Options for Communication Arts Events 2020

While dealing with guidelines for social distancing and other precautions to reduce the spread of the Covid-19 coronavirus, the 4-H Communication Arts Committee offers the following suggestions for county or district events if in-person events cannot be held.

Virtual Contest using Zoom*

1) If your contest is typically held in more than one room, use separate zoom meetings for each room. This will reduce the length of time for the event and reduce the bandwidth requirement as there will be less people on each connection. This will require a separate host for each meeting.

   Don’t try to manage two rooms at once, that would be a lot of work

   The meeting host can serve as MC and announce the next person (like a room host would do)

2) The event can be scheduled for a specific day/time of day. However, if you have youth taking part in more than one category, using different start times for each room might alleviate some of the scheduling challenges.

3) Be flexible. Allow for adjustments in the presentation order if youth need to join at different times.

4) Participants will receive a link for the room or meeting they are assigned to. They will receive unique links for each room if they are presenting in different categories held in different rooms.

   Send the link to the participants (they can share with family members if desired)

   It is recommended that participants from a team are from the same household. However, a team of two in different locations could present at the same time with video and audio for both.

5) Prepare evaluation sheets for each scheduled participant and email those to judges ahead of time. Either a word document or fillable pdf could work.

   Judges can provide minimal comments for everyone to hear. Written comments on the score sheet can be sent to participants after the contest. Questions will NOT be asked in any category.

6) Presenter and judges’ cameras stay on, but mute and turn off all other cameras.

7) Requirements for age division, appropriate dress, length of time, and appropriate subject/material will follow those given in BA800 4-H Communication Arts on the 4-H web page:

   https://www.ndsu.edu/4h/member_information/programs_events/state_4_h_contests/communication_arts/

*Credit for many of these guidelines to Karna Dam from UNL Extension
Virtual Contest by Video Recordings*

1) Please ensure that all videos follow and exemplify the 4-H member behavior expectation guidelines.
2) Each video must include a member introduction consisting of: First name, 4-H Club, and years in 4-H.
3) Individuals or teams may submit videos, but team members must be currently residing in the same household.
4) Video submissions can be shot on a phone or camera. No editing is allowed, in order to best simulate an in-person contest situation.
5) Youth must be visible in the video at minimum for their introduction.
6) Submit videos by (date) through email to (add email address here). (In the subject line write Comm Arts)
   In the body of the email, list names of team members or individuals entering the video, each member's 4-H age (we might want to say age division, for example, to accommodate for 8 year olds who are completing second grade, and the category in which the video is being entered.
   If the video is too large for an email attachment, contact your NDSU Extension county office for other options to submit your video.
7) Requirements for age division, appropriate dress, length of time, and appropriate subject/material will follow those given in BA800 4-H Communication Arts on the 4-H web page:
   https://www.ndsu.edu/4h/member_information/programs_events/state_4_h_contests/communication_arts/

Timeline

In order to assist with planning for Extension Youth Conference (EYC), all district virtual contests should be held by June 1 if possible. First place participants in the senior division will be awarded free registration to EYC.

Additional Information for Event Hosts is available on the 4-H website:
   https://www.ndsu.edu/4h/member_information/programs_events/state_4_h_contests/communication_arts/

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