

4-H Club/Affiliate Audit Procedures

Because 4-H clubs are nonprofit and held to the standards of the Internal Revenue Service 501c3 determination, it is important that the finances for each club and group go through an audit. This practice of auditing protects the club or affiliate and the treasurer themselves.

Key Definitions

1. **4-H Club:** a group of 4-H members with an approved volunteer, EIN, checking account, etc. This group should conduct a yearly financial review and may use internal or external audits (or emergency audit when needed). It is recommended to have an annual or yearly financial review, internal audit once every three years, and an external audit conducted at least once every six years.
2. **Affiliate:** a non-4-H club that is affiliated with Ohio 4-H such as a 4-H council, county wide committee, etc. This group should conduct an internal audit annually and external audit (or emergency audit when needed) every three years or if there is a change in treasurer. Emergency audits should be conducted when needed.
3. **Yearly Financial Review:** An annual review of 4-H club / affiliate finances. A Financial Review Committee should be formed to conduct a review of club financial transactions and records for the year. The committee should consist of two adults (advisors or parents) and two members. No one on the committee should be from the treasurer's family or be a signer on the account. Refer to the *Ohio 4-H Treasurer's Record Book* for more information.
4. **Internal Audit:** Audits should be conducted every three years for clubs and affiliates who have combined income/outcome of \$5,000 or more annually. These should be conducted by a minimum of four individuals. It is suggested to have two advisors, two non-volunteer parents or two members. No one on the committee should be from the treasurer's family or be a signer on the account. Other individuals to involve may include the president or other officer, a 4-H volunteer from another club, or someone recommended by the county 4-H professional. The audit committee should review records since the last internal or external audit (3 years).
5. **External Audit:** External audits should be conducted by a minimum of four individuals identified by the 4-H professional to serve as an audit standing committee. Members should be unrelated from those who have been handling the funds and/or serve as a signer on the account that is being audited. These may include local OSU Extension staff, 4-H volunteers or qualified community partners. While the treasurer should not be a member of the audit committee, they should be present during the review to answer any questions or provide documentation. A Certified Public Accountant could be used in place of this four-person committee. The audit committee should review records since the last internal audit (3 years).
6. **Emergency Club/Affiliate Audits:** Should be conducted anytime there is a concern of mishandled funds. Emergency Audits should be conducted by the county 4-H professional under direction of State 4-H Staff.



Audit Steps

The following steps should be taken when conducting an audit. Follow the *Ohio 4-H Clubs and Committees Annual Financial Review & Audit* form when completing the audit to indicate when items have been reviewed and findings or recommendations for future years.

1. Secure all financial records (check register, cancelled check images, bank statements, written record (ledger, spreadsheet, or report), purchase receipts, deposit slip receipts, cash income receipts, treasure's book, club minutes) for the calendar year(s) being audited.
2. Review the checklist in the *Ohio 4-H Clubs and Committees Annual Financial Review & Audit* form and indicate if the item is correct or not.
3. Whoever conducts the audit should complete the *Ohio 4-H Clubs and Committees Annual Financial Review & Audit* form, including completed checklist, signatures, date of completion, comments or recommendations. After the form is completed, make sure to:
 - Report to the membership of the 4-H club/affiliate the state of the past year's records.
 - Include a copy with the treasurer's book.
 - Submit the form to the county extension office.
4. Complete and submit the 4-H Club/Affiliate Yearly Financial Summary by the county deadline.

Reference:

UW-Madison Extension (2021) *4-H Club, Group, or Committee Audit Checklist*
<https://4h.extension.wisc.edu/files/2021/06/Fillable-Audit-Checklist.pdf>

Ohio 4-H Clubs and Committees Financial Summary & Audit

**Complete and Return a Copy to the _____ County 4-H Office by _____.
(county specific due date, but no later than January 31 on the year it's due)**

Maintain A Copy with Your 4-H Club or Committee Financial Records!

The following form should be completed when conducting an audit. Make sure to follow the Audit Steps outlined in the *4-H Club/Affiliate Audit Procedures* guidelines.

Name of 4-H Club or Committee: _____

EIN Number: _____ Date of Reviewed/Audited: _____

List all Signors on the Account (Minimum of 2)

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

Name of who receives bank statements or has on-line view only access:

Name of Club/Affiliate Treasurer:

Accounts Reviewed:

Type of Account	Bank Name	Bank Address	Balance as of 12/31
Checking			
Savings (would be an option for affiliates)			
Other (would be an option for affiliates)			

Reference:

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Revised 10/2023 by Epley, H.K. Former version by Epley, H.K and Dick, J.

Checklist of items to complete: The purpose of this checklist is to assist the 4-H youth treasurer, the adult volunteer working with the 4-H club or group finances and the auditors in their review. All items that have been marked, 'no' need to be corrected and explained in the comments or recommendations section.

YES	NO	
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	All 4-H accounts and funds are in an approved FDIC financial institution.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The treasurer has kept a separate written record of the group's income and expenses (a ledger, spreadsheet, or report).
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	All checks have correct signature(s), payee name, amount written out numerically and in words. When it is necessary for check(s) to be written to a signatory on the account, the check(s) should be signed by someone other than the signatory.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	All checks written, including voided checks, are accounted for in the checkbook written record (ledger, spreadsheet, or report).
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Documentation (invoice, cash register receipt, request for payment form) matches to each cancelled or electronic check images.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	All receipts/expenditures match bank statements and are recorded on the written record (ledger, spreadsheet, or report).
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Donor records match recorded receipts. (If not, document any differences.)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Deposits are one week or less for the dates of income receipts to dates of deposits. (Document any extended delays of more than a week.)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	For affiliates: If certificates of deposit are owned, they are still on deposit with the bank. If no longer on deposit, the proceeds have been deposited in the checking account. Clubs should not hold CDs.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	When comparing receipts/expenditures to budget, the level of activity appears to be within the approved budget or included as approved in the meeting minutes.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	When reviewing the numerical sequence of canceled and unused checks, all are accounted for. (If not, list any missing checks.)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bank statements are reconciled with the checkbook each month and the checkbook is balanced.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	There are not any checks that are outstanding. (If there are outstanding checks, list the number and date of issue.)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	When viewing a select sample of 25% of expenditures, the expenditures were authorized according to the minutes.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bank statements match all financial record balances (in the treasurer's reports, ledgers, spreadsheets, or report, etc.).
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The beginning balance on the Annual Financial Summary matches the previous year's ending balance (as of December 31) on the bank statement and/or other records.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The ending balance on the Annual Financial Summary matches the ending balance of the written record (ledger, spreadsheet, or report).
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Any errors in addition or subtraction have been corrected on the Annual Financial Summary and in the financial records.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	If funds being carried forward into the new program year are greater than the club's/affiliate's average annual expenses, an approved (no more than 5-year) plan, (by the county 4-H professional) is in place to spend down the funds.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Those completing the audit are at least four persons not related to the treasurer or persons on signature with the 4-H accounts.

Reference:

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Provide mathematical accuracy of records:

Checking Account Balance 12/31/previous year	_____
+ Receipts During current year	_____
- <u>Expenditures During current year</u>	_____
Balance 12/31/current year	_____

If there are outstanding checks or pending refunds,
please include here. Specify non applicable, if not. _____

Check all that were used for this review/audit:

- ☐ Bank Statements
- ☐ Cancelled or Electronic Images of Checks
- ☐ Checkbook Registry
- ☐ Deposits
- ☐ Meeting Minutes
- ☐ Receipts
- ☐ Record of Financial Transactions/Ledger/Computer Accounting Record/Written Report
- ☐ Treasurer's Reports
- ☐ Other _____

Please list any comments or recommendations. Specify any discrepancies and/or recommendations for how to better keep track of financial records in the future. If an item received a 'no' on the checklist, specify how to correct this in the future. Attach additional pages as needed

Names and Signatures of Audit & Review Committee Members:

Print Name	Signature	Date	Role with club or affiliate

Reference:

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