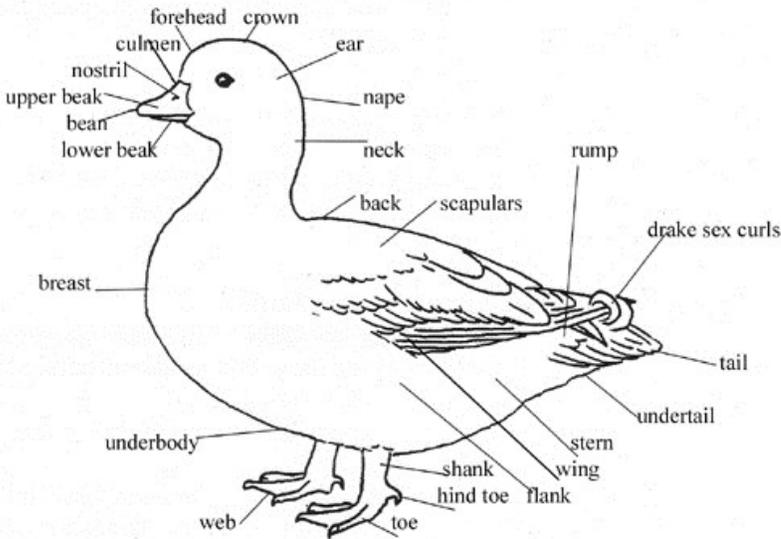
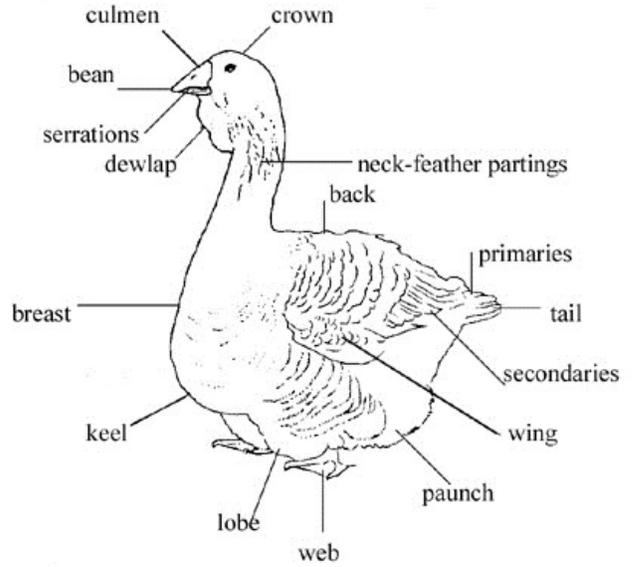
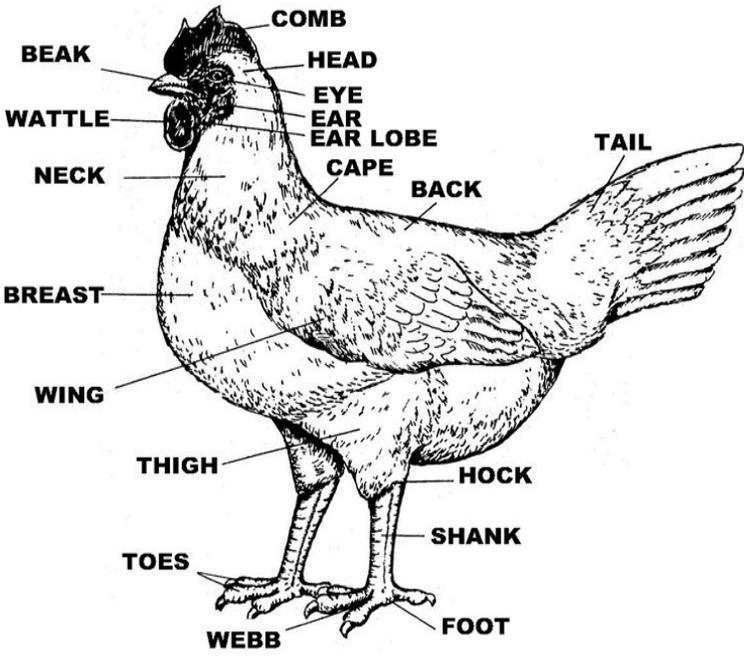
4-H MEMBER OPPORTUNITY - Provincial 4-H Judging Competition (Annual Event)

This event is open to all members, ages 9-21, and offers a great opportunity to learn more about judging in a competitive atmosphere. Three age categories & cash prizes awarded to top members for their judging abilities. Senior members (17-21) also compete for the chance to join the **Maritime 4-H Judging Team** to compete at **Agribition** (Regina, SK) in November.



- ⇒ **4-H Canada Learns** is a resource tool providing information on 4-H projects from different provinces. Check out www.4-h-learns.org/resources - keyword "judging" - for resource documents that will help with developing and building your judging skills!
- ⇒ **4-H PEI** is able to provide information to members and leaders on both livestock and non-livestock judging practices. Check with your 4-H Specialist for more information **AND** be sure to check out the 4-H PEI Judging Resource page at www.pei4h.ca/4-h-judging-resources

Parts of Birds



CANADA
4-H PEI

Poultry Showmanship

A poultry show person is one who has learned the art of selecting, fitting and presenting poultry to advantage at a show. The confidence and ability displayed by the member and the bird's response suggests the amount of previous work done with the bird. The appearance of the bird and knowledge of the show person in response to questions about parts, defects, disqualifications, diseases, breed, and variety characteristics of the bird shows an ability to select and fit for show.

Appearance

Although your bird may not be the ideal specimen and confirmation will not be judged in the showmanship class it should still be clean, healthy and free of disease.

Holding Your Chicken

Place your left hand beneath the body with the index finger between the legs and the remaining three fingers grasping one leg and the thumb the other. The bird's head should be tucked under the elbow with right hand placed on the back. Do not place the bird on the table until the judge asks.

Exhibiting Your Chicken

When showing the bird, hold it in the hand with the bird resting along the flat of the arm from the wrist to the elbow. The hand holds the legs tightly in order to avoid escape by the bird. The other hand can be used to stroke the bird along the back or to open the wing or turn the head, etc., as requested by the judge. Poultry are exhibited on a table. Pose the bird on the table. It is most natural to place the bird on the table facing your left. Pose the bird to show it to advantage. This varies from one breed to the next. In general be sure the bird is standing erect and is alert; also be sure the bird is standing squarely.

While your bird is standing on the table and you are awaiting instruction from the judge, if necessary you may place a hand in front of the bird to prevent it from walking away. With adequate practice though, this should not be necessary. At the same time, never place your hands behind your back because a chicken is an animal and it is impossible to predict what an animal is going to do, especially in an unfamiliar setting. Therefore it is best to leave your hands at your sides or on the edge of the table. You should have the chicken placed on a piece of carpet approximately 30 X 45 cm (12"x18") to help the bird maintain footing

Showing Your Bird to the Judge

Head - Holding in the left hand at shoulder height, show both sides of the head. Use right hand thumb or index finger on beak to turn head, while also turning left hand slightly when showing the other side of the bird's head.

Wings - Spread wings to show feather pattern and condition as well as the top and bottom of the wing. Remember, the right wing is the bird's right wing and left wing is the bird's left wing.

Under colour - Show under color of back and body feathers.

Width of Body - Show width by using span of right hand, between thumb and middle finger over the back.

Breastbone - Show breastbone by turning the back of the bird against your body with the left hand. With right hand, grasp legs and pull to your right while sliding left hand to breast to expose breast between fingers of the left hand.

Feet and Legs - Show feet and legs by placing bird against your body with head up, using left hand. With right hand, show feet and spread toes.

Note: When asked to show a part to the judge continue to do so until instructed to show another part or place bird back on the table (even if the judge is not looking at your bird).

The Show person

Be neat and appropriately dressed for the occasion. A white lab coat is the standard dress code although a white shirt is acceptable if a lab coat is unavailable. Hard-soled shoes are desirable; rubber boots or boots half laced should not be used. Sun Safety hats are permitted to be worn by 4-H members while showing in 4-H classes in outdoor rings. Nothing should be worn that focuses attention on the handler rather than the animal. He/she should not chew gum.

Carry out actions in a confident manner always being considerate of your bird, fellow show people and the judge. The judge should have your attention at all times (always keep your eyes on the judge). Explicitly follow the directions of the judge.

Do not fuss inappropriately with the animal when it is properly posed. Make sure the animal looks its best from the time it enters the ring until it leaves. Recognize the conformation faults of the animal and show it in a manner that will minimize these faults.

Questions the Judge May Ask—Be prepared to answer questions about your bird with reference to:

Parts - The judge may ask you to show any part of the bird, not just those listed above. For a detailed list of parts see the leader's manual. When showing any part lift your bird from the table and show the part to the judge, do not simply point to the part while the chicken stands on the table.

Defects and Disqualifications - The judge may ask the member to list a number of defects and or disqualifications. They may ask for permanent or non-permanent disqualifications. When asked for these, it is best to indicate breed specific defects and disqualifications as this shows your knowledge of the breed, unless specifically asked for general defects and or disqualifications.

Diseases - The judge may ask the show person to name a number of diseases poultry are susceptible to or questions about a specific disease.

Breed and Variety Characteristics - The judge may ask specific questions about the breed and even variety of breed you are showing. Be sure to be prepared to answer any questions pertaining to the breed and variety you are showing. Some examples include standard weight for a pullet and a rooster or the origin of your breed. Much of this knowledge can be found in the standard of perfection book.

Note: *The judge is not limited to asking only questions about your bird, they may ask you questions about other birds being shown in the same class.*

Switching Birds

You may be asked to temporarily switch birds with another show person in the class. If this is the case, be sure the judge or the member you are switching with is in control of your bird before leaving it. Once you reach your new bird re-adjust it so as to show it to its best advantage, which may be different than the breed you are showing. Even if the bird is already standing well, still make a slight adjustment to show the judge you are knowledgeable about this breed. Be prepared to answer any questions the judge might ask about this different breed and do so confidently.

Changing Spots

Any time you move from one spot to the next on the table (hopefully up) pick up your bird and hold it as described earlier, pick up your mat and walk to your new spot on the table. This is an excellent opportunity to discretely shake any manure from your mat Place your mat and bird on the table and pose your bird to its best advantage. Be sure to keep your eyes on the judge while all this is happening.

At The End of the Class

Carry bird away and return to coop, placing head first into the cage. Do not stop showing your bird until it is off the table and you are on your way to the cage. Always be a gracious winner and loser. The judge's decision is final and should be respected.

Special Note to Poultry Members:

It is acceptable to show a pullet as opposed to a rooster although roosters often pose much better and are much 'showier'. In some cases though the rooster may be too large for a younger member to comfortably show and if this is the case it is best to show a pullet.

Although it is acceptable to use either hand (right or left) to hold the bird and to use either hand to show the head, wings, etc., members are encouraged to use their left hand to hold the bird. Members who hold birds with their right hand are reminded that when posing the bird, all birds should be facing the same direction; and if using the opposite hand, showmanship skills may appear to be rougher.

REMEMBER > Members are responsible for care, preparation and exhibition of 4-H project animals. 4-H club leaders and/or parents should be on hand to assist members should they encounter difficulties; however, SHOULD NOT perform duties which members can do themselves.

Showmanship Information for this guide extracted from the 4-H Nova Scotia 4-H Livestock Showmanship Guide.

Poultry Showmanship Score Card

1. Appearance of animal:

	Exhibit Score	
a. Cleanliness	___ /5	
b. Fleshing and finish	___ /5	
c. Feather condition	___ /5	
d. Tame and manageable	___ /5	_____/20 Percent

2. Appearance and attitude of showperson:

a. Clean and neat	___ /5	
b. Considerate of other exhibitors	___ /5	
c. Follows judge's instruction	___ /5	
d. Handles animal gently, appropriately, considerately	___ /10	_____/25 Percent

3. Showing the animal:

a. Picked up correctly	___ /5	
b. Carried properly	___ /5	
c. Poses the animal correctly	___ /5	
d. Displays and examines various parts	___ /5	
e. Returned properly to the pen	___ /5	_____/25 Percent

4. Knowledge of the animal (questions or statements):

a. Knows general breed information	___ /5	
b. Knows the nomenclature (correctly names the major parts)	___ /5	
c. Can define disqualification and give examples	___ /5	
d. Can define defect and give examples	___ /5	
e. Can identify strong and weak points of the animal	___ /5	
f. Can give sex, weight, and purpose of animal	___ /5	_____/30 Percent

Total Score _____/100 Percent

GOOD LUCK AND GOOD SHOWING!

Member Reflection

As a 4-H member, you are encouraged to “Learn to Do by Doing” through hands-on activities. Keeping a record of your 4-H activities with this **Member Reflection** will provide helpful insight for you, your leader and the 4-H Specialist as to skills you have learned and projects you have completed throughout the 4-H year!



Skill Based Project: You are encouraged to work on skill development and completion of project requirements (with guidance from the project leader) throughout the 4-H year. Not every activity will have a tangible item (for display), but you are asked to share the activities and learnings in which you participate below...

Project Activity: _____

What I did: _____

What I learned: _____

What I liked: _____

Project Activity: _____

What I did: _____

What I learned: _____

What I liked: _____

Project Activity: _____

What I did: _____

What I learned: _____

What I liked: _____

Project Activity: _____

What I did: _____

What I learned: _____

What I liked: _____

Project Activity: _____

What I did: _____

What I learned: _____

What I liked: _____

(feel free to use more space if necessary!)

LEADER COMMENTS (optional): Leader observations can be helpful to you in future years with this and other 4-H projects. Be sure to ask your project leader if they would like to reflect on your 4-H year.

I am most impressed by... _____

I believe that you have learned... _____

In the future I encourage you to... _____

4-H Year Completion Checklist

In addition to completing a Skill Based 4-H project, members are also required to participate in Communications, at least **ONE** Ag. Awareness Activity and **ONE** Community Service Activity in order to complete the 4-H year.

Use the space provided to reflect on what you have learned through participation in these activities.

If this information has already been completed in another booklet, please indicate where it can be found:

My Communications Activity

- Speech
 Demonstration (Single)
 Demonstration (Team)
 Alternate Communications: _____

What I learned: _____

What I can work on: _____

Agriculture Awareness Activity

What did you do to complete this activity this year? (Either on your own or with your 4-H Club)

What area of Agriculture would you like to explore in the future?

Community Service Activity

What did you do to complete this activity this year? (Either on your own or with your 4-H Club)

What will you do in the future to give back to your community?

4-H PEI - Staff Comments (Optional)

Completion Requirements		Completion Notes
Skill Based Project		
Communications		
Ag. Awareness Activity		
Community Service Activity		