Dog Show Rules

Note to Exhibitor: Please follow these rules carefully. Contact the Superintendent if you have any questions.

A. Procedure - Those procedures described in “Guidelines for Nebraska 4-H Dog Shows” as part of Nebraska 4-H are necessarily different from the County and State Fair rules.
   ✌️ Exhibitors will be required to show their dog during judging.
   ✌️ Coaching of exhibitors is strictly prohibited. The exhibitor is responsible for their animal on their own merit. Anyone who is accused of coaching will be given one oral warning from either the superintendent of that species or Extension Staff. After one warning they will be asked to leave the show and the exhibitor will be dropped a ribbon placing.
   ✌️ Anyone interfering with the judge will be given one oral warning from either the superintendent of that species or Extension Staff. After one warning they will be asked to leave the show.
   ✌️ Exhibitors are responsible for feeding and watering their own animals.

B. Dog Eligibility – Exhibitor should provide primary care and training for the dog. The dog should reside with the exhibitor or be cared for by the exhibitor the majority of the year.

C. Vaccination - All dogs must be immunized for distemper, hepatitis, parvo and rabies.
   2016 - Due to reported cases of Bordetella (Kennel Cough) it is STRONGLY RECOMMENDED your dog be vaccinated. The Nebraska State Fair Dog Show Vaccination Record Form (SF 263) must be filled out and signed by a veterinarian and returned as part of your Fair Entry.

D. The Nebraska State Fair Show Vaccination Record Form (SF 263) must document all vaccinations within 1 year or 3 years depending on the vaccine given. All required vaccinations must be given within 1 to 3 years of the show date based on label guidelines. All vaccinations must be in effect at the time of the Dog Show.

Explanation: Some vaccinations are viable for one year and some vaccinations are viable for three years but are specifically designed and administered according to their label. It is not acceptable nor allowed to vaccinate a dog with a 1 year vaccine and plan to have it in effect for 3 years. The SF 263 form must be submitted for each dog according to the entry guideline due date or will not be allowed to show.

A three year version of the distemper, parvo and hepatitis vaccine was approved for use with dogs. You may use this vaccine as long as it is recommended by your veterinarian for your dog and is given based on label guidelines. Otherwise, all other vaccinations should be within 12 months. All vaccinations must be in effect at the time of the Dog Show.

Explanation: Some vaccinations are viable for one year and some vaccinations are viable for three years but are specifically designed and administered according to their label. It is not acceptable nor allowed to vaccinate a dog with a 1 year vaccine and plan to have it in effect for 3 years. Your veterinarian should clearly indicate on the form that they used the three year version of the vaccine if that is what you choose.
A. **Arrival Time** - All exhibitors should first check-in at the registration area. (Sunday, August 7 by 10:30 am)

B. **Number of Entries per Exhibitor** - An exhibitor may make no more than two entries. For example, an exhibitor may make two entries in obedience, or, one entry in obedience and one entry in showmanship. A dog can be entered in only one obedience class. A 4-H member can be entered in only one showmanship class.

C. **Advancement Levels in Obedience Classes** - The following applies to progression within obedience classes for County Fair:

2016: **Due to the situation with the judge not showing up at the 2015 county fair dog show, all entries for the 2016 county fair will be at the level they were at the 2015 fair. A “do-over”**.

   a. Exhibitors enter equal to or above the class level of participation at county or unit fair as entered in this calendar year.
   b. Experienced handlers are those showing for the second year or more at any dog show, including AKC, fun matches, etc.
   c. Handlers and beginning dogs may show only one year in Division A. If continuing as a team, both must advance to Division B.
   d. Dog and handler in Division B or higher must advance to the next obedience class upon receiving a purple ribbon or class award, except Open Obedience may repeat the class once.
   e. There is no limit on the number of years a dog may be shown in the Utility class.
   f. Dogs with AKC degrees will show as follows: "CD" degree must show in Graduate Novice or higher; "CDX" or "UD" degree must show in Utility.
   g. The dog will stay in its highest attained class. A 'new' handler will enter such class.

D. **Disqualified Dogs** - Females in season will not be permitted to be shown. Overly aggressive dogs may be disqualified at the discretion of the judge or superintendent. Lame or crippled dogs will not be permitted to show if it is determined by a show superintendent that it is affecting the health of the dog.

E. **Age of Dog** - A dog that is exhibited at the County Fair must be 6 months or older.

F. **Show Schedule** - The 4-H Dog Show will be held in the Livestock Barn on Sunday, August 7 at 11 a.m.

K. **Dress Code:**

   a. Exhibitors are required to wear a white shirt or blouse with a collar and with the official 4-H chevron attached or a 4-H t-shirt. **In the event the 4-H Council approves an official t-shirt for a particular year, the approved t-shirt shall become official dress for that year.**
   b. Solid blue jeans are required. FFA members are required to wear advisor approved dress code. No headgear is worn in the show ring. Shoes with a non-slip sole are suggested.

L. **Baiting** - Baiting with food or a toy is not permitted and is cause for disqualification. Handlers may use baiting action without food or toys in showmanship. The judge has the authority to disqualify violators.
M. **Ownership** - The State Dog Committee recognizes that neighbors/friends allow kids to work with their dogs when the immediate family cannot/will not outright own a dog. As long as the youth does the management/training with the dog(s), that meets 'ownership' standards.

N. Only exhibitors are allowed to groom or work dogs at the show, both in and out of the rings.

**Division G700, Dog Showmanship**

Each class will be judged on handler's appearance (10%), grooming and conditioning of dog (20%), coordination of the dog and handler (50%), and general knowledge (20%).

- **G700005** Beginning Showmanship. Handler is in the first year of county or state 4-H or any other dog show experience.
- **G700020** Intermediate Showmanship. Handler is beyond first year's experience of county, State Fair, or other dog show experience.
- **G700030** Advanced Showmanship. Handler previously winning a purple ribbon in Intermediate Showmanship.
- **G700040** Trophy. Handler previously winning the championship or reserve championship award in Advanced Showmanship.

**Division G701, Obedience Classes**

Beginning Novice. **All exercises must be performed on a six-foot leash.** Dogs must heel including figure 8; Stand for examination; come on recall; long sit for one minute and long down for three minutes. The leash may lay on the floor in front of the dog or be held by the handler.

- **G701010** Beginning Novice Division A. Handler and the dog being shown are both in their first year of county, state 4-H, or any other dog show experience. Dog being shown may not have completed an AKC "leg" toward a "CD" degree. For example, an exhibitor in their second year of county competition is not eligible for Division A, even though this is the first year at State Fair.
- **G701020** Beginning Novice Division B. Beginning dogs with experienced handlers and dogs that have not earned a purple in Division A or B. Handlers may repeat this class until the dog has earned a purple ribbon or trophy.
- **G701030** Novice. Dogs must heel on leash including figure 8; stand for examination off leash, heel free; come on recall off leash, long sit for one minute off leash and long down for three minutes off leash.
- **G701040** Graduate Novice. Dogs must heel on leash; stand for examination off leash; heel free including figure 8; drop on recall; long sit for three minutes and long down for five minutes both with handler out of sight.
- **G701060** Utility. The dog will perform five exercises- the signal exercise; the scent discrimination exercise with leather and metal objects; the directed retrieve; moving stand and examination; directed jumping. Exhibitors must supply their own scent articles and gloves for the directed retrieve.