



Sample 4-H Club New Member Initiation Ceremony

Many 4-H club members have been stimulated to greater effort and achievement by the experiences and opportunities offered in 4-H club work. This ceremony provides a summary of the basic principles of 4-H club work and may stimulate an appreciation of its values.

A junior leader takes the candidates for 4-H club membership to the front of the room where the officers are standing behind a table on which a United States flag and a 4-H flag have been placed.

President: We have some youth at this meeting who would like to become members of the _____ 4-H Club. Before becoming members, you should know something about our club. Our Vice President will introduce the officers and leaders to you.

Vice President: (Introduce leaders and officers to new members.) We consider all parents of club members partners because they will guide you in your project work. We hope your parents can come with you to the meetings and become a part of our club.

President: Our Secretary will tell you more about 4-H work.

Secretary: (exhibiting a 4-H club emblem) Our 4-H emblem is a green four leaf clover with a white "H" on each leaf which represents the development of the HEAD, HEART, HANDS AND HEALTH. Our 4-H motto is "TO MAKE THE BEST BETTER." Now our Treasurer will tell you about our project work.

Treasurer: Every member carries on his/her 4-H work between the meetings by the project work he/she does at home. In this way, we carry out one of the goals of club work, "learning by doing." You will be expected to work on a project and to complete a record of the work you have done.

President: Our Reporter will tell you about our club meetings.

Reporter: Our club meets every month on the _____ of each month. At our meetings, we have a short time for business followed by a program and demonstrations. In a demonstration we simply show how to do something and explain it as we go along. You will have a chance to see some demonstrations before you are asked to give one.

President: This will give you an idea of what our 4-H club is and does. Do you want to become a member of this club?

New Member(s): (All together) Yes.

President: (take time to introduce each new member and current members) In becoming a new member of our 4-H club, we expect you to attend meetings regularly, take an active part in our program, complete your project work, keep a record of all your 4-H activities, learn the 4-H club pledge and motto, keep your parents informed of the club's activities and help other members of our club who may be in need of such help. I would like to have all of our members stand and repeat the 4-H pledge with you.

Entire Club: (new members should have a copy to read) Recite the 4-H Pledge.

President: You are now a member of the _____ 4-H Club.

(Name)_____. We welcome you into our membership. As a symbol of your membership, we give you a _____. May you always do your full part in carrying out the 4-H program.



Sample 4-H Club Officer Installation Ceremony

Speaker: To:

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| Outgoing President | Newly Elected President | As President of the _____ 4-H club, great responsibilities will be yours. You will preside at meetings and conduct these in a fair, business-like and efficient manner. You will be ready at all times to give your service in the best interests of the whole club. You must protect its good name, strive always to further its purposes, and see that people of the community are aware of the work being done and the services provided. This gavel is given to you as the property of the club to help you in performing your duties. |
| Outgoing Vice President | Newly Elected Vice President | As Vice President, you will become familiar with the duties of the presidential office and will be ready to act at any time in the absence of the President. You may be called upon to assist or represent the President in various activities in leadership. You will be an example to other club members in leading and participating in various 4-H activities and you will strive in every way to aid in upholding the dignity of this organization. |
| Outgoing Secretary | Newly Elected Secretary | As Secretary you will keep the membership roll and a complete and accurate record of what takes place at each meeting. You will make reports and write official letters. You will keep such important information and papers as the 4-H club may decide. In your hands and keeping is now placed the Secretary's book for the _____ 4-H Club. |
| Outgoing Treasurer | Newly Elected Treasurer | As Treasurer, you will be entrusted with the major expenditures for this 4-H club and you will keep an accurate record of each member's dues. You will be expected to furnish detailed and complete information concerning the finances of this organization whenever it is needed. In your hands and keeping is now placed the Treasurer's book for the _____ 4-H Club. |
| Outgoing Reporter | Newly Elected Reporter | As Reporter, you will furnish written reports of our club's meetings and activities to the Extension Office for publication in the local newspaper. You will also be prepared to assist and encourage publicity of our club's programs to the community. You are now given the report forms to be used in making these reports. |



Speaker: To:

Outgoing Historian **Newly Elected Historian** As Club Historian, you will seek out and utilize newspaper items, photos and other items of interest to document your club's story for the _____ club year and to preserve this collection for future references. In your hands is now placed the scrapbook for the _____ 4-H Club for ____ year.

Outgoing President As club officers, you have been chosen to guide and direct the _____ 4-H Club for the _____ year. I know that you will live up to the trust that has been placed in you. You will be largely responsible for the club spirit of your organization, for its progress and faithfulness to the principles of 4-H.

I will light the candle representing the club spirit (light the middle candle). From this candle our newly elected officers will light the candles representing the four H's of 4-H and for the participants of our club.

- "I light the candle for HEAD to clearer thinking."**
- "I light the candle for HEART for greater loyalty."**
- "I light the candle for HANDS for larger service."**
- "I light the candle for HEALTH for better living."**
- "I light the candle for all members of our club."**
- "I light the candle for the leaders of our club."**
- "I light the candle for the parents of our club."**
- "I light the candle for the 4-H leaders of our county and state."**

Please, all stand and repeat the 4-H Pledge.

(OPTIONAL: Present officer pins to them.)