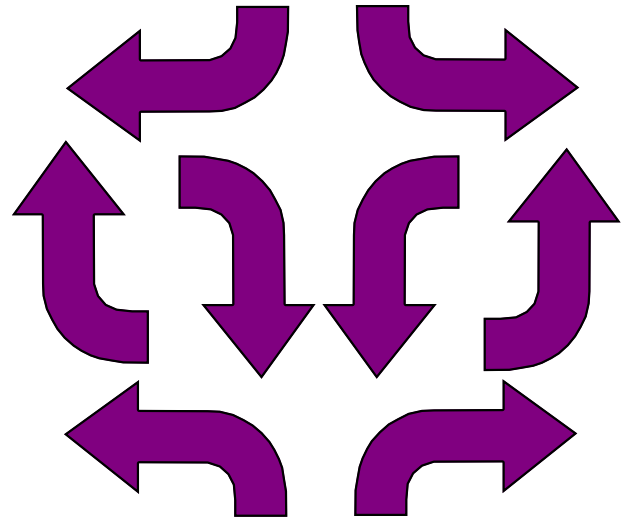


# EXPECTATIONS



The role of a volunteer adult 4-H leader can be stimulating and rewarding, but it can also lead to many questions and possible unforeseen challenges.

Before stepping into this arena, consider possible expectations that you, as a leader, have of parents and members and possible expectations members and parents have of you as a leader.

Group agreement (leaders, members and parents) on expectations for your 4-H club could be valuable “ground-work” in relation to a positive experience.

## ***Possible Expectations of Parents by Leaders***

- Moral support to youth and positive feedback.
- Let youth do their own projects.
- Feedback to leaders.
- Responsibility for supplies and needed money.
- Transportation of youth and animals, if needed.
- Leaders are not baby-sitters.
- Be willing to ask questions.
- Help teach sportsmanship and other life skills gained through 4-H.
- Cooperation among parents.
- Time and support for 4-H activities, meetings, events.
- Leaders are not perfect – parents can be helpful in many ways to make 4-H a positive experience.
- Realistic expectations of youth.
- Parental support of projects.
- No parental competition.
- Follow through by parents with their obligations.

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### ***Possible Expectations of Members by Leaders***

- Cooperation, good sportsmanship.
- Participate in activities, meetings and events.
- Help each other grow.
- Positive attitude.
- Time commitments.
- Appropriate behavior for activity involved in.
- Really interested in project and 4-H.
- On time for meetings, events, etc.
- Work on project(s) between meetings.
- Bring needed books and materials to meetings.
- Keep parents informed.
- Communicate with leader.
- Fulfill club requirements.
- Be reliable.
- Be willing to improve.
- Realize evaluation is a process of learning.

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### ***Possible Expectations of Parents by Members***

- Expect parents to get us to the event on time.
- Moral and financial support of project.
- Be willing to give their time to the club every once-in-a-while.
- Be aware of upcoming events.
- Cooperation between club parents.

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### ***Possible Expectations of Members by Parents***

- Open communications about what is happening in the 4-H club.

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## ***Possible Expectations of Leaders by Members and Parents***

- Carry through on commitments.
- In conjunction with parents/members set completion standards.
- Utilize democratic process.
- Plan total 4-H program in conjunction with parents/members.
- Allow for individual differences among members.
- Communicate with all involved in the group.
- Provide a positive climate.
- Be easy to approach, friendly and agreeable.
- Be strict, but not unreasonably so.
- Be fair and impartial – we all have our partialities but when leading, this should not be evident.
- Remember to keep competition in perspective.
- Have consistent meeting times and length of meeting time. Be on time. Avoid cancellations.
- Utilize a variety of resources for supplies, information, etc.
- Make parents welcome at meetings.
- Involve parents in the club.
- Utilize junior/teen leaders and officers.
- Have needed information and materials and know where to get questions answered.
- Be sure information is getting to all involved.
- Include all parts of the total 4-H program (projects, record books, public presentations, etc.)
- Set a good example – be patient, friendly and open.
- Show they are really interested and want to help members.
- Use acceptable methods of teaching – teach new things slowly for better understanding.
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Also, leaders, remember to have a good sense of humor. Everything will not always go as planned, but if you try to look on the positive side and remain flexible you will survive in the end.

In looking at expectations between leaders and Extension staff, one of the most important is that both have a clear understanding of what they expect of each other.

***Possible Expectations of Extension Staff by Leaders***

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***Possible Expectations of Leaders by Extension Staff***

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