# **ENHANCING THE CLUB EXPERIENCE**....

# AGENDA MANIA

# OVERVIEW

• This activity focuses on effectively organizing club meetings including structure, time allotment, and impact.

# LIFE SKILLS

- Organization
- Time Management
- Understanding of Purpose and Impact

## MATERIALS NEEDED

• Cards/Pieces of Paper with parts to meeting agenda listed on each card.

# ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS (Activity Time: approximately 20 - 30 minutes)

- Provide the group with the agenda cards (mixed up) and instruct them to arrange the cards in order based on how they think a club meeting should be structured.
- After they are done, talk through the order with them and make any corrections needed. Talk about benefit of things being in a certain order and what things might be flexible in their arrangement.
- Have participants then group the individual items into the 4 basic parts of a meeting: Inspiration / Business / Program / Recreation
- Discuss the appropriate time length that each of these parts should take within a 1-hour club meeting.

# RELAX AND REFLECT

Here are some talking points:

- What are some reasons items might be moved around in the agenda and what are the pros / cons? Example: Maybe a speaker needs to be at the beginning due to schedule conflicts... it is preferred to end meeting with the fun activities but we should be considerate of a guest speaker's needs
- How long should the 4 different parts of a meeting take ideally?
   Inspiration (Approx. 5 minutes) Business (Approx. 15 minutes) Program (Approx. 20 minutes) Recreation (Approx. 20 minutes) (Sometimes the Program & Recreation might be combined (Approx. 40 minutes)
- Why should we spend more time on program / recreation than business? *This is the FUN part of the meeting... Spend more time on the FUN*
- Why is it a good option to end the meeting with program / recreation when possible? Again, this is the FUN part... End the meeting on a high note. This will keep the kids wanting to come back next time!
- What is too long OR too short for the length of our meeting?
   If we start going over an hour we may interfere with schedules or lose interest... sometimes a longer meeting is ok but we must make sure the agenda keeps participants engaged and worth their time. If a meeting is too short, we may have participants wondering if it was worth the trip... avoid having meetings without purpose that are just to have a "check off" on the calendar.

### ATEXAS A&M GRILIFE EXTENSION

# **TEXAS 4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

**EXTENSION** The members of Texas A&M AgriLife will provide equal opportunities in programs and activities, education, and employment to all persons regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation or gender identity and will strive to achieve full and equal employment opportunity throughout Texas A&M AgriLife.



# Enhancing The Club Experience

#### APPLY

- Talk about the purpose of the different agenda items (i.e., purpose of pledges, reports, etc.)
- How does this structure compare to what we are doing in our own local meetings?
- Are there some things we might do to improve our current meeting structure?
- How do we make sure we are having FUN in our meetings and keep the members coming back?

### TAKE HOME

 A 1-hour meeting that incorporates PURPOSE & FUN should keep our membership interested and generate new interest. Shorter or longer meetings may be appropriate as long as they have purpose and value to the participants.

Here is a list of agenda items (in typical appropriate order) that can be used on cards for the Agenda Mania activity:

- CALL TO ORDER
- PLEDGES
- ROLL CALL
- READING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES
- **REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND STANDING COMMITTEES**
- **REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES**
- UNFINISHED BUSINESS
- NEW BUSINESS
- PROGRAM
- RECREATION
- ANNOUNCEMENTS
- ADJOURN

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