

2010 OFMA Jr. Fair Conference

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Dog Activities at the County Fair 2010 OFMA Junior Fair Conference

Dog projects and activities enhance the learning experience of youth and adults. Youth taking dogs enroll in one or more of the following projects through their 4-H club: You & Your Dog 201D, Obedience 201O, Showmanship 201S, Performance 201P, and Working 201W. Evaluation of these projects at the county fair can be both competitive (judgings) and non-competitive (demonstrations), as long as the intention is to provide a positive learning experience for youth.

Many types of educational activities can occur at the county fair with dogs. A typical dog show consists of Obedience classes, Showmanship classes, and You and Your Dog classes. Some counties offer classes for assistance dogs (i.e. Pilot Puppies), agility, and rally obedience.

Other activities that could involve youth and dogs during the fair include: 1) demonstrations and safety talks; 2) dog poster contest; 3) dog costume contest or pet parade; 4) 4-H or FFA booths; 5) herding demonstration; 6) dog drill teams; 7) Frisbee demonstration; 8) flyball demonstration; 9) Canine Good Citizen testing; 10) skillathons; 11) canine freestyle demonstrations, and more! Counties may offer many types of activities involving youth and dogs at the fair provided they are safe and fun.

Each county fair has its own rules and requirements for Dog shows and activities that are a result of recommendations from a county dog committee, Extension professionals, Agricultural Educators, Junior Fair Board and/or Senior Fair Board members. However, it is recommended that counties follow the Ohio State Fair Rules for Dog Shows as closely as possible. Dog information can be found at the following website: <http://4hansci.osu.edu>.

Any youth can show their dogs at the Ohio State Fair by entering classes they are eligible for by July 11. Entries are made directly to the State Fair Entry Department. Agility entries are due July 14.

Other Items Pertaining to County Fair Dog Activities

- A. The Senior Fair Boards are:
 - a. Legally responsible for all activities conducted during the fair.
 - b. Responsible for the overall management of the fair.
 - c. Responsible for providing facilities for junior fair activities.

- B. Extension and FFA are;
 - a. Responsible for designing the educational opportunities for 4-H & FFA members taking projects.
 - b. Responsible for providing the leadership needed to successfully conduct the 4-H & FFA shows and activities at the fair.

- C. Leadership to successfully conduct the Junior Fair Dog Shows and Activities include:
 - a. Youth enrolled in projects by county deadlines.
 - b. Recommend to Junior Fair Board and/or secure judges, types of recognition, such as trophies, ribbons, etc.
 - c. Pre-fair registrations or fair entry deadlines for dog show classes.
 - d. Show help and paperwork:
 - i. Superintendents in charge of each show
 - ii. Secretary/person to register and verify entries, show score sheets
 - iii. Veterinarian or vet assistant to check health papers and health of animal
 - iv. Announcer
 - v. Judges
 - vi. Stewards
 - vii. Award Donors

D. Dog Show Facilities

- a. Need suitable place to show dogs, preferably under cover or shade. Exhibitors and dogs should not show in the hot sun; they may get heat stroke.
- b. Ring size should be a rectangle about 40' wide by 50' long – clear span.
 - i. Ring size should not be less than 35' x 50' for open/graduate open classes, or 30' x 40' for lower obedience levels.
- c. If outdoors, the ground should be level and clean; grass should be cut short.
- d. If on concrete, mats should be provided for lower levels of obedience and showmanship, and must be provided for retrieving and jumping for the safety of the dogs.
- e. If on shavings or sawdust, the flooring should be clean and free from animal debris.
- f. The ring should be blocked off to keep people and animals out, and should be away from major distractions.
- g. Proper and safe equipment must be secured prior to the show.

Some fairs have “dog houses” where youth and/or breeders house their dogs during the fair. These exhibits showcase purebred dogs. To make the exhibit educational, youth could provide information about their breed, as well as give grooming and showing demonstrations.

Most fairs allow youth to bring in their animals only the days of judging and activities. Dogs should, at all times, be contained in a portable kennel and/or with a humane collar and leash. Dogs should not be brought to the fair in prong collars or muzzles, as these types of equipment do not inspire confidence in the general public. Dogs posing a safety threat to humans and other dogs must not be brought to the fair, or must be removed from the Fairgrounds. Bitches in heat should not be shown at the county fair unless special arrangements are made so the female does not show where other dogs are to be shown. Females in season are likely to distract other dogs and cause them to not perform as well as they could. Males and females may also become aggressive if exposed to a female in heat.

“Walk Passes” could be issued by the Senior Fair Board allowing dogs to be on the Fairgrounds during the day(s) of the show. Stipulations as to where the dogs can be walked are listed on the “Walk Pass.” If an exhibitor is approached by someone questioning him/her about the animal being on the Fairgrounds, he/she can present the “Walk Pass” showing permission to be there. A sample *Dog Walk Pass* is provided in this handout.

Developing Educational Opportunities for Youth with Dogs

Considerations

- Safe Environment for Youth and Dogs
- Involve Junior Fair Board Members, Senior Fair Board Members, Extension Educators, Agricultural Educators, Volunteers, Dog Clubs, Breeders, Dog/Pet Industry Professionals
- Non-Competitive and Competitive Events
- Displays and Demonstrations
- Recognition for Youth Participants

Health Requirements of County Fair

1. What are your county fair's health requirements in addition to those of ODA?
2. Will a fair vet be present to check the health and condition of the dogs?
3. What is the minimum age a dog must be to be brought to the fair?

Safety Factors to Consider

1. Insure safety of exhibitor and other participants
 - Only domestic dogs should be shown
 - Dogs requiring muzzles should not be allowed on grounds

- Dogs requiring prong collars (public views this as unsafe), or electronic training collars should not be permitted
 - Dogs not controllable by youth, aggressive to other dogs and especially toward people must be removed from the grounds
 - If bitches in heat are permitted, they need to be away from other dogs so there is no aggressive behavior
 - Provide ample room for dogs to be crated or kept by their handlers
 - Provide place for spectators to view dog show away from the dogs
 - Provide ample room for the actual dog show and dog activities so animals are not crowded
 - Do not hold show out in hot sun
2. Insure safety of animal exhibited
 - Must be under control of handler
 - Collar and leash or harness and leash (depending on class)
 - Crate
 - Safe equipment, such as jumps for obedience and obstacles for agility
 - Enclosed areas for agility, off-leash obedience classes
 - Show should not be held in hot sun
 3. Be aware of temperament of animals, especially around other animals
 - Dogs can and will growl, scratch, bite, snap
 - Especially in a new environment, if improperly handled, scared, or threatened
 4. Be aware of temperature
 - Some breeds of dogs are especially prone to heat stroke
 - Weather during late fairs may be too cold for certain breeds to function well

Legal Issues of Certain Species of Dogs

1. 4-H allows all domestic breeds of dogs
2. Local ordinances may not allow certain breeds deemed “dangerous” to be shown
3. Wolf and wolf hybrids are not permitted to be shown (at the state level), and should not be shown at the local level

Companion Animal Activities at the County Fair

Companion Animal projects and activities enhance the learning experience of youth and adults. Youth taking Companion Animal projects are typically enrolled in the Small Animal 4-H project which offers project information and activities about hamsters, gerbils, mice, rats, chinchillas, hedgehogs, and ferrets, as well as other popular Companion Animal projects: cats, guinea pigs, and pet rabbits. Reptiles and Amphibians are also a companion animal project. Youth taking birds, and companion animals not mentioned above, must enroll in a Self-Determined 4-H project, but typically exhibit these animals at Small or Companion Animal Judging at the county fair. Evaluation of these projects at the county fair can be both competitive (judgings) and non-competitive (demonstrations), as long as the intention is to provide a positive learning experience for youth.

Many types of educational activities can occur at the county fair with companion animals. Some county fair cat shows offer individual cat classes for long hair and short hair cats. These classes may be divided into different breeds and/or sexes. Many times guinea pigs (cavy) classes are divided by breed and sex. Sometimes they are divided into long hair and short hair classes. Pet rabbits are typically shown as a part of the Small or Companion Animal Show, with classes being divided by the exhibitors' ages. Mixed breed rabbits should be a part of the Pet Rabbit

classes as they cannot show in ARBA purebred classes. Showmanship and an interview judging are a part of most companion animal shows held during the fair. Some county fairs offer Cavy shows that are ARBA sanctioned, while most are shown in a pet category.

Activities for youth with companion animals are more limited because of the temperament and personalities of these species. Additional activities could include: 1) demonstrations and safety talks; 2) poster contests; 3) costume contests or pet parade, 4) pocket pet races; 5) skillathons, and 6) decorated cage contests.

Each county fair has its own rules and requirements for Small (Companion) Animal shows and activities that are a result of recommendations from a county small animal committee, Extension professionals, Agricultural Educators, Junior Fair Board and/or Senior Fair Board members. Companion Animal information can be found at the following website:

<http://4hansci.osu.edu/companion>.

All 4-H and FFA youth taking cat and other companion animal projects can show their pets at the Ohio State Fair Companion Animal Day Judging. This includes self-determined companion animal projects. Youth do not have to qualify to show at the State Fair. Youth can send their entries directly to the State Fair Entry Department by July 11.

Other Items Pertaining to County Fair Companion Animal Activities

- A. The Senior Fair Boards are:
 - a. Legally responsible for all activities conducted during the fair.
 - b. Responsible for the overall management of the fair.
 - c. Responsible for providing facilities for junior fair activities.

- B. Extension and FFA are;
 - a. Responsible for designing the educational opportunities for 4-H & FFA members taking projects.
 - b. Responsible for providing the leadership needed to successfully conduct the 4-H & FFA shows and activities at the fair.

- C. Leadership to successfully conduct the Junior Fair Companion Animal Shows and Activities include:
 - a. Youth enrolled in projects by county deadlines.
 - b. Recommend to Junior Fair Board and/or secure judges, types of recognition, such as trophies, ribbons, etc.
 - c. Pre-fair registrations or fair entry deadlines for companion animal show classes.
 - d. Show help and paperwork:
 - i. Superintendents in charge of each show
 - ii. Secretary/person to register and verify entries, show score sheets
 - iii. Veterinarian or vet assistant to check health papers and health of animal
 - iv. Announcer
 - v. Judges
 - vi. Stewards/Show Assistants
 - vii. Award Donors

- D. Cat Show Facilities
 - a. Cats should be shown in an enclosed, cool building, free of dust.
 - viii. Require cats to be brought to the show in carriers and when taken out to be on a harness and leash, with an identification tag on the harness.
 - b. Cats should be put in cages, such as disinfected large fowl poultry cages, which are set on tables. Cardboard should be put between the partitions of the cage if two cats are placed side-by-side in a cage.
 - ix. The cages should be set on tables. Do not use the boards that make up the bottom of the cages for poultry.

- x. It is important to disinfect the table between each class, using a disinfectant that is non-toxic to cats.
- c. If cages are not available, show the cats on tables.
 - xi. Make sure there are enough tables for exhibitors to allow for plenty of space between their cats, to prevent being scratched or bitten by temperamental animals.

E. Companion Animal Show Facilities

- a. Companion Animals should be shown in an enclosed, cool building, free of dust.
- b. These small pets should be brought in secure carrying cages.
- c. These pets are usually removed from their cages and shown on tables. For rabbits and guinea pigs, an area on the table should have carpet so the animal feels secure.

Some fairs have “cat houses” where youth and/or breeders house their cats during the fair. These exhibits typically showcase purebred cats. To make the exhibit educational, youth could provide information about their breed, as well as give grooming and showing demonstrations.

Most fairs allow youth to bring in their animals only the days of judging and activities. Cats should be brought to the fair in pet carriers, and be on a harness and leash, with an identification tag on the harness. Collars are acceptable, but may put undo stress on a cat’s neck if it tries to escape. All other pets must be properly and humanely contained.

“Walk Passes” could be issued by the Senior Fair Board allowing companion animals to be on the Fairgrounds during the day(s) of the show. Stipulations as to where the animals carried are listed on the “Walk Pass.” If an exhibitor is approached by someone questioning him/her about the animal being on the Fairgrounds, he/she can present the “Walk Pass” showing permission to be there. A sample *Walk Pass* is provided in this handout.

Developing Educational Opportunities for Youth with Companion Animals

Considerations

- Safe Environment for Youth and Companion Animals
- Involve Junior Fair Board Members, Senior Fair Board Members, Extension Educators, Volunteers, Companion Animal/Pet Industry Professionals
- Non-Competitive and Competitive Events
- Displays and Demonstrations
- Recognition for Youth Participants

Health Requirements of County Fair

1. What are your county fair's health requirements in addition to those of ODA?
2. Will a fair vet be present to check the health and condition of the pets?
3. What is the minimum age an animal must be to be brought to the fair?

Safety Factors to Consider

1. Insure safety of exhibitor and other participants
 - Consider species and breeds of animals in relation to ages of youth when conducting Pet Shows.
For example:
 - No hooved animals or only certain species
 - Animals must weigh no more than half weight of youth
 - Animals cannot weigh more than the youth
 - No hybrid wolves

- No wild animals
 - No poisonous snakes, etc.
 - Only certain exotics allowed...specify
 - Temperaments of companion animals
 - Have cats been taken places (other than vet) prior to exhibition?
2. Insure safety of animal exhibited
 - Must be contained:
 - Collar and leash
 - Harness and leash
 - Pet carrier
 - Aquarium/vivarium
 - Basket
 - Tether
 - Cage
 - Safe equipment
 - Enclosed areas for cats and other companion animals that could get loose
 - Heated building for judging of some species of companion animals
 3. Not all animals can or should be removed from cage or handled
 - State in rules which species can remain in cage for judging
 4. Be aware of temperament of animals, especially around other animals
 - Animals can and will scratch, bite, sting, etc.
 - Especially in a new environment, if improperly handled, scared, or threatened
 5. Be aware of temperature
 - Some animals are especially prone to heat stroke
 - Weather during late fairs may be too cold for certain animals

Legal Issues of Certain Species of Animals

1. Ferrets are illegal in some counties or certain localities
2. Some exotics and wild animals may require permits
 - Animals such as raccoons and skunks should have permit as well as health papers

Species of Animals

1. COMMON
Dogs; cats; pocket pet rodents such as mice, gerbils, hamsters, rats - many varieties...some quite unusual; guinea pigs (cavies); rabbits; birds - from the parakeet to the macaw or cockatoo, fancy poultry and other fowl
2. LESS COMMON
Hedge hogs; chinchillas; ferrets; pot-bellied pigs; pygmy and Nigerian dwarf goats
3. EXOTICS
Short-tailed opossums; sugar gliders; prairie dogs; flying squirrels; degus; duprasi; chipmunks; dormice
4. CRUSTACEANS
Hermit crabs
5. REPTILES
Turtles; snakes; lizards (bearded dragons and iguanas are common)
6. AMPHIBIANS
Frogs; toads; newts; salamanders

Junior Fair Pet Shows

Classes Offered

1. Allow participants to enter only a certain number, depending on types of classes
 - Look alike - no costume - animal resembles owner
 - Costume class - pet only
 - Costume class - pet and owner
 - Best Dressed (usually same as costume class, however costume class may have a lot of unusual styles of dressing, while best dressed sometimes means not funny or too unusual)
 - Most unusual
 - Cutest
 - Most tricks
 - "Stupid" Pet Tricks (allow each to do only one trick and pick the funniest or goofiest)
 - Individual classes, i.e. dogs, cats, rabbits
 - Can group exotics under one heading (specify what species of animals you mean by exotic)
 - Pocket pets or rodents under one heading (rabbits are not rodents & guinea pigs are not pocket pets)
 - Amphibians, crustaceans, and reptiles under one heading
 - Longest tail and/or shortest tail*
 - Longest and/or shortest fur*
 - Longest and/or shortest whiskers*
 - Funniest noise
 - Most talkative
 - Most colorful fur, feathers
 - What else??????
- *Must measure & animal must allow measurement

Ages of Youth, Adults, Senior Citizen Class

1. How young?
 - Many pet shows begin with youth ages 5
 - Can have stuffed pet show for youth too young or small to have live pets
 - Many classes could be the same as for live pets
2. Senior citizen class - ages 65 and older are fun

Prizes

1. Ribbons, rosettes, trophies
2. Discount or free food coupons (for on or off fairgrounds)
3. Free _____ at 4-H food booth or Jr. Fair Dairy Barn, etc.
4. All should receive participation awards

Registration

1. Pre-registration
 - Info in fair book, newspaper, on radio, flyers before fair
 - Deadline so you will know how many prizes you will need
 - Entry form needs place for adult to sign, giving permission for child to participate
2. Sign ups during fair
 - May work if pet show is during last part of fair
 - Need time to work out details
3. Do you want to charge participants a minimal fee, i.e. \$1.00 or \$2.00 to enter to help defray expenses?

Sponsors

1. Junior Fair Board
2. Senior Fair Board
3. 4-H Committees
4. Local vets, humane societies, animal shelters, pet food and supply companies, stores with pet departments, pet shops
5. Anyone you can find who is reputable

Publicity

1. Posters throughout community
2. Newspaper
3. Fair book
4. Radio
5. Places where people with pets go
6. 4-H and other youth organization news letters
7. Flyers

The Actual Show - What is Needed?

1. PA system
2. Check in (registration) Table
 - Have pre-registered entries listed by class, name of exhibitor and animal
3. Announcer
4. Tables
5. Signs for each class
6. Carpet for tables - for rabbit, guinea pig
7. Extra pet carrier (pet taxi) to put animal if causing trouble or scared
8. Extra leash and slip collar
9. Jug with water and water bowl
10. Two youth at each table
 - For safety
 - To assist judge
11. Awards table
12. Camera, film
13. News release forms
14. Newspaper publicity
15. Score sheets, paper, pencils

Judge(s)

1. Number of judges depend on size of show and time allotted
 - Could have one judge for everything or a team of judges for everything
 - May want several people judging at one time so more than one class is going on at the same time (concurrent classes)
2. Need to contact judges at least 60 days prior to show, send them rules and scoring criteria
3. Should predetermine some kind of scoring criteria...could be as simple as rank each class from 1 - 10 with 5 being average and then place them according to scoring with 1 = first place.
4. Do not allow ties...judges need to select a winner.

Who Do You Ask To Judge?

1. Be careful not to ask someone whose family member or close relative is in the show.
2. Don't ask someone who has a member from their 4-H club or FFA group, etc. showing.
3. Since the exhibitor is not being interviewed on their knowledge, almost anyone can judge....vet, elected official (be careful not to offend someone), senior citizens, someone in the pet industry.

4. Can either ask judge to volunteer time, or pay them a fee, or at least travel. If they volunteer their time and ask for no remuneration, it is nice to provide them with free drinks and offer them a food coupon for free food on the fairgrounds.

Follow Up

1. Newspaper publicity (within a day or two of show)
2. If taking pictures of kids, have double prints made and you can sell the print to the parent of the kid (on entry form have a place for the parent to sign a photo release for publicity)
3. Thank you notes to the judges and sponsors - **very important!** (within two weeks of the show)
4. Figure cost of the pet show
5. Provide written report for Senior Fair Board
6. Brainstorm with other Jr. Fair Board members about things to change for next time, improvements, things that went well

Ways to Make a Pet Show Educational

1. Have educational displays & pamphlets around arena, tent, area where show is held
 - humane society
 - dog rescues
 - about animal health
 - responsible pet ownership
 - pet food - varieties (not to sell)
 - pet supplies - different kinds of things (not to sell)
 - books about pets and pet care
 - from library - librarian could be there to check out books
 - sample magazines
 - Dog and Rabbit Learning Laboratory Kits
 - 4-H PetPALS
 - 4-H project books

Incorporate Community Service

1. Ask each exhibitor to bring a canned food item to donate to an outreach organization.
2. Can you think of any others?

SAMPLE **DOG WALK PASS**

To: Gate Personnel and Sheriff's Department

This letter is a "Walk Pass" for Monday, July 19 and Thursday, July 22, 2010, giving the owner permission to have his/her dog(s) on the _____ County Fairgrounds for Junior Fair Dog Activities that are being held in the Show Arena.

The youth, with his/her dog(s), will be competing on these days and will be walking his/her dog(s) to the arena, and then back to the parking lot after the contest has concluded.

Dogs must stay in the vicinity of the Show Arena and barn areas. Any dogs found outside of this area must be removed from the Fairgrounds and the exhibitors will not be permitted to show their dogs. Dogs are not permitted on the midway or around concession stands.

If you have any questions, please contact _____ at _____.

Sincerely,

Senior Fair Board President

cc: Senior Fair Board
Junior Fair Board
4-H Office
Gates Office
Sheriff's Department

4-H Dog Project Member Information Sheet for Jr. Fair Dog Shows

(Note: This form can be used to keep track of the classes in which 4-H members & dogs have shown.)

4-H'er's Name _____ Club _____

	2008	2009	2010
4-H'er's Age (1/1)			
Dog's Call Name			
Breed			
Color/Markings			
Gender			
Age			
Class Shown			
County Placing			
State Fair			
Class Shown			
County Placing			
State Fair			
Class Shown			
County Placing			
State Fair			
Comments:			

Junior Fair Dog Show Checklist

Sr. Fair Board Director(s): _____

Jr. Fair Board Member(s): _____

What Needs to Be Done	Name of Person(s) Responsible	Date Completed/ Sent	Comments (who contacted, initial calls made, follow up letters or emails, contracts sent & received, awards secured, etc.)
Dog show rules & requirements finalized			
Initial contact to hire judge(s) <i>(Ask judge's philosophy, fee to judge – may need to negotiate flat fee.)</i>			
Follow up to initial contact, including contract with fee <i>(Send rules/requirements)</i>			
Contact trophy sponsors			
Order ribbons/awards			
Rules sent to printer for fair premium book			
Proof read rules before final printing <i>(sponsors spelled correctly)</i>			
Pre-fair registrations or fair entry deadline paperwork			
Secure place for show <i>(note if fence, ropes, etc. are needed)</i>			
Contact people to steward (2-3+ depending on show size)			
Contact Fair Vet with number dogs, times needed to vet check, required paperwork			
Secure equipment for classes offered, including mats <i>(if needed)</i>			
Check trophies for accuracy; put sponsor address labels on trophies & ribbons			
Final letter to judge(s) <i>(pass, directions, phone nos. to contact in case of emergency or questions, number of youth & dogs to expect, time to arrive, length of time they have to judge, any additional rules)</i>			

What Needs to Be Done	Name of Person(s) Responsible	Date Completed/ Sent	Comments (who contacted, initial calls made, follow up letters or emails, contracts sent & received, awards secured, etc.)
Follow up letter to stewards <i>(passes, directions, time to arrive; fair contact cell no.)</i>			
Letter to sponsors inviting them to present awards <i>(date, time, classes, directions)</i>			
Follow up with Fair Vet			
Phone call to judge 2-3 days before show <i>(Ask if any last minute questions, confirm no. youth, dogs, & classes.)</i>			
Thank you cards and/or address info for youth to send sponsors thank yous			
Armbands			
Score sheets, including group exercise			
Showmanship interview questions <i>(if applicable)</i>			
You & Your Dog interview questions <i>(if applicable)</i>			
Newspaper publicity			
Photographer			
Announcer(s)			
Show Secretary <i>(to verify entries, register youth, complete top of score sheets)</i>			
Clipboards			
Pens, Pencils			
Calculator			
Tape Measure			
Stop Watch			
Paper towels, hand sanitizer			
Clean show area			
Set up ring(s)			
After show clean up			
Follow up thank you notes to judges, show help			

SAMPLE

COMPANION ANIMAL WALK PASS

To: Gate Personnel and Sheriff's Department

This letter is a "Walk Pass" for Tuesday, August 17, 2010, giving the owner permission to have his/her companion animal _____ (specify species) on the _____ County Fairgrounds for Junior Fair Companion Animal Day Judging that is being held in the Jr. Fair Building.

The youth, with his/her pet(s), will be competing on this day and will be taking his/her pet(s) to the Jr. Fair Building, and then back to the parking lot after the contest has concluded.

Companion animals must stay in the vicinity of the Jr. Fair Building. Any pets found outside of this area must be removed from the Fairgrounds and the exhibitors will not be permitted to show their animals. These small animals are not permitted on the midway or around concession stands.

If you have any questions, please contact _____ at _____.

Sincerely,

Senior Fair Board President

cc: Senior Fair Board
Junior Fair Board
4-H Office
Gates Office
Sheriff's Department

COMPANION ANIMAL PROJECT EVALUATION FORM

Complete ONE Evaluation Form for EACH Project Being Judged

Name _____ Exhibitor No. _____

Age (as of Jan. 1 this year) _____ Club _____

Project (circle one): Cat 1 – No. 216 Cat 2 – No. 217 Cat 3 – No. 218
 Guinea Pig – No. 215 Small Animals – No. 220 Pet Rabbit – No. 227 Other _____

Years in Project _____ Name of Animal _____

Species & Breed/Variety of Animal _____

Keep this Evaluation Form with you until the judge calls your exhibitor number.

Areas of Evaluation	Points Given	Comments
A. Knowledge of Project – 45 pts. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understands project Can answer questions Can show basic concepts and skills learned in project appropriate to age level 		Strengths: Area(s) for Improvement:
B. Skillathon Station Knowledge – 5 pts.		
C. Interview – 20 pts. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exhibits ability to communicate project knowledge Shows interest in project Has good attitude and sportsmanship 4-H'er is neat in appearance 		Strengths: Area(s) for Improvement:
D. Exhibit – 30 pts. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has animal Has adequate cage & accessories Cage, bedding, & accessories are clean Can handle animal if asked by judge Shows proper handling & showmanship techniques (Refer to showmanship evaluation guide for cats, guinea pigs & pet rabbits.) Has completed applicable sections of project book and project records Has pictures, scrapbook, or poster showing activities with project 		Strengths: Area(s) for Improvement:
Total Points		

COMPANION ANIMAL PROJECT EVALUATION FORM

Complete ONE Evaluation Form for EACH Project Being Judged

Name _____ Exhibitor No. _____

Age (as of Jan. 1 this year) _____ Club _____

Project (circle one): Cat 1 – No. 216 Cat 2 – No. 217 Cat 3 – No. 218
 Guinea Pig – No. 215 Small Animals – No. 220 Pet Rabbit – No. 227 Other _____

Years in Project _____ Name of Animal _____

Species & Breed/Variety of Animal _____

Keep this Evaluation Form with you until the judge calls your exhibitor number.

Areas of Evaluation	Points Given	Comments
<p>A. Knowledge of Project – 50 pts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understands project • Can answer questions • Can show basic concepts and skills learned in project appropriate to age level 		<p>Strengths:</p> <p>Area(s) for Improvement:</p>
<p>B. Interview – 20 pts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exhibits ability to communicate project knowledge • Shows interest in project • Has good attitude and sportsmanship • 4-H'er is neat in appearance 		<p>Strengths:</p> <p>Area(s) for Improvement:</p>
<p>C. Exhibit – 30 pts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has animal • Has adequate cage & accessories • Cage, bedding, & accessories are clean • Can handle animal if asked by judge • Shows proper handling & showmanship techniques (Refer to showmanship evaluation guide for cats, guinea pigs & pet rabbits.) • Has completed applicable sections of project book and project records • Has pictures, scrapbook, or poster showing activities with project 		<p>Strengths:</p> <p>Area(s) for Improvement:</p>
Total Points		



2010



Ohio 4-H Dog Judges' Guidelines



Ohio 4-H Dog Show Judges' Guidelines

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Ohio 4-H Dog Show Judges' Guidelines

The Ohio 4-H Dog Program Philosophy

The Ohio 4-H dog program provides positive learning experiences and opportunities for diverse youth, encouraging them to reach their potential through year-round active involvement in dog projects and activities. Dog projects provide the catalyst for youth to experience and practice life skills until they are mastered and used in everyday activities, helping them develop as competent, capable, caring, and contributing citizens.

4-H volunteer advisors are caring adults who teach youth how to socialize and train their dogs to be well behaved in their homes, communities, and around other dogs. They give their support and expertise on a year-round basis, as the commitment of youth to their dogs is yearlong. Advisors teach youth skills needed to safely handle and train their dogs, as well as teach responsible dog ownership. Providing an emotionally and physically safe environment for members allows them to focus on learning the cognitive and physical skills needed to be successful with their dog projects.

4-H members are engaged in, practice, and demonstrate proficiencies with their dogs at various levels of obedience, showmanship, dog care (now called You & Your Dog), agility, and rally. They are engaged in hands-on learning opportunities through dog skillathons, knowledge bowl games, and county and state fair evaluations. 4-H members express creativity through educational dog poster displays and contests, designing obedience and style patterns for dog drill team competitions, and displaying creativity and performance skills in canine freestyle.

The bond that develops between youth and dogs provides a stimulus for them to help others in their community. 4-H members and their dogs, as 4-H PetPALS, visit senior adults in nursing homes or assisted living facilities. They visit youth and adults with physical or cognitive disabilities. 4-H'ers and their dogs participate in walk-a-thons and other community service projects. Youth participate with their dogs in 4-H project awareness opportunities in schools and throughout the community.

Youth learn critical thinking skills through training opportunities in dog care, agility, obedience, showmanship, assistance dogs, rally, drill teams, and canine freestyle. They are prepared for the unexpected when working with dogs. 4-H members learn how to be flexible, as well as how to think clearly and rationally, when confronted with situations during handling, socializing, and training their dogs.

4-H members practice setting short and long-term goals for their projects and 4-H careers. Youth have opportunities to explore careers related to dogs and the dog industry. Dog projects may serve as the stepping-stone to future involvement with dogs and dog-related organizations, such as kennel and breed clubs, dog rescues or humane societies.

To access Ohio 4-H dog information use the following website address:

<http://4hansci.osu.edu/companion>

General Judging Guidelines

Keeping in mind the philosophy of the Ohio 4-H dog program, rules and guidelines are developed to bring consistency to county and statewide competitive 4-H dog events. The Ohio State Fair Junior Fair Dog Show Rules are designed by adapting the applicable American Kennel Club (AKC) rules (with permission) to exemplify the Ohio 4-H philosophy, and to promote and encourage participation by 4-H and FFA youth. The Ohio 4-H Dog Advisory Committee has developed these *Ohio 4-H Dog Show Judges' Guidelines* to aid judges in the evaluation and scoring of youth entered in county and state shows, trials, and fun matches, as well as an awareness tool for 4-H volunteers and youth. These guidelines should help bring clarity and consistency to the individuals judging these events.

As a judge, you have been given the approval and opportunity to make a valued contribution to the Ohio 4-H dog program. The manner by which you exercise your authority at 4-H dog shows and events has a direct impact on the 4-H program. 4-H members, 4-H volunteers, parents, and the

general public assess what 4-H dog training exemplifies by the way judges evaluate youth and dog teams at 4-H shows. It is essential for judges to show respect for the Ohio 4-H dog program philosophy and to maintain high standards when judging and teaching 4-H youth.

Responsibilities as a Judge

Because of the authority position you hold as a judge, you must understand your responsibilities as a 4-H dog show judge.

1. First and foremost, always remember that you are working with young people. Belonging to 4-H or FFA and participating in the Junior Fair are learning experiences, and every attempt must be made for the experiences to be positive.
2. Take 4-H dog show judging seriously. 4-H dog shows may be the only venue a youth has to showcase his/her 4-H dog project. Judge a 4-H dog show with as much respect as you would an AKC or other sanctioned show.
3. It is essential that exhibitors have full faith in the impartiality and competence of judges. There is no room for even the suggestion that anything other than the work of the dogs in the ring is involved in your decisions.
4. Be consistent in your judging. Do not make concessions to one competitor unless those concessions will be extended to all. You can be understanding toward some unexpected failure provided that decisions and scoring are not affected.
5. Give every handler and dog equal time and opportunity to compete.
6. Be friendly and courteous to all youth who enter the ring, while remaining unprejudiced and firm in your decisions.
7. Expect each 4-H'er to enter the ring prepared to perform all exercises as explained in the rules, and judge the exhibitor accordingly.
8. Demonstrate sound knowledge of the dogs you evaluate and score. Continually learn about the requirements for 4-H obedience, showmanship, and other dog show classes.
9. Demonstrate sound judging procedure and ring control, plus a thorough knowledge of the *Ohio 4-H Dog Show Judges' Guidelines*. Good procedure is essential. With it, a judge will inspire the confidence of exhibitors and spectators.
10. Be professional in the ring by:
 - Being confident
 - Knowing the regulations and guidelines
 - Scoring realistically and fairly according to the regulations
 - Scoring every handler and dog against the theoretically "perfect performance" rather than other exhibitors
11. Speak loudly and clearly for the exhibitors to hear. Never talk in a degrading tone of voice or act in a demeaning manner. The exhibitors are nervous. They probably will not remember everything you say, but they will remember your tone of voice and attitude.
12. You are working with youth, and setting an example as you judge. Appropriate behavior is required at all times. Refrain from using foul language, physical contact, or using tobacco products. Never arrive at a show under the influence of alcohol or other drugs.

13. Maintain a proper and professional appearance. You are in the ring to do a job, not to be the center of attention because of outlandish dress or bizarre behavior. However, wear comfortable shoes as you could be on your feet several hours throughout a day.

14. A majority of the spectators will be parents, relatives, and friends who do not know the rules, but are there to see the 4-H member showcase his/her project. Therefore, it is important for you to avoid any actions that might degrade the 4-H'er or the dog. Remember that the spectators, especially the general public, may form their entire opinion of the 4-H dog program, and even 4-H in general, based on the actions of the judge, the 4-H member and the dog.

15. Write comments on the score sheets. Make them positive and legible. Use constructive criticism when making suggestions for improvement.

16. Follow the rules and guidelines described in the *2010 Ohio 4-H Dog Obedience Regulations* and the *2010 Ohio 4-H Dog Showmanship Regulations*. Follow the current Ohio 4-H Dog Show score sheets when judging. Familiarize yourself with the Obedience, Judging, Showmanship, Performance, and Working, and Showing Your Project Dog chapters of the *Ohio 4-H Dog Resource Handbook*.

Other Judges' Information

1. Junior Fair Dog Shows are not sanctioned shows. The exhibitor may be showing a family dog versus having a choice of dogs. This should not be an excuse for poor performance; however, keep in mind that the majority of these youth and dogs show only at the county level.

2. Any breed or mix of breeds can be shown in 4-H. Also, dogs with disabilities can be shown provided they can willingly perform the expected exercises without the activity being a health or safety threat to the dogs.

3. Consistency in judging is very important. Meet with other judges of the day and show officials before the show begins to bring uniformity and consistency in judging the show. Some things to discuss include: your expectations; stewards' duties, score sheets, ring conditions, and deductions for certain behaviors in the ring that are not already spelled out in the 4-H rules. It is very important to follow the same ring procedure for all participants in each class.

4. Make the judging experience positive and educational for each youth. There will be teachable moments throughout the show. Use your professional judgment as to when to take advantage of these opportunities to educate youth in a positive way. Educate and engage the audience when possible by mentioning positive attributes about the classes.

5. There could be youth with disabilities showing their dogs. The steward should let you know if there is such a youth in your class(es). Without comprising the integrity of the class, and without showing partiality to youth with disabilities, be conscious of their challenges and be considerate when evaluating these youth and their dogs. Welcome and encourage their participation.

6. Dogs are expected to be well-groomed and in good condition for their age. Show clips are not required, and youth must not receive point deductions if their dogs are not in show clips. A dog must be clean and its coat free of mats and loose hair. The ears must be clean, but it is not required that all the hair be removed from the ear canal. The eyes must be free from matter. The teeth should not have any tartar build up. Some staining on the teeth of older dogs is permissible. The toenails must be trimmed. Hair must be trimmed between the pads. It is not required that whiskers be trimmed, but if the dog's face is shaved, the stubble should be removed. The judge should ask the age of the dog, especially if the dog's apparent condition warrants questioning.

7. If, at the time of judging, a dog is being medicated for a skin ailment, ear infection, diet, etc., and the exhibitor makes you aware that (1) a medical problem exists; (2) a veterinarian has been

consulted; and (3) medical advice/treatment is being followed, you should take these factors into consideration when scoring provided the health issues do not affect the dog's performance. (It is the show committee's responsibility to make sure the exhibitor has brought a health certificate from the veterinarian verifying the condition and treatment to the show's health check or registration.)

8. Exhibitors should be neat, clean, and well-groomed in appearance. They should wear clothing that is comfortable to handle in and appropriate for dog shows. Clothing should not distract, limit or hinder the judge's view of the dog. (1) **Acceptable clothing** for all *Obedience* classes, including Rally, includes slacks, dressy shorts, skorts, capri or crop pants, colored dress jeans, collared blouses and shirts, polo shirts, or similar attire, closed-toe shoes, rubber-soled shoes, flats, and similar type footwear. (2) **Acceptable clothing** for girls in *Showmanship classes* are dresses, skirts, dress shorts, skorts, dress slacks, dressy Capri or crop pants, collared blouses, or similar attire. Acceptable clothing for boys includes dress shirts, ties, and dress slacks. Sports jackets may be worn, but are not necessary, especially in hot weather. Closed-toe shoes, rubber-soled shoes, flats, and similar type shoes are acceptable footwear. (3) Club shirts, jeans and shorts are acceptable for Agility. ***Inappropriate clothing*** includes clothing that is too tight or too revealing, such as short skirts, short shorts, tank tops, halter tops, spaghetti straps, low cut blouses or shirts, shorts hanging too low on the waist, clothing with holes or tears in the fabric, blue jeans, faded or torn jeans of any kind, or other similar types of clothing. Youth are not to wear shirts with club names or logos, or clothing with lettering and distracting or offensive wording or designs. Exhibitors are not to wear hats, sandals, open-toed shoes, high-heeled shoes, clogs, or similar type footwear. **A judge's appearance should be the same or better than what is expected of the exhibitor.**

Being Hired as a Judge

When you agree to judge at county fairs, the Senior Fair Board usually hires you through their show committee, or from a recommendation by the county 4-H Dog Committee or Extension personnel. You are working for them and should follow their directions and guidelines. When a fair board or committee representative asks you to judge, it is important to discuss your philosophies, as well as understand their philosophies, prior to being hired. If you do not agree with their judging procedures and cannot reach an agreement, **do not** accept the judging assignment. If you do accept, do not expect to change the committee's way of conducting the show. Do not accept a junior fair judging assignment if you do not agree with the Ohio 4-H dog program philosophy.

Some things to ask the person contacting you include:

- How many youth and dogs do they expect?
- What are the experience levels of the youth?
- What are the types of classes you will be judging?
- Is there another show scheduled after the dog show limiting the amount of time you have to judge?
- What is the condition of the show ring or area in which you will be judging (grass, sawdust, concrete, etc.)?
- What show equipment (mats, jumps, etc.) is provided and its condition?
- Will there be people to steward? (Or let them know you want to bring your own.)

The show officials are responsible for providing the correct class score sheets, armbands, stopwatches, jumps, and other necessary show items. Review these items with them, making sure they will provide what is needed for the classes you will be judging.

Also make sure the hiring committee understands your total fee. Indicate whether it is a flat fee or if mileage and any other expenses must be added. Many fair boards prefer paying a flat fee. Ask them for a contract, and when you should expect it.

It is the fair board's responsibility to follow up closer to the judging date, sending you a final letter, copy of their rules and classes, and admission/parking passes. However, if you have not heard from

them two weeks prior to the show, call to confirm that everything is in place for you to judge, and ask when you should receive the final materials.

Find out a contact person and phone number at which he/she can be reached the day of the show to call if you are delayed and might be arriving later than planned, or are lost.

Come Prepared

1. Your judges' briefcase should include the following items:
 - clipboard(s)
 - sharpened pencils or pens and markers
 - enough score sheets for the first class
 - one copy of all other score sheets that can be duplicated for the other classes
 - group exercise score sheets
 - stop watch
 - tape measure or wooden ruler
 - chalk, tape, or small can of spray paint to mark Figure 8
 - calculator
 - tongs to hold retrieving items for scent classes
 - hand sanitizer and/or wipes
 - sunglasses or visor
 - sunscreen
 - water
 - copy of the *Ohio 4-H Dog Show Judges' Guidelines*
 - copy of the *Ohio 4-H Dog Obedience Regulations*
 - copy of the *Ohio 4-H Dog Showmanship Regulations*
 - copy of AKC rulebook
 - phone numbers of show officials and fairgrounds office
2. Arrive at the show site at least 30 minutes before judging is scheduled to begin.
3. Meet the ring stewards. Write their names down and use them. Review with the stewards their duties and the manner in which they are to be performed. Instruct them that they are in the ring only to assist the judge. Acknowledge the stewards' assistance sometime during the show.
4. Ask if there will be a veterinarian on the fairgrounds during the show. The only situations that would require you to request the services of a veterinarian would be when a dog in the ring requires immediate medical attention or when you need the veterinarian's recommendation concerning the health of the dog in the ring.
5. Check ring conditions prior to judging. Consider carefully placement of Figure 8 and Stays. Mark ring for "8" measuring the full 8 feet between posts. Keep in mind that you should consider a second pattern plan in case the first is fouled badly enough to compromise the performance of those yet to show.

At the County Level: Some county show committees are not as experienced as others. If you are in a judging situation where the show committee, and/or exhibitors need and want help in show structure and understanding the exercises, take the time to help. You may need to conduct a "mini-clinic" during the dog show. The exhibitors and you will reap the rewards.

At the State Level: You will not have time to teach. Youth who show at the State Level should know how to perform the required exercises with their dogs. Put constructive comments on the score sheets to help the 4-H members learn where improvement is needed.

At the County Level: If possible, stay for the awards presentations if they are given at the end of judging. Many youth like to have their pictures taken with their judge. Ask how many youth plan to enter the State Fair Dog Show (if the county show is prior to the State Fair Show). You may want to give pointers to youth who plan to show at the State Fair.

At the State Level: Judges are asked to stay to hand out awards and have their pictures taken with the winners or others desiring their pictures with their judge.

Scoring and Determining Penalty Points

The *Ohio 4-H Obedience Regulations* and *Ohio 4-H Showmanship Regulations* provide the foundation for judges to follow and define criteria for judges to use when judging 4-H dog shows in Ohio. Judges must use the Ohio 4-H dog show score sheets for all classes judged, and may not alter the score sheets. Each judge is expected to be consistent in his/her scoring for each class judged at a given show. The same methods and standards must be used for judging and scoring all like classes (i.e. all Sub-Novice A classes; all Showmanship Junior A classes), as well as in judging and scoring the work of dogs of different or mixed breeds. However, each judge has his/her own personal standards and 4-H expects the judge to apply those standards to the best of his/her ability. There is no published list of reasonable and customary penalty points for various faults and errors, so there will be some variations in the scoring systems of individual judges.

The performances of the handler and dog team in the ring must be accurate and correct and must conform to the Ohio 4-H Obedience and/or Showmanship Regulations. However, it is essential that the handler and dog demonstrate teamwork, willingness, and enjoyment. A performance that is smooth and natural on the part of the handler **must** be given precedence over a performance based on military precision and authoritative commands.

Judges must be consistent in evaluating each handler and dog throughout the same obedience or showmanship class or classes at a given show. Judges must evaluate each handler and dog in accordance with these obedience or showmanship regulations and not inject their own variations into the exercises. The judge is expected to evaluate each handler and dog team against a standard of a theoretically perfect performance in each exercise, and score each dog and handler against this standard. Any action or inaction on the part of the handler or the dog that results in a less than theoretically perfect performance should be penalized.

General Scoring Guidelines

1. Judges shall excuse or disqualify a dog whose handler disciplines it in the ring from further competition in the class. Judges shall excuse or disqualify any exhibitor abusing a dog in the ring from the class.
2. Judges shall penalize any display of fear or nervousness by the dog or any uncontrolled behavior such as barking, snapping, running away from its handler, etc. according to the seriousness of the misbehavior, whether it occurs during or between an exercise or before or after judging. The judge may excuse the dog from further competition in the class.
3. Judges shall excuse or disqualify any dog that attacks or attempts to attack any person in the ring.
4. Judges shall excuse or disqualify any dog that attacks another dog or appears dangerous to other dogs in the ring.
5. If a judge determines that a bitch in the ring is in season or appears to be so attractive to males as to be a disturbing element, the bitch is excused. The judge shall not obtain the opinion of the health check officials.
6. Judges are *not permitted to give a score of zero* for youth who fail to perform an exercise or fail to answer the Showmanship interview questions, *provided they have attempted* to execute the exercise or

answer the questions. A youth who makes no attempt to execute an exercise or answer interview questions should be given a zero for that exercise or evaluation area. Our goal is to provide a positive learning experience, rewarding youth for training their dogs to the best of their abilities, for trying to perform the exercises and areas of evaluation, and for the knowledge gained while taking the 4-H dog project.

7. Judges must give each youth/dog team a minimum score of 5 points per exercise or area of evaluation, provided the youth makes an attempt to perform that exercise or evaluation area.
8. A dog leaving the ring *between* exercises shall receive a 10-point deduction. A dog leaving the ring *during* an exercise shall receive a maximum point deduction.
9. A 25-point deduction will be made for any dog fouling the ring. The exhibitor and his or her dog are not to be excused from the ring. Judging is to continue once the area is properly cleaned. Fouling includes urine, feces or vomit. In exceptionally poor ring conditions, judges should confer with the show committee and other judges to determine scoring if fouling should occur.
10. Assistance, interference, or attempts to control a dog from outside the ring is not permitted. A judge who is aware of such double handling or interference must substantially penalize the dog.
11. Judges shall deduct points from the “Handler Appearance and Attitude” or “Sportsmanship” category on an exhibitor’s score sheet if unsportsmanlike conduct is displayed at any time prior to or during judging. Judges have the right to excuse or disqualify any participant displaying unsportsmanlike conduct.
12. Take the last three sections of the obedience score sheets seriously. These are: (1) Exhibitor’s Appearance –10 points; (2) Dog’s Appearance –10 points; and (3) Sportsmanship –10 points. Sometimes in obedience classes judges tend to automatically award the exhibitor and dog these points in each area. Award the number of points accordingly. Judges may be asked to adjust a score for behaviors such as the following: leaving dogs unattended during show times, abusive handling of the dog, foul language, abuse of rules, or disrespectful behavior. The judge will decide where to deduct the appropriate points.
13. Do not try to trick the exhibitor. For example, questions asked during the Showmanship interview **must** come from the selected chapters in the *Ohio 4-H Dog Resource Handbook*, and must be concise and clear. The purpose is to see what the exhibitor knows, not to try to cause him or her to answer incorrectly. Follow the exercises as listed on the score sheets, and the information in the Ohio 4-H Obedience and Showmanship Regulations.

The 4-H Showmanship Score Sheet

The 4-H Showmanship Score Sheet is divided into four areas in which youth and/or their dogs are evaluated. These include the (1) Interview, (2) Handler Appearance & Attitude, (3) Grooming, and (4) Handling. Within each Evaluation Area, the maximum points that can be deducted for each criterion are listed and judges are expected to follow these. At a given show, one judge may evaluate all four areas, or there may be an Interview judge, a second judge who evaluates the Handler’s Appearance and Grooming of the dog, and a third judge who does the Handling.

Interview = 60 points

The major difference between AKC and 4-H Showmanship classes are the inclusion of an interview component. The role of 4-H is to educate and develop positive attributes in children. The dog is one tool used in achieving this goal. Not only is it important to teach handling skills, but also to teach responsibility, planning, interviewing skills and responsible dog ownership. The interview is a way of emphasizing the importance of these points. Therefore, the questions used should be designed no to trick the youth, but to discover his/her knowledge of the subject. Effort should be taken to make the experience a positive one.

Questions asked during the Interview **must** come from the current year's selected chapters in the Ohio 4-H Dog Resource Handbook. For 2010 these chapters include Chapter 5: Selection; Chapter 7: Puppy Care and Socialization; Chapter 8: Beginning Training Techniques; and Chapter 17: Nutrition and Exercise. This information is posted at <http://4hansci.osu.edu/companion>.

When writing the questions, include the page number in case the answer needs to be checked. Give the exhibitors every opportunity to answer the questions within the time period allotted. Remember they are nervous, and your goal is to communicate with and encourage youth to attempt to answer the questions to the best of their ability.

- a. Interview judges should ask each exhibitor a minimum of six (6) questions, with each question worth ten (10) points.
- b. Partial point credit should be given if the exhibitor answers part(s) of a question correctly.
- c. If a youth tries to answer the questions but does not get any of them correct, a minimum of 5 points must be given for the Interview. If the child does not make any attempt to answer any of the questions, a score of zero can be given.
- d. A judge should conduct the interview instead of a steward, 4-H advisor, etc. The interviewer can be an additional judge or the same judge used for handling.

At the State Fair, the questions are provided to the Interview judges, and have been reviewed to be age appropriate. Interview judges are to first ask the questions as they are written, but then may repeat the questions, if needed, using slightly different wording, without changing the meaning the question. Interview judges may not ask different questions or add questions.

Handler Appearance and Attitude = 50 points

The handler should be suitably dressed for the occasion, wearing clothing that will not hinder or detract from the presentation of the dog. Inappropriate clothing includes T-shirts, jackets or other apparel with slogans, 4-H club, FFA chapter, or dog club names, etc., halter tops, tank tops, blue jeans and shorts, sandals, clogs, high-heeled shoes, and other similar footwear. For *Showmanship classes* it is recommended that girls wear skirts, dresses, dress shorts, skorts, dress slacks, dressy Capri or crop pants, collared blouses, or similar attire, and boys wear dress shirts, ties, and dress slacks. Sports jackets may be worn, but are not necessary, especially in hot weather.

The judge shall evaluate the general conduct of handlers in the ring. Handlers should appear prepared, confident, businesslike and attentive. They should be courteous to both the judge and their fellow exhibitors. Any of the judges, regardless of what area(s) they judge, have the responsibility to deduct points from the attitude portion of the handler's score, based on what they might see.

Grooming = 40 points

It is not necessary that a 4-H dog be shown in a show clip; however, the dog must be clean and its coat free from mats and loose hair. Ears must be clean but it is not required that all hair be removed from the ear canal. The eyes must be free from matter, and the teeth should not have any tartar buildup. Some staining on the teeth of older dogs is permissible. The toenails must be trimmed. Hair between the pads should be trimmed to prevent matting, as well as from collecting dirt and ice. It is not required that whiskers be trimmed, but if the dog's face is shaved, the stubble should be removed.

It is inappropriate to ask the handler questions such as, "Who groomed your dog?" or "What equipment is used to groom your dog?" and so forth. You are evaluating the grooming and condition of the dog as it is presented to you.

At the State Fair, Handler Appearance and Grooming are evaluated at the same time as the Interview. This saves time for the Handling judge and moves the show along faster. Judges evaluating this section observe the condition and grooming of the dog, and the appearance of the handler, and record the scores in the appropriate areas of the score sheet. Handling judges are asked, that if they catch something related to Handler Appearance and Grooming that was not marked off on the score sheet by the Interview judge, to make the deduction.

Handling = 80 points

The judge should examine and evaluate the handler in the following basic areas: proper breed presentation, skill in the individual dog's presentation, and knowledge of ring procedures. The general rule in evaluating a handler's capabilities is ECONOMY OF MOTION. Handlers who use exaggerated motions and gestures in any phase of their presentation of the dog should be faulted. In essence, the judge should hardly be aware of a capable handler's presence while completing the dog's examination. In many respects a Showmanship judge's principal consideration should be to find those handlers who possess a "hand for dogs." Those handlers having this attribute neither over- nor under-handle their dogs. They present their dogs in a quiet, efficient manner. They are able to keep their dog's attention without dramatic or unnatural movements. They are able to gait their dogs in a collected trot, never distracting or interfering with the judge's vision of the dog.

Breed Presentation

While it is important that the handler present his dog in the proper manner for the breed being handled, it also must be remembered that in 4-H there are many mixed breeds being shown. With a mixed breed, it is necessary to determine which breed the dog in question is being shown as. If deductions are taken for improper handling of a specific breed, a notation should be made on the score sheet to educate the handler as to proper breed presentation.

During all phases of handling, the exhibitor's concentration should be on the dog and not on the judge, but not to the extent that the handler is unaware of what is taking place in the ring. Remember, you are judging the handler, but time should be spent looking at the dog to gain insight as to how well it is being handled.

1. Is the dog responsive to the handler? Do dog and handler work as a team?
2. Does the dog appear posed or interested at all times?
3. Is the dog under control?
4. Is the dog moved correctly to the best of its ability?
5. Are the dog's main faults being minimized?
6. Do both the dog and handler appear relaxed?
7. Is the dog presented with an apparent minimum of effort?

Knowledge of Ring Procedure

The judge shall evaluate the ability of the handler to follow directions, use space wisely, and execute the requested gaiting patterns. Handlers should appear "ring wise," be alert to the judging progression, and be prepared for changes in the judging routine.

Appearance and Conduct

Excessive grooming of the dog in the ring to gain the judge's attention is inappropriate and should be faulted accordingly.

Handlers are expected to handle their dogs without distracting the dogs of other competitors, and a handler who crowds or disturbs other dogs should be faulted. A principle of Showmanship is to afford the opportunity to learn the spirit of competition. Winning is important but is secondary to development of sportsmanship in competition. Judges who reward unsportsmanlike conduct or actions, regardless of a handler's other capabilities, compromise the very premise of Showmanship.

Handlers should be alert to the needs of their dogs, realizing that the welfare of their dogs is important. They are responsible for the control of their dogs at all times. However, handlers who exhibit impatience or heavy-handedness with their dogs should be penalized.

Handling the Class

The Showmanship class should look like a regular conformation class in the ring with a group being brought in, stacked, gaited, and examined as in the breed ring. After the dogs are examined individually, they will then be asked to do an individual pattern. The patterns that can be used are the *Down and Back*, the *Triangle*, the *L*, and the *T*. The *Down and Back* is not done with two dogs in any

class but Senior B, for safety reasons. After completing the pattern, the handler is sent around the ring to the end of the line and the next handler is judged.

Pattern explanations and diagrams are in the *2010 Ohio 4-H Dog Showmanship Regulations*.

Bites versus Teeth

Every exhibitor should show the dog's bite. This is peeling back the lips to show how the teeth meet in the front. If it is necessary to examine back teeth, the exhibitor should be asked to show the teeth.

To Table or Not to Table

Included in the *2010 Ohio 4-H Dog Showmanship Regulations* is a listing of breeds commonly shown on a table. In the breed ring, these dogs are usually handled by adults who are physically able to safely lift those breeds onto the table. In 4-H dog shows, youth may show mixed breeds that could be much larger than the breed their dogs most closely resemble. The youth may not be tall or strong enough to lift his/her dog onto the table. A very small exhibitor has no business lifting a 25 pound dog onto any table, much less onto a table that is more than waist high. This becomes a safety issue. Youth, regardless of age, should be able to safely table toy breeds. But once you get past that 16 pound toy size, the exhibitor's size in relation to the dog's size should be taken into consideration. Ideally, the matter should be brought to the judge's attention **before** the class enters the ring. The exhibitor should know if that breed is normally shown on the table and should be able to explain how it is done properly, even if the child/dog size does not permit them to demonstrate those procedures. There should be no penalty for an exhibitor who is physically unable to safely lift his/her dog, especially if he/she knows the correct procedure and timing.

Use of Bait

Using bait in Showmanship classes is up to the discretion of the judge. The steward should check with the judge prior to the start of classes and have the announcer inform the exhibitors as to the use of bait. **At the State Level:** Bait is permitted in the holding ring on the show floor, in addition to the show ring (if judge permits).

Double Handling

Double handling is not permitted. A substantial deduction should be taken if you believe someone or something, other than the dog's handler, is influencing the dog's performance or showmanship in the ring. If there are unnecessary disturbances outside your ring, you may call for the Show Chairman or Chief Steward.

Large Entries, Small Rings

Keep only as many dogs in the ring as can be conveniently accommodated for individual examination and gaiting. Divide a class that is too large for the ring.

Equipment

Dogs are shown on a lead that is proportionate to their size. The collar may be nylon, small chain link, or a combination lead and collar such as a martingale. A chain lead is not acceptable. Most of the working breeds are shown on a chain collar with a leather or nylon lead.

Judging Routine

Judges are to evaluate the handler and dog in an appropriate and consistent manner. It is the responsibility of the judge to be aware of the rules and procedures for judging 4-H Showmanship, and that only the gaiting patterns addressed in these documents be used.

Judges must be consistent with every handler in a class, using the same gaiting patterns, the same procedural requests, and allowing each handler about the same amount of time. A judge should not confuse the ability of the youth to take directions with the youth's ability to handle his/her dog. Some freedom of expression and expertise should be allowed.

Judges should consider how their own movements in the ring might cause awkward and unusual handling results. For example, when examining the class as a whole in motion, the judge should be inside the circle; and when examining a class of standing or posed dogs, the judge should be considerate of the handlers if moving between dogs.

Judges should limit conversation with handlers during competition to that which is absolutely necessary.

Ties in Scoring

Ties will be broken as follows:

When two or more exhibitors have the same overall scores, the scores in the Handling exercise will be compared. The exhibitor with the highest score in the Handling exercise will receive the highest placing, and so forth. If all exhibitors have the same score in the Handling exercise, the scores in the Interview section will be compared, followed by the scores in the Handler Appearance & Attitude section, and then the scores in the Grooming section until ties are broken. If the scores are equal throughout all of the exercises, with Grooming being the last section compared, ties will be broken by the exhibitors and their dogs performing a Handling exercise as specified by the judge.

Earning Showmanship/Handling Titles Outside of 4-H

Dogs with AKC Jr. Handling or like experiences must be shown in exhibitor age-appropriate B classes. Dogs completing a title prior to, or anytime during, the project year must show in exhibitor age-appropriate B classes. Any dog receiving points toward a championship title anytime during the project year must then move into the appropriate B class at the time the points were first earned.

This rule, if applicable, supersedes exhibitor and dog information listed in information found elsewhere in *2010 Ohio State Fair Dog Show Rules*. Fun matches do not apply.

Obedience Scoring

For obedience scoring the score sheets are divided into areas of Maximum Point Deductions and Minor to Substantial Point Deductions. Points are always deducted from a team's total possible points earned for each exercise, never added.

In AKC, a Maximum Point Deduction means that all points in an exercise are lost, and the handler/dog team receives a zero (0) or Non-Qualifying (NQ) score for that exercise. **Zeros are not given in 4-H, provided the youth attempts to perform the exercise with his or her dog.** *A youth who makes no attempt to execute an exercise should be given a zero for that exercise.* Therefore, **in 4-H, a Maximum Point Deduction means that at least one-half of the total points for that exercise will be deducted if the youth/dog team fails to perform one part of that exercise.** *If they continue to make errors in that same exercise, the judge will continue to deduct points.* For example, in the Novice Recall exercise, if the first error made was that the dog did not come on the first command or signal, the judge will deduct 20 points from the possible 40 points in that exercise. Then if the dog makes a second error, such as anticipating the recall, the judge will deduct additional points, and so on for additional errors. Under the Minor to Substantial Point Deduction section, **Substantial Deductions are 3 or more points deducted per fault or error. Minor Point Deductions are from ½ to 2 ½ points deducted per fault or error.** When totaling the Maximum Point Deductions and Minor to Substantial Point Deductions, judges must give each youth/dog team a minimum score of 5 points per exercise. Points are deducted in one-half (1/2) or whole point increments (no three-fourths or one-thirds, etc.)

Hands

One of the following options should be followed in all exercises where the dog is required to heel free: (1) when the handler is moving, the arms and hands must move naturally at the sides and must hang naturally at the sides when stopped; or (2) the right hand and arm must move naturally at the side, while the left hand must be held against the front of the body, centered at the waist, with the left forearm carried against the body. In either of the above circumstances, the handler's hands and arms may be adjusted during the fast part of an exercise in order to maintain balance. There will be a substantial deduction if the hands and arms are not carried in one of the positions stated above.

In any exercise requiring the dog to sit in front, the handler's arms and hands must hang naturally at his/her sides until the dog has sat in front. The handler must receive a substantial deduction for not doing so.

Commands and Signals

When the rules say "command or signal," either a single command or signal may be given, not both. Handlers will be penalized for giving extra commands or signals, or for giving a command and signal simultaneously.

Delay in following a judge's order to give a command or signal will be penalized unless the judge directs the delay.

Signaling a correction to a dog will be penalized.

Commands which the judge deems as excessively loud will be substantially penalized.

An extra command and/or signal in any non-principal part of an exercise does not constitute a maximum deduction for that exercise.

Handling Between Exercises

In the Novice class, the dog may be guided gently by the collar between exercises. No other physical guidance is permitted and, if used, must receive minor to substantial penalties, depending on the circumstances.

In the Graduate Novice and higher classes, a substantial point deduction will be taken for a dog that is physically guided at any time or that is not controllable.

Minor penalties will be imposed for a dog that does not respond promptly to its handler's commands or signals before or between exercises in the Graduate Novice, Open, Graduate Open, or Utility classes.

Praise

Praise and petting are encouraged and allowed between and after exercises. However, points will be deducted from the total score for a dog that is not under reasonable control while being praised. There will be a substantial penalty for any dog that is picked up or carried at any time in the obedience ring.

Ties in Scoring

Ties will be broken as follows:

Sub-Novice, Novice Obedience: When two or more exhibitors have the same overall scores, the scores in the first exercise will be compared. The exhibitor with the highest score in the first exercise will receive the highest placing, and so forth. If all exhibitors have the same score in the first exercise, the scores in the second exercise will be compared, and so forth until ties are broken. If the scores are equal throughout all of the exercises, including the Exhibitor's Appearance, Dog's Appearance, and Sportsmanship, ties will be broken by the exhibitors and their dogs performing a heeling pattern specified by the judge.

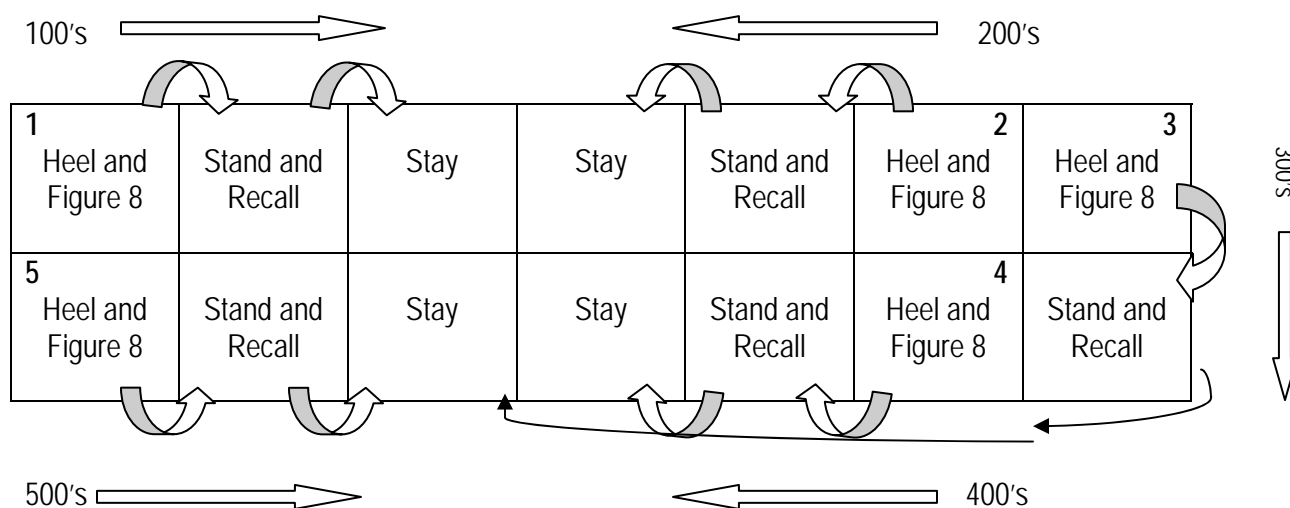
Graduate Novice & above Levels of Obedience: Ties will be broken by the exhibitors and their dogs performing an exercise specified by the judge.

Progressive Ring Judging

At the Ohio State Fair, a Progressive Ring style of judging is used for Sub-Novice and Novice obedience classes. For Sub-Novice, the Heel on Leash and Figure 8 on Leash are judged in the first ring. When finished, the exhibitor and his/her dog then progress to the next ring for the Stand for Examination on Leash and Recall on Leash. The steward takes the exhibitor's score sheet from the first ring to the second ring. Once finished with these first four exercises, the exhibitor and dog are directed to a holding area for a short wait until there are a minimum of 5 dogs to be judged on the Long Sit and Long Down group exercises. For Novice, the Heel on Leash and Figure 8 and Heel Free are judged in the first ring. The exhibitor and dog then move to the second ring for the Stand for Examination (off leash) and Recall (off leash). Once finished they go to the holding area to wait for the Long Sit and Long Down exercises to be judged.

Progressive Ring Judging for 2010 Ohio State Fair Sub-Novice A and B Classes

Sub-Novice A



Sub-Novice B

Sub-Novice A = 100's and 200's

Sub-Novice B = 300's, 400's, and 500's

Sub-Novice and Novice Scoring

Heel on Leash and Figure Eight

The dog must receive a maximum point deduction if a handler is constantly controlling the dog by tugging on the leash or is adapting to the dogs' pace.

Minor or substantial deductions, depending on the circumstances, will be made for additional commands or signals to heel or for failure of the dog or handler to speed up noticeably for the fast or slow down noticeably for the slow.

Substantial or minor point deductions shall be made for lagging, heeling wide, forging, crowding, poor sits, failure to sit at a halt, and other heeling imperfections. Deductions should also be made for a handler who guides the dog with the leash or does not walk at a brisk pace.

While scoring this exercise, the judge needs to be near enough to observe any signals or commands given by the handler to the dog, without interfering with either.

Stand for Examination Scoring

Scoring of this exercise will not start until the handler has given the command and/or signal to stay, except for such things as rough treatment by the handler or active resistance by the dog to its handler's attempts to have it stand. Either of these will receive a substantial point deduction.

A dog must receive a maximum deduction if it sits or lies down, moves away from the place where it was left either before or during the examination, or growls, snaps, or displays resentment.

Minor or substantial deductions, even to the point of a maximum point deduction, will be made for shyness.

The judge will make a minor or substantial point deduction for a dog that moves its feet at any time or sits or moves away after the examination has been completed.

Novice Heel Free Scoring

The scoring will be the same in the Heel on Leash, but without either the leash or the Figure Eight.

Recall Scoring

A dog must receive a maximum point deduction if it is given an additional command and/or signal to stay, failure to come on the first command or signal, moving from the place it was left before being called or signaled to come, or if it does not sit close enough to its handler so that the handler can touch its head without excessive bending, stretching, or moving either foot.

A handler must receive a substantial point deduction for giving an extra command or signal to sit or finish. A dog must receive a substantial point deduction if it fails to remain sitting and either stands or lies down, fails to come at a brisk trot or gallop, fails to sit in front or fails to finish, or sit at heel.

Minor or substantial deductions will be made slow or poor sits, for finishes that are not prompt or smart, for touching the handler on coming in or while finishing, and for sitting between the handler's feet.

Group Exercises Scoring

During these exercises the judge shall stand so that all the dogs and handlers are in his/her line of vision without having to turn around. The judge may ask stewards to assist in timing and watching the dogs.

Scoring of the exercises will not begin until after the judge has ordered the handlers to leave their dogs, except for such things as rough treatment of a dog by its handler or resistance by a dog to its handler's attempts to have it sit or lie down. These will receive substantial point deductions. In extreme cases the dog may be excused.

Depending on the circumstance, a minor or substantial point deduction will be made if the handler touches the dog or its collar while getting it into the down position.

Dogs will receive a maximum point deduction if it moves a substantial distance away from the place where it was left any time during the exercise, going over to any other dog (walking, scooting, rolling, crawling, etc.), not remaining in the required position until the handler has returned to help position, and repeatedly barking or whining.

A substantial point deduction will be given for a dog that moves even a short distance from where it was left, that barks or whines only once or twice, or that changes from a sit to a down or from a down to a sit after the handler has returned to the heel position and before the judge says, "Exercise finished." The judge will not give the "Exercise Finished" order until the handlers have returned to the heel position.

A dog will receive a substantial point deduction if it is out of position enough to interfere with an adjacent dog. The handler must reposition this dog. In extreme cases the dog may be excused from the ring. A dog that interferes with another dog on the Long Sit should be excused from participating in the Long Down in Novice classes, but allowed to continue to participate in Sub-Novice classes.

For Sub-Novice classes, points should not be deducted for the leash either touching or not touching the ground. Too tight of a leash, or too much movement, can be noted and/or points deducted.

Graduate Novice Scoring

Heel on Leash and Figure Eight

Scoring will be done in the same manner as the Novice Heel on Leash and Figure Eight, except that the Figure Eight will be done off leash.

Drop on Recall

A dog must receive a maximum point deduction if it does not drop completely to the down position on a single command or signal, or if it does not remain in the down position until called or signaled.

A dog must receive minor to substantial point deductions, up to a maximum point deduction, for a delayed or slow response to the handler's command or signal to drop, and for a slow response to either of the recalls. All applicable penalties listed under the Novice Recall will apply.

Dumbbell Recall

A dog must receive a maximum point deduction if it fails to go out on the first command or signal, goes to retrieve before the command or signal is given, fails to retrieve, or does not return with the dumbbell sufficiently close that the handler can easily take the dumbbell as described in the Dumbbell Recall exercise.

A dog must receive minor or substantial point deductions for slowness in going out, returning, or picking up the dumbbell, not going directly to the dumbbell, mouthing or playing with the dumbbell, and

reluctance or refusal to release the dumbbell to the handler. Depending on the extent, a minor to substantial point deduction will be made for dropping the dumbbell. All other applicable penalties listed under the Novice Recall will apply.

Recall over High Jump

Maximum point deductions shall be given if the dog fails to jump or climbs the jump. Other maximum point deductions shall apply as in listed under the Novice Recall. Minor to substantial point deductions shall apply as in the Novice Recall with the addition of hesitation to jump.

Recall over Broad Jump

Maximum point deductions must be given to a dog that fails to stay until directed to jump, refuses the jump on the first command or signal, steps on or between the hurdle, or fails to clear the full distance.

Depending on the circumstances, minor or substantial point deduction shall be given for a dog that does not return directly to the handler, that displays any hesitation in jumping, or that touches the jump.

All applicable penalties listed under the Novice Recall will apply. The distance of the jump will be the same as in the Open classes.

Long Down

Scoring is the same as in the Novice Long Down Group Exercise.

Open Scoring

Heel Free and Figure Eight

Scoring is the same as in the Novice Heel on Leash and Figure Eight, except that the dog will be off leash.

Drop on Recall

Scoring is the same as in the Graduate Novice Drop on Recall.

Retrieve on Flat

Scoring is the same as in the Graduate Novice Dumbbell Recall.

Retrieve over High Jump

A dog must receive a maximum point deduction that fails to go over the full height of the jump in either direction, that uses the jump for any aid in jumping, or that returns over the jump without the dumbbell.

Minor to substantial point deductions shall be given, depending on the circumstances, if a dog touches the jump when going over it or for a dog that displays any hesitation in jumping. All other penalties as listed under the Retrieve on Flat (see Graduate Novice Dumbbell Recall) will apply.

Broad Jump

Scoring is the same as in the Graduate Novice Recall over Broad Jump.

Long Sit and Long Down

Scoring is the same as in the Novice Long Sit and Long Down Group Exercises.

Graduate Open Scoring

Signal Exercise

A dog must receive a maximum point deduction if it fails to obey the handler's first signal to stand, stay, down, sit, or come, or if it receives a verbal command from the handler to do any of these parts of the exercise.

Minor or substantial point deductions, depending on the specific circumstances, shall be made for a dog that walks forward on the stand, down, or sit portion of the exercise. Depending on the severity, the deduction could be up to a maximum point deduction.

A substantial point deduction will be made for any audible command during the heeling or finish portions of the exercise. All applicable deductions listed under the Heel on Leash and Novice Recall (after the dog has been signaled to come) shall apply.

In the Graduate Open class, leaving the dog will be from 10 to 20 feet and the handler may give the command and/or signal on the judge's order to stand, and the judge's signals to stay, down, sit, come, and finish.

Scent Discrimination

A dog must receive a maximum point deduction if it retrieves a wrong article or does not complete the retrieve of the right article. If the "After a sit" method is used, a dog must receive a maximum point deduction if it anticipates the command to retrieve. If the "Send directly" method is used, any additional commands to retrieve must receive a maximum point deduction.

Minor or substantial point deductions, depending on the specific circumstances, should be made for a dog that is slow, does not go directly to the articles, does not work continuously, or for a handler who uses excessive motions when turning toward the articles. Similar deductions shall be made for a dog that picks up a wrong article, even if it is immediately put down again, for any roughness by the handler in giving his/her scent to the dog, or for the handler not turning in place.

Deductions should not be given for a dog that takes a reasonably long time examining the articles, provided it is working continuously.

All applicable deductions listed under the Novice Recall and the Retrieve on Flat will apply.

In the Graduate Open class, there will be only four articles (two leather and two metal), the handler and dog will remain facing the articles, and only one article will be retrieved. It is the handler's discretion as to which article is retrieved.

Directed Retrieve

Maximum point deductions must be given for any commands or signals to position the dog after the handler turns to face the glove, for a dog that does not go directly to the designated glove, or for a dog that does not retrieve the correct glove. A handler who does not give a verbal command to retrieve simultaneously or immediately after giving the direction to retrieve must receive a maximum point deduction.

Depending on the extent of the violation, a substantial point deduction shall be made for a handler who does not turn in place or does not face the designated glove.

All applicable deductions listed under the Novice Recall and the Retrieve on Flat will apply.

In the Graduate Open class, no center glove is used.

Moving Stand and Examination

A maximum point deduction must be given for a dog that displays fear or resentment; moves from the place where it was left; sits or lies down before it is called; growls or snaps; repeatedly whines or barks; fails to heel, stand, stay or accept the judge's examination; or fails to return to the handler.

Minor or substantial point deductions must be made, depending on the specific circumstances, for a dog that moves its feet repeatedly while remaining in place or for a dog that returns to the handler as defined in the Novice Recall, but not to heel position.

All appropriate penalties listed under the Novice Heel Free, Stand for Examination, and Recall exercises will apply.

In Graduate Open, the handler may pause or hesitate when giving the command and/or signal for the dog to stand.

Go Out

Maximum point deductions must be given if the dog does not go out on the handler's order, does not stop on command, or the handler must give a second command for the dog to sit. A maximum point deduction must also be given if the dog does not go at least 10 feet beyond the jumps.

Minor to substantial point deductions must be given if the dog anticipates, goes slightly off direction, not back far enough or does not sit on command.

Directed Jumping

A dog must receive a maximum point deduction if it anticipates the handler's command and/or signal to go out, fails to leave the handler, fails to jump, climbs the jump, uses the top of the jump for aid in going over, or knocks a bar off the uprights.

Minor or substantial point deductions shall be given for a dog's slow response to direction, touching the jump, and hesitation or reluctance to jump.

All applicable penalties listed under the Novice Recall exercises will apply.

In Graduate Open, the judge will designate which jump (Bar or High) will be used. The dog will be sent over only one jump, that designated by the judge. The same jump will be used for all dogs as designated by the judge at the start of the class.

Utility Scoring

Signal Exercise

A dog must receive a maximum point deduction if it fails to obey the handler's first signal to stand, stay, down, sit, or come, or if it receives a verbal command from the handler to do any of these parts of the exercise.

Minor or substantial point deductions, depending on the specific circumstances, shall be made for a dog that walks forward on the stand, down, or sit portion of the exercise. Depending on the severity, the deduction could be up to a maximum point deduction.

A substantial point deduction will be made for any audible command during the heeling or finish portions of the exercise. All applicable deductions listed under the Heel on Leash and Novice Recall (after the dog has been signaled to come) shall apply.

Scent Discrimination

A dog must receive a maximum point deduction if it retrieves a wrong article or does not complete the retrieve of the right article. If the "After a sit" method is used, a dog must receive a maximum point deduction if it anticipates the command to retrieve. If the "Send directly" method is used, any additional commands to retrieve must receive a maximum point deduction.

Minor or substantial point deductions, depending on the specific circumstances, should be made for a dog that is slow, does not go directly to the articles, does not work continuously, or for a handler who uses excessive motions when turning toward the articles. Similar deductions shall be made for a dog that picks up a wrong article, even if it is immediately put down again, for any roughness by the handler in giving his/her scent to the dog, or for the handler not turning in place.

Deductions should not be given for a dog that takes a reasonably long time examining the articles, provided it is working continuously.

All applicable deductions listed under the Novice Recall and the Retrieve on Flat will apply.

Directed Retrieve

Maximum point deductions must be given for any commands or signals to position the dog after the handler turns to face the glove, for a dog that does not go directly to the designated glove, or for a dog that does not retrieve the correct glove. A handler who does not give a verbal command to retrieve simultaneously or immediately after giving the direction to retrieve must receive a maximum point deduction.

Depending on the extent of the violation, a substantial point deduction shall be made for a handler who does not turn in place or does not face the designated glove.

All applicable deductions listed under the Novice Recall and the Retrieve on Flat will apply.

Moving Stand and Examination

A maximum point deduction must be given for a dog that displays fear or resentment; moves from the place where it was left; sits or lies down before it is called; growls or snaps; repeatedly whines or barks; fails to heel, stand, stay or accept the judge's examination; or fails to return to the handler.

Minor or substantial point deductions must be made, depending on the specific circumstances, for a dog that moves its feet repeatedly while remaining in place or for a dog that returns to the handler as defined in the Novice Recall, but not to heel position.

Minor or substantial point deductions should be made for the handler who hesitates or pauses while giving the stand command and/or signal, depending on the extent of hesitation.

All appropriate penalties listed under the Novice Heel Free, Stand for Examination, and Recall exercises will apply.

Directed Jumping

A dog must receive a maximum point deduction if it anticipates the handler's command and/or signal to go out; fails to leave the handler; does not go out between the jumps; does not stop and remain at least 10 feet past the jumps; is given a second command to sit; anticipates the handler's command and/or signal to jump; returns over the wrong jump; knows the bar off the uprights; or uses the top of any jump for aid in going over.

Substantial point deductions will be made for a dog that does not stop on command, does not stop in the approximate center of the ring about 20 feet past the jumps, does not sit, or anticipates the handler's command to sit.

Minor or substantial deductions will be made for slowness in going out, for touching the jumps, or for any hesitation in jumping, depending on the extent of the infraction.

All applicable penalties listed under the Novice Recall exercises will apply.

Dog Show Stewards

Planning a 4-H dog show involves well thought out preparation by the Show Committee. One necessary element of a 4-H dog show is the selection and training of stewards. Dog show stewards have a variety of duties, which may include: (1) handing out armbands, (2) assembling classes properly, (3) preparing ribbon and trophy awards for each class, (4) keeping the ring neat and clean, (5) serving as gate, table or ring stewards, and (5) other duties as deemed necessary by the Show Committee.

People who serve as stewards for 4-H dog shows should be acquainted with showmanship and obedience show procedures. Stewards who do not understand the judging process may require time-consuming instructions from the judge, and can severely slow down the entire judging process. It is important to train new stewards using experienced stewards to instruct the training session.

Chief Steward

Each show should have a Chief Steward appointed well in advance of the show. The Chief Steward, or the Show Committee Chairperson, is to invite a sufficient number of experienced persons to act as stewards in the judging on the day of the event. The Chief Steward, or Show Committee Chair, should confirm in writing to all who accept an invitation to steward, the date and location of the show, the time at which they are to report for duty, and their particular assignments.

In preparing ring assignments, the Chief Steward and Show Committee should keep in mind that no person should serve as a steward under the judge(s) whom he/she has an entry at anytime during the show, or under whom, in the course of the day's judging, his/her entries might become eligible to compete.

Stewards must keep in mind that they have been selected to help, not advise, the judge. They should carefully refrain from discussing or even seeming to discuss the dog's performance with the judge. When not actively engaged in their duties, stewards should position themselves so they will not interfere with the judging of the dogs.

Under no circumstances should a steward give instructions or information to handlers or family members unless specifically instructed to do so by the judge, and then only in such a manner that it is clear that the instructions are those of the judge. This does not apply to their duties of checking in and lining up the handlers. Also a steward is permitted to tell a handler where to find the bathroom, give directions to the next ring, etc., as long as it does not interfere with judging, scoring, and ring procedure.

Stewarding functions in the showmanship and obedience rings are divided into three general categories: gate, table, and ring. Under ideal circumstances there should be four stewards to perform these functions (there are two ring stewards for obedience). However, if the judge's assignment is relatively light, a Show Committee could manage with two experienced persons for each ring.

The Chief Steward should report to the show ring at least 45 minutes prior to the start of judging to receive any specific instructions from the judge and to assist in setting up the ring as directed by the judge. Other stewards should report to the Chief Steward at least 30 minutes prior to the start of judging.

Gate Steward

The primary responsibility of the gate steward is to ensure that the next youth and dog team to be judged is immediately available when the judge indicates that he/she is ready. As soon as the judge begins the judging routine of that team, the steward calls the next youth and dog team to be judged and ensures that they are at the ringside when the team in the ring has completed all exercises. The youth and dog team may not enter the ring until the judge indicates he/she is ready for the next team.

The gate steward will take the leash from the handler when the dog is brought into the ring, as well as the dumbbell, in those respective classes, and put the leash and/or dumbbell on the judge's table. For the jumping exercises, the gate steward should record the dog's height on the score sheet and the distance at which the jumps should be set. This will be checked by the judge before the handler/team performs that exercise.

For scent discrimination exercises the gate steward will place the handler's container of articles on the judge's table.

Table Steward

The table steward's duties vary considerably depending on the judge's preference for doing his/own bookwork. The steward must receive specific instructions from the judge as to what he/she will be doing as table steward.

The judge may have the table steward prepare and have ready the score sheet for the next handler/dog team to be judged, and to make sure the information on the score sheet is correct for that team. The judge may also have the table steward double check to see that the scores from the score sheet of the team already judged are added correctly. If an error is made, the steward should bring it to the judge's attention, and not make any corrections him/herself.

The table steward usually prepares the group exercise worksheets, if the judge uses them. These should be prepared according to the judge's instruction prior to the group exercises.

Ring Steward

One obedience judge requires the help of two ring stewards. The ring stewards will assist the judge in setting up the ring and equipment for each class judged, as well as other duties requested by the judge. In Sub-Novice, Novice, and Graduate Novice, stewards will serve as posts around which the handler/dog team will perform the Figure 8 exercise. The judge will indicate where he/she wants the team to perform the Figure 8. The stewards need to be ready to go to their positions after the team finishes the heeling pattern, or when indicated by the judge. Being ready to go to their post positions saves time by not requiring the judge to call the stewards each time they are needed.

For the Figure 8, the stewards should stand eight (8) feet apart, facing each other, with their hands hanging naturally at their sides or folded in front. Hands should not be placed on the hips or in any way extended from the body. It is imperative that stewards do not move or talk while the team is performing this exercise. Stewards must resist the temptation to turn their heads to watch the team, laugh, smile or stare at the dog, watch the audience, etc.

Stewards must be available to take the leash from the handler before the appropriate exercises, and keep it until that exercise or class is finished, and then return it to the handler. The judge may also require a steward to hold his/her clipboard and pencil during the Stand for Examination.

During Group Exercises (Long Sit and/or Down), ring stewards must be especially alert. If a dog breaks or starts to move toward another dog, the judge may ask the steward to restrict the dog's movements. The stewards should divide their attention between the dogs and the judge to be ready to follow the judge's instructions.

Ring stewards will set the distance of the jumps, and therefore must have a tape measure to insure the accuracy of the jump. It is important to set the jumps quickly, yet accurately, so as not to lose time. Ring stewards should be familiar with setting up broad jumps, high jumps, and bar jumps.

In exercises involving the dumbbell, the ring steward takes the dumbbell from the judge's table and gives it to either the handler or judge, upon the judge's direction. The steward must pick up the dumbbell by the ends only and not touch the bar. After the exercise is completed, the ring steward takes the dumbbell from the handler and returns it to the table. When handing the dumbbell to and taking it from the handler, the steward should not reach over the top of the dog, as it could slip out of the steward's hands and fall on the dog. Upon completion of an exercise, or set of exercises, depending on the class, the dumbbell and leash are returned to the handler.

For scent discrimination exercises, the judge may have the ring steward touch the unselected articles and place them in a random order on the ring floor about 6 inches apart. After completion of the exercise, the steward puts the articles back in the container and returns them to the handler.



These Guidelines were prepared by the Ohio 4-H Dog Advisory Committee. Special acknowledgment is given to Susan Breech, Gallipolis, Ohio, Ohio 4-H Dog Advisory Committee member and Assistant Director, Ohio State Fair Junior Fair Dog Show; Pattie Stover, Covington, Ohio, Director, Ohio State Fair Junior Fair Dog Show and Ohio 4-H Dog Advisory Committee Member, and Tracy Waite, Marietta, Ohio, Ohio 4-H Dog Advisory Committee member for contributing to and reviewing the Guidelines.

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Credit is given to Kansas 4-H, James P. Adams, *Dog Show Judge's Guidelines*, Kansas State University, February 2000, which served as a model when developing these Guidelines.