

YOUTH EXHIBITION POULTRY ASSOCIATION COOP TENDER



Points Needed: Activities 100 Points
Competition 50 points
Education 100 Points

Age: You must be 10 years of age or older to be tested for this level.

Record Book: Mandatory

To achieve this rank, a young person should be able to demonstrate a fundamental understanding of the poultry animal and its basic care, of show preparation, should have participated in competitive activities with an individual animal and should be participating either individually, or with others, in some poultry related activities. This level should know basics on feed, some education on the more common external parasites and internal parasites and how to treat or prevent them, worming and how to prepare a bird to show. He should know the basic external parts of a chicken, be able to tell the sex of a bird, know the breed and breed class of the bird he/she is showing. You should be able to coop in and coop out a bird properly and be able to hand the bird from person to person properly.

At this level parental help and guidance is acceptable for activity, competition and educational projects but practical "hands on" learning is very important, not just memorizing from a book.

Suggested Activities for Coop Tender Level:

1. Wash and prepare your bird, as you would for a show then take it a nursing home for patients to pet and to tell you about their experiences with chickens during their life. Many of these people have never touched a chicken. 20 points
2. Get permission from your schools kindergarten teacher to bring your bird or some baby chicks to the class to show the students what owning a chicken is like. 20 points
3. Gather other poultry friends and make arrangements to put on a poultry display or demonstration at a mall or at your local fair. Ask other breeders; youth club members, your 4-H Poultry group, other poultry leaders if they would like to educate the public about poultry. Set up a table and let mall visitors pet a chicken and tell them how you get your birds ready for a poultry show. Have a variety of sizes and colors for them to look at. 20 points.
4. Color Easter Eggs and deliver them to a nursing home or donate them to a community program similar to "Meals on Wheels", deliver them to a neighbor. 10 points
5. Color Easter Eggs, cut out designs of feet, a hat, wings, glue on flowers, etc. and deliver to a program listed above. 20 points
6. Collecting Chicken, Duck or Goose stamps. Depending on size of collection. 10 – 20 points
7. Selling your fresh eggs and keeping appropriate records. 20 points
8. Creating a poster or flyer advertising a show or clinic. 10 – 20 points
9. Helping to set up or clean up after a show. 20 points
10. Doing a "show and tell" project about chickens at school. 20 points
11. Enter a poster contest at your local fair or local state fair. 10 points
12. Participate in a Skilathon contest at your state fair. 10 points
13. Do a feather collage of your breed or other breeds of chickens. Just your breed... 10 points, group of other breeds...20 points.

14. Take a field trip to another breeder; take questions along to interview the breeder. 20 points
15. Make a picture collage of your bird. 10 points – 20 points
16. Help mom cook chicken in different ways, write out the recipe and explain which you liked best and why. 20 points

Competition: *Counting competition points – Junior Show*

- 1 point for each bird entered that doesn't get disqualified
 - 2 points for placing 1st through 5th or Best Variety or Reserve Variety
 - 3 points for Best of Breed or Reserve Breed
 - 4 points for Best or Reserve of Class
 - 5 points for Best or Reserve Bantam or Large Fowl, Waterfowl or Turkey, Best or Reserve of Show.
- If you enter the Open Show then points 4 and 5 are doubled.

Education:

This part of the program is very hard to write and give you a list. Much of the work you do during your activity section of the program is educational. Therefore when the state leader grades your record book he or she will either interview you or possibly give you a written test. *Suggestions* can be made of what to learn as you go along in this part of the program.

1. First, know how to properly care for the breed you are raising, feeding, housing, and general health.
2. Be able to describe your procedures.
3. Know how to treat external parasites like lice and mites and what produce you use.
4. Know your breed class and variety and be aware of some of your competitor fowl in the same class.
5. Know the external parts of your chicken and how to examine the bird properly.
6. Learn how to coop in at a show and how to coop out. Be able to take a bird from the cage properly and return him to the cage properly.
7. Know how to pass the bird to another person and how to receive it back.
8. Learn how to read a coop tag.
9. Learn what the judge is looking for when he judges your breed.
10. Showmanship can be very educational so participate as often as you can. This will tell you what you might need to work on. Example: If you don't know how to pose your bird in the cage you will know this is something you need to practice.

You will need to check with your leader on occasion to be sure you are on the right track but if you know most of the above you will do fine.

Remember, your animals depend on you to take good care of them, to handle them and enjoy them as much as they enjoy you. *It is very important that you have the practical hands-on experience in caring for your bird.* This is not mom and dad's responsibility, it is yours and how you learn. You have as much time as you need before being tested for this level.

It is recommended that you spend approximately two years preparing for this level test. You must pass with 75% of 100 points when you are tested.

Testing will be scheduled either through your State Leader or the National Office.

Your record book must be completed and graded before testing.

