

Polk County 4-H and FFA Fair Association Code of Conduct for Youth and Families

The Polk County 4-H and FFA Fair Association Code of Conduct applies and will be enforced with 4-H and FFA youth, parents/guardians, and families.

- While participating in or attending a sponsored program (e.g. club meeting, project meeting, activity, event, learning opportunity).
- While participating in or attending an event or while on premises used for purposes (e.g. County Fair, State Fair, show ring, exhibit building, barn, food stand).
- While representing Polk County 4-H and FFA Fair Association to the public
- Additional programs, events, or opportunities may have additional rules and expectations.
- At all times throughout a youth's participation when behavior outside of the Polk County 4-H and FFA Fair Association puts youth at risk or has the potential to put youth at risk.

The opportunity to participate in and/or volunteer with Polk County 4-H and FFA Fair Association is a privilege and honor, not a right. All youth participants and parents/guardians supporting their child's participation are expected to review and agree to abide by the Polk County 4-H and FFA Fair Association Code of Conduct before becoming involved.

1. I understand that the Youth Development program is a non-formal education program in which I have a choice to participate. I accept my responsibility to engage in program activities and to excuse myself from this program if it does not meet my personal learning objectives. I recognize the organization has the responsibility and authority to remove youth who are disruptive to the Polk County 4-H and FFA Fair Association.
2. I accept my responsibility to represent Polk County 4-H and FFA Fair Association by holding myself to the standards set forth. I will refrain from behavior that negatively represents myself, my family, my community, Polk County 4-H and FFA Fair Association. I will act in a respectful and responsible manner during all programs.
3. I acknowledge that the Polk County 4-H and FFA Fair Association utilizes competition related to project work as a tool for learning. I will ensure that my project exhibits are appropriate and respectful. I will demonstrate good sportsmanship, encourage this behavior in others, and not allow this behavior to detract from the learning experience. I will not let my personal desire to win overshadow the needs of the group.
4. I accept my personal responsibility to be informed and follow the policies, rules, and deadlines established by Polk County 4-H and FFA Fair Association. I will not cheat, lie, knowingly furnish false information, deceive, or otherwise engage in dishonest, unethical or illegal behaviors. I will not encourage others to disregard or intentionally violate conditions of Polk County 4-H and FFA Fair Association.
5. I will comply with directions of Polk County 4-H and FFA Fair Association officials acting in the performance of their duties. I will not obstruct or disrupt any Polk County 4-H and FFA Fair Association program or encourage others to engage in such conduct. I understand that a judge's decision is final.
6. I will strive to be a positive role model. I will treat youth, parents, volunteers, extension and outreach staff, judges and others with respect, courtesy and consideration.
7. I will communicate (oral, written and electronic) in an open, honest, respectful manner in all situations involving the Polk County 4-H and FFA Fair Association. I will refrain from communication that is negative, offensive, destructive or hurtful to others. I will refrain from sharing private matters in a public group setting.
8. I will promote a spirit of inclusion and welcome participation of individuals from all backgrounds. I will not engage in or tolerate harassment in any form, (For example bullying, slander, put-downs, insults,

Polk County 4-H and FFA Fair Association Code of Conduct for Youth and Families

taunting, name calling, yelling, profane language, sexual innuendos and other comments or hostile behaviors likely to offend, hurt or set a bad example.)

9. I will ensure a safe environment for myself and others by not carelessly or intentionally harming youth or adults in any way: emotionally, mentally, physically, socially, verbally or non-verbally.
10. I will respect the property of others. I will not use, abuse, or take another individual's personal belongings. I will not damage facilities.
11. Youth will not possess or use tobacco, electronic smoking devices (including but not limited to e-cigs, vapes, juuls), alcohol or illegal substances. Youth will not attend Polk County 4-H and FFA Fair Association programs under the influence of alcohol or any illegal substance.
12. Youth will not possess firearms, dangerous devices, or dangerous or deadly weapons during the Polk County 4-H and FFA Fair Association events and activities with the exception of knives not exceeding a 4 inch blade length which are necessary for caring for livestock.

Infractions to the Polk County 4-H and FFA Fair Association Code of Conduct will be addressed by the Polk County 4-H and FFA Fair Association, the local County Extension District, FFA chapters or their appointed representatives. Infractions to the Polk County 4-H and FFA Fair Association Code of Conduct will result in consequences. The consequences may range from a verbal warning to the loss of privileges (e.g. participation at the event or future events, forfeiture of awards or other forms of recognition, forfeiture of positions of leadership, limitation on volunteer responsibilities) to full removal from the Polk County 4-H and FFA Fair Association activities.