4-H Clubs

What is a 4-H Club?
The basic unit of 4-H is the local 4-H club. The club provides the hub of activity which generates enthusiasm for participation in 4-H activities outside the local club. 4-H clubs may be organized by project areas, within a community or neighborhood, or within a school. This group is responsible for the local 4-H program.

4-H Club Purpose
The purpose of a 4-H club is to provide positive youth development opportunities to meet the needs of young people to experience belonging, mastery, independence, and generosity—The Essential Elements—and to foster educational opportunities tied to the Land Grand University knowledge base.

Why join a 4-H Club?
The 4-H club provides an important learning experience. By participating in planning and carrying out the club’s program, members will:
- Learn to make decisions
- Develop skill in group discussions
- Try new ideas and methods
- Develop citizenship and leadership skills
- Acquire new knowledge and skills
- Develop confidence
- Gain a sense of group pride
- Form a cooperative attitude

Types of 4-H Clubs
Community Club: The community club has members and leaders from a defined community or geographic region. Community 4-H clubs usually have members from a wide range of ages enrolled in a variety of projects and activities. Meetings are held in the members’ or leaders’ homes or a community facility. Meetings are usually held after school or at night. Because of the meeting time and location, parents may tend to be more involved or consider 4-H a family activity. Clubs meet from one to two hours and may also do some project work at the club meeting with older members, adult leaders, and parents assisting.

In-School Club: In-school clubs are held during regular school hours. The most effective ones are organized on a classroom basis with volunteer leaders working with each classroom. Maintaining the teacher’s interest in the club may mean the members will have constant support for their involvement in 4-H. The members also enroll in projects which are completed in project groups or done on an individual basis.

SPIN Club: A Spin Club has members who are enrolled in the same project. SPIN is short for Special Interest. SPIN clubs usually have members from a wide range of ages with leaders skilled in the particular project in which club members are enrolled. SPIN clubs may be county-wide or represent a geographic region of the county. SPIN Clubs may or may not elect club officers.

SPIN clubs provide an excellent opportunity for older members to develop leadership skills by helping younger members with their projects. A major portion of the club meetings is devoted to doing project work and preparing for related activities.

What happens at a 4-H meeting?
4-H clubs typically meet once a month; your leader will tell you where and when your club meets. Be sure to attend club meeting so you know what is going on in your 4-H club, county, and state.
Clubs are member-led; members elect officers to organize and run their 4-H club. Officer positions include, but are not limited to: president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer. For a complete listing of possible positions, please see *A Guide for 4-H Club Officers*.

Meetings typically last one to two hours; during the business portion of the meeting, officers give their reports and club member discuss what’s going on in the club. Each meeting usually includes a special, fun, and educational program. *Examples include, but are not limited to: demonstrations or talks given by members, parents, or a resource person, recreation or game time, family sharing nights, and field trips.*

*Parents are expected to attend all meetings and 4-H events to help assist leaders with youth activities. 4-H is a Volunteer lead system and parent volunteers are what makes 4-H possible. Check with your leader and find out where you can help.*

**How do you join a club?**

**It’s easy as 1-2-3!**

1. Take a look at the current Pennington County 4-H Clubs listed. Decide which clubs you’re interested in and contact their leaders to make sure they are accepting members.

2. **SignUp/Registration is all done online.** We suggest you use a computer, we don’t suggest using a phone or tablet as the website is not the best to view on tablet type items. Go to [sd.4honline.com](http://sd.4honline.com).
   a. When you get to the LogIn page you will be able to select if you already have a profile or if you need to set up a profile. If your family has not been part of 4-H in South Dakota you will need to “setup a profile”. Follow each step as requested on the system. If you have questions or need a computer to use contact the Pennington County 4-H office. If your family has been part of 4-H in South Dakota in the past please contact the 4-H office to see if your information just needs to be transferred or renewed.

3. **Once you are enrolled you need to pay $5 to the Pennington County 4-H office (601 E Centre St, Rapid City).**
   a. **Cash, Check, or Credit Card, but Credit Card does cost an extra 2.75% to cover the fees the credit card service charges.**

4. Attend your club meetings and plan your 4-H year with your leader!

5. Help with all county Fundraisers and any Volunteering needs to keep our Local Program Great!
Pennington County Club Information

Community Clubs:

Black Hills Home Explorers 4-H Club – Rapid City, SD
Club Type: Community Club
General Leaders:
Allie Baumgartner: 605-390-4814 allieg2317@yahoo.com
Nelda Griffin: 605-209-7117 imnstitches@midco.net
Description: For ages 8-18 we currently offer archery, arts & crafts, cooking, photography & robotics. Cloverbuds is offered for ages 5-7. New & existing projects vary depending upon the availability of space & leaders. Certain project areas have additional fees and/or supply requirements. Anyone is welcome to come, observe & ask questions on any of our project days. Club registration is Oct 1, 2019 till projects are filled. Once projects are filled you are invited to join our General Meetings. Project registration TBA.
You MUST contact one of the club leaders before joining BHHE.
Ages Accepted: 5-18
Meeting Season: October 1 – September 30
Meeting Days: Second Friday of every month: BHHE Business Meeting/Project Meetings
Fourth Fridays of every month: Project Meetings
Meeting Times: Second Fridays of every month: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. projects, 12 pm General Meeting
Fourth Friday of every month: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Meeting Location: Walter Taylor 4-H Building (601 E Centre St, Rapid City)
Club Dues: Dues are $20 per member with a cap of $60 per family, plus extra fees apply to certain project areas.

Cedar Butte Challengers – Wall, SD
Club Type: Community Club
General Leaders:
Mary Williams: 605.279.2654 | myronw@gwtc.net
Lisa Moon: 605.457.2442 | musket@gwtc.net
Description: Cedar Butte Challengers is a community club that participates in several project areas including, but not limited to: community service, photography, rodeo, and visual arts.
Ages Accepted: 5-18
Meeting Season: October 1 – September 30
Meeting Days: Various (Contact Mary for specific days)
Meeting Times: Various (Contact Mary for specific times)
Meeting Location: Various Wall locations (Contact Mary for specific locations)
Club Dues: None

Cougars – Rapid City, SD
Club Type: Community Club
General Leaders:
Moneik Stephens: 605-209-4852 | moneikquilts@gmail.com
Carissa Naasz: H: 605.342.1830  C: 605.393.7987 | mcnasasz@gmail.com
Gail Wingert: 605.348.4073 | gwingert@rap.midco.net
Description: Cougars is a community club that participates in several project areas including, but not limited to: citizenship, clothing and textiles, foods and nutrition, and horticulture, gardening and landscaping.
Ages Accepted: 5-18
Meeting Season: October 1 – September 30
Meeting Days: First Thursday of every month
Meeting Times: 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Meeting Location: Walter Taylor 4-H Building (601 E Centre St, Rapid City)
Club Dues: $10.00 per member with a cap of $20 per family

Elk Creek Drifters – Rapid City, SD
Club Type: Community Club
General Leaders: Holly Howie: 605.786.5476 | hollyhowie@gmail.com
                  Patty Tibbetts: 605.341.0021 | grannypatti9@gmail.com

Description: Elk Creek Drifters is a community club that participates in several project areas including, but not limited to: Beef, Archery, horse and pony, dog, and rodeo. We are a small club that likes to show cattle at the annual Western Junior Livestock Show.
Ages Accepted: 9-18
Meeting Season: October 1 – September 30
Meeting Days: 1st Sunday of the Month
Meeting Times: 10:00 am
Meeting Location: Various (Contact Leaders for specific locations)
Club Dues: None

Folsom Pioneers – Hermosa, SD
Club Type: Community Club
General Leaders: Melanie Rausch: 605.863.1421 | folsompioneers4h@gmail.com

Description: Folsom Pioneers is a community club that participates in several project areas including, but not limited to: visual arts and photography.
Ages Accepted: 5-18
Meeting Season: October 1 – September 30
Meeting Days: Various (Contact Melanie for specific days)
Meeting Times: Various (Contact Melanie for specific times)
Meeting Location: Various (Contact Melanie for specific location)
Club Dues:

Paws in Motion – Rapid City, SD
Club Type: Community & Specialty Club
General Leaders: Kim McCarty: 605.484.5622 | kmccarty2@hotmail.com
                  Linda Kelly: 605.388.0168 | 605-391-3750 kellyexpress@sprynet.com

Description: Paws in Motion is both a Community & Specialty Club. While we focus on the dog project and community service, all project areas are supported. Linda Kelly is a professional dog trainer who can work with you and your dog toward AKC titles and awards. You will learn how to communicate better with your dogs as we take them on several community outings. We visit retirement homes, Reptile Gardens, go on hikes, & practice and perform drills at local parades and events. But, most of all we enjoy spending time with our dogs! This is a family friendly club and all family members are encouraged to participate in our activities! We hope you will join us!
Ages Accepted: 6-18
Meeting Season: October 1 – September 30
Meeting Days: First Sunday of every month PLUS every Thursday evening (attendance at member discretion)
Meeting Times: 1st Sunday @ 4pm; Thursdays @ 6pm
Meeting Location: Walter Taylor 4-H Building (601 E Centre St., Rapid City)
Club Dues: none
Riding Ranchers – Wall, SD
Club Type: Community Club
General Leaders: Colby and Meghan Shearer: 605.685.8604 | colbyshearer@yahoo.com
Description: Riding Ranchers is a community club that participates in several project areas with a main focus in the rodeo projects, agriculture and outdoor education.
Ages Accepted: 5-18
Meeting Season: December, June, July, August
Meeting Days: TBA
Meeting Times: TBA
Meeting Location: TBA
Club Dues: None

Rushmore Riders & Explorers – Rapid City, SD
Club Type: Community Club
General Leaders: Trisha Miller: 605.209.3131 | trishamiller7@yahoo.com
Jennifer Matkins: 605.381.0728 | jennifermatkins429@yahoo.com
Description: Greetings and welcome to 4-H! Our club is a “Community Club”, meaning we follow a traditional club model wherein our members hold leadership positions such as President, VP, Secretary, Treasurer, Etc. and we conduct business meetings, teaching our members to use parliamentary procedures (following Roberts Rules of Order) they can use as leaders many years from now! We encourage our members to explore any/all of the 70+ project areas available to them in 4-H, with current members exploring a wide variety of project areas including (but not limited to): Visual Arts, Robotics, Home Environment, Photography, Foods & Nutrition, Clothing & Textiles, Aerospace & Rocketry, Poultry, Food Preservation, Graphic Design, Hobbies & Collections, Geospatial, Fitness & Sports, Writing/Public Speaking, Music, Rabbits, Etc. Some of our members are members in a special interest club (e.g., Bee Club, Shooting Sports, Archery, and Dog Club) in addition to their commitment to our club to really dive into those special interests they have.
We are strong believers that 4-H uniquely teaches “life skills” that youth will benefit from throughout their lives. We encourage our members to be involved in Youth-in-Action events such as Special Foods (preparing foods and a place setting for a judge and knowing the nutritional information for the meal), Public Speaking, Consumer Decision Making (Judging which items would be the best purchase for a specific scenario), Fashion Revue (purchasing or sewing clothing items to make an outfit and then model it onstage for a judge), etc.

Our members currently range in age from 5-18. We have more younger than older members currently, but all youth are welcomed and we all learn from each other, regardless of age.

We take our commitment to community service quite seriously and our club members enjoy our community activities. We have made May Day bags for residents of a local assisted living center (it is so fun to see the kids brighten the residents’ day. or is it the other way around?!), hand out food at the local mobile food pantry (to over 350 people each time!), lay wreaths at the National Cemetery, etc.
The awesome thing about 4-H is that kids can do as much or as little as they desire – they can extensively explore one project area or ten (or more!). To complete a year of 4-H, the minimum requirements include a member’s attendance at a minimum of four cub meetings, a presentation (to the club or at a contest) on the member’s chosen topic, a completed record book at the end of the year, and exploration of at least one project area during the club year.
Ages Accepted: 5-18
Meeting Season: October 1 – September 30
Meeting Days: Third Sunday of every month
Meeting Times: 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Meeting Location: Walter Taylor 4-H Building (601 E Centre St, Rapid City)
Club Dues: None
Shamrock Riders – Rapid City, SD
Club Type: Community Club (horse & pony project, rodeo project)
General Leaders: Susan Meyer: 605.390.0133 | smeyer@grsm.com
AnneMarie Johnson: 605.430.4227 | amjohnson@rap.midco.net
Patty Brunner: 605.391.3077 | bqh@enetis.net
Description: Shamrock Riders is a community club that focuses on the horse & pony but does participate in other project areas including, but not limited to: citizenship, foods & nutrition, and rodeo. We do not have horses available for people to use, but offer many educational horse activities.
Ages Accepted: 5-18
Meeting Season: October 1 – September 30
Meeting Days: Every Third Tuesday of the month
Meeting Times: 6:00 Activity 6:30 Formal Meeting
Meeting Location: Walter Taylor 4-H Building (601 E Centre St, Rapid City)
Club Dues: $5.00

Viewfield Wranglers – New Underwood, SD
Club Type: Community Club
General Leaders: Marsha Simmons: 605.754.6154 | tsimmons@gwtc.net
Description: Viewfield Wranglers is a community club that participates in several project areas including, but not limited to: beef, hobbies and collections, poultry & eggs, and visual arts.
Ages Accepted: 5-18
Meeting Season: October 1 – September 30
Meeting Days: First Sunday of every month
Meeting Times: 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Meeting Location: New Underwood Community Church
Club Dues:
**SPIN Clubs:**

**Black Hills Archery – Rapid City, SD**  
**Club Type:** SPIN Club (archery project)  
**General Leaders:** Al Kraus: 605.394.9663 | bowguy@hotmail.com  
**Description:** Black Hills Archery is a seasonal project club that only participates in the archery project. Members have the opportunity to compete in state-qualifying archery events, possibly advancing to the SD State Shoot.  
**Ages Accepted:** 8-18  
**Meeting Season:** First Saturday in January (tentatively) – End of April  
**Meeting Days:** Every Saturday (Fridays possible)  
**Meeting Times:** TBD by Black Hills Archery Leaders  
**Meeting Location:** Black Hills Archery (2091 Rand Rd, Rapid City)  
**Club Dues:** $75.00

**Black Hills Shooters – Rapid City, SD**  
**Club Type:** SPIN Club (shooting sports project)  
**General Leaders:** Donald Hensley: 605.343.0374 | djhensley@rushmore.com  
Dean Szymanski: 605.390.4622 | deanszymanski@gmail.com  
**Description:** Black Hills Shooters is a seasonal project club that only participates in the gun project. Members learn shooting of BB gun, pellet rifle and pellet pistol. Members have the opportunity to compete in state-qualifying shooting sports events, possibly advancing to the SD State Shoot. Teaching & learning safety is the main purpose of this club.  
**Ages Accepted:** 8-18  
**Meeting Season:** First Monday in January (tentatively) – End of April  
**Meeting Days:** Every Monday  
**Meeting Times:** 6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.  
**Meeting Location:** Walter Taylor 4-H Building (601 E Centre St, Rapid City)  
**Club Dues:** $20.00

**Busy as a Bee Beekeeping – Rapid City, SD**  
**Club Type:** SPIN Club (bee project)  
**General Leaders:** Tom Allen: H: 605.721.8859 C: 605-381-9431 | tallen@rushmore.com  
Kia Smith: 470-879-2326 kiasmith10@msn.com  
**Description:** The beekeeping club started in May 2017 in order to give youth interested in science and their environment the ability to become stewards of insects that are responsible for pollinating approximately 30 percent of the food we eat. It is imperative that young people learn more about bees and the skills needed to be good beekeepers from local mentors. Members will learn a little bee biology and about the major stressors of the honey bee, such as disease, pests, loss of habitat and pesticides. Youth vigor and inquisitiveness are necessary to the future of beekeeping!  
**Ages Accepted:** 8-18  
**Meeting Season:** April - October  
**Meeting Days:** Second Tuesday every month  
**Meeting Times:** 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.  
**Meeting Location:** Walter Taylor 4-H Building (601 E Centre St, Rapid City) or At the Hives  
**Club Dues:** None
Extra Ordinary Friends – Rapid City, SD

Club Type: SPIN Club (dog project)

General Leaders: Tiana Shuster: 605.381.0846 | dixeedoodle101@aol.com

Description: Extra Ordinary Friends is a project club that only participates in the dog project. Members have the opportunity to train their dog in the following areas: dog obedience, rally, showmanship, and agility. Also some fun activities such as tricks, freestyle, and more!

Ages Accepted: 6-18
Meeting Season: October 1 – September 30
Meeting Days: Every other Saturday (sometimes every week)
Meeting Times: 8:30 am – 9:30 am
Meeting Location: Walter Taylor 4-H Building (601 E Centre St, Rapid City)

Club Dues: $35.00 per member per year

Super Clovers – Rapid City, SD

Club Type: SPIN Club (Cloverbuds)

General Leaders: Looking for a New Leader please contact the Pennington County 4-H office if interested.

Description: Cloverbuds meet to learn about the 4-H program in a setting tailored to their skill level. We learn about the 4-H pledge, being good citizens, and what 4-H stands for in our lives. Meetings consist of leader lead programming, with roll call, a lesson, and a craft. Meetings last 1 hour and close with a game and a snack.

Ages Accepted: 5-7, maybe 8 (Cloverbuds are ages 5-7 as of January 1st of the current year, If you are age 8 on January 1st of the current year you are a full member.)
Meeting Season: October - September
Meeting Days: The last Tuesday of the month
Meeting Times: 6 pm
Meeting Location: Walter Taylor 4-H Building (601 E Centre St)

Club Dues: