### Introduction

A 4-H club advisor is an individual who works with a 4-H community or project club. The club advisor's function is to assist the club's members as they plan the club's program, conduct club business, and enroll individually or as a group in one or more 4-H projects. Specifically, there are three types of 4-H club advisors:

- A head (organizational) advisor serves as the primary liaison between the county OSU Extension Office and the club's membership, parents, and other advisors in that club,
- A project advisor assists 4-H members with project experience in a given subject matter area,
- An activity advisor works with members in planning and conducting club activities. Examples of these activities include fund-raising, tours, community service, etc.

All of these advisors work together as a team in supporting the 4-H club, its membership, and the members' families. In smaller clubs, one person may assume all three of these responsibilities.

### Purpose

To provide leadership to one or more 4-H club activities, planning, implementing, and evaluating each activity in partnership with club advisors, members, and parents/guardians and in accordance with club decisions.

### Responsibilities

- Serve as a member of the club’s leadership team under the leadership of the club’s head (organizational) advisor.
- Provide leadership to planning, implementing, and evaluating one or more club activities; taking care to ensure that each activity complies with national, state, and county 4-H policies and guidelines.
- Attend club meetings and activities.
- Celebrate members’ efforts and recognize their accomplishments.

### Time Required

Varies according to club and specific activity; may require 10-20 contact hours with members in addition to preparation and planning time.

### Resources/Support

- OSU Extension staff, and OSU Extension 4-H Youth Development website: [http://www.ohio4h.org/](http://www.ohio4h.org/)
- Ohio Advisors Handbook: [http://advisorshandbook.ohio4h.org/](http://advisorshandbook.ohio4h.org/).
- Member and advisor curriculum guides (project books) and additional supporting materials such as audio-visual aids, skillathon kits, newsletters, and resource materials.
- Adams County Junior Fair “yellow pages,” Junior Fair Board members, and associated committees (Livestock Sale Committee, Sr. Fair Board, etc.).
- Club leader information on the following websites: [http://www.uwex.edu/ces/4h/clubs/index.cfm](http://www.uwex.edu/ces/4h/clubs/index.cfm), [http://www.nj4h.rutgers.edu/volunteering/lts/](http://www.nj4h.rutgers.edu/volunteering/lts/).
| Resources/Support (continued) | • County, state, and regional training to help advisors develop knowledge and skills to meet the needs of youth, parents, and volunteers. |
| Qualifications | • The ability to lead and motivate youth and adults in a positive youth development environment that provides opportunities for belonging, mastery, independence, and giving.  
• A willingness to learn about, respect, and comply with national, state, and county 4-H policies, procedures, and guidelines.  
• The ability to organize information and materials and delegate responsibility.  
• The ability to empower youth and to involve them in planning, implementing, and evaluating 4-H club activities.  
• The ability to work with minimal supervision from extension staff, and a sincere interest in working with other volunteers, youth, and staff in an educational setting. |
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### Volunteer's 4-H Pledge

I pledge my **Head** to give children the information I can, to help them see things clearly and to make wise decisions.  
I pledge my **Heart** to encourage and support children no matter whether they have success or disappointments.  
I pledge my **Hands** to help children's groups; if I cannot be a leader, I can help in many equally important ways.  
I pledge my **Health** to keep children strong and well for a better world through 4-H, for children's groups, our community, our country, and our world.