

SPIN Clubs

Society changes, people change, and programs change. Texas 4-H is no different. We, too, have to evaluate our program and make changes to our program to most efficiently and effectively meet the needs of our ever-changing audiences. The 4-H program is not a “one-size fits all” program. That is why we are implementing a new club model for youth and families that may not want to participate in a year long experience.

What Are SPIN (Special Interest) Clubs?

SPIN clubs allow kids ages 5 to 18 with common interests or hobbies to meet as a club and share their special interest. Whatever their passion is, kids can gain knowledge and enhance their skills through a positive group experience. A SPIN club can be started with a minimum of one adult volunteer and five young people with an interest in a particular topic. While the adult provides expertise and guidance, club members take an active role in planning and running their own activities.

SPIN clubs reach out to youth and families with common interests and brings them together. They are a great way to introduce young people to a specific hobby or interest they might not otherwise have a chance to develop within a group setting.

What Makes 4-H SPIN Clubs Appealing to New Youth and Volunteers?

The SPIN club recognizes that both youth and adults often have a limited amount of “free time” as a result of multiple interests. These clubs have the flexibility to provide positive youth development and adult mentorship through varying time frames giving both youth and leaders more flexibility in when and how long they meet. 4-H programs, at all levels, are only as successful to the extent they tap the creativity, nurturing, wisdom, involvement, and skills of volunteers. Youth who are part of a 4-H SPIN Club are considered bona fide 4-H members and have the same rights as all other 4-H youth in Texas.

What makes 4-H SPIN Clubs different than Project Clubs?

Timing. SPIN Clubs are truly a short term involvement (couple of weeks or couple of months) with a specific focus.

Best Practices for SPIN Clubs

- Meet where the kids are; take programming to them
- 5 to 6 sequential learning experiences (at least 2 hours of total education)
- Limited to time frame needed for project or activity and is variable; Options may include
 - Meet once a week for 6 weeks or twice a week for 3 weeks
 - Meet twice a month for 3 months
- Smaller numbers so leaders/volunteers can be mentor; 1:8 Youth / Adult ratio
- Market the specific program to an identified audience
- Recruit for specific project
- Promote to children/youth who are not already 4-H members
- Market to parents of younger children and to the youth as they get older
- Must recruit volunteers for specific roles
- Identify and recruit specific volunteer to lead project; Train for specific 4-H criteria
- Participation fee will be the same for SPIN Club members as with other 4-H youth.

Potential projects that could follow the SPIN Club format:

Archery, Clothing and Textiles, Consumer Education, Entrepreneurship, Food and Nutrition, Photography, Poultry, Rabbits, Recreation, Robotics, Safe Sitters, Wildlife, Safety, Taxidermy, Shooting Sports, Sportsfishing, etc.

Chartering SPIN Clubs

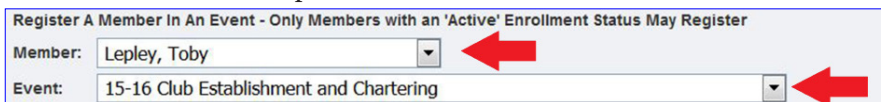
SPIN Clubs are a great way of involving youth and volunteer leaders on a shorter, but equally intense 4-H experience. These clubs are considered an organized delivery method for 4-H, and as result, must be chartered. This document outlines the procedures and steps for chartering a Texas 4-H SPIN Club.

SPIN Club Chartering Facts:

- SPIN Clubs are officially recognized 4-H clubs, therefore must be chartered annually.
- Every SPIN Club must have a Internal Revenue Service Employee Identification Number (EIN) and a set of bylaws (if no officers, bylaws can be abbreviated to include just purpose and dissolution clause).
- If the SPIN Club will be managing any funds, then it must have:
 - Officers of a president, treasurer, and club manager,
 - A budget for how funds will be utilized, and
 - A bank statement
- If the SPIN Club does not have any funds, then no officers, budget, and bank statement is required.

Instructions for Chartering SPIN Clubs:

1. Login to 4HConnect using the family login for the active adult agent/volunteer.
2. Scroll down to the Register A Member In An Event section.
3. Click on the Member dropdown menu and select the active adult's name.

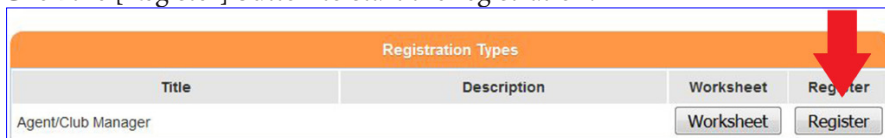


Register A Member In An Event - Only Members with an 'Active' Enrollment Status May Register

Member: Lepley, Toby

Event: 15-16 Club Establishment and Chartering

4. Click on the Event dropdown menu and select the free event called [Club Establishment and Chartering].
5. Scroll down to the Registration Types in the orange headings area.
6. Click the [Register] button to start the registration.



Registration Types			
Title	Description	Worksheet	Register
Agent/Club Manager		Worksheet	Register

7. You will add your SPIN Club information as you do for other clubs; however, make remember these important notes:
 - At the end of your club name you will need to add the following: "SPIN Club."
Example: "Blazing Burners Rocketry SPIN Club"
 - Delivery Mode: You will want to select the following option: "1a) Organized 4-H Community Club."
There is an option of Special Interest/Short-term project under this list - **DO NOT CHOOSE IT!** The Special Interest option will list all youth in curriculum enrichment numbers and not in your community club numbers!
8. Upload in pdf format a copy of the EIN Letter from the IRS.
9. Upload in pdf format a copy of your bylaws along with the budget and current bank statement if the club has a bank account.
10. Continue through the screens, check out and submit to the county and state offices for approval.

Resources at: <http://texas4-h.tamu.edu/volunteer/> - Click on Club Management - Club/Group Charter and Finances



**Sample 4-H SPIN Club
(WITH FINANCIAL FUNDS)**



Constitution & Bylaws

Adopted: _____

ARTICLE I Name and Objectives

- Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the _____ 4-H SPIN Club
- Section 2. This shall be a nonprofit organization exclusively for the purpose of promoting education through 4-H club work.
- Section 3. The objectives of this organization shall be to provide learning situations for the development
- I. of leadership, responsibility and effective citizenship
 - II. to provide educational and challenging experiences that will enable young people to become knowledgeable and skilled in their selected project areas.
 - III. to provide information and training in other 4-H activities as members' interest dictate.
- Section 4. This club is organized exclusively for charitable, educational and scientific purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.
- Section 5. No part of the net earnings of this club shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its member, trustees, officers, or other private person, except that this club shall be empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payment and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in this constitution.
- Section 6. No substantial part of this club's activities shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and this club shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office.
- Section 7. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this constitution, this club shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by a corporation, contributions, to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

ARTICLE II: Membership

- Section 1. Membership in this organization shall be open to all youth who have reached 5 years of age and have not reached their 18th birthday as of August 31 of the current 4-H year and who reside in the County regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, national origin or disability.
- Section 2. New members must be enrolled annually through 4-H CONNECT and be approved as an active member. All members must re-enroll annually.

- Section 3. All members should be enrolled in at least one project, and then complete and turn in a project record book or appropriate paperwork.
- Section 4. All members are required to pay the minimum state-level participation fee of \$20.00 on or before October 31st, or pay \$25.00 on or after November 1st.

ARTICLE III: Officers and Elections

- Section 1. The officers of the club shall be (at a minimum) a president and treasurer. Other officers might include vice-president, secretary, reporter, recreation/song leader, historian, and parliamentarian.
- Section 2. Officers shall be elected annually. Officers shall serve for a term of one year beginning whenever installation is held and shall not be eligible for the same office the following year. Any person appointed to fill an unexpired term may be eligible for the same office the following year.
- Section 3. The officers of the club, in addition to the club manager, shall constitute an executive committee.
- Section 4. Any officer position that becomes vacant shall be filled by someone appointed by the executive committee.
- Section 5. The president, with the approval of the executive committee, may appoint up to four members to official leadership roles as the need arises. Those appointed become members of the executive committee.

ARTICLE IV: Duties of Officers

- Section 1. Duties of the president shall be
- a) to preside at all meetings of the club, enforce the bylaws and exercise supervision over the affairs of the club.
 - b) to appoint standing and special committees.
 - c) to serve as an ex-officio member of each committee, except the nominating committee.
- Section 2. Duties of the treasurer shall be
- (a) to help prepare a budget for approval by the club.
 - (b) to receive, hold and pay out all monies of the club as designated by the adopted budget or approved by the membership.
 - (c) to keep an accurate record of the receipt and expenditures of all funds.
 - (d) to present a financial statement when requested to do so.
 - (e) to serve as chairman of the finance committee.

ARTICLE V: Leaders and Duties

- Section 1. Adult leaders of the club shall be
- (a) at least one screened, approved, enrolled club/organizational leader and as many other approved leaders as are needed to carry out specific responsibilities.
 - (b) leaders are approved by the county Extension agent.
- Section 2. Duties of the club leader shall be
- (a) to be responsible for the overall year's program of the club.

- (b) to work with other adult leaders and the club's youth executive committee to see that the club's program and activities are well-planned and executed.
- (c) to work closely with county Extension agents to provide positive youth development educational programs.
- (d) to prepare an annual charter application and all required chartering documents and submit annually to the County Extension Office.

ARTICLE VI: Fiscal Accountability

The 4-H club/group shall submit a financial report and all required chartering documents to the County Extension Office each year. The club fiscal year shall be September 1st to August 31st.

ARTICLE VII: Club Dissolution

Upon the dissolution of the club, all real property, including money, equipment and land, shall become the property of the County 4-H Program in the event they are tied to Texas 4-H Inc. (a recognized 501(c)(3) not for profit organization) for care and disposition for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

In the event they are not tied to Texas 4-H Inc., the club's assets shall be distributed to the federal government or to a state or local government for a public purpose. Any such asset not so disposed of shall be disposed of by a Court of Competent Jurisdiction of the county in which the principal office of the club is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said county shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes or to such organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

The last official duty of the club's leader shall be to affect the transfer of club property and to turn over club records to the county Extension agent.

ARTICLE VIII: Amendments

Section 1. These bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the club by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided that the proposed amendments have been presented to the club in writing and filed with the secretary at the previous meeting of the club. Amendments must not conflict with the basic 4-H philosophy.



**Sample 4-H SPIN Club
(WITHOUT FINANCIAL FUNDS)**



Constitution & Bylaws

Adopted: _____

ARTICLE I Name and Objectives

- Section 1. The name of this organization shall be the _____ 4-H SPIN Club
- Section 2. This shall be a nonprofit organization exclusively for the purpose of promoting education through 4-H club work.
- Section 3. The objectives of this organization shall be to provide learning situations for the development
- I. of leadership, responsibility and effective citizenship
 - II. to provide educational and challenging experiences that will enable young people to become knowledgeable and skilled in their selected project areas.
 - III. to provide information and training in other 4-H activities as members' interest dictate.
- Section 4. This club is organized exclusively for charitable, educational and scientific purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.
- Section 5. No part of the net earnings of this club shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its member, trustees, officers, or other private person, except that this club shall be empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payment and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in this constitution.
- Section 6. No substantial part of this club's activities shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and this club shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office.
- Section 7. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this constitution, this club shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by a corporation, contributions, to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

ARTICLE II: Membership

- Section 1. Membership in this organization shall be open to all youth who have reached 5 years of age and have not reached their 18th birthday as of August 31 of the current 4-H year and who reside in the County regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, national origin or disability.
- Section 2. New members must be enrolled annually through 4-H CONNECT and be approved as an active member. All members must re-enroll annually.

Section 3. All members should be enrolled in at least one project, and then complete and turn in a project record book or appropriate paperwork.

Section 4. All members are required to pay the minimum state-level participation fee of \$20.00 on or before October 31st, or pay \$25.00 on or after November 1st.

ARTICLE III: Leaders and Duties

Section 1. Adult leaders of the club shall be

- (a) at least one screened, approved, enrolled club/organizational leader and as many other approved leaders as are needed to carry out specific responsibilities.
- (b) Leaders are approved by the county Extension agent.

Section 2. Duties of the club leader shall be

- (a) to be responsible for the overall year's program of the club.
- (b) to work with other adult leaders and the club's youth executive committee to see that the club's program and activities are well-planned and executed.
- (c) to work closely with county Extension agents to provide positive youth development educational programs.
- (d) to prepare an annual charter application and all required chartering documents and submit annually to the County Extension Office.

ARTICLE IV: Fiscal Accountability

The 4-H club/group shall submit a financial report and all required chartering documents to the County Extension Office each year. The club fiscal year shall be September 1st to August 31st.

ARTICLE V: Club Dissolution

Upon the dissolution of the club, all real property, including money, equipment and land, shall become the property of the County 4-H Program in the event they are tied to Texas 4-H Inc. (a recognized 501(c)(3) not for profit organization) for care and disposition for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

In the event they are not tied to Texas 4-H Inc., the club's assets shall be distributed to the federal government or to a state or local government for a public purpose. Any such asset not so disposed of shall be disposed of by a Court of Competent, Jurisdiction of the county in which the principal office of the club is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said county shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes or to such organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

The last official duty of the club's leader shall be to affect the transfer of club property and to turn over club records to the county Extension agent.

ARTICLE VI: Amendments

Section 1. These bylaws may be amended at any regular meeting of the club by a two-thirds vote of the members present, provided that the proposed amendments have been presented to the club in writing and filed with

the secretary at the previous meeting of the club. Amendments must not conflict with the basic 4-H philosophy.

TEXAS 4-H PROJECT LEADER POSITION DESCRIPTION

Texas 4-H SPIN Club Manager



Title: 4-H Club Manager for _____ 4-H SPIN Club in _____ County

4-H Club Manager Advisor:

County Extension Agent – 4-H and Youth Development or agent serving as County 4-H Coordinator

Purpose of the 4-H Club Manager:

Serve as a liaison between the club's membership and the 4-H and Youth Development professional regarding overall club management and leadership.

Benefits of serving as a 4-H SPIN Club Manager:

- Provide leadership and continuity for the 4-H club in a short term special interest setting
- Be a significant part of the educational and developmental process for youth
- Foster the development and growth of successful youth-adult partnerships
- See the impact the 4-H and Youth Development Program has in the county
- Experience personal growth from serving as a SPIN club manager
- Opportunity to mentor youth with like interests
- Make a positive influence on a young person's life and career choices

Responsibilities of the 4-H SPIN Club Manager:

- Serve as the primary link between the county Extension office, agent(s) and 4-H club
- Secure, complete and submit necessary club charter information specific to SPIN clubs
- Utilize volunteers as needed
- Coordinate enrollment of members
- Train and supervise the executive committee if the club decides to have officers
- Manage meetings and club organization
- Submit reports as required by 4-H office
- Inform members and parents about club activities and project work
- Provide recognition for members and volunteers
- Uphold the Texas 4-H Rules and Guidelines
- Be a positive role model for youth and other adults

Qualifications and Expectations:

- Reside in the county (or follow 4-H agreement procedures between counties)
- Register as a direct volunteer for the county 4-H program by completing a Texas 4-H volunteer application for the current 4-H year
- Passed a criminal background check through the Youth Protection Standards Program within the past three years
- Participate in volunteer orientation and club manager training
- Work with Extension professional to teach and motivate youth while nurturing positive self-esteem, decision making, responsibility, leadership, and career opportunities
- Effectively organize, delegate, and communicate with club members, 4-H professionals and others
- Work with minimal supervision from professional staff
- Become familiar with and work within the rules of the county 4-H program, the Texas 4-H and Youth Development program, and the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service



For more information about this project, or about 4-H in general, contact your local County Extension Office or visit the Texas 4-H and Youth Development website at: <http://texas4-h.tamu.edu>

Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating

TEXAS 4-H PROJECT LEADER POSITION DESCRIPTION

Texas 4-H SPIN Club Manager



Time Required:

- The 4-H year runs from September 1 through August 31 of the following year.
- 4-H clubs are sometimes concentrated over a span of a few months.
- The SPIN club manager and Extension office will work together to determine the appropriate time frame for the SPIN-Club based on the needs and interests of the youth members, project area or subject matter.

Resources and Support Available:

- SPIN Club resources
 - o SPIN club description
 - o Charter instructions
 - o Examples of by-laws
- Club Ed: Roles and Responsibilities of a Club Manager
- Club Ed: The Benefits of Youth Adult Partnerships
- Club Ed: The Club Leadership Team Model

If interested, respond to: Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Office located in your county

Agreement

I, _____, agree to serve as the 4-H club manager for the
 _____ 4-H SPIN Club, meeting the qualifications and fulfilling all responsibilities.

Volunteer Signature

Date

CEA Signature

Date



For more information about this project, or about 4-H in general, contact your local County Extension Office or visit the Texas 4-H and Youth Development website at: <http://texas4-h.tamu.edu>

Educational programs of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, or national origin. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating

Fuel Up To Play 60 SPIN Club

Purpose

Fuel Up To Play 60 is a program founded by National Dairy Council and NFL, in collaboration with USDA, that empowers students to take charge in making small, everyday changes at school. The goal of the Fuel Up to Play 60 program is to help improve the school environment and promote healthy food choices and physical activity opportunities through the following:

- Motivating students to make better food choices, such as fruits, vegetables, whole grains and low-fat and fat-free dairy, and be more physically active before, during and after school.
- Increase student access to nutrient-rich foods and sustained opportunities for physical activity at school.
- Continually improve school environments and secure support school stakeholders for nutrient-rich foods and physical activity.

Facilities You May Need

- Varies according to activities conducted.

Supplies You May Need

- Varies according to activities conducted.

Trained Resource Personnel You May Need

- A successful Fuel Up To Play 60 program is possible through a partnership with students, teachers, school personnel and volunteers.
- Additional subject matter experts can be called upon based upon the interests and planned activities of the club members.

State-wide 4-H Project Experiences

- Food Show
- Food Challenge
- Recipe Rally
- Healthy Lifestyles Invitational
- Nutrition Quiz Bowl
- 4-K for 4-H

Fuel Up To Play 60 Challenges

- The Fuel Up To Play 60 Program offers a playbook, which is updated with new activities and challenges related to healthy eating and physical activity for each school year. Students can do the plays to earn points and win prizes!
- The playbook can be accessed at www.fueluptoplay60.com.

Web Resources

- www.fueluptoplay60.com
- texas4-h.tamu.edu/fuelup
- texas4-h.tamu.edu/healthy_lifestyles



Sample Program & Activity Topics	Sample Roll Call Ideas
<p>MyPlate Fruit & Vegetable Taste Test Basic food preparation Food Challenge Food safety Proper hand washing Introduction to Super Tracker Learn new exercises Importance of breakfast Basic nutrition Grains Sports nutrition Hydration Beverage choices Benefits of dairy Sun safety Eating better on a budget</p>	<p>Favorite healthy snack Favorite food group Favorite meal Favorite holiday food New Year's resolution Favorite exercise Favorite breakfast food Favorite fruit Favorite drink Favorite song Favorite outdoor activity Favorite school lunch Favorite sport Favorite vegetable Favorite dessert Favorite game Favorite ice cream</p>

Sample Service Projects
<p>Assemble first-aid kits and donate to local organizations or place in community buildings. Promote Walk to School Day (fall). Start a walking club. Volunteer at a food bank or food pantry. Help cook or serve a meal at a local homeless shelter. Make up holiday food baskets for those in need. Host an exercise class for free. Make breakfast for teachers or a community group. Plant flowerbeds, or clean up flower beds, at a community center or school. Conduct sports nutrition activity for afterschool program or school athletes. Set up milk stands in school or community. Host a school supply drive.</p>

Contact

Dr. Courtney F. Dodd, Extension 4-H and Youth Development Specialist
 4180 State Highway 6 South, College Station, TX 77845
 Phone: 979.845.6533
 E-mail: cfdodd@ag.tamu.edu