

## **Department 800 – Rabbit**

- A. Rabbit showing information may be found at [4h.unl.edu/companion-animal](http://4h.unl.edu/companion-animal)
- B. Basis for judging-showmanship is based on grooming and training of the rabbit and the appearance and behavior of the exhibitor. The exhibitor must vocally explain the steps in their routine and the merit of the rabbit. Primarily showmanship is the skill of the exhibitor in presenting and explaining the rabbit before the judge. The excellence of the rabbit is not considered in scoring.
- C. The judges may or may not ask questions of the exhibitor at the close of the routine.
- D. A rabbit may only be shown in showmanship and one confirmation class. A rabbit may not show as a Junior or Senior rabbit and a Pet Rabbit.

### **Showmanship**

#### **G800901 - Rabbit Showmanship** (all divisions)

### **Market**

Market classes can not be shown in Conformation classes.

**G800904 - Single Fryer** - Not over 10 weeks of age. Minimum weight of 3 pounds, maximum weight of 5 pounds.

**G800905 - Meat Pen of Three** - Not over 10 weeks of age. Minimum weight of 3 pounds, maximum weight of 5 pounds each.

**G800906 - Roaster** – Must be under 6 months of age. Minimum weight over 8 pounds.

### **Rabbit Conformation**

Market Classes can not be shown in Conformation classes.

**G800907 - Junior Doe or Buck ARBA Recognized Breeds** – Under Six Months

**G800908 - Senior Doe or Buck ARBA Recognized Breeds** – Over Six Months

## **Division 700 – Poultry**

### **Poultry Show Rules**

- A. **Health Requirements** - Health certificate not required for poultry. Testing may be performed by a state veterinarian at the county fair.
- B. **Breeds** - To be eligible for breed exhibition, cockerel, pullet, cock or hen chicken entries must be fair representatives of one of the breeds listed in the American Standard of Perfection.
- C. **Minimum Weights** - The minimum weights for exhibition birds will be as stated in the American Standard of Perfection and the Bantam Standard.
- D. **Trio** - A pen of egg production birds can be hybrids, crossbred or purebred and shall consist of 3 sexually mature females. Egg production females will be judged for production qualities only and need not necessarily conform to breed standards.
- E. **Rules for Bantam & Other Poultry** - The rules for standard size chickens apply equally to bantams, waterfowl and turkey where applicable.
- F. **Entries Must be 4-H Project Birds** - All poultry exhibited must be grown in a 4-H member's project.

### **Poultry showmanship contest rules**

- A. Basis for judging-showmanship is based on grooming and training for the bird and the appearance and behavior of the exhibitor. The exhibitor must vocally explain the steps in their routine and the merit of the bird. Primarily showmanship is the skill of the exhibitor in presenting and explaining the bird before the judge. The excellence of the bird is not considered in scoring.
- B. There will be a four-minute time limit to complete the showmanship presentation. Exhibitors will be timed.
- C. The judges may or may not ask questions of the exhibitor at the close of the routine. Information on the basis of judging poultry showmanship is found in Nebraska Extension 4-H 191.

### **Classes**

#### **G700901 - Poultry Showmanship** (all divisions)

- G700904** - Large Fowl- American, Asiatic, English, Mediterranean, Continental, other Standard Breeds  
**G700905** - Bantam Chickens -Game **Class**, Single Comb Clean legged, Rose Comb Clean Legged, all Other Comb Clean Legged, Feathered Legged **Class**, Other Standard Breeds  
**G700906** – Ducks - Heavy Weight, Medium Weight, Light Weight  
**G700907** - Bantam Ducks  
**G700908** - Production Trios  
**G700909** - Goose  
**G700910** - Turkeys  
**G700911** - Other

### **Division 100 – Companion Animal Show Including Cat**

**Class Descriptions:** Entries in the Companion Animal Show are judged on the overall health and appearance of the animal, and the exhibitor’s presentation and knowledge of the animal: not judged according to breed standards. Mixed breed animals can be entered, and identification is not required.

- Poster division (#12) can include entries covering any companion animal (including reptiles, companion birds, or others). Poster should be the size of one full standard poster (should not exceed 22"x28") board. Exhibitors should make a poster with information on the proper care of a companion animal (may include companion animals not exhibited in the Companion Animal Show).
- A. **Show Procedures:** Exhibitors must be present at time of showing. Animals must be housed in a cage at all times of the show unless asked to remove them by the judge. If being shown in a travel cage, exhibitors should bring photographs of the animal’s normal habitat.
- a. Each exhibitor will be asked to give a short “showmanship” presentation on their animal. The characteristics, health, and care of the animal should be provided in this presentation. Following the presentation, exhibitors will be interviewed on knowledge of their animal and its care.
  - b. The judge will evaluate the participant on the following basis: animal health and wellbeing – 35 points, cage evaluation (appropriateness of travel housing as well as description of everyday housing) – 25 points, and overall knowledge and presentation skills – 40 points.
  - c. See 4-H Companion Animal Judging Sheet for more complete breakdown of points available.
  - d. Participant should bring animal, adequate cage and accessories, completed health certificate for cats and ferrets, and pictures of normal display if appropriate.
- B. **Housing:** Cats must be brought in durable plastic or wire carriers (not cardboard). Cats will remain in carriers or another appropriate cage provided by the exhibitor except for when being judged. The exhibitor may provide food, water, and litter for the cat in the carrier if necessary. Exhibitors may want to provide a cover for the carrier to prevent their cat from seeing other cats. Suggested: ALL CATS MUST BE SHOWN ON A LEASH and be on a leash at any time they are removed from the carrier/cage.
- a. All other animals should be brought in appropriate housing either their normal cage or a durable plastic or wire travel cage (not cardboard). Cages must be secure. Exhibitors should provide water and food for all animals as appropriate. If a cage/enclosure is deemed inappropriate by the show superintendent, the exhibitor will not be allowed to show.
- C. **Health & Vaccinations:** All animals should be free of fleas, ticks, ear mites, ringworm, any internal and external parasite and infectious disease. Required veterinary checks will be performed on each animal entering the show. If any signs of these external parasites or other contagious health conditions are presented, exhibitors will be asked to leave without being allowed into the show area. It is highly recommended that a veterinary check is performed, or preventative measures are taken prior to the show to ensure the animal is free of external parasites. ALL DECISIONS OF SHOW OFFICIALS ARE FINAL. If an animal shows the possibility of being contagious, it will be considered a danger to the other animals in the show and will not be allowed to show. Animals that pose a danger to others will not be allowed to enter the building.

- D. Cats are required to be current on their vaccinations of Rabies, panleukopenia, viral rhinotracheitis, and calicivirus. Cats must either have a current feline leukemia vaccination or proof of a negative test within 180 days of the show. Proof of vaccinations must be sent in with registration. Participants should have their veterinarian fill out and sign the "Nebraska State Fair Cat/Ferret Vaccination Record Form". Exhibitors will not be allowed to show without a signed Vaccination record form.
- E. Ferrets must be vaccinated for rabies and have a completed health form signed by the administering veterinarian submitted with registration information.
- F. 4-H'ers vaccinating their own cats must provide proof by including a statement from their vet on the Vaccination Record Form or by including the vaccination labels on the form and having it signed by a parent. A rabies vaccination is federally mandated to be given by a Certified Veterinarian ONLY. This vaccination must be current and include a veterinarian signature on the Vaccination Record Form.
- G. If a cat is not declawed, the claws must be clipped. This will be a point of judging during the competition. No expectant or nursing mother animals may be entered in the show.
- H. **Number of Entries Per Exhibitor:** Two animals per specie allowed to be entered.
- I. **Age of Animals:** All animals must be weaned prior to show. Minimum age of animals to be shown:
  - I. Cats: 4 months,
  - II. Ferrets: 4 months
  - III. Chinchillas: 7 weeks
  - IV. Guinea pigs: 4 weeks
  - V. Gerbils, hamsters, mice, rats: 4 weeks
  - VI. Hedgehogs: 5 weeks
  - VII. Pet rabbits: 9 weeks

#### **Classes**

**G100901**- **Cat Showmanship** (all divisions)

**G100904** - **Cat**

**G100905** - **Companion Animals** including ferret, chinchilla, guinea pig, gerbil, hamster, mouse, rat, hedgehog

**G100906** - **Poster** - Poster entries covering any companion animal (including reptiles, companion birds, or others). Poster should be the size of one full standard poster (should not exceed 22"x28") board. Exhibitors should make a poster with information on the proper care of a companion animal (may include companion animals not exhibited in the Companion Animal Show).

#### **Division 701 - Dog**

- A. **Procedures** - Those procedures described in [Nebraska 4-H Dog Show Guidelines 4H420](#). **It is the dog exhibitor's responsibility to pick up after their dogs at all times.** Dogs soiling in the show ring (during a **Class**) will be lowered one ribbon placing. Dogs soiling anywhere on the show grounds with no pick up will be disqualified from all entered **Class** on that show day regardless of the person who is holding the dog leash.
- B. **Vaccination** - All dogs must be immunized for distemper, hepatitis, parvo and rabies. The form must be filled out and signed by a veterinarian and returned as part of the **Advanced Entry**. **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. The [SF263 Dog Vaccination Certification](#) form must be submitted for each dog according to the entry guideline due date or will not be allowed to show.
- C. **Number of Entries Per Exhibitor – Dog Eligibility-** Exhibitor should provide primary care and training for the dog. The dog should reside with the exhibitor or be cared for the by the exhibitor the majority of the year.

- a. A 4-H'er can show no more than **TWO** dogs.
  - b. A 4-H'er can only enter **ONE** showmanship **Class**.
  - c. A dog can only enter **ONE** obedience **Class**.
  - d. A dog can only enter **ONE** agility **Class**.
- D. **Advancement Levels in Obedience, Rally and Agility Class** - A youth will move up to a 'transition year', after they receive 2 purples in a specific **Class** at county or state level competition. Youth will finish their 4-H year at the same level if the second purple ribbon occurs in the middle of their 4-H year. Youth do not have to move up in the middle of a 4-H year. Youth will then have the option to stay in their current **Class** for one additional year (after receiving 2 purple ribbons) called the 'transition year'. During the transition year, youth will practice the more advanced **Class** (gaining skills such as off leash work) but may compete in their same level. Youth may advance up to the next level more quickly with advice/assistance from a leader and parent to help evaluate skill and readiness of youth and dog. This may especially occur if the youth has had previous dog handling experiences.
- E. **Advancement Levels in Showmanship Class - Class** are divided into age divisions.
- F. **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. Lamé 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.
- G. **Age of Dog** - A dog that is exhibited must be 6 months or older. Agility dogs must be 18 months or older to participate in competition.
- H. **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.
- I. **Exhibitors Responsibility** - CLEANUP shall be the EXHIBITOR'S RESPONSIBILITY. This includes all areas while on the show site.
- J. Non-entered dogs and puppies are not allowed in the show arena or surrounding area.
- K. **Substitutions** - A dog may be substituted for showmanship **Class** only if it is injured or dies following the entry deadline. No substitutions may be made in obedience or agility **Class**. A substitute can be selected from the exhibitor's household family or from the household where the originally entered dog resides. A Nebraska State Fair Dog Show Vaccination Form must be completed for all substitution dogs and received prior to the show date.

**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%).  
**G701901 - Showmanship** (all divisions)

### **Dog Obedience**

**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. 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.

**G701020 - Beginning Novice Division B** - Beginning dogs with experienced handlers or exhibitor and dog who have 1 or more years' experience. Handlers may repeat this **Class** until the dog has earned a purple ribbon or award. 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.

**G701030 - Novice** - Exhibitor and dog have completed Beginning 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** - Exhibitor and dog have completed 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.

**G701050** - **Open**-Exhibitor and dog have completed Graduate Novice. All exercises off leash. Heel free and figure 8; drop on recall; retrieve on flat; retrieve over high jump; broad jump; long sit for three minutes and long down for five minutes, both with handler out of sight. Refer to Guidelines for Nebraska 4-H Dog Shows for jump heights/distances.