-exempt status of the central organization.

Filing for an EIN is not the same as getting tax-exempt status?
No, an EIN is an "employee identification number" and is used as an identifier for an organization (similar to a social security number for an individual). Banks require an EIN when clubs open an account. It is not difficult to apply for, and if you do it online the response is immediate. Filing for tax-exempt status with the IRS is a different, more lengthy process and outcome.

How will being a part of the GEN be different than now?
All clubs (who have a bank account) are required to have their own EIN. These club EINs will be submitted along with the paperwork in our application for the GEN with the IRS.

Does our club have a choice in whether to become a part of the GEN?
YES, your club has a choice.

What if our club chooses not to be a part of the GEN?
If your club chooses not to be a part of the GEN, and you would like to fundraise, accept donations, apply for grants, your club will need to apply for your own 501(c)(3) non-profit tax-exempt status with the IRS. You will no longer be able to use the state 4-H 501(c)(3) status.

receive the annual financial statements when they are due, and that the beginning balance of each year matches the ending balance of the prior year.

Are there fees associated with being a part of the GEN?
Currently there are no fees associated with being a part of the GEN. In the future, we may ask Districts to chip in for the accountant fees, depending on their percentage of clubs and/or money that they handle.

How does my club become part of the GEN?
Simply fill out the form found at:
[illegible] and send/email it to your District 4-H staff.

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