

TAYLOR COUNTY 4-H YOUTH DISCIPLINARY POLICY

Situations for 4-H Disciplinary Committee Action:

A. Situations for Required 4-H Disciplinary Committee Action

1. 4-H members accused of any of the following while participating in a county, state or national 4-H related activity will be required to appear before the 4-H Disciplinary Committee. Other relevant parties may appear with the 4-H member and chaperones.
 - Illegal possession or use of drugs or alcoholic products
 - Theft, misuse, or abuse of public or personal property
 - Sexual misconduct
 - Unauthorized absence from the premises or the event
 - Actual physical violence toward others
 - Violation of federal, state or municipal law
2. If the accused 4-H member is found to be in violation of the above, he or she will be suspended from participation in county, state or national 4-H activities for a minimum period of three (3) months, but not more than twelve (12) months. Compensatory community action may be substituted for suspension time in excess of three (3) months at discretion of the 4-H Disciplinary Committee.

B. Situations for Possible 4-H Disciplinary Committee Action

1. 4-H members accused of any of the following while participating in a county, state or national 4-H activity may be required to appear before the 4-H Disciplinary Committee for actions such as those stated below. Other relevant parties may appear with the 4-H member and chaperones.
 - Breaking curfew or disturbing the peace
 - Unexcused absence from the activities of the event
 - Unauthorized use of vehicles during the event
 - Use of tobacco products
 - Participation by his or her willful, presence at secretive events where people are using tobacco, alcohol or unauthorized drugs
 - Threatened physical violence

C. 4-H Discipline Committee Procedure:

1. Following a written statement from the adult in charge, and if a 4-H Disciplinary Committee meeting is held, the accused member will be notified and asked to appear. If the 4-H member is found by the 4-H Disciplinary Committee to be in violation of any of the above and disciplinary action is recommended, he or she may be suspended from participating in county, state or national 4-H activities for a period of up to twelve (12) months. A 4-H Disciplinary Committee meeting will be held within thirty (30) days of the occurrence to determine appropriate action.
2. The 4-H Disciplinary Committee will consist of at least three Executive Board members. If member cannot attend, the thirty (30) day maximum may be extended.
3. In the event that the offense is an illegal act, the chaperone may use their discretion in reporting the offense to the proper authorities.
4. If a 4-H member is confronted by a chaperone about a suspected or known violation and does not comply with the chaperone's request for investigation or information, that member will be assumed guilty, accept the disciplinary measures of the Committee and waive their right to an appeal.

D. Appeals Procedure:

1. If a member wishes to appeal the decision of the 4-H Disciplinary Committee, the member must appeal in writing to the President of the 4-H Leaders' Federation and the 4-H Youth Development Agent through his or her County Extension Office within ten (10) days following notification of disciplinary action to be taken. The appeal committee decisions will be announced to the 4-H member in writing within ten (10) days following the appeals hearing.