

## DOG SHOW CIRCUIT RULES & GENERAL INFORMATION

1. ALL RULES have been agreed upon by the "4-H Dog Show Council" and are for governing 4-H Dog Shows within the recognized "4-H Dog Show Council" Circuit.
2. Handlers must be current Project Year members in good standing. Dogs entered must be the current project of the 4-H member. Any 4-Her entering with another 4-Her's "project dog" will be in FOR EXHIBITION ONLY (FEO). Handlers with a dog at the Utility level may also enter Open B (FEO) with that Dog. Handlers who must move up to an off leash class who would like to use a training aid (such as a long line for sits/downs) may enter the class FEO. **FEO entries will receive scores but are not eligible for placements, trophies or achievement points.** Prep members (grade 1-3) may enter the Prep Class and Maze & Agility (when offered).
3. **Proof of current inoculations of DHLPP, PARVO & RABIES must be furnished upon request.**
4. All Dogs must be entered in Grooming in order to enter any other class (es). Late arrivals must see the Show Chairperson(s) to arrange to be judged in grooming. When a 4-Her must arrive late to a show due to a significant event such as a religious event or a college entrance exam, they may be judged in grooming and one obedience class provided that the judges are still available when the 4-Her arrives and that ring space can be arranged. In this case, the 4-Her may accrue an achievement point for a qualifying score for obedience, but is not eligible for placing or for highest scoring dog if they arrive after their class has been completed. Sit/down exercises will be completed with two additional dog/handler teams who are at the same training level or above.
5. ALL HANDLERS are responsible for cleaning up after their dogs at all times.
6. Classes will be judged by AKC and 4-H Rules.
7. Dogs MUST be leashed or created at all times EXCEPT while in the show ring.
8. Class order will be posted at the Show and is the sole discretion of the county sponsoring the show.
9. All attempts will be made to avoid any scheduling conflicts.
10. The Sponsoring Show Committee will have the FINAL DECISION on all discipline matters and/or disputed results. The "4-H Dog Show Council" may act as an "APPEAL" to resolve issues at future Shows but may not override the "Sponsoring Show Committee" for any decision regarding their show.
11. Bitches in season cannot be accommodated and MUST be "out of season" for five days prior to the show.
12. **Any Handler mistreating a dog will be asked to leave immediately.**
13. Any Handler breaking any rules may be disqualified.
14. Any animal showing signs of illness will be excused from the ring and sent home from the Show Grounds.
15. **"Fouling" the ring will result in an automatic "NQ" (Non-Qualifying Score).** Every effort will be made to rid the ring of "sniff problem sites". The handler will be able to continue with the obedience routine.
16. **For Obedience Classes: "Food" or Treats" are not allowed in the ring,** with the exception of certain **County Fair** Shows where food may be used as a "lure" or "reward" to enhance the dog's performance.
17. Every 4-H Dog/Handler team which earns a score of 150-160 or 190-200 (depending on max score) three times in one obedience Class level MUST move up to the next higher Class level. This will include the following Classes: B(moves up to Pre-Novice), Pre-Novice A/B(moves up to Intermediate). Intermediate Novice(moves up to Novice). Novice A/B(moves up to Advanced Novice) and Advanced Novice(moves up to Graduate Novice).
18. Dogs from ALL Obedience Classes are eligible for Brace, Team Maze and Agility. Consult registration for the show specific offerings. These classes may be canceled if the Show is running too late. Pay for these classes with ENTRY. (\$4.00 per Handler) Refunds will be made if classes are canceled.

## **DOG SHOW CIRCUIT RULES & GENERAL INFORMATION (Cont.)**

19. Appropriate collars and leashes **MUST** be used and be put on the dog correctly. “Choke” or buckle collar for Obedience class with six foot leash. Junior Showmanship lead and collar in Junior Show classes and buckle collar with a short leash in Maze and Agility class. **NO “PRONG” collars in the show ring.**
20. **PRIZES** will be awarded according to the rules and descriptions listed separately. Refer to the **AWARD** section.