



July 13, 2021

Today's Agenda & Minutes

- Welcome & Introductions, Roll Call
 - Welcome by Mark Mains, Chair, at 11:35 am ET.
- POW Review & Update
 - SRTLTC Update – 9/23-26/2021, information coming soon
- PLWG Report (Mike Yoder, NC and Angie Freel, AR)
 - No Report
- ECOP Report (Arch Smith, GA and Woodie Hughes Jr, GA)
 - No Report
- USDA-NIFA 4-H and Youth Development
 - Updated National and Multi-State Event Recognition Process. To get the paperwork and process contact Christopher Petty at NIFA Division of 4-H and Youth (Attachment: Fact Sheet)
- National 4-H Council Report (Heather Elliott)
 - 4-H Alum/Olympics Stories – share with Heather
 - True Leaders In Equity Inst – July 15 application deadline (extended)
 - Tufts Study – replication three wave study planned
 - (Attachment – Email with additional information)
- Covid & Programming Sharing
 - States shared their current approach to Covid mitigation and management -there is a general movement to re-opening with reduced restrictions
- Other Business
 - TN (Justin Crowe) – submitted for ARP (American Rescue Program) fiscal recovery plans, encourages other to explore this as option (<https://home.treasury.gov/news/featured-stories/fact-sheet-the-american-rescue-plan-will-deliver-immediate-economic-relief-to-families>)
 - NIFA restrictions on collecting Race/Ethnicity/Gender information from minors.
 - Most states were aware of this restriction but were waiting for more information or clarification from the national level.
 - (Attachment – Email from Dr. Stluka)
 - Virginia – survey sent to volunteer specialists related to marijuana convictions, will also be sent to state 4-H leaders
 - NAE4-HYDP Conference – Memphis, TN about 800 or so participants, no current plans for National Program Leader meeting but there was discussion around having a SR PLN meeting
 - Southern Regional Biennial Specialist Conference (2022) – save the date sent and more information forthcoming



Attachments

1. 2020-2021 POW
2. Attachments listed above in **yellow**

Zoom Connection Information

SR 4-H Program Leader's

Our next scheduled meeting will take place via zoom. Connection information is below. The meeting will be 11:30 ET/10:30 am CT on **September 14, 2021**. Please send me any agenda items in advance if possible.

Thank you...Mark Mains, SR 4-H PL Chair

Hi there,

Mark Mains (he/him/his) is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Southern Region 4-H Program Leader's Meeting
Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, or mobile device: <https://uky.zoom.us/j/96404835271?pwd=NDJ3dXZVTctSbzd6Zms1UXY0RG9aQT09>
Password: SR4-HYD

Or iPhone one-tap (US Toll): 16468769923,96404835271# or 13017158592,96404835271#

Or Telephone:

Dial:

+1 646 876 9923 (US Toll)

+1 301 715 8592 (US Toll)

+1 312 626 6799 (US Toll)

+1 669 900 6833 (US Toll)

+1 253 215 8782 (US Toll)

+1 346 248 7799 (US Toll)

Meeting ID: 964 0483 5271

International numbers available: <https://uky.zoom.us/j/96404835271>

Or Skype for Business (Lync):

SIP:96404835271.7520447@lync.zoom.us



Guidelines for National and Multi-State 4-H Competitive Events

National 4-H Competitive Event – Denotes a multi-state 4-H competitive event designated as “the” national contest in a given program area. Examples include the National 4-H Livestock Judging contest in Louisville, Kentucky, the 4-H Shooting Sports National Championships in Grand Island, Nebraska, and the National 4-H Food Challenge in Dallas, Texas.

Multi-state 4-H Competitive Event – This designation is given to a multi-state 4-H competitive event that is not designated as “the” national contest in a given program area. Examples include the livestock judging contest at the Western 4-H Roundup in Denver, Colorado and livestock judging at the American Royal in Kansas City, Missouri.

Approval Process for National 4-H Competitive Events and Multi-State 4-H Competitive Events

In order to secure use of the 4-H Name and Emblem, all National 4-H Competitive events and all Multi-State 4-H Competitive events are required to submit a multi-state application to the USDA-NIFA Division of Youth and 4-H to the following e-mail address: christopher.petty@usda.gov

Application Documents and information are available at: <https://nifa.usda.gov/resource/4-h-events-resource>

Suggested National and Multi-State 4-H Competitive Event Rules:

A State/territory/District of Columbia is allowed only one entry in only one division of a contest in a national 4-H competitive event each year. An entry is an individual, in the events where individuals compete against individuals only, or a team in events where total team scores are computed and recognition given to the team. Individuals may be recognized in those events that are primarily team events.

Entries not officially entered will not be permitted to participate for any reason.

An individual may enter a **National 4-H competitive event** in a specific program area only once. Participating members of a team entry (even if they are designated alternate by low score) are ineligible to enter the same event again as a part of another team.

The eligibility requirements to enter a National 4-H Competitive Event or a Multi-State 4-H Competitive event are:

Contestant must already have passed his or her 14th birthday, and may not have reached his or her 19th birthday as of January 1 of the year in which the National 4-H Competitive Event is held. However, the State 4-H Leader may grant a special authorization to compete, for youth with developmental disabilities who exceed the upper age limit.

All contestants must be members of 4-H in the state they are representing during the year in which the National 4-H Competitive Event is held.

The contestant(s) or team(s) of contestants must be certified as the official state entry by the State 4-H Leader or by a person designated by the State 4-H Leader. The individual(s) or team(s) may be selected by any procedure the State 4-H Leader believes is appropriate.

The contestant, his or her county 4-H staff member, and the State 4-H Leader must certify as follows on the application form or an accompanying memo:

“This contestant has not participated in post-secondary coursework in the subject area of the national 4-H competition, nor has he or she participated in training for post-secondary competition in the subject area of the national 4-H competition.”

Violation of the above will result in forfeiture of any awards or recognition which have been won in the National 4-H Competitive Event.

Guidelines for 4-H Competitive Event Committees:

The following are guidelines for organization, appointment, and operation of Contest Management Committees:

The Contest Management Committee is responsible for the overall management and operation of the competitive event.

The Contest Management Committee must be made up of at least 50 percent Extension salaried staff, either in the subject matter area of the contest or in 4-H. Other members of the committee may be business or industrial representatives and/or other university personnel. At least two members of the Management Committee should be 4-H youth volunteers, and Management Committees are encouraged to include adult 4-H volunteers as well. National 4-H Council may or may not choose to name a staff member to the committee. The Contest Superintendent(s) should be members of the committee.

It is desirable that committee members have experience with youth development education.

The term of office for committee members should be for three years, except for the first committee. One-third of the terms of the first committee should be for three years, one-third for two years, and one-third for one year so that there will be continuity. Members may be re-appointed.

The term of office for the superintendent(s) will be one to three years at the discretion of the contest management committee. He/she may be re-appointed.

The Contest Management Committee will be responsible for establishing and updating rules. If Eastern and Western divisions exist, the superintendents and contest committee chairs must coordinate classes, awards, budgets, etc. in order to provide similar experiences for youth.

The Contest Management Committee will serve as the appeals committee and receive recommendations for procedural changes.

The committee will establish a system (individual or sub-committee) to solicit the private sector for funds and awards for the event.

Results of the contest should be given to each team at the contest, and shared with the states.

Revised 2016 by a committee of state 4-H program leaders and 4-H event coordinators. Reviewed and approved by the National 4-H Program Leaders Working Group. Updated by USDA-NIFA Division of Youth and 4-H May 2021

FW: Question about 4-H REG Data Collection

Crowe, Justin <jcrowe3@utk.edu>

Tue 7/13/2021 11:53 AM

To: Mains, Mark <mark.mains@uky.edu>

CAUTION: External Sender

From: "Brown, Ron" <rab2@msstate.edu>

Date: May 25, 2021 at 8:32:14 PM EDT

To: "ASRED, COO" <asred-cooplus@lists.msstate.edu>

Subject: Fw: Question about 4-H REG Data Collection

Directors,

Recently, there was a question about the NIFA requirements related to REG data collection for 4-H'ers.

I am sharing the response provided by Suzanne Stluka from NIFA. You can also see the two situations that were posed as part of the questions. rb

Ronald A. Brown, Executive Director
Association of Southern Region Extension Directors
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Mississippi State, MS 39762
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662-325-8915 (fax)
rab2@msstate.edu

From: Stluka, Suzanne - REE-NIFA, Kansas City, MO <Suzanne.Stluka@usda.gov>

Sent: Monday, May 24, 2021 8:59 PM

To: Brown, Ron <rab2@msstate.edu>

Cc: Kephart, Kevin - REE-NIFA, Kansas City, MO <Kevin.Kephart@usda.gov>

Subject: RE: Question about 4-H Data Collection

Hi Ron –

Kevin shared your email with me, and I let him know that I would be happy to provide a response. My apologies for the length of this email message.

First, we held webinars on this topic with our EEO/CR office. The recordings can be found at:

- USDA NIFA Civil Rights website: <https://nifa.usda.gov/equal-opportunity-resources>
 - I recommend watching the January 2021 training as that was directed to 4-H. The password is 'EqualOpportunity'.
 - Also, I will direct you to the FAQ document as well: <https://nifa.usda.gov/office-equal-opportunity-and-civil-rights-faq>

Second, we have been working with the 4-H PLWG Evaluation Subcommittee and 4-H ECOP to also identify these issues such as you mention below. We had an initial meetings on April 29 and May 4 with these groups, and our NIFA Civil Rights/EEO staff were also a part of the discussions. NIFA is continuing to work with these groups to address these topics.

Third, the afternoon of April 29 NIFA also held a REG data collection Q&A with Civil Rights staff from the universities, but it also had several others who had asked to be invited. I believe Kevin had sent you an email letting you know about that and how to register to attend. If the individuals who have posed the concerns below have not yet visited with their Civil Rights staff member/designee, it would be good for them to connect to see if they were on the April 29 Teams meeting.

Fourth, Civil Rights Staff encourages the collection of self-identified REG data whenever possible, because it will make an extension program's parity analysis much more meaningful. However, we are aware that there are issues that prevent the collection of this data in some circumstances, particularly in 4-H programs, because we want legal guardians to identify this information for underage participants.

- In the case of work done in schools, is there any sort of permission slip or notice sent to legal guardians to allow the children to participate in your programs in schools? That could be a means by which to capture REG data.
- You also mention that schools will not share REG data of participating children. Can you explain why schools will not do so? Our EEO/CR staff experience with privacy laws is that there are generally exemptions for providing information to the federal government for purposes of civil rights reviews and investigations.

In closing, we were informed previously NIFA may have provided guidance that is not in compliance. We are currently ensuring the agency is in compliance with Civil Rights laws and policies and part of it included how demographic information was being collected for NIFA. We are also putting more emphasis on providing technical assistance throughout the year to our stakeholders to ensure they have the resources and tools needed to be in compliance. The compliance reviews are just a check-in to see if additional recommendations are needed.

We want to continue to help and partner on this, so please let me know what we can do to help.

Thanks!
Suzanne

Suzanne Stluka

Division Director, Family & Consumer Sciences
Division Director, Youth and 4-H
USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture

From: Brown, Ron <rab2@msstate.edu>

Sent: Tuesday, May 18, 2021 12:21 PM

To: Kephart, Kevin - REE-NIFA, Kansas City, MO <Kevin.Kephart@usda.gov>

Subject: Question about 4-H Data Collection

Hello Kevin,

Hope all is well with you!

As you likely know, the 4-H program does beneficial work with a lot of youth and is working hard to increase the number and diversity of young people who are involved with the program. Recent changes specified by NIFA that young people cannot provide REG data, but their parents must do so

for them, is causing considerable concern.

Following are two messages I've received that describe the real-world situation:

We meet a large number of our 4-H'ers in schools and the parents are nowhere around. The kids or the teachers fill out the enrollment cards. I believe our response will go dramatically down if we require parents to fill out the enrollment cards. In an era where we are working so hard to increase diversity, it would seem incredibly important to be able to accurately track it.

A big issue still is the 4-H REG data ruling that parents have to give the REG data – we can't ask the youth anymore. Our 4-H program leader is very concerned that we will not have the data we have had in the past because so many times a parent just drops a child off rather than coming in to sign a sheet.

It seems to be obvious that strictly following this guidance will likely yield significant lower numbers and/or yield data that fails to appropriately identify individuals into the correct groups (with a significantly higher percentage in the "other" category). Can you check, without causing any big issues, to see if there are any work-arounds that might help. We, of course, want to have an accurate accounting of who is benefiting from the 4-H program, but it seems that in this case we are causing more harm than good in that the data we get under the new guidance will be less accurate than before.

Thanks in advance for your help and guidance. rb

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