
WASHINGTON STATE 4-H DOG PROGRAM POLICIES

This is statewide program policies. Counties may be more restrictive.

SECTION I: PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Develop leadership, initiative, sportsmanship and responsibility.
- Develop self-reliance and patience by working with your dog daily.
- Learn cooperation as one part of a dog and handler team and by sharing your experiences with others
- Learn to accept the judge's decision gracefully.
- Learn how to work with other 4-H members and leaders.
- Learn how to show and handle dogs safely.
- Learn to keep good records and to use them to make management decisions.
- Learn show ring rules and etiquette.
- Learn to be courteous to the public, judges, show and fair officials, and other competitors.
- Learn to care for and manage a dog.
- Develop public speaking skills by expressing your ideas before groups in demonstrations, judging contests, and other activities.
- Experience the pride of owning and showing your 4-H dog.
- Enjoy and benefit from the experience of being an active member of a 4-H club.



SECTION II: GENERAL RULES

A. Age and Enrollment

1. Membership in 4-H is limited to the following age/grade groups:
 - a. Cloverbud: Ages 5 – 7 years
 - b. Junior: Ages 8 -10 years
 - c. Intermediates: Ages 11– 13 years
 - d. Seniors: Ages 14 – Less than 19 yearsAge is determined as of October 1st of the current 4-H year.
2. All 4-H members must be enrolled in the dog program to participate in 4-H dog shows.
3. Cloverbud members are not eligible for out-of-county activities or competitive events.

B. Dog Care Project Requirements

1. Access to Dog.

Each member is expected to have access to one or more dogs. This means a member may borrow, rent, or lease a dog for a project. This should be indicated in the 4-H Record Book. The dog must be under the 4-H member's care and training at least 60 days before a qualifying show, as stated in EM0758, *Washington State 4-H Youth Program Policy*.

Two members may share a dog as their 4-H project. There must be an agreement in each member's record about the shared dog. However,-if two members are in the same age group they must not be in the ring at the same time. The manner of a run off is to be at the discretion of the Judge, and counties may be more restrictive than the state Washington 4-H Dog Care Policy.

2. Dogs may be any breed, mixed or purebred, but not wolf or coyote hybrids.
3. Dogs may be spayed or neutered.
4. Blind and/or deaf dogs are allowed. Dogs that are lame or have some other handicap may be used if the 4-H'er brings a statement from a veterinarian stating that use as a 4-H project dog will not have any adverse effects on the dog's health.
5. Dogs **must** have proof of rabies vaccination. Other vaccinations may be recommended by your veterinarian.
6. Bitches in season are allowed. When in season, bitches must wear doggy britches. The show superintendent must be notified if a bitch is in season at check in.
7. Dogs that exhibit aggressive, and/or unsocial, and/or problem behavior, that cannot be controlled by their handler, are a serious safety issue. Leaders and Superintendents have the *immediate* authority to excuse or place restrictions on such dog's participation in 4-H activities. Leaders and Superintendents must inform their 4-H staff of their decision and the appropriate plan of action would follow. It is up to each county to decide what that action would be. Every effort should be made to see that the member is not excluded or excused. Alternative suggestions should be offered to the 4-H member and family.
8. To compete at the Washington State 4-H Fair, the dog must qualify at its county fair or other designated qualifying show, and be approved by County Staff.



C. Show and Ring

1. Ribbons and Awards: The Danish System of Awards will be used at 4-H designated shows and fairs. In this system every contestant will receive an award consisting of a flat blue, red or white ribbon. Trophies and/or Grand or Reserve Champion Rosettes may be awarded in addition to the Danish System Awards.
2. Conduct: The provisions of this rule shall apply to the dog owner, exhibitor, and members of the family of the person participating in the show or fair. Approach the judge for information only, not to dispute a placing, and only after judging is completed.
 - a. No one is allowed to coach contestants while they are in the ring.
 - b. The ring is off limits to everyone except working show personnel.
 - c. The judge should not be approached until judging is completed.
 - d. Any infractions of the above may cause the dismissal of the contestant from the class and maybe from the show.
 - e. The Show Superintendent reserves the right to dismiss any child or party from any 4-H class of the show for any misconduct or infractions of *Washington State 4-H Dog Program*. Excused contestants may forfeit all awards received at the show or in the class.
3. Protest: When an individual is assisting with a 4-H show, no one should interrupt or interfere in any manner. If someone does not agree with what is being done, comments may be made in writing, to the superintendent. A judge's decision, representing **that** judge's individual preference, cannot be protested unless it is alleged to violate the rules. Each protest must be lodged, in writing, by at least two exhibitors and an adult. Each exhibitor must be from a different club and/or county. In classes with a single exhibitor, or participant, a single exhibitor may protest. The protest must be filed with the appropriate show superintendent or assistant manager within 12 hours of the time of the cause and the protest. A fee may be charged and accompany the protest which is refundable, only if the protest is upheld. The protest will be acted upon by a committee selected by the fair manager. The committee decision will be final.

D. 4-H Ground Rules for Youth and Adults

Leaders and Parents: Please make your members aware of these “Ground Rules” when they participate in 4-H activities.

Breaking any of the following rules may result in your dismissal by the show superintendent from a show or fair and forfeiture of all awards. Also, any gross abuse of these rules may cause the removal of a 4-H member from the 4-H Program.

4-H events are provided for under the auspices of Washington State University Extension. For youth safety, we ask that you help us enforce these rules:

1. Volunteer staff must adhere to the policies affecting volunteers in *Washington State 4-H Youth Program Policy, EM0758*.
2. All volunteers, participants, and parents must adhere to the Washington 4-H ethics code; see C1000, *A Valuable Partnership*.
3. No alcoholic beverages.
4. No drugs.
5. No smoking or tobacco products.
6. No abuse of dogs.
7. No coaching of youth while they are in the ring or showing their dogs.
8. Adults may not groom or school a show dog while on the grounds. Designated adults may help members with the project.
9. The ring is off limits to everyone except working show personnel.
10. Approach the judge for information only, not to dispute a placing, and only after judging is completed.
11. Show personnel may dismiss a visibly ill dog from participation.
12. All exhibitors must participate in Herdsmanship, if offered.
13. Leaders will ask a member of their club to leave the show grounds with his or her dog if behavior is unacceptable.
14. Only dogs entered in classes with off leash exercises may be off leash at any time and these only in the show or practice ring.
15. At a benched show, there is no eating or drinking in the benching area.
16. Prong, spike collars, head collars, electric collars and muzzles are not allowed on the show grounds.
17. Dogs may be shown with minor, non- contagious ailments. However, this is a show management decision and a veterinarian’s certificate may be required.
18. Running or rowdy behavior is not allowed.
19. DRESS CODE:
 - a. 4-H participants, (defined as; 4-H members, Leaders, and Parents or other adults), must dress tastefully and conservatively. Sandals may be worn with stockings. Bare feet and exposed midriffs are not allowed. All shirts must have at least 3 finger width straps at the shoulders. Low-cut necklines or sexually provocative clothing will not be permitted. Mesh or see through (sheer) clothing is not allowed. Underwear may not be exposed. Clothing that advertises alcohol, drugs, tobacco, gang affiliation, sexually explicit messages or obscenities will not be allowed. Skirt lengths will not exceed 2 inches above the top of the knee. All clothing and shoes must be clean and in good repair. 4-H participants may not participate in any 4-H activity unless they acknowledge and comply with the above dress code. If, in the opinion of the activity or event officials, a participant does not comply, the participant shall be given one opportunity to correct the problem. If participant fails to correct the problem, they will be asked to leave the activity or event and all awards and premiums shall be forfeited. Variations of this dress code may be allowed for specific events by the event coordinator as they deem necessary.(For example; Hot weather at County fairs or Club events, Pool or Beach parties, Agility trials, etc.)
 - b. Please note that participants are 4-H members, Leaders, and Parents or other adults participating in the activity/event.
 - c. State, County or Club events may vary the dress code to meet specific, weather or activity/event criteria. It is up to the event coordinator to specify if allowances are to be made. This should be stated ahead of time with the event rules/guidelines.

It is suggested that these “Ground Rules” be posted at each and every 4-H function.

SECTION III: HERDSMANSHIP

A. Herdsmanship Rules

Exhibitors must follow all of the “Ground Rules” outlined in Section II.D. of these guidelines.

1. No eating or gum chewing in the benching area.
2. Each dog must have suitable benching equipment, to include:
 - a. A benching chain made chain or plastic covered cable which is short enough to prevent the dog from falling off the bench. Two bolt snaps must be attached to the chain.
 - b. A buckle or non-choking collar or a harness. No training (choke) collars are allowed on the bench.
3. There must be one member present at all times for each six dogs.
4. All counties must have an adult in the area to provide supervision at all times.
5. At benched shows, no one except 4-H members, their families, and their leaders are allowed in the benching area. Individual clubs may make further restrictions if desired.
6. Crates, cages, and exercise pens are not allowed at State Fair. Wire crates may be used with permission of the show superintendent or show manager.
7. No lactating bitches or bitches within 3 weeks of whelping.

B. Judging Considerations

Herdsmanship judging shall be based upon the following considerations:

1. Exhibitors will be judged on their personal cleanliness and neatness. They will also be judged on their friendliness and courtesy to the public, show personnel, and each other.

Exhibitors should not block the public’s view of the dogs if at all possible. 4-H member’s on duty should be attentive and ready to answer questions.
2. Herdsmanship judges will check to see that dogs are benched with the proper equipment. Dogs should look comfortable and under control. They should not be barking on the bench. Dogs may

be watered on the bench, but water must be promptly removed.

3. Benches should be neat and clean. Any equipment not in use should be put away. Exhibitors are required to keep their benching area and the area immediately in front of it clean at all times.
4. Clubs or counties should have a banner for identification. Decorations should be neat and tasteful and should not interfere with the public’s view of the dogs. Decorations chosen should not endanger dogs or people in any way.
5. Each club or county should have some type of educational exhibit. This may include posters, displays, booths, etc. These may be items members have entered as individual educational material displayed.

SECTION IV: CLASSES AND DIVISIONS

A. Class List

The following list contains classes which may be offered at 4-H shows. Premium lists must state which classes will be offered. Other classes may be offered but must be designated as non 4-H classes.

1. **Showmanship**
2. **Obedience**
 - a. **TIER 1**
 - Sub-Novice
 - Beginner Novice
 - Pre Novice
 - b. **TIER 2**
 - Novice
 - c. **TIER 3**
 - Advanced Novice
 - Graduate Novice
 - Pre Open
 - d. **TIER 4**
 - Open
 - e. **TIER 5**
 - Graduate Open
 - Pre Utility
 - f. **TIER 6**
 - Utility
 - g. **Other**
 - Versatility
 - Veterans/Modified
 - *Rally (not a State Fair class)*
 - *Introductory Obedience (Not a State Fair Class)*

- h. Brace Obedience
 - 1. Sub-Novice
 - 2. Novice
 - 3. Advanced Novice
- i. Team Obedience
 - 1. Sub-Novice
 - 2. Novice
 - 3. Advanced Novice

See also Page 11 for the following:

- j. Agility
- k. Dog Judging Contest
- l. Dog Bowl

B. Grade Divisions

- 1. Grade: All classes shall be divided, if entries warrant, into the following grades:
 - a. Cloverbud: Ages 5 – 7 years
 - b. Junior: Ages 8 -10 years
 - c. Intermediates: Ages 11– 13 years
 - d. Seniors: Ages 14 – Less than 19 years

Age is determined as of October 1st of the current 4-H year.

SECTION V: SCORING AND QUALIFYING
FOR STATE

A. General Rules

- 1. Danish System Scoring: At 4-H designated shows, all exhibitors shall receive a ribbon based on their individual score. Point divisions for ribbons are as follows.

Showmanship:

- a. Blue Ribbon, 85-100 points
- b. Red Ribbon, 70-84.5 points
- c. White Ribbon, 0-69.5 points

Obedience:

Point Breakdown:

- Sub Novice, Beginner Novice, Pre Novice and Novice
 - a. Blue Ribbon 185-200 points
 - b. Red Ribbon 170-184.5 points
 - c. White Ribbon 0-169.5 points
- Advanced Novice and Above:
 - a. Blue Ribbon 170-200 points
 - b. Red Ribbon 100-169.5 points
 - c. White Ribbon 99.5 and below

If an exhibitor receives a Blue Ribbon in Obedience at State Fair with a given dog they are required to enter another class on the same tier, or move to the next higher tier. If they have received 2 blue ribbons at State Fair on the same tier, they are required to move to the next higher tier.



3. State Fair Qualification: Exhibitors may only qualify for the Washington State 4-H Fair by competing at their county fair or designated qualifying event, and following their county and state rules.

4. State Fair Qualification – Sub Novice, Beginner Novice, Pre Novice and Novice

- a. Sub Novice, Beginner Novice, Pre Novice and Novice exhibitors must qualify as part of the county quota.
- b. Exhibitors receiving a red ribbon in both Showmanship and Sub Novice, Beginner Novice, Pre Novice or Novice are not eligible for State Fair competition.
- c. Exhibitors receiving a white ribbon in either Showmanship or Sub Novice, Beginner Novice, Pre Novice or Novice are not eligible for State Fair competition.
- d. Exhibitors receiving a blue in both obedience and Showmanship will be taken first to fill the quota, followed in order of preference by:
 - Blue in Showmanship - Red in Obedience
 - Red in Showmanship - Blue in ObedienceHighest Score will be taken first.

5. State Fair Qualification – Advanced Novice and Above

Advanced Novice and above entries must be part of the county quota. In Advanced Novice and above obedience classes an exhibitor may qualify by the following:

- a. Blue in Showmanship and a minimum score of 100 points and passing a total of at least one half the number of exercises in the class in Advanced Novice and above.
- b. Red in Showmanship and a Blue in Advanced Novice or above.
- c. Exhibitors receiving a red ribbon in both Showmanship and Advanced Novice or above are not eligible for State Fair competition.
- d. Exhibitors receiving a white ribbon in either Showmanship or Advanced Novice or above are not eligible for State Fair competition.

6. State Fair Qualification – Exhibitors with two or more dogs.

- a. Exhibitor must receive a blue or red ribbon in Showmanship
- b. One of the exhibitor’s dogs must qualify for State in Obedience (see rules 4 or 5 above).
- c. The dog that qualifies in obedience must be the dog entered for State competition.
- d. The dog must be entered for State competition in the same class in which they qualified at the county level.
- e. If both of the exhibitor’s dogs qualify for State competition, see Section VII #8.

7. State Fair Qualification – Brace and Team.

- a. Exhibitors in the Brace class must receive a blue ribbon in the brace class AND the member must also have qualified to attend State Fair with one of the dogs in their individual classes.

Team: Non - competitive. Anyone can enter. Teams will be put together at State Fair if time allows.

SECTION VI: SHOWMANSHIP

The purpose of showmanship is to show that the 4-H members know how to care for, groom and show the dog to its best advantage. It also demonstrates the 4-H member’s knowledge of the chosen project area.

See the *Washington State 4-H Showmanship Manual*.



SECTION VII: GENERAL OBEDIENCE REGULATIONS

A. Rules for Entering Classes.

1. A dog that is entered in Veterans/Modified may not be entered in Graduate Novice or above.
2. Braces must be entered at the level of the lowest dog.
3. The member must also have qualified to attend State Fair with one of the dogs in Brace in their individual classes.
4. A dog may be entered in only one brace and one team.
5. A new member may enter any class for which the member is qualified regardless of the level of the dog. A new dog may be entered in any class.
6. The dog must be entered in the most advanced class in which it earned a blue ribbon at the county level.
7. If a dog receives a Blue Ribbon in Obedience at State Fair with a given dog they are required to enter another class on the same tier, or move to the next higher tier. If they have received 2 blue ribbons at State Fair on the same tier, they are required to move to the next higher tier.
8. If both of the exhibitor's dogs qualify for State 4-H Fair competition, the exhibitor must choose which dog to enter with the exception that **Intermediate** and **Senior** members may enter two dogs in this show section if space is available in their county allocation. Two dogs may be entered in the same class or different classes.

B. Class and Judging Rules

1. The dog must complete all exercises of all classes in which it is entered unless disqualified, expelled or excused by the judge or the show superintendent. If an exhibitor fails to complete all exercised, he (she) forfeits all ribbons and awards for which he (she) might be eligible.
2. Judging and class order will be posted. Exhibitors must be ready. If an exhibitor has a conflict in

scheduling, he must let the show superintendent know prior to missing his class.

3. Bitches in season will be judged last in the ring. Exhibitors **MUST** let the show superintendent know if their bitch is in season as soon as they arrive at the show grounds. Failure to do so may disqualify the 4-H member from showing the dog. Bitches in season must wear britches.
4. Ring Conditions. If judging takes place indoors: the ring should be rectangular and should be about 35' wide and 40' long. In no case shall the ring for Novice or above be smaller than 30' by 40'. The floor shall have surface or covering that provides firm footing for the largest dogs, and rubber or similar nonslip material totaling at least four feet in width must be laid for the takeoff and landing at all jumps unless the surface, in the judges opinion, is such as not to require it.

At an outdoor show the rings shall be about 40' wide by 50' long. The ground shall be clean and level, and the grass, if any, shall be cut short. If inclement weather at an outdoor trial necessitates the judging of Obedience under shelter, the requirements as to ring size may be waived.

5. All judging shall be based on the "WA State 4-H Guide to Dog Obedience Classes", 4-H scorecards and the following exceptions:
 - a. Show superintendent may waive rule which requires a failing score be given to a dog that fouls the ring if ring conditions warrant. Penalty left to judge and superintendent discretion.
 - b. Handlers may, with the judge's permission, correct their dog in the ring. Points shall be deducted for the error but not the correction.



SECTION VIII: OBEDIENCE CLASS

DESCRIPTIONS

For complete class descriptions please see the WA State 4-H Guide to Dog Obedience Classes.

A. Sub Novice

1. Exercises

Heel on Leash

Figure 8

Stand for Examination

Recall

Long Sit (1 Min. Group)

Long Down (1 Min. Group)

2. All exercises will be scored as in the Novice class, except that the dogs will perform all exercises on leash, which should be 6 feet long to provide adequate slack.

B. Beginner Novice

1. Exercises

Heel on Leash – Rally signs for heeling pattern.

Figure 8

Sit for Examination – 6 ft. on leash

Sit Stay - Walk around ring

Recall – 25 ft. carry leash

2. There are no Group (Long Sit/Long Down) exercises in the Beginner Novice class.

C. Pre Novice

1. Exercises

Heel on Leash

Figure Eight

Stand for Examination

Heel Free

Recall

Down Stay – **Handler** Walk around ring

2. There are no Group (Long Sit/Long Down) exercises in the Pre-Novice class. All exercises will be performed as in the Novice class except for heeling pattern and **Down Stay – (Down, Handler Walk Around the Ring)**. Please see the 4-H Obedience Class Guide for complete class description.

D. Novice

1. Exercises

Heel on Leash and Figure 8

Stand for Examination

Heel Free

Recall

Sit Stay - Get Your Leash

***Long Sit (1 Min.) *Long Down (1 Min.)**

***Long Sit and Down - on 6' leash (in a group)**

***This is scored as one exercise.**

E. Advanced Novice

1. Exercises

Heel on Leash

Stand for Exam Return to dog – Handler goes 8-10', Judge uses two hands on exam.

Heel Free and Figure 8

Modified Drop on Recall – See score sheet

Stand Stay - Get Your Leash

2. Dogs in this class may be guided between exercises.

Note: (Long Sit and Down have been omitted from this class)

F. Graduate Novice

1. Exercises

Open Heel Free & Fig. 8

Drop on Recall

Dumbbell Recall

Recall Over High Jump with Dumbbell

Recall Over Broad Jump

Stand Stay - Get Your Leash

2. *** Set Jump at 1/2 height of dog at withers, rounded to multiple of 2 inches. ** Broad Jump 2 times height of High Jump. No group exercises.**

G. Pre Open

1. Exercises

Heel Free & Figure Eight

Command Discrimination - Stand, Down, Sit

Drop on Recall

Retrieve on Flat

Retrieve over High Jump

Broad Jump

Stand Stay - Get your leash

***Set Jump at 1/2 height of dog at whithers, rounded to multiple of 2 inches. **Broad Jump 2 times height of High Jump. No Group exercises.**

H. Open

1. Exercises

Heel Free & Figure Eight

Command Discrimination - Stand, Down, Sit

Drop on Recall

Retrieve on Flat

Retrieve over High Jump

Broad Jump

Stand Stay - Get your leash

***Set Jump at 3/4 height of dog at withers, rounded to multiple of 2 inches. **Broad Jump 2 times height of High Jump. No Group exercises.**

I. Graduate Open

1. Exercises

Signal Exercise

Scent Discrimination

Directed Retrieve

Moving Stand and Examination

Go Out

Directed Jumping

2. The exercises in this class follow the same regulations as comparable exercises in the Utility class with these exceptions:

Signals - Handler needs only go 10-20' away when leaving dog;

Directed Retrieve - Two gloves only (middle glove deleted);

Go Out - Handler sends dog back and returns to dog;

Directed Jumping - dog is left at end of ring as for a Recall, sends dog over one jump as directed by judge.

*** Set Jump at 1/2 height of dog at withers, rounded to multiple of 2 inches.**

Scent Discrimination - Only two metal and two leather articles will be used. Handler and Dog will remain facing the articles. Only one article will be retrieved. Handler chooses which article will be used.

I. Pre Utility

1. Exercises

Signal Exercise

Scent Discrimination Article #1

Scent Discrimination Article #2

Directed Retrieve

Moving Stand and Examination

Directed Jumping

1. All exercises will be performed and scored as in the Utility class except for the following:

a. The **Signal Exercise** will be the same as in the Utility class, except the handler will be permitted to use one single verbal command during the signal portion of this exercise.

b. The **Scent Discrimination** exercise will be the same as in the Utility class, except the articles will consist of two sets, each comprised of four identical objects, which may be items of everyday use and the handler will present all eight articles to the judge, who will make a written note of the numbers on the two articles they have selected.

c. The **Directed Jumping** exercise will be the same as in the Utility class, except that the jump height is to be set at 1/2 the height of the dog at the withers, rounded to the nearest multiple of 2 inches. The actual height of the dog shall be rounded to the nearest multiple of 2 inches to determine the minimum jump height, with the exception of dogs eligible for the 4- and 18-inch jump heights. Dogs eligible for the 4-inch jump height must be 12 inches or less at the withers and all dogs over 34 inches are eligible for the 18-inch jump height. Handlers who choose to have their dogs jump more than the minimum required height will neither be penalized nor receive extra consideration.

*** Set Jump at 1/2 height of dog at withers, rounded to multiple of 2 inches.**

K. Utility

1. Exercises

Signal Exercise

Scent Discrimination Article #1

Scent Discrimination Article #2

Directed Retrieve

Moving Stand and Examination

Directed Jumping

*** Set Jump at 3/4 height of dog at withers, rounded to multiple of 2 inches.**

L. Versatility

1. In this class, the dog must perform two exercises from Novice, Open, and Utility. There are 12 combinations to choose from. The Judge will choose which combination and all exhibitors in the class will do the same combination. Must be posted 30 min. prior to class.
2. See the Versatility section of the 4-H Dog Obedience Guide for further description of this class and how each section is scored. There are no Group Sits and Downs in this class.

M. Veterans/Modified

1. Exercises

Heel Free and Figure 8 (as in Open)
Drop on Recall (as in Open)

Handler chooses one (1) exercise from the following to perform before class begins.

Signal Exercise
Scent Discrimination
Directed Retrieve
Moving Stand and Exam
Retrieve on Flat

Long Stand (1 minute) **individual exercise**

Long Sit – 1 minute
Long Down – 1 minute

***Long Sit and Down - on 6' leash (in a group)**

2. This is an advanced class taking the place of Graduate Novice and above for certain dogs. In order to enter the Veterans/Modified class, the dog must be 7 years or older OR have some physical problems that prevents the dog from jumping and/or retrieving. Dogs less than 7 years old entering the class must have the club leader's approval.

N. Brace

1. Class Divisions:

- a. Sub Novice
- b. Novice
- c. Advanced Novice

2. General Descriptions:

A Brace is composed of two dogs and one handler. Classes are divided according to the divisions listed above. These divisions are judged as they would be in the normal one dog one handler setting. Braces may be entered according to the lowest obedience level of the two dogs. The two dogs may be shown coupled or uncoupled, but the coupling device must not be less than six inches in overall length (on toys braces may be shorter). See the general rules of this guide for further descriptions.

O. Team

1. Class Division:

- a. Sub Novice
- b. Novice
- c. Advanced Novice

2. General Description:

A team is composed of four dogs and four handlers. Classes are divided according to the divisions listed above. Teams may enter at the level of the lowest dog, but should be all of the same level if possible. For competitive awards all Team members must be of the same age level. For participation ribbons only Teams may be mixed age levels.



SECTION IX: JUDGING CONTEST GUIDELINES

The purpose of the 4-H Dog Judging Contest is to increase member's problem solving and discretionary abilities. It is also designed to challenge members to increase their knowledge of their chosen project area.

See the "Washington State Dog Judging Contest Guidelines" that may be found online at <https://s3.wp.wsu.edu/uploads/sites/2050/2016/04/Dog-Judging-Contest-Guidelines.pdf>

SECTION X: DOG BOWL GUIDELINES

Dog bowl was developed to encourage 4-H Dog members to learn more about their chosen project. It also teaches cooperation and develops public speaking abilities.

See "Dog Bowl Rules": <https://s3.wp.wsu.edu/uploads/sites/2050/2016/04/Dog-Bowl-Rules.pdf>

SECTION XI: AGILITY

Patterned after equestrian show jumping, dog agility combines the elements of a dog's agility, briskness, confidence, and a handler's control over an obstacle course designed for dogs. It is a fun sport with great spectator appeal. See the "4-H Agility Rules" for further information.

See the Washington State 4-H Dog Project Agility Rules that may be found online at: <https://s3.wp.wsu.edu/uploads/sites/2050/2019/03/4-H-Agility-Rules-May-18.pdf>

State Fair Qualification – Agility

1. The dog must have been entered in Obedience at a County Qualifying event.
2. If the exhibitor has earned a Blue Ribbon in Showmanship at County Qualifying, the dog will qualify for the State Agility Trial by earning a Blue Ribbon or Red Ribbon at a County Qualifying Agility Trial.

3. If the exhibitor has earned a Red Ribbon in Showmanship at County Qualifying, the dog will qualify for the State Agility Trial by earning a Blue Ribbon at a County Qualifying Agility Trial.
4. If the same dog has qualified for State Fair in both Agility and Obedience, the exhibitor must choose which class will constitute the Premium class. The other class will be awarded ribbons only.
5. If the same dog has qualified for State Fair in both Agility and Obedience, the exhibitor will exhibit in Showmanship at their County Day.
6. If the dog has qualified only for Agility, the exhibitor will exhibit in Showmanship the same day as the State Agility Trial prior to the trial being run.
7. A dog who is entered in a Standard Agility class at State Fair must have qualified in that same class.
8. A dog who is entered in a Jumpers Agility class at State Fair must have qualified in that same class.
9. A dog may enter one Standard Agility and one Jumpers Agility class at State Fair.
10. Ribbons will be awarded for the following scores:
 - a. Blue = 85 – 100
 - b. Red = 70 – 84
 - c. White = 0 – 69
11. The following classes may be offered, separated into Junior, Intermediate and Senior age groups:

Non-State Classes

- a. Pre-Agility
- b. Beginners Standard

Standard Classes

- a. Elementary
- b. Pre-Novice
- c. Novice
- d. Open
- e. Excellent

Jumpers Classes

- a. Elementary
- b. Pre-Novice
- c. Novice
- d. Open
- e. Excellent

12. These classes will be further divided by height as follows:

- a. **Beginners Standard**
 - i. 10" or under at the withers
 - ii. 14" or under at the withers
 - iii. Over 14" at the withers

13. All other Standard and Jumpers classes:

- i. 10" or under at the withers
- ii. 14" or under at the withers
- iii. 18" or under at the withers
- iv. 22" or under at the withers
- v. Over 22" at the withers



WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
 EXTENSION

4-H Youth Development Program 

*Extension programs and employment are available to all without discrimination.
Evidence of noncompliance may be reported through your local Extension office.*

APPENDIX

References for 4-H Dog Leaders

Welcome To 4-H

Washington State Guide to 4-H Showmanship

WA State 4-H Guide to Dog Obedience Classes

Washington State 4H Dog Project
Obedience Handling Guide

Washington State 4-H Dog Project Agility Rules

Washington State Dog Judging Contest
Guidelines

Washington State 4-H Dog Project Rally Rules
(Rally not offered at State Fair)

The AKC Complete Dog Book – Topics include
AKC, Breed standards and pictures for AKC
Breeds, Nutrition, Obedience, Care, Diseases
and Health, Buying a Dog.

AKC Dog Book For Kids - AKC breed
information and pictures, health, dog care.

AKC.org

Dog Owners Home Veterinary Guide
Canine Terminology - *All aspects of dog health,
including first aid and home treatments.*
Defines common and obscure dog terminology.
Many illustrations and examples

[https://extension.wsu.edu/4h/projects/stem/dog/
dog-project-resources/](https://extension.wsu.edu/4h/projects/stem/dog/dog-project-resources/)

Join the Washington State Dog Leaders Facebook
Page: at Washington State Dog 4H