

Event Etiquette

Good morning/afternoon/evening. I am _____ and the _____ Contest committee asked me to speak to you on behalf of the contestants, timers and judges. Although this event is entertaining for the audience, it is first of all a 4-H activity in which the participants are being judged.

With your help, it can be a great experience where all the participants are evaluated fairly on the merits of their performance and learn from their successes and failures. Your respect for the contestants and willingness to follow a few simple rules will make it possible for the timers to accurately record times, the judges to evaluate quality, and the 4-H members to concentrate on their performance without distraction.

It must be quiet at the start of each event/class/contest/performance. And please stop your applause when the announcer/emcee is ready to introduce the next event/class/performance. Please hold your applause until the end of each class.

During the event please turn off, or silence, beepers and cell phones. Avoid yelling and loud cheering that could throw off performances. It is **poor sportsmanship** to yell negative comments about any 4-H member and their performance. While you may disagree with the final results, it is important to accept success with humility and failure with grace. All of these participants deserve your respect for their efforts and accomplishments.

The volunteers and judges assisting with this event deserve your respect as well. Please share your **constructive** comments and suggestions for improvement and keep your **complaints** to yourself. Please feel free to volunteer at the next event to help improve experience for the 4-H members.

Finally, spectators are here because they are either competing, or have friends or family watching.

Thank you and enjoy the efforts of these outstanding 4-H members.