

DOG

OBJECTIVES

The goals of the 4-H Dog Project are to teach basic care for good health and to train a dog so that it will become a well-mannered, happy family member. Members develop patience, persistence, and the value of hard work. The 4-H member learns to make decisions, accept responsibility, and understand a dog's behavior.

RULES AND REQUIREMENTS FOR EXHIBITION

1. Exhibitor must be enrolled in a Somerset County 4-H dog project. Handler must be a registered member of a Somerset County 4-H dog club by Jan 1st of the current year. The dog must be registered by Dec 31st.
2. Exhibitor must have attended 70% of all business and training meetings.
3. Exhibitor must have completed, and presented a project book for the past year.
4. Exhibitor must have proof dog's inoculations are up to date.
5. Exhibitor must be responsible for and have control of their dog at all times.
6. **Exhibitor and dog(s) are required to be at the Fair as scheduled, all three days from 9:30 am to 10:00 pm. Friday night everyone needs to stay until all dog tents are cleaned.**
 - a. **If a member leaves the dog division tent before Friday night breakdown is finished and finalized by a division chair, the member risks being FEO ONLY next year. Herdsmen MUST help breakdown until they are to report to the Food Tent (10:30 PM).**
7. Exhibitor has given a formal or informal Presentation at the club, county, Community, State or National level.
8. Dress for show is as follows:
 - Obed. Classes: Jeans/pants and 4-H T shirt or solid colored shirt.
 - Jr. Show. Boys: dress pants and a collared shirt. Tie and or suits optional
 - Girls: Skirt and blouse, dress or pants suit.

You must wear sneakers or flats.

Consult division chairs for advice.
9. First year exhibitors with extensive outside experience may be put directly in Junior (4th-8th graders) or Senior (9th-13th graders) Handling class, and will enter the obedience class at the level they have been training in rather than beginner's class.
10. Handlers may show in one obedience class that best reflects their level of achievement throughout the project year. **Handler may enter a second higher level class if they have received 3 qualifying scores in the current level of their obed class or at the discretion of the leader or trainer. Proof of qualifying scores must be included on their entry form.** This must in the current 4-H year.

Trainers will give each member a list of obedience classes they are eligible to enter based on the handler's ability and the dog's capability to perform the required exercises. The 4-H dog TRAINERS have the final say in which obedience classes, the 4-H member can enter.
11. Top placing scores in each class will receive trophies.
 - a. **Participants are expected to be present for and participate in all parts of a class for which they are registered. This includes the presentation of trophies and ribbons at the end of a class. If there is a conflict with another 4-H activity, then she/she must notify ring stewards.**
12. **Every dog must enter the grooming class and be seen by the judge prior to Obedience classes.**

13. A change in a class during the Fair needs to be brought to the attention to division chairs.

14. If a member's original project dog is unable to participate for valid reasons (coming in season, illness, injury, or death) before or during Fair, that member may compete with another current or former Somerset County 4-H project dog as approved by the Dog Division Chair. The member is eligible to place in Junior Showmanship and classes denoted as 'fun classes' (including agility). However, the member can only compete FEO for obedience. Grooming will be waived.

a. In the event that a dog's illness or injury would not prevent it from participating in Fair, a veterinarian's note MUST be provided to be kept on file in the dog tent at all times.

15. No one other than the 4-H member may groom or train the 4-H project dog on the Fairgrounds.

16. No food is allowed in the Obed ring. Food is allowed in during Junior Show and fun classes.

17. There is a mandatory dog division meeting for all members and parents. Meetings will be announced in both clubs. Meetings will be at 6:30 pm prior to a meeting or training of each club. Members may attend either meeting. A parent must attend with child. NOTE: Members in grades 11 & 12 with 2 years of Fair experience in the club MAY attend the mandatory meeting without a parent.

18. No practicing will be allowed in the show ring at any time, unless listed on the Fair Schedule as having a specific practice time with a leader present (i.e. agility practice). Attire rule still applies during those specified events.

Safety

1. Members are NOT allowed to wear shorts, leggings, yoga pants, sweats, or pants with holes into the show ring AT ANY TIME.
2. Members are NOT allowed to wear flip flops or open toe/ backless, or high heeled shoes into the show ring AT ANY TIME OR ANY TIME ON THE FAIRGROUNDS.
3. Dogs exhibiting any signs of stress or distress (eg: biting, snapping, aggression, overheating, etc.) should be removed from the Fair immediately. Members should contact their leaders to find the safest way to accomplish this task.

CLASSES

GROOMING - Dogs will be judged on how well the dog is groomed. Grooming class is required for ALL dogs that are entered in Fair. **Grooming is scheduled to begin after Jr. Showmanship classes. If a dog is not present, it is the member's responsibility to schedule a time for the judge to check the dog. If the dog has not been judged in grooming prior to the Obedience class, the member/dog will compete as FEO.**

HANDLING - The handlers must trot the dogs around the ring, then do a pattern as directed by the judge, and pose the dog in a standing position.

1. Beginner

2. Juniors 4 - 8 grades. This class may be split. If split, the winner of both classes will compete for Best Junior and will go onto Round Robin.

3. Seniors 9 - 13 grades. This class may be split. This class may be split. If split, the winner of both classes will compete for Best Junior and will go onto Round Robin.

OBEDIENCE

NOTE: Fouling in the ring will result in a NON-Qualified score. Handler/dog may still finish class, but cannot place.

1. Beginner - Collar on correctly, heeling, stand for exam, moving recall (they are allowed to take a step back when calling), sit, stay for 45 seconds and down stay for 90 seconds. All commands on lead. Exercises are qualifying/non qualifying. Participation rosettes awarded.
2. Pre-Novice A (MAX 160) - **Dog AND handler** first year showing. All commands on lead. Heel and figure 8, stand for exam, recall, sit stay 1 minute, down stay 3 minutes.
3. Pre-Novice B (MAX 160) - **Dog OR handler** that showed at last year's Fair or have had training outside 4-H. Same exercises as Pre-Novice A.
4. Intermediate Novice (MAX 160) - Heel and figure 8 on lead. Stand for exam, recall, sit stay 1 minute and down stay 3 minutes off lead.
5. Novice (MAX 200) - Heel and figure 8 on lead. Heel (free) stand for exam, recall, sit stay 1 minute and down stay 3 minutes off lead.
6. Advanced Novice (MAX 200) - Heel on lead. Heel (free) & figure 8. Drop on recall. stand for exam off lead. Sit stay 3 minutes with handlers across the ring and down stay 5 minutes with handlers out of sight.
7. Graduate Novice (MAX 200) – Heel free and Figure 8; drop on recall, recall with dumbbell, recall over high jump; recall over broad jump long down 3 minutes; handler out of sight.
8. Open (MAX 200) - All commands off lead. Heel, figure 8, drop on recall, retrieve over flat, retrieve over high jump, broad jump. Sit stay 3 minutes and down stay 5 minutes with handlers out of sight.
9. Utility (MAX 200) - All commands off lead. Directed jumping, signal exercise, scent discrimination, directed retrieve, and moving stand.
10. Junior Rally - 4 - 8 grades
11. Senior Rally - 9 - 13 grades
12. Beginner Novice (MAX 200) - **If a member wins 2 years in a row, then he/she must wait one year to compete in the class.** The exercises in the Beginner Novice classes: Heel on Leash 40 points (Rally signs); 2. Figure 8 40 points (on leash); 3. Sit for Exam 40 points (on leash); 4. Sit Stay 40 points (drop leash and walk around the ring); 5. Recall 40 points (off leash)

AWARDS

Trophies donated by the Branchburg Animal Hospital.

Danish ribbons for all participants.

Trophies and/or rosettes for placements.

Award for Best Junior Handler.

Awards for highest scoring dog in Obedience Classes; one for classes with high score of 160; one for classes with high score of 200.

NOVELTY CLASSES - (There will be fun prizes for these classes.)

1. Costume - Dog and/or handler will dress in costume.
2. Maze - Dog and handler negotiate a timed agility/obstacle course. Dogs must wear buckle collars, handlers must wear sneakers. Pull tabs or short leashes are encouraged.
3. Switch handler
4. Meet the Breeds
5. Others as the schedule allows

Dog equipment		
		
Choke collar - obedience	Martingale collar - obedience	
		
Buckle collar - obedience	6 ft leash for obedience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leather is better for hands, but nylon okay • Single handle, no lead (extra) handle 	
		
Jr Show collar	Jr Show lead - shorter and thinner than obedience leash	Jr Show loop lead (all-in-one) or martingale lead
Other items for training	Other items for dog shows	Items NOT allowed
Treats for training Water bowl / water Baggies (for cleaning up after your dog, inside or outside) Closed-toe shoes (for you)	Items listed to left Brushes and combs (for last minute grooming touch-ups) Crate or pen for your dog to rest in (dogs may not roam free) Folding chairs or blanket Change of clothes: you will need (dressy clothes) for Junior Showmanship and long pants and shirt for obedience	No collars with tags No prong collars No gentle leaders No halties No harness

All items shown from Cherrybrook Premium Pet Supplies website.