UConn 4-H Public Speaking Contest Goes Virtual for 2021

Due to the pandemic, the UConn 4-H Team has decided to adjust the county and state 4-H Public Presentation contests to a virtual format in an effort to keep everyone safe while encouraging more participation for all ages across Connecticut.

2021 Virtual Public Presentation Contest Plan

Level 1: County Qualifying Rounds (February)

- Each county will hold a virtual county public presentation contest spread out as necessary *(to be determined at county discretion)*
- Danish scoring would be used (Blue, Red and White ribbon categories)
- Anyone who earns a blue ribbon at the county level will be invited to advance to the level 2 state qualifying contest
- Each scheduled and timed session will consist of the presenter and judges (2-3 judges per contest) *(one adult coach, volunteer or parent is welcome to view presentation only)*
- Age brackets are as follows:
  - Novice: 7 & 8 year olds *(can only compete at level 1)*
  - Junior: 9 – 12 year olds *(can move onto level 2 if awarded blue ribbon)*
  - Senior: 13 – 19 year olds *(can move onto level 2 if awarded blue ribbon)*

Level 2: State Qualifying Round (March)

- Any blue ribbon winners from the county qualifying rounds will be invited to participate in the State Qualifying Rounds *(no limit per county)*
- Top 4 presenters in each division will qualify to move on to Level 3
- Divisions include Senior Speech, Senior Visual Presentation, Junior Speech, Junior Visual Presentation

Level 3: State Finals (April)

- Top 4 presenters in each division will be invited to compete in the state finals competition regardless of county affiliation
- Highest score in each division will be named the state 4-H first place champion

Judges

- Separate judges will be used at each level of competition, and each judge would only judge at a single level

Awards Ceremony (May)

- Awards ceremony will take place virtually at a separate date where others, such as family, club members and volunteers will be invited to participate
- Appropriate recognition will be provided at each level of competition

Public Speaking 101

- Fact Sheets, YouTube tutorials and digital training workshops will be provided to all 4-H members during the month of January
Dates for Level 2 and Level 3 Competitions:

Please mark your calendars for the following dates in the event you are invited to participate in these events:

Level 2 State Qualifying Rounds (March 14-20, 2021)
Level 3 State Finals (April 7 & 8, 2021)