

2021 NORTH DAKOTA 4-H CONSUMER DECISION MAKING CONTEST

When & Where: The state 4-H Consumer Decision Making contest will be held on **Tuesday, July 27**, in the Atrium of the State Fair Center at the North Dakota State Fair in Minot. **All times are listed in Central Time.**

8:30 a.m. – Registration
9:00 a.m. – Contest Begins
12:30 p.m. – Lunch on Your Own
1:30 p.m. – Group Think
3:30 p.m. – Awards

Eligibility: Participants must be enrolled in 4-H in the county they represent. Participants in a previous national contest are not eligible. For the state contest, counties may enter an unlimited number of teams (3-4 members) in both the junior division and the senior division. Substitutions of county participants can be made at registration on the day of the contest, as long as the substitutions are youth who are from the same county or county combination that was registered.

Senior Teams: Participants on senior teams must be 14-18 years of age as of December 31, 2020. The team eligible for the national contest will be the first place team in the state contest. A team consists of at least three or four individuals from a county or county combination.

Junior Teams: Participants on junior teams must be 10-13 years of age (age 10 before September 1, 2020, and up to age 13 as of December 31, 2020). Youth who are 8-9 years of age before September 1, 2020, MAY choose to participate in the junior division. A team consists of at least three or four individuals from a county or county combination.

Individuals: 4-H members are eligible to participate as an individual if their county does not have enough participants to make up a team. The top 10 individuals (junior and senior divisions) will be recognized at the state contest. Individuals are not eligible to represent North Dakota at the national contest.

County Combination Teams: Two counties may combine to form a team provided that neither of the counties involved has more than two members participating on the team. Combined county teams must be registered together prior to the contest. No combination teams will be formed at registration on the day of the contest. Counties that have a team or teams (3-4 members) may enter individual participants in the state contest. However, those individual participants may not combine with another county to form an additional team.

Dress Code: The 4-H dress code will be observed. Participants will be neatly dressed and must wear a solid colored white, yellow, gray or green shirt or blouse with the 4-H emblem prominently displayed and fastened securely on the front. A 25 point deduction will be made per individual, and 25 points will be deducted from the team's score if any participant does not observe the dress code. **Participants must adhere to the 4-H dress code through the presentation of awards.**

Classes and Oral Reasons: Six classes will be placed. Two classes will be selected from each of the following topics: **Boots, Portable Speakers and Yogurt.** Twelve minutes will be allowed for placing a class. Oral reasons will be presented in each of the three topic areas for a total of three sets of reasons.

Scoring for Class Placings and Oral Reasons: Each class will have a value of 50 points for the correct placing. Oral reasons will be scored by one judge for each topic area. Each set of oral reasons will have a value of 50 points. **Each individual can score a maximum of 450 points.**

Group Think: Senior teams and junior teams will participate in the Group Think component. Teams will evaluate one situation or problem. Ten minutes will be allowed for the process. To keep track of time, participants may wear a watch (no smartwatches), and each team will be given a stopwatch to use while competing. Additionally, a visible clock will be in each Group Think room. The topic of the situation or problem will be selected from the following: **Boots, Portable Speakers and Yogurt.** Any team **may** be videoed during the Group Think component for future training purposes.

Scoring for Group Think: Teams will be scored by two judges. Each judge can allocate up to 100 points. These points will be used in the final scoring calculations for both junior and senior teams. **This component is worth 200 points per team.**

Team Scores: For both the junior and senior divisions, the top three individual scores and the Group Think score from a county or county combination team of 3-4 members will be used to determine the overall team score.

Tiebreakers: In the event of a tie, the following order will be used to break the tie:

1. Overall Reasons Score
2. Overall Placings Score
3. Boots Reasons Score
4. Portable Speakers Reasons Score
5. Yogurt Reasons Score
6. Boots Placings Score
7. Portable Speakers Placings Score
8. Yogurt Placings Score

Contest Materials: Participants are to bring a pencil with an eraser to the contest. Mechanical pencils work well since they do not need to be sharpened. **No cell phones or smartwatches will be allowed.** Scratch paper will be provided.

Lunch: With the contest beginning at 9:00 a.m., participants will be finished with both the class placings and oral reasons components by 12:30 p.m. **All participants will be dismissed at 12:30 p.m. for lunch. The Group Think component will begin at 1:30 p.m.** However, not all teams will need to report back at 1:30 p.m. The team order and schedule for Group Think will be available at registration on the day of the contest.

Awards: **All participants will need to return to the Atrium at 3:30 p.m. for awards.** Placing ribbons will be given to the top scoring 10 individuals and to the top scoring 5 teams in each age division. Plaques will be awarded to the highest scoring individuals in each age division. All participants will receive a participation ribbon. Ribbons are provided by the North Dakota State Fair. The first place senior team (three participants plus an alternate) may represent North Dakota in the national 4-H Consumer Decision Making Contest. The 4-H Foundation will provide \$1,000 toward expenses for the contest.

References: Please refer to CC616, *4-H Consumer Decision Making*, for information and help with this event. CC617, *4-H Consumer Decision Making Beginner Study Guides* and CC618, *4-H Consumer Decision Making Junior/Senior Study Guides*, provide further information on the selected topics.