



Tips for Voting in a 4-H Club Meeting

Making decisions is an important part of the 4-H club experience! Helping youth use their voice to express their opinions is not just something we *could* do, it is something that we *NEED* to do!

One way for youth to make decisions about their club is encouraging and allowing them to vote on issues related to their club at meetings. Here are some ideas for making voting interactive or fun, while ensuring youth voice is heard:

In-Person

Show of hands: The president asks members to vote by raising their hand in agreement or opposition

Standing votes: Members in agreement stand, opposition sits. The president counts standing and sitting members.

Vote with your feet: Members in agreement move to one side of the room, opposed move to the other side of room.

Drop a chip: Members are given a chip and drop chip in the container for agree or oppose. President counts chips.

The Shoe Pile: Members take off one shoe, put it in the agree spot, or oppose spot. President counts (stinky shoes!)

Virtual

Zoom Poll: create a poll of agree, oppose and abstain in the Zoom Pro account. Launch poll during meeting.

Google form: create a Google Form with voting options. During virtual meeting, put link in the chat box for people to vote. Alternatively, send the link to members to vote during (or after) meeting.

Paper ballot: Mail ballot to members. Fill out ballots, and mail back or no contact drop at designated location.

Zoom feature vote: Invite members to type "yes" or "no" in the chat box or use the icons (hands up, yes, no, etc.) in the participant box

*Note: voice vote is difficult on virtual platforms. If typing, use two different words (yes/no, not Yay/Nay, which could be more easily misspelled)

Hybrid

Heads down/thumbs up: members put their heads down (or close eyes). Thumbs up in agree, thumbs down in opposition.

Paper Ballot: members asked to bring paper and a pen/pencil to meeting. Write answers on paper and drop box on way out

Flip Chart Vote: Each member asked to bring a writing utensil to meeting. During voting time, members invited to come up, one at a time, to make a mark on the flip chart in agree or oppose.