

# Elkhart County 4-H

## Rabbit Club

### 2020 Handbook



**I pledge:**

**My Head to clearer thinking,  
My Heart to greater loyalty,  
My Hands to larger service,  
My Health to better living, for  
My club, My community,  
My country and My world**

**4-H Motto:**

**To Make the Best Better**

# Welcome to the Elkhart County 4-H Rabbit Club



**Elkhart County 4-H Rabbit Club Email:**  
**[elkhartcountyrabbitclub@gmail.com](mailto:elkhartcountyrabbitclub@gmail.com)**

**Remind Text(club texting alerts)**  
**Text @rabbitc to 81010**

**[4Hfair.org](http://4Hfair.org)**

**[extension.purdue.edu/Elkhart](http://extension.purdue.edu/Elkhart)**

**[indianastatefair.com](http://indianastatefair.com)**

**Leaders:**

**Lisa Wolf 574-518-2325**

**Stacy Burden 574-202-3513**

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### **Check Off List**

- Enrolled in 4-H online for 2020
- Completed YQCA for 2020
- Completed Animal ID for 2020
- Signed up for Remind Text and Facebook
- Check club calendar for upcoming events/work days
- Mentor Program
- Paid club dues
- Signed up for Bunny Hut shift
- Signed up for Bunny Hut Food Donations
- Signed up for Barn Supervision
- Signed up for Contest
  - Ambassador
  - Showmanship
  - Illustrated Talk
  - Costume Contest
  - Breed ID
  - Knowledge Test
  - Fair Queen

## **Parents and Members**

**Welcome to the Elkhart County 4-H Rabbit Club! There is so much to learn about rabbits and we want to make this the best learning experience possible. We want to encourage the entire family to get involved with the activities, fundraisers, workshops and meetings. You will soon learn that the time and effort that you put into your project and club will be rewarding and educational.**

**To start out, please take time to read the member handbook in its entirety. Our goal is to make sure you are up to date as possible with the club.**

**It is never too late to get involved with the Rabbit Club. We are always in need of helpers throughout the year. Without the assistance of volunteers, we would not be able to be the amazing club that we are. Please do not hesitate to ask any questions that you may have throughout the year.**

**Thank you in advance for your time and dedication to the Elkhart County 4-H Rabbit Club.**

## **Objectives of the 4-H Rabbit Club**

- 1. Develop leadership, initiative, self-reliance, sportsmanship skills along with many other valuable character traits.**
- 2. Experience the pride and responsibility of owning an animal along with the care, feeding and learning about the related cost.**
- 3. Learn safety precautions so that injuries to you and other members, and the animals can be prevented.**
- 4. Promote a love for animals and a humane attitude towards them.**
- 5. Prepare for citizenship responsibilities by working together, supporting community projects and activities. Remember this is your club.**
- 6. Become aware of the opportunities for careers in the rabbit industry or animal field.**

## **Mentor Program**

**We strongly encourage all 9-12<sup>th</sup> grade members to become a part of our mentoring program. We believe members learn from members. We want each member to connect with one another and know they can count on each other for help and direction with their project in Rabbit Club or any other project. We want the younger members to know if they need help at the fair during a show or contest, they will be able reach out to a mentor, project leaders or leaders for help.**

**For the mentor program, we ask that you show up an hour before the meeting, usually 6pm to meet with the leaders. We will explain the lesson for the month. We then will assign you a group to work with. You will also have an adult project leader to assist.**

## Leadership Team

### Organizational Leaders:

Lisa Wolf 574-518-2325  
Stacy Burden 574-202-3513

### Advisory Board:

Cliff Wolf, President 574-518-2324  
Sheryl Kliewer, Vice President 574-238-6941  
Christy Holman, Treasurer 574-274-7535  
Trevor Wendzonka, Secretary 574-575-2355  
Ralph Anderson 574-971-1553  
Jamie Holdeman 574-361-1597  
Brenda Sciba 574-215-0076  
Israel Stark 574-849-8823  
Karl Stutzman 574-214-7850

### Bunny Hut:

Lori Bieganski 574-596-3490

### Jr Officers:

Kali Wolf, President  
Josiah Claar, Vice President  
Gabbee Kantz, Secretary  
Wyatt Dunsmore, Treasurer  
Kate Wendzonka, Reporter  
Silas Stutzman, Devotions  
Austin Anderson, Photographer

### Project Leaders:

Trina Anderson  
Monica Newton  
Sheryl Kliewer  
Cora Cook  
Brenda Sciba  
Jim Sciba  
Sheila Kantz  
Breanna Laughman  
Carissa Bikel  
Lori Bieganski  
Lindsey Trenshaw  
Dina Booher

# 2020 Calendar

## January

6th- Advisory Board @ 7pm  
9th- Club meeting @ 7pm S/S Arena  
(9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade mentors arrive @ 6pm)  
\*\*Start Chocolate Bunny Fundraiser\*\*  
14th- Discover 4-H Event @ ECCC 11am-1pm  
15th- Deadline for 4-H registration

## March

2nd- Advisory Board @ 7pm  
12th- Club meeting @ 7pm S/S Arena  
(9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade mentors arrive @ 6pm)  
\*\*Chocolate Bunny orders due\*\*  
\*\*Nominate Queen Candidate\*\*  
\*\*Start Geranium Orders\*\*

## May

4th- Advisory Board @ 7pm  
14th- Club meeting @ 7pm S/S Arena  
(9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade mentors arrive @ 6pm)  
\*\*T-shirt design & Color Voting\*\*  
\*\*Turn in Popcorn fundraising order\*\*  
\*\*Tattooing Rabbits @ club meeting- 6 per family\*\*  
15th- Animal ID Must be completed online  
16th- Work day #1 @ barn

## July

6th-Advisory Board @ 7 pm  
9th- Club meeting @ 7pm Bldg F  
(9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade mentors arrive @ 6pm)  
\*\*Tattooing Rabbits @ club meeting- 6 per family\*\*  
\*\*Resume due for Ambassador Contest\*\*  
\*\*Resume due for Poster project only(not displaying a rabbit)\*\*  
18th- Work day #3 @ barn  
20th- Project Check in-ECCC building  
23rd- Animal Check in 1pm-7pm NO EXCEPTIONS  
24th-Aug 1 Fair week  
31st- Auction, Check out, Barn Clean up (Work day #4)

## February

3rd- Advisory Board @ 7pm  
13th- Club meeting @ 7pm S/S Arena  
(9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade mentors arrive @ 6pm)  
\*\*Start T-Shirt Design turn in\*\*  
29th- Breed ID/Record Book Workshop 10am-1pmS/S Arena

## April

2nd- Chocolate Bunny Delivery(time TBA)- AG Hall  
13th- Advisory Board @ 7 pm  
16th- Club meeting @ 7pm S/S Arena  
(9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade mentors arrive @ 6pm)  
\*\*Tattooing Rabbits @ club meeting- 6 per family\*\*  
\*\*Start Popcorn Fundraiser\*\*  
8th- Geranium Order turn in  
22nd- Geranium Order pickup on Fairgrounds

## June

1st- Advisory Board @ 7 pm  
5th -6th Cook Day (9<sup>th</sup> thru 12<sup>th</sup> grade ONLY)  
11th- Club Meeting @ 7pm S/S Arena  
(9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade mentors arrive @ 6 )  
\*\*Record books due at meeting\*\*  
\*\*Donations for parade candy, zip ties, food drive\*\*  
\*\*Tattooing Rabbits @ club meeting – 6 per family\*\*  
\*\*Popcorn order pick up @ meeting\*\*  
13th- Work Day #2 @ barn

## August

3rd- Advisory Board @ 7pm  
13th- Club Banquet @ 6pm ECCC building  
2nd-3rd Project Check out ECCC building  
7th-23rd Indiana State Fair

## Other Dates

Sept 7th- Advisory Board  
Oct 5th- Advisory Board  
Nov 2nd- Advisory Board  
Dec 7th- Advisory Board

## Fair Week Calendar

Thursday July 23rd- Check in 1pm-7pm (no late check ins)  
Friday July 24th- Costume Contest, Rabbit Ambassador Contest (Breed ID, Knowledge Test)  
Saturday 25th- ARBA youth open show  
Sunday 26th- Parade  
Monday 27th- Showmanship Contest  
Tuesday 28th- Illustrated Talk, Action Demonstration  
Wednesday 29th- 4-H Rabbit Show, Cutest Bunny contest, award ceremony, Pizza party, Auction tattooing  
Thursday 30th- Round Robin Competition for Small Animal Showmanship Champion  
Friday 31st- Auction, Check out, Barn Clean up (work day #4)

## BREEDS OF RABBITS

### **6 Class Rabbits (19)**

American	Cinnamon*	Silver Fox
Angora (Giant)	Crème d'Argent*	
Argente Brun	Flemish Giant	
Beveren*	Hotot*	
Californian*	English Lop	
Champagne d'Argent*	French Lop	
Checkered Giant*	New Zealand*	
Chinchilla (American)	Palomino*	
Chinchilla (Giant)*	Satin	

\*These breeds have a pre-junior class in ARBA sanctioned shows

### **4 Class Rabbits (30)**

American Fuzzy Lop	Havana	Silver
American Sable	Himalayan	Silver Marten
Angora (English)	Holland Lop	Tan
Angora (French)	Jersey Woolly	Thrianta
Angora (Satin)	Lilac	
Belgian Hare	Lionhead	
Britannia Petite	Mini Lop	
Chinchilla (Standard)	Mini Rex	
Dutch	Mini Satin	
Dwarf Hotot	Netherland Dwarf	
English Spot	Polish	
Florida White	Rex	
Harlequin	Rhineland	

Wednesday Show Only:

The show order (by breed name) will be A to Z on even numbered Fair years and Z to A on odd numbered Fair years. With the exception of meat pens, fuzzy breeds and larger 6 class rabbits.

#### Show order of 6 class rabbits

Meat Pen (under 70 days old)  
Senior Buck (over 8 months old)  
Senior Doe (over 8 months old)  
6/8 Buck (6-8 months old)  
6/8 Doe (6-8 months old)  
Junior Buck (under 6 months old)  
Junior Doe (under 6 months old)  
Pre-Jr Buck (under 70 days old)  
Pre-Jr Doe (under 70 days old)

#### Show order of 4 class rabbits

Senior Buck (over 6 months old)  
Senior Doe (over 6 months old)  
Junior Buck (under 6 months old)  
Junior Doe (under 6 months old)

#### Breeding

If you need 4 or 6 class Juniors for the 4-H Fair at the end of July, you need to breed after December 28th. If you need Seniors for the 4-H Fair, you need to breed in October for 6 class breeds and in November for 4 class breeds.

## **Meat Pen**

A meat pen shall consist of three rabbits, all of the same breed and variety. Broken group meat pens must also be of the same variety. A Meat pen does not necessarily have to come from the same litter. Age limit is 10 weeks. Minimum weight 3 ½ pounds each. Maximum weight 5 ½ pounds each. A meat pen CANNOT be purchased since only two (2) purchased rabbits can be shown. If you want to enter one of your rabbits from your meat pen as a pre-junior class you MUST decide at check in which one you will enter for the 4-H show.

## **ARBA**

American Rabbit Breeders Association, Inc. is the world's leading domestic rabbit breeder's organization. The Standard of perfection is a published guide. It represents the standards of all 49 breeds, from the breed description, fur, color, classes, weight limits markings and conditions and disqualifications. This publication is subject to revision every 5 years. We highly encourage you to visit their website [ARBA.net](http://ARBA.net) You can also download their app to any electronic device. It is the members responsibility to know their breed standards.

## **Special Class Rabbit**

**A SPECIAL CLASS RABBIT IS OF LAST RESORT. YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO HAVE A SPECIAL CLASS RABBIT IF YOU HAVE OTHER RABBITS TO EXHIBIT.**

### **Definition of Special Class**

Non recognized ARBA breed, mixed breed, or fixed(altered) rabbit

A special class rabbit it is NOT eligible for auction.

If a member has to show a special class rabbit, the member is ONLY eligible for a participation ribbon. No placement ribbons will be given.

## **Parents/Guardians**

During the judging process, we ask that everyone please use the provided seating area to watch the shows. ONLY 4-H members, Leaders, Advisory Board members and show workers will be allowed in the roped off area. We need to keep the aisles free and clear so the 4-Hers can bring their rabbit(s) to and from the show tables. During the shows only the 4-H member may put the rabbit(s) on the show table. There will be older members available to help the younger members if they need help.

## **Rabbit Club Dues**

For the 2020 Calendar club year, the Elkhart Co. 4-H Club fee is \$20 for the 1<sup>st</sup> child and \$15 for each additional child. These fees will be due by the May meeting. The fees help cover the cost of running the club. This is in addition to the fees required by Purdue Extension. ALL 10-year members club dues will be waived.

## **Petting Pen**

We will have a petting pen set up at the front of the barn during Fair week that the public is welcome to come in and "touch" the rabbits. Rabbits that are on display at the Fair for your exhibit are not allowed to be in the petting pen. Petting pen rabbits must be brought from home, have a health check at the back of the barn by an advisory board member before they are allowed into the barn. They will not be permitted to stay on the Fairgrounds during the night and must be taken home each day. The petting pen will need members only to work at least a 2hr shift. There will be a sign-up sheet at the June and July meetings.

Karl Stutzman (see contact info page) will be the contact person for the petting pen.



## **Bunny Hut**

The Elkhart Co. 4-H Rabbit Club has a concession stand open for food sales during the fair. This is one of the biggest fundraisers for the club. The Bunny Hut is located near the main entrance of the Fairgrounds. It is staffed by Rabbit club volunteers, members and their families.

Rabbit meat is used in various items in the hut. The rabbit meat is obtained first from members and then outside sources if the members cannot fulfill the need. Processing dates will be announced throughout the year.

Donations of various food items from club members will help keep the cost down.

Sign-up sheets for food donations will be available as we get closer to fair at the club meetings.

Also, at that time will be opportunity to sign up for the **required** 2 hr work shift. We need to have 4 members and 2 adults working at each shift to keep the Bunny Hut running smoothly. If you sign up for a shift and are unable to work it **YOU** are responsible to find someone to cover for you, and then make your shift up at a different time.

Lori Bieganski (see contact info page) will be contact person for the Bunny Hut.

## **Barn Supervision**

Each member and parent are required to work a 2 hr barn shift. The more supervision we having during the Fair in the barn the safer your animals will be. During the barn supervision you will be responsible for walking the aisles asking the public nicely not to pet, touch, or poke the rabbits. Sweep the walk ways and turn over any bedding as needed. If any issues arise please see a leader.

Parents are always needed to spend the night in the barn. We will provide you will a cot to sleep on. And a treat from the Bunny Hut in the morning. Hours are from 9pm-8am.

## **Junior Officer Positions**

The club encourages the members to become involved with the club as much as possible. One way is to become a Junior Officer. Junior officers are elected at the banquet every year. Nominations will not be taken from the floor. To be eligible for election you **MUST** turn in an application (available from the leaders) and fill out a questionnaire. These forms must also be signed by a parent or guardian. Forms **MUST** be turned into a leader by 8pm the last Thursday of the Fair. Club officers are expected to be a positive role model for the club and its members. To work cooperatively with other officers, members, leaders and the extension office. Promote a positive atmosphere at meetings, 4-H functions and in the community. Help at workshops and participate at club meetings. We ask that you attend at least 5 of the 7 club meetings in order to hold your position. The position can be removed at any time if you cannot fulfill your obligation.

The following are the junior officer positions available:

President, Vice President, Jr. Advisory Board, Secretary, Treasurer, Reporter, Devotions, Photographer, Jr Livestock

## **Advisory Board**

The purpose of the Advisory Board is to serve as a governing body that will assist the leaders of the 4-H Rabbit Club Program. It is the responsibility of the board to uphold and demonstrate the 4-H values. The Advisory Board is made up of 11 people, 9 elected voting members and 2 leaders. The 9 elected members serve for a 3-year term. The Advisory Board is elected at the banquet by the parents/guardians of the member. The board meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of every month all year long. If you are interested in becoming an Advisory Board member please see the current years Advisory Board President for information. Names need to be turned into the Elkhart County Purdue Extension office by June. There will be an interview with the Extension Educator and a back ground check will be performed.

## Auction Rules

On the last Friday of fair, each member has the opportunity to auction their rabbit. Members are NOT required to auction, UNLESS you have the Grand Champion Meat Pen and Reserve Champion Meat Pen. If the 4-H'er decides to auction and a meat pen was exhibited during fair week, the exhibited meat pen MUST be auctioned. If you did not exhibit a meat pen you may auction (1) one rabbit. This rabbit must have been exhibited at the fair. **A Special class rabbit cannot be auctioned.** If you cannot be at the auction, you MUST make arrangements with another 4-H Rabbit club member to take your rabbit to the auction ring. The club will not be responsible for finding your rabbit and getting to the auction ring.

If you decide to auction, the decision **MUST** be made by the 6 pm DEADLINE after the 4-H Rabbit Show on Wednesday during the Fair week. There will be \$3.00 transaction fee that will be collected prior to tattooing the rabbit for auction. If the member owning the rabbit is unable to be at auction processing and still wants to auction, they can have someone bring the rabbit for tattooing/paperwork but they MUST send a letter with that person giving permission for this to happen (unless it's the parent or guardian of the member). Please discuss with a leader prior to this happening.

A special tattoo will be placed in the rabbit(s) right ear. Once your rabbit has been auctioned it may no longer be shown at the local or State Fair level.

**There will be NO EXCEPTIONS for missing the 6 pm DEADLINE for auction. The chance for auction will be forfeited.**

If the buyer chooses not to keep your rabbit you may buy it back from the club for \$5.00 after the auction is over and the paperwork has been received at the Rabbit barn from the Fair office. Whoever buys the rabbit at auction must have a receipt to pick up the rabbit.

## 4-H Rabbit Club Completion Requirements

Displaying a rabbit	Not displaying a rabbit-doing Poster
Must be enrolled in 4-H online on or before Jan 15	Must be enrolled in 4-H online on or before Jan 15
Must have entered rabbit(s) in Animal ID on or before May 15th	Rabbit poster must be on display in ECCC building
Record Book must be turned in	Resume turned in (with name)
YQCA must have been completed	YQCA must have been completed
Rabbit(s) must be checked in by 7 pm on check in day	

## Exhibiting at Fair/Club Rules

1. All rabbits must be an ARBA (American Rabbit Breeders Association) recognized breed.
2. Only two (2) purchased rabbits will be allowed. (Must be purchased by the May meeting)
3. All rabbits must be entered into Animal ID online on or before May 15. Untattooed kits must be added to Animal ID with an assigned tattoo. Only gender of kits can be changed at check in. ALL tattoos MUST match the Animal ID registration at check in. No exceptions of transposed numbers or letters. Check and double check your entries.
4. Each member may enter two (2) breeds of rabbits.
5. Each member may have up to fifteen (15) cages.  
-As part of the fifteen (15) cages, each member may exhibit one (1) six class meat pen which will be displayed in one cage.
6. All rabbits MUST be in good health to show. If any health problems occur with any of your rabbits at check in or anytime during the duration of Fair week, notify a Leader IMMEDIATELY!
7. All rabbits MUST have a permanent ear tattoo in its LEFT ear before entering the Fairgrounds. There will be opportunities at three (3) club meetings for tattooing. There will be a limit of six (6) rabbits per family per meeting to be tattooed. Any rabbit that has a star or other symbol in its ear MAY NOT be brought to the local 4-H Fair or the State fair for exhibit. A registration tattoo is an exception to this.  
**THE CLUB AND THE PEOPLE WHO VOLUNTEER TO TATTOO RABBITS WILL NOT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY INJURIES TO RABBITS THAT MIGHT HAPPEN DURING THE TATTOOING PROCESS**
8. All rabbits must be weaned.
9. A current record book MUST be turned into the 4-H Rabbit Club Leader(s) at the June meeting. You must turn in the 2020 record book in order to receive your Fair passes. A penalty of 10 points will be deducted from the point sheet if turned in after June meeting.
10. All rabbits MUST be in line for check in or on exhibit by 7 pm the Thursday before Fair begins. Subject to change if weather conditions arise.  
There will only be ONE check in. There will NOT be any Friday check ins. NO EXCEPTIONS.  
Rabbits will need to be checked out of the barn by 3 pm the last Friday of Fair. Any rabbit(s) left after 3 pm will be placed outside the barn in a cage. The Club will not be held responsible for the safety and well-being of any rabbit(s) remaining on the Fairgrounds after check out.
11. All members are to have their remark card(s) for the 4-H Show on Wednesday filled out at check in. If this is not done, you may not be eligible to show on Wednesday. Tickets will not be given until remark cards are turned in.
12. Each member is responsible for the feeding and watering of their rabbit(s), and cleaning under the cages daily.
13. Rabbit breeding will not be allowed on the Fairgrounds at any time.
14. Tattooing of rabbits will only be allowed on Fairgrounds on designated dates set by club.

15. For Sale Signs will not be allowed to be hung on the members cage(s) or on bulletin boards in the barn at any time during Fair week. The pink binder will be located at the office for members to advertise in. The member will be responsible to keep their information up to date.
16. Members will be allowed to display above their cage(s) the cage card, open show and 4-H show ribbons or rosettes.
17. No 4-H exhibited rabbit(s) will be removed from the barn until after auction paperwork is received and the checkout process has begun on the last Friday of Fair, unless for health reasons. Any animal removed from display prior to the official release time will be disqualified. NO EXCEPTIONS  
Any 4-H placing/prizes (ribbons, money, medals, trophies, etc.) awarded to that exhibit will be forfeited and tickets for following year will not be given. (Taken from the Fair catalog under "Indiana 4-H Program Statement of Policy Exhibition)
18. The 4-H Rabbit Club organizational leader(s) will rule on any special situation that may arise. Their decision will be final.

## The Marvin J. Yoder 4-H Rabbit Club Scholarship

The Marvin J. Yoder Scholarship has been created to say "WELL DONE" to our senior members in the Elkhart County 4-H Rabbit Club. These members have worked hard and participated in the growth and function of the club. We would like to be a partner with them and show our support as they pursue their post High School education. Marvin J. Yoder was a long-time resident of Elkhart County. His contributions to the community were many. As a member of Elkhart County 4-H Rabbit Club Advisory Board, Marvin served as a Fair Board Representative. Marvin has a love for learning and competition. Out of that love, came a desire to support the youth in Rabbit Club through generous gifts of time and money. Each year the 4-H auction, young people could count on Marvin's bid. On more than one occasion, he purchased prize winning animals to reward the hard work that a 4-H'er had put forth. On August 18, 1995 Marvin J. Yoder died after a hard fight battling cancer. Although he will no longer be there to bid on 4-H livestock, his competitive spirit and love for learning can live on through this scholarship.

### Eligibility and Requirements

Every eligible senior who applies and has met the requirements will be awarded the scholarship. An application is available from the Advisory Board Treasurer. The application will need to be returned to the Advisory Board Treasurer on or before August 1<sup>st</sup> of your graduation year. Scholarship fund money will be dispersed after the completion of a semester at a post-secondary/trade school with a copy of a transcript.

Requirements for 1998 and beyond:

- Be a completing member for at least 5 years in the Elkhart County 4-H Rabbit Club
- Earn at least 3 Gold Achievement ribbons
- Complete at least 5 approved activities:
  - Ambassador Contest
  - Illustrated Talk
  - Jr. Livestock
  - Costume Contest
  - Round Robin Showmanship
  - Showmanship
  - Club officer
  - Rabbit Poster Exhibit
  - Parade Participant
  - State Ambassador Contest
  - 4-H Rabbit Club Queen Representative

Funding:

This scholarship is an endowment fund set up by the Yoder family and the Elkhart County 4-H Rabbit Club. Donations consist of endowment funds and immediate monies. The Rabbit Club will be making contributions through fundraising programs and we will be accepting donations from the community members who also believe in our youth and would like to help them pursue their dreams.

## 4-H Rabbit Ambassador Contest

The Rabbit Ambassador Contest is a comprehensive evaluation of a 4-H member's knowledge and skills in the area of rabbits. The evaluation has three components: **written test, breed identification, and showmanship**. Rabbit Club also requires a resume to be turned in at the July meeting. (do not put your name on this resume- you will be given an entry number upon submission) The format and procedures published here for each area have been established by the Indiana State Fair 4-H Rabbit Ambassador Contest Chairperson to facilitate the 4-H member's participation in this contest.

Use the Indiana 4-H State Fair Rabbit Ambassador Handbook, available from the State Fair website as a guide for this contest. [Indianastatefair.com](http://Indianastatefair.com)

Level categories are determined by the grade in which they were enrolled on January 1 of the current year. Division winners of previous years are not eligible in the same category again, member must be entered into the next highest level.

**\*\*If a tie occurs in a grade level, we will refer back to the highest test score, then if necessary, the highest test score on Breed ID.\*\***

### Written Test

The quiz will have a maximum of 100 points available. Questions will be taken from the Standard of Perfections book and Domestic Rabbit Guide. Both available from the ARBA website store.

Novice (3 <sup>rd</sup> -4 <sup>th</sup> Grade)	25 True/False questions each worth 4 points
Junior (5 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> Grade)	25 True/False questions each worth 4 points
Intermediate (7 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> Grade)	50 questions comprising of True/False and multiple choice each worth 2 points
Senior (9 <sup>th</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup> Grade)	50 questions comprising of True/False and multiple choice each worth 2 points
Master (11 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Grade)	50 questions comprising of True/False and multiple choice each worth 2 points

### Breed Identification

The breed identification will have a maximum of 60 points. You will need to identify the breed, showroom classification and class of 10 rabbits. Rabbit club will add a registration variety column to only be used to break a tie in the Breed ID contest not for Ambassador Test. The registration variety is NOT part of the Indiana State Fair testing.

### Showmanship

The showmanship will have a maximum of 100 points. Each contestant must use his/her own rabbit that is on display at Fair.

### Resume

The resume must be completed and turned in to the leaders at the July meeting. DO NOT put your name on the resume. You will be assigned a number upon submission.

Use the following as a guide when creating your resume. The resume must be typed, must have used a bulleted or outline format, correct spelling and spacing.

List (5) individual skills, under each skill list 3 experiences for that skill

List future goals: 1 short term 4-H goal, 1 long term 4-H goal, 1 short term life goal, 1 long term life goal

List an honors/awards that you have earned

### State Fair Eligible

The Grand Champion of each grade level will be eligible to represent Elkhart County 4-H Rabbit Club at the State Fair. If the Grand Champion of a level is unable to participate at State Fair, the reserve Grand Champion will be selected to go.

## **4-H Rabbit Showmanship**

Open to all 4-H'ers enrolled in the Elkhart County 4-H Rabbit Club

4-H'ers MUST supply their own rabbit that is on display at fair.

Each participant will be graded on their technique with a score sheet. A copy of the score sheet and instructions are available online at the Indiana State Fair website.

The 4-H'er should be neat and appropriately dressed for the occasion:  
Black pants, white shirt, show coat (show coat available to borrow from club)

The 4-H'er should be alert and follow the instructions that are given by the judge or assistant. Have your attention on the judge and the animal at all times.

100 points are available- 90 are from showmanship techniques and 10 are from appearance and attitude. In case of a tie between Master/Senior Division, a written test will be given, member with the highest test score will then advance to the Small Animal Round Robin Contest.

Level categories are determined by the grade in which they were enrolled on January 1 of the current year.

Novice (3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> Grade)

Junior (5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade)

Intermediate (7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade)

Senior (9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> Grade)

Master (11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade)

## **Small Animal Round Robin Participation**

The highest showmanship score between the Master division and the Senior division will be eligible to represent the Rabbit Club in the Small Animal Round Robin Contest. The Reserve Master/Senior showmanship will be the alternate. In the event there are no eligible Senior/Master members, the representative will be the showmanship in the Intermediate Division.

Prior to the Small Animal Round Robin Contest, the Rabbit Club Showman and the alternate are responsible for contacting the other participating clubs Showmanship winners in order to obtain information on the specie and get instructions on their showmanship techniques. In case of a tie in the Small Animal Round Robin Contest, the participants will be required to answer questions that have been taken from these information sheets, in order to determine the placing. If you win the Small Animal Round Robin Contest you will not be able to compete in any following years. Any other placing is eligible for the following years.

## **4-H Rabbit Illustrated Talk**

The Illustrated Talk Contest is an educational contest for any 4-H Rabbit Project member. This is a presentation to an audience.

The presentation should be of original and of practical nature related to some phase of domestic rabbit industry. Elaborate and expensive equipment cannot be justified.

If you need to use a rabbit for this contest you must use one of your rabbits that is on display at Fair.

The Illustrated talk should last 5 to 7 minutes. The judge will deduct points when the presentation exceeds the allowed time limit.

Previous winners may compete again, but MUST be present a different topic than previous years.

Additional information on preparing a 4-H illustrated talk is available thru the County Extension Office, ask for 4-H 689. (4-H communication activities)

Level categories are determined by the grade in which they were enrolled on January 1 of the current year.

Novice (3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> Grade)

Junior (5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade)

Intermediate (7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade)

Senior (9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> Grade)

Master (11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade)

Anyone is eligible to compete at the State Fair for this contest

## **4-H Costume Contest**

This contest is open to any 4-H Rabbit Club member. One of the biggest contests with club. This is a great time to get creative and have fun. There is no specific theme so you can choose from a variety of ideas. There are two options to choose from to enter into the contest: Rabbit Only or Member and Rabbit. The Rabbit Only option is just that, you create a costume for your rabbit. The Member and Rabbit option is where the member and the rabbit have a costume. Both categories are judged on originality, creativity, overall presentation. You must use one of your rabbits that are on display at Fair.

## **Breed ID Contest**

The breed identification will have a maximum of 60 points. You will need to identify the breed, showroom classification and class of 10 rabbits. Rabbit club will add a registration variety column to only be used to break a tie in the Breed ID contest not for Ambassador Test. The registration variety is NOT part of the Indiana State Fair Ambassador Contest.



## **Knowledge Test**

The quiz will have a maximum of 100 points available. Questions will be taken from the Standard of Perfections book and Domestic Rabbit Guide. Both available from the ARBA website store.

Novice (3 <sup>rd</sup> -4 <sup>th</sup> Grade)	25 True/False questions each worth 4 points
Junior (5 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> Grade)	25 True/False questions each worth 4 points
Intermediate (7 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> Grade)	50 questions comprising of True/False and multiple choice each worth 2 points
Senior (9 <sup>th</sup> -10 <sup>th</sup> Grade)	50 questions comprising of True/False and multiple choice each worth 2 points
Master (11 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Grade)	50 questions comprising of True/False and multiple choice each worth 2 points

## **Cutest Bunny Photo Contest**

This is a contest that takes place during our Wednesday 4-H Rabbit Show. You may turn in a photo during the check in process on Thursday before the Fair begins and up to 8 pm Monday night. Any Rabbit club member can enter up to (1) one picture involving rabbit(s) in a cute or adorable photo. People are not allowed to be in the photo. Any photo showing any animal in a dangerous or harmful way will not be used. The photos will be arranged and on display during the 4-H show for all member. Voting will last until the show ends on Wednesday. The ballots will be counted and the winner will be announced at the award ceremony. Pictures will be returned in the members banquet packet. Please make sure you put your name on the photo before you turn it in.

## **4-H Fair Queen Contest**

Any female interested in competing in the Elkhart County Queen Contest must be at least 16 years old by the first day of the State Fair. (for additional rules/responsibilities see application) Any female member of the 4-H Rabbit club may nominate herself or be nominated by another member for consideration. The nominees will be voted on during the March meeting. The nominee with the most votes will be the representative for the 4-H Rabbit Club. The winner will be announced after the voting.

Once elected to represent the Elkhart County 4-H Rabbit Club, the club will pay for the entry fee. The contestant will be given the entry form to complete and turn into the Fair office along with a picture and a biography. The contest is only open to the first 50 complete applications, so it is very important you get this done right away. All participants are expected to be present and assist throughout the Fair. (volunteering at least 5 hours)

## Rabbit Poster Exhibit

The 4-H Rabbit Poster project is open to any 4-H member and is not limited to exhibitors of 4-H rabbits. Members can show a rabbit and complete a poster. 4-H'ers may also use their 4-H poster as part of their Illustrated Talk or Action Demonstrations. "The purpose shall be to visually demonstrate 4-H Rabbit poster knowledge and to demonstrate to others the 4-H Rabbit poster possibilities"

The 4-H participants will be grouped in the following categories:

Level 1: 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

Level 2: 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

Level 3: 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> Grade

Requirements:

- Use a white 22x28 poster board to be displayed horizontally with stiff backing and the front covered with clear plastic. Leave a space in the lower front right-hand corner for a 3 ½ x 4 ¼ nametag. The nametag will be filled out when the poster is checked in. The entry date is determined by the Elkhart County 4-H Fair.
- Each poster must have been made by the 4-H member enrolled in the current year 4-H program.
- Proper footnoting should be used for any reference materials. Attach a 3x5 file card to the back of the poster listing all references.

Standards of evaluation: 100 points total

- Content and Information (accuracy and completeness) 40 points
- Originality and Creativeness (attracts interest and encourages thought) 25 points
- Overall appearance (neatness, arrangement, background workmanship, detail) 15 points
- Suitable subject and age appropriate (matches 4-H'ers age/ability) 10 points
- Conveys message/accomplishes purpose 5 points
- Meets exhibits requirements 5 points

State Fair:

There will be (1) one poster from each level that will be chosen by the judges to represent the Elkhart County at the State Fair in August, unless the judges feel none are worthy of State Fair exhibit.

## Rabbit Club Achievement Points

The purpose of the Rabbit Club Achievement Award Program is to encourage all the members to be as active in the Rabbit Club as you want. Remember to be eligible for the scholarship you MUST have achieved 5 Gold Awards. Gold Awards are earned when the member reaches the point standard, attend at least 1 meeting, worked a 2 hr shift in the Bunny Hut, 2 hr work day and a 2 hr barn duty.

Level categories are determined by the grade in which they were enrolled on January 1 of the current year.

Novice (3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> Grade)

Junior (5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grade)

Intermediate (7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade)

Senior (9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> Grade)

Master (11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade)

Activity	Criteria	Points Earned
<b>Club Officer</b>	<b>Hold an officer position full term</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Attend a monthly meeting</b>	<b>10 per meeting</b>
	<b>Perfect attendance</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Rabbit Workshop(s)</b>	<b>Participation</b>	<b>10 per event</b>
<b>Rabbit Donation for meat</b>	<b>Donate rabbit(s) for processing</b>	<b>10 per time</b>
<b>Record Book</b>	<b>Turned in on time and complete</b>	<b>20</b>
	<b>Turned in late (after June meeting)</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Club Donations</b>	<b>Parade candy, zip ties, canned goods</b>	<b>5 per event</b>
<b>Fund Raisers</b>	<b>Participate during year</b>	<b>10 per event</b>
<b>Work Day</b>	<b>Working a 2 hrs work day</b>	<b>10 per work day</b>
<b>Action Demo Contest</b>	<b>Participation</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Illustrated Talk Contest</b>	<b>Participation</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Breed ID Contest</b>	<b>Participation</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Written Knowledge Test</b>	<b>Participation</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Ambassador Contest</b>	<b>Participation</b>	<b>60</b>
<b>Showmanship Contest</b>	<b>Participation</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Cutest Bunny Photo</b>	<b>Participation</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Costume Contest</b>	<b>Participation</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Poster</b>	<b>Participation</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Float</b>	<b>Ride on float during parade</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Bunny Hut</b>	<b>Working a 2 hr shift</b>	<b>10 per shift (max 30 points)</b>
<b>Bunny Hut food donation</b>	<b>Donate food for Bunny Hut use</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Display Rabbit at Fair</b>	<b>Per cage</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Dues</b>	<b>Paid by March meeting</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Barn Clean up</b>	<b>Help with total Barn clean up after Fair</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Community Service</b>	<b>Participation</b>	<b>10 per event</b>

**Gold Award: 250 points or above**

**Honor Award: 150- 249 points**

**Group A Award: 100-149 points**

**Group B Award: 50-99 points**

**Group C Award: up to 49 points**