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New York State Fair
2009 4-H Dog Show

EXHIBITOR INFORMATION

4-H Dog EDUCATIONAL COORDINATOR: Dana Palmer, 123 Morrison Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853. (phone: 607-255-4706; e-mail: dlp10@cornell.edu)

4-H Dog SHOW SUPERINTENDENT: Jennifer Burkins, 20 Dug Road, New Paltz, NY 12561; 845/256-0860 evening or days 845/340-3990; e-mail: jlb64@cornell.edu or jenebear@aol.com.

EDUCATORS -- Please share this information with your dog participants!

- It is the responsibility of the 4-H educators submitting entries in the New York State Fair 4-H Dog Show to ensure that each exhibitor and his/her family, volunteer leaders and any other persons who will be supervising exhibitors, read and become familiar with the rules that follow as well as the rules and regulations published in the Youth Department 51 Animal Science Premium Book (specifically Section C). For a downloadable copy, see <http://www.nysfair.org/competitions> **Because dogs do not have their health papers checked upon entry to the fairgrounds, it is necessary for all entries sent to the superintendent to have a valid rabies certificate attached. A valid rabies certificate by Ag and Market rules will contain the date of vaccination, date vaccination is due, product name and lot number and veterinarian's signature or signature stamp as well as name and breed of animal.**
- **Each county is expected to provide 1 steward for every 10 entries (excluding drill team). Fill out a Steward Information form and return it with your packet to the Superintendent. The Superintendent will be contacting stewards before the fair via email to confirm their work schedule. Remember that only teens 13-19 years of age can be paid and you will need to work a full 6 hours to receive your teen leader premium.**
- Not knowing the rules will not be accepted as an excuse for failure to adhere to them.
- Scoresheets used in 2009 are downloadable here: <http://www.ansci.cornell.edu/4H/dogs/index.html>

THINGS TO DO PRIOR TO THE FAIR:

NOTE: 4-H members who are not exhibiting dogs on **Wed. Sept 2** or **Thurs. Sept 3**, in the Dog Show, may also share their knowledge about dogs and expand their communications skills by staffing the CYNODOGY BOOTH in the Youth Building at the State Fair. CYNODOGY is the study of "dog science." Those who plan to participate must have at least one adult present and request and obtain exhibitor entry and parking passes through their county 4-H office. Please contact Education Coordinator for questions about Youth Building activities on display from **August 27 -September 7, 2009**.

1. You and your dog(s) must have been properly entered by **August 17, 2009**. No substitutions or additions of animals or classes will be allowed after deadline. **PLEASE BE SURE TO READ YOUTH BOOK**. There are **THREE** sections to review (Pages pertaining to ALL youth entries, especially note exhibitor requirements; Department 51 pertains to all animal science exhibitors; Section C, 4-H Dog Show, is specific to 4-H dog exhibitors). **Copies of rabies certificates must be attached to the entry forms which are returned to the dog show superintendent.**

2. **ENTRY BLANK COMPLETION:** Please be sure that one entry blank per dog is completely filled out. Print or type the information so that it can be easily read. For Agility and Rally classes, height of dog MUST be included on the entry form. **NEW FOR 2009: All Agility will be held in the Coliseum on Wednesday, Sept. 2 and all Grooming & Handling classes will be held on Thursday, Sept. 3 in the Youth Arena.** Become familiar with the State Fairgrounds map. See <http://www.nysfair.org/visitors/map.php> for a downloadable map and key.
3. Remember to continue to practice with your dog. Groom as necessary (dogs shown only in obedience classes should also "look their best").
4. **Request and obtain exhibitor passes and parking permits through your county 4-H office.** Parking spots for RV's may still be available. Check with State Fair.
5. All exhibitors should **bring their dog's original rabies certificate** to the Fair. It's a NYS law.
6. Plan a special educational exhibit about dogs for the public. Do you have any posters that can be displayed along the Coliseum walls or in the CYNODOLOGY BOOTH? Do you have a breed of dog which requires extensive grooming? Setting up a grooming table and working on your dog will attract public interest and give you the opportunity to answer questions.
7. Designate ONE individual from your county to pick up armbands on Wednesday morning. This individual should be aware of which exhibitors are entered in which classes **and if anyone is scratching from a class.** Armbands will only be given to one adult per county. **Armbands for Grooming & Handling and Rally Obedience on Thursday will be given to one adult per county.** 4-H members may not pick up their own armbands.

OVERNIGHTERS

1. If a dog must be brought earlier or held over after the show (usually due to long traveling distances), they may be housed on Tuesday night and/or Wednesday night ONLY in the designated 4-H dog holding area. Please do not arrive earlier than 5 p.m. on Tuesday. No dogs may remain in this area after the end of the show on Thursday.
2. Upon arrival, check with Jenny Burkins, to verify the exact housing location. Jenny will be checking you in and reviewing rules. **EXHIBITOR'S MEETING FOR TUESDAY OVERNIGHTERS** will be at **7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, 9/1/09** in the dog housing area.
3. Each dog must be housed in an appropriate crate (NO DOGS ARE TO BE TIED). **THE CRATE MUST BE TAGGED WITH THE NAME OF THE EXHIBITOR, COUNTY, WHERE EXHIBITOR IS SLEEPING (DORM, SPECIFIC TRAILER, ETC.), NAME, SEX, AND BREED OF DOG. NO EXERCISE PENS.** Remember to bring your dog's food!!
4. **There must be at least one adult per county who will be staying with the dogs.** These adults will need to bring cots, sleeping bags, etc. There are no dorm facilities in the dog housing area.
5. Youth are to sleep in the dorm in the Youth Building (must be properly registered).
6. Dogs must be QUIET at all times. If you have a problem dog from your county, you may wish to bring some bitter apple, alum, or Tabasco sauce with you!
7. Pooper scooping is a must!! Bring a supply of plastic bags!!
8. Dogs must be on leash at all times. Key idea is LOW PROFILE except where an opportunity for public education exists. Dogs are not allowed in public areas of the Fair. Only necessary transit to and from the Coliseum, Youth Building Cynology booth, or Youth Arena is allowed.

WHAT TO BRING WITH YOU:

1. Your dog(s)!!
2. Water dish and maybe even water if your dog is fussy.
3. Crate (and maybe crate dolly) if available, may want to bring a towel/rug/mat for dog to lie on.
4. Grooming and training equipment
5. Show clothes. Be prepared for the weather.
6. Money for incidentals
7. County banner to hang near where your county sits in the Coliseum
8. Pooper scooping supplies (baggies, etc.)
9. Treats for your pet!!
10. Your dog's rabies certificate

WHAT TO DO ON SHOW DAY:

1. Bring your dog(s) and equipment to the Coliseum. A special section of the Coliseum may be designated for exhibitors to sit in. Please listen to announcements. Please properly dispose of trash.
2. **ONE adult from your county (the one listed on your entry forms) should check in at the registration table between 7:00 and 7:45 am.** Please let the registrars know if you know someone will be absent. The designated individual will then distribute the armbands to exhibitors from his/her county (outside of the dog show arena).
3. Show catalogs will be available by 7:00 am on Wednesday, show day 1. Please remember that several counties have their county fair during or after the State Fair entry deadline. These counties must enter all possible exhibitors and then scratch those who will not be participating in State Fair. That's the reason you may notice in the show catalog that some counties seem to have more entries in a particular class than allowed. It will not be known until show day who the scratches are.
4. Set up your exhibit or hang any posters that you brought with you. Selling of items as main focus is prohibited. Community service and education are the main goals. Helping at an exhibit may help to decrease the anticipatory anxiety some youth experience while waiting their turn in the ring!!
5. ALL rings will wait for Agility dogs.
6. Obedience exercises are mostly done individually so even though your class may begin at 8:15 am, you may have to wait (maybe even 2 hours or more!!) for your turn.
7. There will be nine rings set up in the Coliseum. Each ring will be numbered and a sign will indicate what class is being judged. There will be a poster outside each obedience ring listing exhibitor numbers. "Sc" will indicate an absentee. A single diagonal line through a number will indicate that the exhibitor has "checked in". An "X" through the number indicates that the exhibitor has already completed his/her individual exercises. You can use the information from the poster to estimate when you will be entering the ring or doing group exercises. PLEASE REMEMBER, the poster marking indicated is IDEAL but we'll be training many new stewards on show day. Please be patient.
8. If a youth is in one ring and is being paged in another ring, the youth should indicate this to the judge between exercises (if obedience) and a steward can inform the other ring of the youth's present location, or, anyone hearing the page can notify the announcer that the youth is already in a ring and the announcer will be sure that the other ring is notified. With ten rings all going at once, conflicts are inevitable. Judges are aware of this and make every effort to accommodate youth showing in multiple classes. The Danish System of awards is used so even if an exhibitor misses his/her turn, he/she can still be evaluated later. Don't panic!! (Easier said than done sometimes, but give it a try!!).

9. Youth who are participating in the 4-H Dog show while at the Fair should consider the Dog Show as their priority. Visiting the fair should be secondary. If a youth is involved in multiple 4-H parts of the fair on the same day, consideration will be given but at some point the youth may very well have to choose which event he/she wishes to participate in (e.g., 4-H Dog Show class or 4-H Horse Show class).
10. Plan on rushing around and then having a long period of waiting and then getting called to more than one place at a time. That's the nature of the beast. Use your waiting time to visit with the public and show off your knowledge!! Or...we can always use help stewarding...volunteer your services!!
11. Dogs are technically not allowed on the fairgrounds. If you explain you are at the Fair for the State 4-H Dog Show you will have no trouble getting in. But, even 4-H'ers with 4-H dogs ARE NOT ALLOWED TO WALK AROUND THE FAIRGROUNDS WITH THEIR DOGS!! Only absolutely necessary travel is allowed.
12. AT NO TIME MAY A DOG BE LEFT UNATTENDED. It is NOT acceptable to stick your dog in a crate in the Coliseum and "go see the fair" without someone designated to "keep an eye" on your dog.
13. Adults, other than those helping, are not allowed on the Coliseum floor during the show. Address any questions to someone in the announcer's stand. The announcer will then page the appropriate person. Remember, the State 4-H Dog Show is hectic and for many helpers it's their FIRST dog show ever, be patient!!
14. It is our goal to avoid as many conflicts between rings as possible. If you have any questions on which ring you should go to first, please ask at the announcer's stand.
15. STEWARDS are welcome. If you have people in your group who can help, please see the announcer.

OTHER INFORMATION

1. If you have any suggestions for future State 4-H Dog Show judges, please let the Superintendent know. Comments are welcome!

CARE OF ANIMALS:

1. All dogs should be offered water appropriately throughout the day.
2. As always, 4-H'ers are expected to continue to treat their animals humanely.
3. Any perceived infractions should be reported immediately to the Superintendent.
4. Remember, your dog is not a robot. If your dog has a "bad" day, take it in stride. The old saying, "Train, Don't Complain", is very appropriate.
5. Do not allow your dog to sniff and/or come in close contact with another dog. If your dog shows ANY sign of aggression towards another dog (or a person), immediately get tighter control of your dog and walk away (preferably off to the side rather than exposing your dog's rear to the other dog). Report the incident to the adult responsible for your county at the show.

Enjoy the Fair!!