

Social Media Considerations

Ohio 4-H Clubs/Affiliates

Purpose

4-H county, club, committee/affiliate, and/or project presence on a social media site are asked to consider the intent of educational and informational sharing, and/or communication/group coordination purposes to support the mission and direction of 4-H.

Administrator Access

1. An approved adult, 4-H volunteer should serve as the administrator.
2. Social media platform should be set up as a closed group.
3. Upon request, OSU 4-H professional staff may be added.

Roles & Responsibilities

1. Notify the County 4-H professional if your 4-H club, unit, or project wishes to establish a social media account.
2. All National and Ohio 4-H and OSU Extension policies and guidelines must be followed.
3. Youth members should work in partnership with adult 4-H volunteers and/or older teen mentors in the development and maintenance of the site.
4. A designated adult 4-H volunteer should regularly update/monitor the social media site.
5. If you see content of concern, you are not permitted to remove it. Instead, report the concern to the county 4-H professional, who will work with the state 4-H office and university personnel. They will provide direction for action steps.

Guidelines

1. Photographs: Contact your 4-H Professional to verify photo permissions have been signed by 4-H members and their parent/guardian.
2. Photos must not include:
 - Discriminatory, harassing, sexually suggestive or sexually explicit content
 - Copywritten material
3. All policies regarding the use of the 4-H name and emblem must be followed.
4. Consequences outlined in the 4-H Member Code of Conduct or 4-H Volunteer Standards of Behavior.

Online Safety Measures

Registration

1. On many platforms, individuals must be at least 13 years of age to join. Platform managers should make sure only age-permitted individuals are participating in the platform.

Settings and Privacy Settings

1. Settings are fully customizable to the club/affiliate and allow users to share as little or as much as they wish. Note that many of the privacy settings default to allow “everyone” to view your page.
2. Groups/pages should be set to private.