



Dog

Description:

The 4-H Dog program provides youth with educational information and experiences about different canine species.

Decatur County Expectations

One (1) or more animals fed and cared for by member by May 15th. All dogs, six months of age and over must be vaccinated for rabies, distemper, hepatitis, parvo, leptospirosis and kennel cough by a licensed, accredited veterinarian by the first training session. The vaccination form can be found on the website. The project manual and record sheet must be included with your exhibit.

State Fair Entries

An animal does not need to be shown locally in order to be shown at the state fair. If you do not show at the county level, the animal must still be registered by May 15th.

Exhibit Guidelines

General Dog Rules: All exhibitors must have a dog. All dogs will be judged on grooming and training. A dog displaying signs of aggression will not be allowed to show in the interest of safety to others. Please refer to the updated 4-H Aggressive Dog Policy, located on the website. Female dogs in season will be allowed to show after all other classes have been completed. All dog should be free external parasites such as ticks and fleas. All dogs must be accompanied by the certification of vaccination signed by a licensed veterinarian.

Dress Code: Wear appropriate clothes and shoes. Rubber soled shoes must be worn for training and showing. Please refer to the Indiana 4-H Dog Showmanship Guide, page 3, for appropriate attire for Showmanship classes.

Animal Treatment: Excessive and/or inhumane treatment of a 4-H dog by a handler, and/or family member will be grounds for disqualification from the 4-H Dog Project. In all cases, determination of disqualification from the 4-H Dog Project Leader(s).

Poster Contest Requirements: All posters, notebooks, and display boards must include a reference list indicating where information was obtained, giving credit to the original author, to complete the 4-H member's exhibit. This reference list should/might include web site links, people and professionals interviewed, books, magazines, etc. It is recommended this reference list be attached to the back of a poster or display board, be the last page of a notebook, or included as part of the display visible to the public. A judge is not to discredit an exhibit for the way references are listed.

Posters are to be 22"x28" and displayed horizontally and placed in a clear plastic sleeve or covered with clear plastic to protect contents. Display boards should be designed to sit on a table using

no more than 36” of tabletop space. Space should be left in the lower right-hand corner to place an exhibit tag provided by Purdue Extension staff.

Exhibit Class Guidelines:

Obedience

A series of exercises that demonstrate to the judge the control the handler has. Points are taken away for errors made by the handler or the dog. All dogs must show in this class.

Grand Champion

2A Division Champion

Reserve Grand Champion

2B Division Champion

1A Division Champion

3A Division Champion

1B Division Champion

3B Division Champion

First Year Section A: For 4-H members with no previous formal dog training experience, with a dog which has received no obedience training prior to March 1st of the current year.

First Year Section B: For 4-H members with previous dog training experience (4-H or otherwise), coming back with a new dog, or for 4-H members with no experience whose dogs have had training which disqualifies them for Section 1 A.

Second Year Section A: For 4-H members and dogs which have completed 1-A and/or 1-B.

Second Year Section B: This section can be repeated until your leader(s) pass you on to the next level.

Third Year Section A: For 4-H members and dogs which have completed second year work.

Third Year Section B: This section can be repeated un your leader(s) pass you on to the next level.

Fourth Year Section A: For 4-H members and dogs who have completed third year work.

Fourth Year Section B: This section can be repeated un your leader(s) pass you on to the next level.

Fifth Year Section A: For 4-H members and dogs which have completed fourth year work.

Fifth Year Section B: This section can be repeated un your leader(s) pass you on to the next level.

Sixth Year Section A: For 4-H members and dogs which have completed fifth year work.

Sixth Year Section B: This section can be repeated un your leader(s) pass you on to the next level.

Veteran's Class: For 4-H members whose dogs are at least 7 years old or are physically challenged. The dog must have completed at least lot 2B in previous years. Dogs who are physically challenged must be accompanied by a letter from a veterinarian stating that the dog is unable to perform jumping and/or retrieving exercises. A dog may not be shown in any other obedience class at the Decatur County Exhibition Dog Show, once they have competed in the Veteran's Class.

Agility

Joyful fun for dogs and their handlers that builds bodies, minds, and hearts. The 4-H Dog Agility Program is based on guidelines from the Untied Kennel Club. Some modifications to the UKC rules have been made to provide a program suitable for 4-H handlers of all ages.

Dogs showing in agility at the Decatur County Exhibition are required to have shown in obedience at the current county exhibition. A 4-H exhibitor entering agility with a previously trained dog in agility will be placed in a class based on level of trained dog to be determined by the current 4-H Dog Project Leader(s). The county Project Leader(s) must sign the State Fair entry form, verifying that the dog is qualified and physically able to compete at the level entered.

Agility classes will be entered as Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced. Awards will be granted by that classification, regardless of dog size. The show committee will place dogs in the appropriate size division based on height reported on the entry form. Dogs may be measured at the show to verify accuracy of the reported height. Scoring will be based on UKC rules, starting with 200 points and subtracting Performance Faults based on a set Course Time. Agility regulations not covered by these terms and conditions will be based on the regulations of the UKC. Time faults for course time exceeding the set time will be deducted. Award divisions are as follows:

Grand Champion

Reserve Grand Champion

Beginners A Division Champion

Beginners B Division Champion

Intermediate A Division Champion

Advanced Division Champion

Each class will offer three divisions based on the dog's height at the withers. The Pause Table will be at the hurdle height for each division. Divisions are as follows:

Division 1: Dogs 14" and under will jump 8" hurdles.

Division 2: Dogs over 14" through 20" will jump 14" hurdles.

Division 3: Dogs over 20" will jump 20" hurdles (except Beginner A, which will jump 14" hurdles).

All agility work will be done n a flat, buckle collar or quick release collar. Beginner Lot A must use a 6' lead. All other levels will be off lead at the county exhibition. The levels are as follows:

Beginner Lot 1: A 4-H member that has not previously participated in Beginning Agility (must use a 6' leash)

Beginner Lot 2: A 4-H member that has participated in Beginning Agility before, either with the current dog, or a different dog (must be off lead).

Intermediate Lot 3: A 4-H member that has not previously participated in Intermediate Agility (must be off lead).

Intermediate Lot 4: A 4-H member that has participated in Intermediate Agility before, either with the current dog, or a different dog (must be off lead).

Advanced Lot 5: A 4-H member that has not previously participated in Advanced Agility (must be off lead).

Advanced Lot 6: A 4-H member that has participated in Advanced Agility before, either with the current dog, or a different dog (must be off lead).

Showmanship

Exhibition of dog by handler to judge handler's presentation of the dog. Divisions will be based on the following (grade is determined on March 1st of the current 4-H year):

Level 1 (Junior) - Grade 3-5: For any 4-H exhibitor in 3rd – 5th grades.

Level 2 (Intermediate) - Grade 6-8: For any 4-H exhibitor in 6th – 8th grades. Once an exhibitor is the Junior Showmanship winner at the State Fair, then they are only eligible to compete in Senior Showmanship.

Level 3 (Senior) - Grade 9-12: For any 4-H exhibitor in 9th – 12th grades. Grade exceptions are only for previous Junior Showmanship winners.

Showmanship award divisions are as follows:

Grand Champion

Level 2: Grade 6-8 Division Champion

Reserve Grand Champion

Level 3: Grade 9-12 Division Champion

Level 1: Grade 3-5 Division Champion

Poster Contest

This is an educational activity for 4-H members in the dog project. The purpose of the poster is to visually demonstrate 4-H dog possibilities to others. All exhibits meeting minimum requirements will receive a blue, red, or white ribbon based on the score card. Exhibits not meeting minimum requirements will be dropped one (1) ribbon grade. The poster will be judged on the following:

Content and Information: 50 points

Neatness and Appearance: 25 points

Originality: 15 points

Purpose: 10 points

A division Champion and Reserve Division Champion will be selected from the blue-ribbon winners in each division. A Grand Champion and a Reserve Grand Champion will be selected from the Division Champion and Reserve Division Champion ribbons. The Grand Champion from each Division will be exhibited for Judging at the Indiana State Fair. Poster contest award divisions are as follows:

Grand Champion

Level 2: Grade 6-8 Division Champion

Reserve Grand Champion

Level 3: Grade 9-12 Division Champion

Level 1: Grade 3-5 Division Champion

The following suggestions are ideas for development of educational dog posters. Participating 4-H members are not to be limited by or to just these mentioned topics.

Junior Topics: Dog care, me and my dog, or helping the handicapped.

Intermediate Topics: Purposes of dogs, responsible dog ownership, uses of dogs, disease/parasite prevention, or careers with dogs.

Senior Topics: Learning life-skills with the dog project, your dog and the law, food, a dog's sense of smell, dog over population problems, animal health, or animal welfare.

Costume Class

Exhibitors and their dog should both be dressed in some type of costume or outfit depicting a theme. The theme may be historical, humorous, cartoon, etc. Contestants will be judged on originality, neatness, and fun factor.

Top Dog Award

Highest Scoring Exhibitor – Combining all elements of the dog project (Obedience, Showmanship, and Poster).

Mini 4-H Classes

Mini 4-H members will use a stuffed toy dog with stiff wire leash provided by the Tree City Barkers 4-H Club.

Showmanship: Mini 4-H members will participate in a showmanship class which includes presenting the “dog” and completing a pattern.

Agility: Mini 4-H members will complete a beginner level agility course using the stuffed dog with a stiff wire leash provided by the Tree City Barkers 4-H Club. The course will be timed.