

THE HEAD OF THE LAKES FAIR

Fair time is an exciting and fun way to show what you have learned throughout the year. A “Fair Premium List” is published every other year in April by the Superior Daily Telegram. It can also be found at www.holfair.com. This list is your rule book. Read it carefully as you prepare your exhibits. Only the items listed can be entered. Save your premium list so you can work on project entries all year long, but remember the premium list does change slightly from year to year.

To enter an item in the Junior Fair, you must be enrolled in that 4-H project with the Extension Office. For new members, the deadline for changing or adding projects is May 1 of each year. If you plan on taking an animal to the fair, you may also have other pre-registration deadlines. Make sure you open all letters from the Extension Office promptly to avoid missing deadlines. All 4-H entries must be pre-registered on a Fair Entry Blank and submitted to the Extension Office by the published deadline date (late June).

Entry day is Tuesday of fair week, usually between 12:00 noon and 6:30 p.m. This is when you bring your exhibits to the fair. Make sure you have read the premium list carefully so you have your exhibit complete and ready for judging.

The judging schedule is also listed in the premium list. Some projects are judged face-to-face. You must be there! Together, you and the judge will examine your work. You will be asked questions, and the judge will give you hints to improve your work. This is a valuable experience for everyone.

4-H judging is Danish judging unless specified. This means 4-H members are not competing against each other, but rather their items are judged by how they measure up to the judge’s standards. There are four group placings: blue, red, white, and pink. All 4-H exhibits get a placing under Danish judging. Cloverbuds and Exploring members get a participation ribbon for their efforts. Each placing is assigned a monetary value or premium. See the fair premium list for premium values. Exhibitors usually receive their premium checks in the mail in October.

Open class judging is another option for entering projects in the fair. Adults or children, including 4-H members, may enter items in Open Class. In Open Class you are not limited to entering items from only those projects in which you are enrolled. Open class judging is not Danish judging. For each category, there will be only one blue, red, white and pink placing. This class is not a 4-H class. Although youth are competing against adults, ages are not listed and therefore projects are judged solely on quality.

Fair week is also a time for your club to take its turn working at the Dairy Bar. Each club will be assigned a shift to work at the Dairy Bar and will be responsible for recruiting club and family members to help.