

Character Development

Why Develop Good Character in Your Club?

4-H is more than winning ribbons, showing and selling animals or doing something better than someone else in your club. 4-H is about “Making the Best Better” in yourself, in relationships with others and in your community. 4-H is about building character in its members, families and advisors.

Your players' character is a reflection of your 4-H team leadership.

You have an important responsibility to help members develop good character. You can begin by teaching and incorporating the [Six Pillars of Character](#) through your club activities. Teaching by example is always the best approach because members are always watching the coach – You!

How Can You Teach The Six Pillars?

- Explain club expectations to members and parents at the start of the club meeting.
- Help the club and members set short and long-term goals.
- Recite the American and 4-H Pledge at all club meetings. Teach the 4-H motto, pledge and meaning of the 4 “H’s” to all members.
- Discuss the Six Pillars of Character in relationship to show ring ethics, livestock tampering rules, fair rules, livestock quality assurance, 4-H policies and guidelines and project work.
- Conduct a “Help a 4-H Member Night”, where experienced members share skills with others.
- Make club decisions using the Six Pillars of Character as filters for decision-making.