

Montana Extension Service in Agriculture and Home Economics

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Boys' and Girls' Club Work for Montana

What It Is, Its Aims and How Conducted

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Boys' and Girls' Club Work for Montana

OBJECTS OF CLUB WORK

1. To provide definite instruction in agriculture and home economics for young people between the ages of ten and nineteen.
2. To promote a greater production and conservation of food products for the year 1919.
3. To provide a most efficient means of training for thrift, industry, self-reliance, responsibility, business management, leadership, and initiative in boys and girls.
4. To bring the school in closer cooperation with all the agencies of the community which have for their purpose better home-making and better home-keeping.
5. To offer a means whereby boys and girls may become economic factors while they are still in school.
6. To train in demonstration work, teaching the fundamental principles of cooperation.

HOW ORGANIZED

1. Through the press, schools, county superintendent of schools, agricultural organizations, commercial clubs, bulletins, and personal visits an effort is made to reach every boy and girl in Montana.
2. Any person who is interested in young people may organize a club.
3. Any boy or girl in school or out of school may become a member.
4. The steps in organization are:
 - (a) The person who is interested in organizing a club should write State Club Leader, Bozeman, Montana, for further information than is given in this circular, if this information is not sufficient.
 - (b) After carefully studying the information given the prospective leader should present the matter to the young people who

are eligible to join a club. He should carefully explain the educational and economic value of the work, as well as the prizes, free trips to State Fair or College, county and local fairs, scholarships, and achievement rewards. If presented in an interesting way every normal boy and girl will be interested.

(c) Explain exactly what is required in each of the ten clubs.

(d) Guide the young people in selecting those clubs in which there is a reasonable opportunity of the member being able to comply with the requirements. (Example: It would be useless for a member to register for the sheep club if there were few opportunities for securing a lamb.)

(e) After the leader knows the number of persons who desire to join a club, he should write the State Club Leader, Bozeman, Montana, asking for that number of registration cards. Only one card is necessary for each person, even though they join more than one club.

(f) These cards will be sent the Leader. They are to be signed by the member, the leader, and one of the member's parents. Then the Leader will mail them to the State Club Leader. The cards need no stamp.

(g) The State Club Leader will at once send literature to each member and to the leader. The leader should study this literature with the members. If the leader is a teacher, the bulletins may be best studied as a part of school work.

(h) When possible have some club meetings.

(i) When it is time to plant, or to obtain an animal, the leader should see that every member makes the required start. This is the critical time when enthusiasm has lessened, and the member will be in need of encouragement.

(j) Explain how to keep the Record Book. Help start it.

(k) See that members send to the State Club Leader, their records, before November 1, 1919.

CLUBS FOR 1919

1. **Bread Club.** Members agreeing to make at least six bakings of bread in class A, or ten bakings in class B, to keep a record of bakings, make a booklet on breads, submit record to State Club Leader, enter the local contest and, if winner, to enter the County

Contest. County winner to enter the State Contest at the State Fair or at the State Agricultural College.

2. **Garment Making Club.** Members agreeing to make a number of garments which are outlined in Garment Making Bulletin, keep a simple record, make a booklet, enter the local contest, county and State contests.

3. **Corn Club.** Members agreeing to cultivate not less than one-half acre of corn, follow definite scientific directions, keep a simple record of their operations, and to compete for the county and State prizes.

4. **Potato Club.** Members agreeing to grow not less than one-eighth of an acre of potatoes, following definite scientific instruction, keep a simple record of their operations and to compete for county and State prizes.

5. **Garden Club.** Rural members agreeing to grow a garden of one-tenth acre of common vegetables, which are needed in the home, keep a simple record of operations and to compete for county and State prizes. City and town members to grow a garden of not less than two square rods.

6. **Canning Club.** Members agreeing to can by the cold pack method or any other suitable method, vegetables and fruits which have been grown by the members or have been purchased, to keep a simple record and to compete for county and State prizes. Members must can not less than fifteen quart cans or thirty pint cans of fruit and vegetables.

7. **Pig Club.** Members agreeing to obtain a pig, carefully follow directions in the management of the pig for a period of one hundred days, keep a simple account of operations, and compete for county and State prizes.

8. **Calf Club** (Both dairy and beef). Members agreeing to obtain a calf, carefully follow directions in the management of the calf for a period of four months and to compete for county and State prizes.

9. **Sheep Club.** Members agreeing to obtain one or more orphan lambs to keep the same for a period of not less than four months, follow directions and submit reports.

10. **Poultry Club.** Members agreeing to set not less than three settings of eggs, to follow directions, keep records, submit

reports and compete in contests. (It is hoped that members will start with not less than twenty chickens.)

WHAT CLUB MEMBERS MUST DO

1. Sign a first registration card which will be sent as soon as the boy or girl expresses a desire to join a club.
2. On or about June 1st sign a final registration card. Until this card is signed the boy or girl is not a member of the State and National Boys' and Girls' Club movement.
3. Study very thoroughly all literature and letters which are received.
4. Follow carefully all directions which are given for the clubs in which he or she is registered.
5. Keep a record book of work, cost of seeds, animals, feed, and the returns from the project. No person is entitled to compete for prizes, free trips, to enter the camping week, to win a scholarship or receive an achievement reward, who has not kept a record book.
6. Records must be sent to the State Club Leader not later than November 1st.

LOCAL LEADERS

The success of club work depends to a small extent upon the State and county club leaders. There must be some one who comes into a more intimate contact. This person is the local leader, the teacher, the pastor, leader of the Grange, Equity, Farmers' Union, or other community clubs. Any person who is interested in community welfare, who has faith in boys and girls, who believes in better social and economic life, who will organize, interest, and guide young people may act as a club leader.

We will furnish bulletins, circulars, and other literature which will enable you to make a success as a leader. The big thing is to visit your members, give encouragement and see that they follow directions. Will you do this?

PRIZES

The biggest prize that any boy or girl can win is the knowledge that he or she has done a piece of work which trains for future usefulness. This satisfaction comes to every club member who completes a project. Prizes in cash or useful articles stimulate an interest in club work. Farmers' organizations, banks, commercial clubs, school boards, individuals, and business organizations should

be induced to offer prizes. These prizes should be given at local and county fairs. The State and Midland Empire Fairs offer several hundred dollars for boys' and girls' products exhibited at these fairs.

FREE TRIPS

For the past three years county winners from each county have been entertained for three days at the State Fair. The Midland Empire Fair also entertains winners from eastern Montana. These trips are made without cost to the county club winners in each contest. In other words, ten persons from each county may be eligible. We expect that the arrangements of the past will be continued. If such arrangements are not continued, the winners will be brought to the State College at Bozeman.

SCHOLARSHIPS

The State Board of Education will give a free scholarship at either the College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, State University, State School of Mines, or the State Normal College to each county winner. This scholarship is good for one year and may be used at any time in the future when the winner is prepared for college or the work in the secondary schools. Also thirty State prize scholarships are offered for periods of four, three, and two years, respectively. Every club member should look forward to winning one of these scholarships and attending one of the above institutions.

ACHIEVEMENT REWARDS

Last year we gave a valuable bronze Achievement Pin to every club member who completed a project and sent records to the State Club Leader. This present year we shall give Achievement Pins to new club members and advanced Achievement Pins to members who received pins in 1918.

CAMPING WEEK

The success of the Boys' and Girls' Camping Week in Blaine and Prairie Counties leads us to urge such camping weeks in every county. Rules and regulations will be formed for the different counties. No member will be entitled to enter such a camp who has not kept his record up to the date of the camping week or who in other ways has neglected his club work.

CONCLUSION

In 1918 the Boys' and Girls' Club work added to the resources of the State the sum of \$184,049.64. Will you help us double this sum in 1919? To accomplish this we need the active support of every individual and organization in Montana.