

Agility

Ohio 4-H/Ohio State Fair Rules for Participation



2024



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES



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2024 Agility Rule for Ohio 4-H/Ohio State Fair Participation

Table of Contents

| | |
|--|----------|
| County-Use of Ohio 4-H/OSF Dog Rules and Regulations..... | 3 |
| 2024 General Dog Show Rules for Ohio 4-H/Ohio State Fair Participation | |
| Preface..... | 4 |
| Project Eligibility..... | 4 |
| Dog Eligibility..... | 5 |
| Ownership Requirements..... | 5 |
| Definitions of Ownership..... | 5 |
| Training..... | 6 |
| Showing..... | 6 |
| Safety and Sportsmanship..... | 7 |
| Permission to Participate in Ohio 4-H Dog Activities | 7 |
| Misbehavior, Excusals for Dogs on the Fairgrounds, Show Area, or in Show Ring..... | 7 |
| Unsportsmanlike Conduct..... | 7 |
| Other..... | 8 |
| License Requirements..... | 8 |
| Health Requirements..... | 8 |
| Scores and Score Sheets..... | 9 |
| State Fair Championship Title..... | 10 |
| 4-H Exhibitor Versatility Award..... | 10 |
| Ohio State Fair Entry Information | |
| Entry Terminology..... | 11 |
| Eligibility..... | 11 |
| Show Disciplines..... | 12 |
| 2024 Agility Rules for Ohio 4-H/Ohio State Fair Participation | |
| Introduction..... | 15 |
| Ohio 4-H Agility Purpose and Vision..... | 15 |
| Handler’s Appearance..... | 15 |
| Dog’s Appearance..... | 15 |
| Hair in Dog’s Eyes..... | 16 |
| Collars..... | 16 |
| Leads..... | 16 |
| Interference and Double Handling..... | 16 |
| Fouling the Ring..... | 16 |
| General Agility Rules..... | 16 |
| Jump Heights and Measuring Dogs..... | 18 |
| 2024 Ohio State Fair Agility Classes and Descriptions | |
| Standard Class Descriptions and Requirements..... | 18 |
| Jumpers Class Descriptions and Requirements..... | 20 |
| Mad-Shape-Dash™ Game Description and Requirements..... | 21 |
| Additional Notes..... | 22 |
| Awards..... | 22 |

| | |
|--|----|
| Scoring..... | 23 |
| Minor Faults..... | 23 |
| Major Faults..... | 23 |
| Disqualifications Resulting in No Medal..... | 23 |
| Obstacle Performance Requirements..... | 24 |
| Contact Information..... | 25 |

County-Use of Ohio 4-H/OSF Dog Rules and Regulations

County usage of all Ohio 4-H/Ohio State Fair Dog Show Rules and Regulations is recommended for consistency and continuity in the 4-H dog programs throughout the state. However, counties may adapt The Ohio 4-H/Ohio State Fair Dog Show Rules and Regulations for county level evaluations to allow for a more positive experience for youth.

Some examples include:

- *Adding, deleting or modifying classes offered to accommodate entry numbers or experience, such as dividing Pre-Novice into Pre-Novice A and Pre-Novice B classes*
- *Adding "C" classes when needed.* At the Ohio State Fair, except for certain advanced obedience classes, youth are required to move to a higher level if winning. However, depending on the size of classes at the county level, it may not be feasible for a youth to move to a higher level after winning. They may be the only youth in the class or may not be ready as a team to move to the higher level. Therefore, either permitting youth winning first place to repeat a class or creating a "C" class for certain obedience classes, allows that youth to continue training at the same level to become successful and not get discouraged, dropping out of the dog project.
- *Adapting age divisions for participation.* For example, Showmanship and You and Your Dog are divided into Junior, Intermediate, and Senior classes at the State Fair. Counties may offer Junior and Senior classes, or even just one Showmanship class, depending on numbers.
- *Combining A and B classes.* Counties may combine an A and B class into one class provided the class exercise requirements are the same. However, record-keeping is required to ensure that youth/dog teams who are inexperienced "A" teams, are recognized as such so that they are not excluded from participating at the "A" level at the Ohio State Fair in the same 4-H year, if applicable.

2024 General Dog Show Rules for Ohio 4-H/Ohio State Fair Participation

Note: Changes and/or additions for 2024 are underlined.

Preface

Below are the rules for participating in the 2024 Ohio State Fair Junior Fair Dog Show. It is your responsibility to read, understand, and follow these rules. Please refer to the *County-Use of Ohio/OSF Dog Rules and Regulations* at the beginning of this section to find examples of how these rules can be modified for county use.

1. Prior to participating in 4-H dog activities with a dog (which includes the Ohio State Fair Dog Show), a *2024 Permission to Participate in Ohio 4-H Dog Activities Disclosure and Release of Claims* form **MUST** be signed by the 4-H member and a parent or guardian for this year's 4-H dog projects. **This form for the current year must be on file in the county Extension office for each youth before they can participate in the Ohio 4-H Dog Program activities with a dog.**
2. Individuals who violate any rule and/or exhibit poor sportsmanship during the Ohio State Fair Junior Fair Dog Show will be disqualified from showing.
3. Any dog exhibiting unsafe or threatening behavior *at any time before, during, or after exhibition* **MUST** be removed from the fairgrounds and will not be permitted to return at any time throughout the Dog Show. Determination of the show committee and/or judge will be final.
4. A dog that snaps, bites, or attempts to bite while in the ring must be immediately excused from the ring and then removed from the Fairgrounds for the remainder of the Dog Show.
5. Individuals are not permitted to have any discussion with judges at any time throughout the Dog Show. (This does not include discussions or questions during Agility or Rally Briefings or Walkthroughs.)
6. Determinations of the Show Committee and/or Judges are FINAL.
7. Judges' judging and scoring decisions are FINAL.
8. Individuals with concerns must express them in writing, give them to Show Personnel, and those concerns will be discussed at the fall Ohio 4-H Dog Advisory Committee meeting. Confrontations with judges and/or show personnel may result in disqualification of exhibitor and removal of individuals from the Fairgrounds.
9. Ohio State Fair Dog Show information can be found at <http://go.osu.edu/osfdogs>.

Project Eligibility

1. Youth must be enrolled in 4-H, and ages 8 and in the third grade, or 9 years old and older regardless of grade level, as of January 1, 2024, with the last year of eligibility, or participation, in 4-H being the year in which the individual turns 19.
2. Youth must be enrolled in the correct dog project to show in classes at the State Fair as follows:
 - *You and Your Dog*, Project No. 201D – to show in You and Your Dog classes;
 - *Obedience*, Project No. 201O – to show in Beginner Novice, Pre-Novice, Novice, Graduate Novice, Open, Graduate Open, Utility, Brace, Team, and Rally classes;
 - *Showmanship*, Project No. 201S – to show in Showmanship classes;
 - *Performance Dog*, Project No. 201P – to show in Agility, Drill Team, and Freestyle;
 - *Working Dog*, Project No. 201W – to show in the Assistance Dog classes;
 - *4-H PetPALS*, Project No. 230 - to show in the 4-H PetPALS class (Youth do not need to enroll in the Working Dog project to participate in 4-H PetPALS at the State Fair.)
 - 4-H members can be enrolled in any 4-H Dog Project to participate in the Poster Contest; and
 - Any 4-H member, regardless of 4-H project, as well as FFA members, can participate in the Dog Skillathon.

3. FFA members are eligible to show provided they meet school FFA dog project requirements, as well as the *2024 Ohio State Fair Junior Fair Dog Show Rules* and entry requirements. This includes ownership requirements.
4. Project eligibility and class or classes entered must be determined at the county level, based on the experience and ability of the handler/dog team. Extension 4-H educators must verify the youth is a member in good standing in their county to be able to participate at the Ohio State Fair.
5. Prior to showing at the Ohio State Fair, the exhibitor is expected to understand and agree to follow the *2024 Ohio State Fair Junior Fair Dog Show Rules*, including the exercises to be performed for the judge, and to be able to perform those exercises prior to the Ohio State Fair Dog Show.

Dog Eligibility

1. Only domestic dogs can be shown. Wolf and wolf hybrids are not permitted.
2. All dogs exhibited must be **six months of age** by the date of the show. **This includes Pilot Dog puppies and other assistance dogs. Dogs exhibited in Agility must be 18 months or older on or before the first day of the agility trial.** Proof of age is the burden of the exhibitor or exhibitor's immediate family. Dogs not meeting this age requirement cannot be shown.
3. Dogs shown at the Ohio State Fair Dog Show must be the same project dogs taken by 4-H members at the county level.

Ownership Requirements

1. Dogs participating in the Ohio State Fair Junior Fair Dog Show must either be owned by the junior fair exhibitor or the exhibitor's immediate family.
2. Ownership of Assistance Dogs is respective of each applicable organization.
3. Dogs must be in the continual care of the junior fair exhibitor for the duration of the project.
4. *The date of ownership must be no later than April 1, or earlier as the date specified by the exhibitor's county.* Proof of ownership is the burden of the exhibitor and exhibitor's family.
5. Hardship cases will not be considered for State Fair participation.
6. Leasing a dog is not permitted for State Fair Dog Show participation. If counties have a leasing program, leased dogs are not permitted to exhibit at the State Fair.
7. Sharing a dog at the county level is not permitted for State Fair Dog Show participation. If two youth share a dog at the county level, neither youth is eligible to show that dog at the State Fair, including 4-H Agility competition and 4-H PetPALS.

Definitions of Ownership

1. *Immediate family* is defined as the junior fair exhibitor's father, mother, legal guardian, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, grandfather, or grandmother, including the corresponding step and half relations, or by a member of the exhibitor's household.
2. *Continual care* is defined as the junior fair exhibitor being responsible for and involved in the feeding, cleaning, and caring of the project.
3. *Hardship cases* are defined as dogs that replace the original project enrolled by the exhibitor after the county's enrollment deadline, or no later than April 1.
4. *Ownership – Registered dogs:* The exhibitor's name, or a member of his/her immediate family's name, must appear on the registration certificate of a dog registered by AKC, UKC, individual breed registries, herding dog registries, etc. Co-ownership of a dog is permitted provided the exhibitor's name, or a member of his/her immediate family's name, is listed on the registration certificate. It is recommended that a copy of the registration certificate be on file in the county Extension office.
5. *Ownership – Non-registered purchased dogs:* A non-registered dog purchased from a private owner, pet shop, humane society, dog rescue, etc., must have the exhibitor's name or a member of his/her

immediate family's name, on the bill of sale. It is recommended that a copy of this bill of sale be on file in the county Extension office.

6. *Ownership – Dogs found/gifts:* If a dog was given to the exhibitor or immediate family, or found by the exhibitor or immediate family, the exhibitor or a member of his/her immediate family receiving or finding the dog should verify the date received or found by use of veterinary records, dog licenses, and other forms of records, and write a statement as to the definite or approximate date the dog was received as a gift or found. It is recommended that a copy of this statement be on file in the county Extension office.

Training

1. Lessons, instruction, and advice for the exhibitor are encouraged. As long as the exhibitor is present in the learning situation and handles or trains the dog the majority of the time present, such assistance can include occasional handling or training by another person. Only the exhibitor can train the dog at any type of training class *on or after April 1, 2024*.
2. The judge will not permit an exhibitor to train or practice any exercise in the show ring at any time.

Showing

1. **No one other than the junior fair exhibitor** is permitted to show the project dog(s) at any type of dog show, including agility, field trials, rally trials, etc., as well as fun matches, *on or after April 1, 2024*.
2. **No one other than the junior fair exhibitor** is permitted to take the project dog(s) on animal-assisted activities (pet therapy) visits, *on or after April 1, 2024*. Any exceptions must be approved by the State 4-H Dog Advisory Committee.
3. Eligibility for showing in an "A" class is defined as "no training or showing experience for the handler and/or dog prior to the county's current project year." (A new "project year" typically begins following the exhibitor's county fair, or State Fair if after the OSF exhibitor's county fair, or county's 4-H awards program. Check with your county Extension office for your county's policy.) Handlers and/or dogs not meeting this requirement **MUST** show in a "B" class. Refer to "A" class information in the rules for each show discipline.
4. Junior Fair exhibitors in respective activities and classes are expected to perform in those events and demonstrate those skills which are listed in these *2024 Ohio State Fair Junior Fair Dog Show Rules*, in the *Ohio 4-H Dog Resource Handbook*, *Ohio 4-H Dog Project and Record Book*, and on the various 2024 dog 4-H judging score sheets.
 - a. Score sheets used in judging are posted under Resources at: go.osu.edu/dog. **Counties MUST use these score sheets for evaluating 4-H dog projects.** *Note:* All applicable score sheets will have 2024 at the bottom of the score sheet.
 - b. Any additional information pertinent to the State Fair Dog Show will be posted on the website at www.go.osu.edu/osfdogs.
5. **ONLY** dogs shown by junior fair exhibitors are permitted on the Fairgrounds. Exceptions can be made for Ohio State Fair show personnel, judges, and volunteers, if requests are made to the State Fair Dog Show Director prior to the first day of the show. ALL dogs must comply with the 2024 Ohio State Fair Junior Fair Dog Show health requirements.

Safety and Sportsmanship

Permission to Participate in Ohio 4-H Dog Activities Disclosure and Release of Claims:

1. ALL youth enrolled in 4-H dog projects are required to sign the *2024 Permission to Participate in Ohio 4-H Dog Activities Disclosure and Release of Claims* document. A parent or guardian is also required to sign the document.

- a. This document must be signed each year a youth enrolls in a 4-H dog project and a copy MUST be kept on file at the county Extension office.
- b. Exhibitors and parents/guardians verify they have this signed document on file at their county Extension office and understand and agree to information provided in this document, when signing the *2024 Ohio State Fair Dog Project Identification Form and Vaccination Certificate*.

Misbehavior and Excusals for Dogs on the Fairgrounds, Show Area, or in the Show Ring

1. Any dog exhibiting unsafe or threatening behavior *at any time before, during, or after exhibition* MUST be removed from the fairgrounds and will not be permitted to return at any time throughout the Dog Show. Determination of the show committee and/or judge will be final.
2. The judge or show officials *will immediately* excuse from the ring any dog exhibiting unsafe or threatening behavior.
 - a. The judge will *immediately* excuse any dog that appears dangerous to other dogs or exhibitors.
 - b. Any dog that snaps, bites, or attempts to bite any person or dog while in the show ring will *immediately* be excused.
 - c. If a judge determines that a bitch in the ring is in season or appears to be so attractive to males as to be a disturbing element, the bitch is *immediately* excused. The judge shall not obtain the opinion of the health check officials.
3. Any uncontrolled behavior such as barking, running away from its handler, etc., will be penalized according to the seriousness of the misbehavior, whether it occurs during or between exercises, or before or after judging.
4. Any dog not under its handler's control may be excused from competition.

Unsportsmanlike Conduct

1. Any exhibitor or other person(s) abusing a dog will be removed from the fairgrounds.
2. The judge or show officials will dismiss from the ring any exhibitor abusing the dog, which *will* result in disqualification of exhibitor *and* removal from the Fairgrounds.
3. Judges and/or show officials have the right to deduct points from the Sportsmanship category on the exhibitor's score sheet if unsportsmanlike conduct is displayed at any time throughout the 4-H dog show prior to or during judging.
4. Judges and/or show officials have the right to disqualify any participant exhibiting poor sportsmanship at any time throughout the 4-H Dog Show from showing, participating in activities, or from receiving any awards.
5. Any handler who willfully interferes with another competitor or that competitor's dog will be excused from competition.
6. Exhibitors, parents, volunteers, and other individuals verbally and/or physically abusive or threatening to show personnel will be removed from the Fairgrounds, and exhibitors will be disqualified.
7. Show officials have the right to order the removal from the Fairgrounds anyone showing unsportsmanlike conduct.
8. *Exhibitors must check in at their show ring within 15 minutes after being called to their ring. Exhibitors who do not check in at their show ring within 15 minutes after being called will have sportsmanship points deducted on their score sheets.*

Other

1. An exhibitor disciplining a dog in the show ring will be excused from further competition in that class.

2. The judge will not permit any handler to use excessive verbal commands or to move toward the dog to correct it.
3. Exhibitors are totally responsible for their dogs while on the Fairgrounds.
 - a. Dogs must be kept on leash while on the Fairgrounds, except when participating in the ring during judging.
 - b. Dogs must be kenneled in designated areas.
 - c. Exhibitors must clean up after their dogs.
 - d. Dogs are not permitted outside agility show venue and the Buckeye Sports Center except to load, unload, and use the marked Exercise Areas.
 - e. Dogs must not be left unattended.
4. Dogs are not permitted to wear any type of muzzle, prong/pinch collar, or electronic collar while on the fairgrounds.
 - a. Exhibitors will be disqualified if their dogs are seen wearing muzzles, prong/pinch collars, or electronic collars.
5. Only the exhibitor's dog, exhibitor, and show officials are permitted in the show ring area at any time throughout the show.
6. **Judges' decisions are final.** Exhibitors, parents, volunteers, and other individuals **are not permitted** to talk with judges at any time during the Dog Show, except during Agility or Rally briefings and walkthroughs.
 - a. Discussion and/or confrontation with judges may result in disqualification of exhibitor and removal of individuals from the Fairgrounds.
7. Judges, show staff and 4-H Dog Committee reserve the right to withhold class placements.
8. Dogs are not permitted to be dyed or colored in any way. If coat or nails show any evidence of dye or coloring, the score sheet will reflect a major point deduction.

License Requirements

1. Junior Fair exhibitors must list their dogs' license tag numbers on the *2024 Ohio State Fair Dog Project Identification Form and Vaccination Certificate*. Exception: Assistance Dogs licensed through their respective organizations.

Health Requirements

1. The ***2024 Ohio State Fair Dog Project Identification Form and Vaccination Certificate*** completed and signed by a licensed veterinarian **is required for exhibition**. The ***2024 County Dog Project Identification Form and Vaccination Certificate*** is also permitted for use at the Ohio State Fair Dog Show and Ohio State Fair Agility Trial provided the vaccinations are current through the last day of the 2024 OSF Dog competition. **THESE ARE THE ONLY CERTIFICATES THAT WILL BE ACCEPTED AT HEALTH CHECK. HEALTH CHECK CERTIFICATE MUST BE IN PAPER FORM. ELECTRONIC COPIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.** These certificates must include **ALL** information requested in the Identification Form section, completed, signed, and dated by the exhibitor, and signed by the parent/guardian. The administering veterinarian must complete the information requested in the Vaccination Certificate section and may modify it as per Rule 3 in this section. **Other certificates of vaccination, computerized vaccination records, pet record cards, or kennel records will not be accepted. It is the exhibitor's responsibility to make sure all health requirements for State Fair are met.**
 - a. These certificates can be downloaded at: go.osu.edu/osfdogs.
 - b. The use of the *2024 County Dog Project Identification Form and Vaccination Certificate* must be approved by the county 4-H professional and must be used consistently throughout the respective county.

2. **ALL** dogs must have current Rabies vaccinations, administered by licensed veterinarians. Veterinarians must document on the *2024 Ohio State Fair Dog Project Identification Form and Vaccination Certificate* or *2024 County Dog Project Identification Form and Vaccination Certificate* whether the exhibitor's dog's rabies vaccination is current by filling in the "date expires" blank.
3. ALL dogs must be vaccinated for Distemper, Hepatitis, Leptospirosis, Parainfluenza, and Parvovirus by licensed veterinarians. If the veterinarian does not administer certain vaccinations, those vaccinations must be noted by the administering veterinarian, either on the vaccination form or letterhead. *The Ohio State Fair Dog Show officials will accept the veterinarian's protocol for their client/patient. For the Ohio State Fair Dog Show and Ohio State Fair Agility Trial, all vaccinations must be current through the last day of the dog competition 2024.* (Note: Vaccination deadlines for county fairs may differ.)
4. *Bordetella* vaccination is recommended, but not required. Consult with your veterinarian.
5. Dogs **CANNOT** be shown at the Ohio State Fair if vaccinations are given by anyone other than a licensed veterinarian.
6. Any dogs exhibiting abnormalities or symptoms of sickness, disease, or parasite infestation as determined by the health check officials will be eliminated from the show and must be removed from the Fairgrounds. If a dog is under veterinary care for a health condition that is not infectious or contagious, the exhibitor must bring a health certificate from the attending veterinarian verifying the condition and treatment. **Decision of the health check officials is final.**
7. ***Bitches showing ANY signs of heat are not permitted on the Fairgrounds. They are not permitted to show!*** Each dog must go through a health check **each** day shown, where all females will be checked for signs of heat. If a bitch shows **any** signs of heat, she will be eliminated from the show and must be removed from the Fairgrounds. Any bitch, which appears so attractive to males as to be a disturbing element, will be eliminated from the show and must be removed from the Fairgrounds. **Decision of the health check officials is final.**
8. Pregnant and/or lactating (nursing) bitches are not permitted on the Fairgrounds and may not be shown.
9. Any male or female dog that is a disturbing element to other dogs will be eliminated from the show and must be removed from the Fairgrounds.
10. Before going to Registration, exhibitors must bring their dog(s) and *2024 Ohio State Fair Dog Project Identification Form and Vaccination Certificate(s)* to Health Check **each day** they are showing.
11. Incomplete or falsified information on the *2024 Ohio State Fair Dog Project Identification Form and Vaccination Certificate* or *2024 County Dog Project Identification Form and Vaccination Certificate* is grounds for dismissal.
 - a. Correction tape or other forms of correction used to cover errors on the ID/Vaccination Certificates is NOT permitted.

Scores and Score Sheets for Ohio State Fair Dog Show

1. Scores will be posted within a reasonable amount of time after each class has been judged. Exhibitors who are tied for the top fifteen places in their respective classes should remain until all classes in the same category are judged, in case of further ties. Failure to stay could mean forfeiture of a possible placing.
2. No one other than show management and judges may view exhibitors' score sheets during the State Fair Dog Show.
3. Score sheets will be returned to the county Extension office about two weeks following the closing day of the State Fair. Score sheets will not be returned during the State Fair Dog Show.

State Fair Championship Title

Exhibitors showing their dogs at the Ohio State Fair Junior Fair Dog Show may apply for titling by recording State Fair achievements during their 4-H careers. The junior fair participant, their parent/guardian, and 4-H advisor must document achievements. The Ohio State Fair Championship Title is for the handler, regardless of the number of dogs shown.

Requirements

1. 4-H member may earn one Title per year regardless of the number of dogs shown;
2. 4-H member must accumulate 25 points to earn a Title;
3. Points will carry over from one year to the next;
4. Subsequent Titles will be awarded for each additional 25 points;
5. Points are recorded for the handler; and
6. All State Fair Dog Show participation rules apply.

Point System – Regular Classes

A 4-H member may use multiple dogs the same year to earn points toward an OSF Championship Title provided the dogs are shown in different events. However, in one given year at the Ohio State Fair Dog Shows (2024), youth can receive no more than the following points per event, regardless of the number of dogs exhibited or classes entered in that event:

One (1) point will be awarded for participation in any of these State Fair events:

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Agility | 9. Showmanship |
| 2. Assistance Dogs | 10. Freestyle |
| 3. 4-H PetPALS | 11. Team |
| 4. Brace | 12. Poster Contest |
| 5. Drill Team | 13. Skillathon |
| 6. Obedience | 14. AKC Trick Dog* |
| 7. You and Your Dog | 15. AKC CGC* |
| 8. Rally | |

An additional 5 points for earning a gold medal or placing 1st through 15th will be awarded per event, per year, regardless of the number of dogs entered in that event. For example: placement in ONE obedience class, regardless of the number of obedience classes exhibited = 5 points; placement in ONE rally class, regardless of the number of rally classes exhibited = 5 points; placement in ONE agility class, regardless of the number of agility classes exhibited = 5 points. Exhibitors must meet all of the criteria according to the score sheet to receive 5 points for the 4-H PetPALS class. Exhibitors must meet all of the expectations according to the score sheet to receive 5 points for the Assistance Dog class.

* For Trick Dog and CGC classes, exhibitors may earn points for participation only. An exhibitor may earn 1 point for participation in ONE Trick Dog class and 1 point for participation in ONE CGC class.

Awards: A pin and T-shirt will be presented to each exhibitor receiving his/her first Title at the Ohio State Fair during the Ohio State Fair Dog Show. Exhibitors receiving second titles, third titles, etc. will receive an award depending on sponsorship.

4-H Exhibitor Versatility Award

The purpose of the 4-H Exhibitor Versatility Award (EVA) is to: (1) encourage youth to participate in several classes (including Skillathon and Poster) at the Ohio State Fair Dog Show, and (2) award youth for achieving excellence in the classes in which they are showing or participating. To earn a 4-H Exhibitor

Versatility Award, exhibitors must place in FIVE (5) classes as follows: (1) receive a gold medal in Agility; (2) meet all of the expectations according to the score sheet in the Assistance Dog class; (3) meet all of the criteria according to the score sheet in the 4-H PetPALS dog class; (4) place in the top five in all classes receiving placings, including the Skillathon and Poster Contest. Youth violating any of the *2024 Ohio State Fair Junior Fair Dog Show Rules* or with points taken off for poor sportsmanship will not be eligible for this award. An exhibitor must show in five (5) classes and earn one placing as described above per class, with one dog in each of those classes. The 4-H Exhibitor Versatility Award is based on the number of classes, not number of dogs per class (i.e. for agility and rally). An exhibitor may earn one 4-H Exhibitor Versatility Award a year.

4-H Exhibitor Versatility Award Forms: Exhibitors must request an EVA form from the registration table. The exhibitor must keep track of their points toward earning the 4-H Exhibitor Versatility Award on this form. Once enough points have been earned to receive this award the completed form must be turned in at the registration table for verification. After verification that points earned are adequate to receive this award, the award will be presented.

Ohio State Fair Entry Information

Terminology

1. **Discipline** – refers to a show category. Each of the following is a Discipline: Showmanship, Obedience (including Team and Brace), Rally, Agility, You and Your Dog, Drill Team, Canine Freestyle, 4-H PetPALS, Assistance Dogs, Tricks, and Canine Good Citizen.
2. **Level** – refers to sub-categories within certain disciplines. For example, Novice is a level in the Obedience discipline; Rally Excellent is a level in the Rally discipline.
3. **Class** – refers to the two classes within certain disciplines and/or discipline levels. The letters “**A**” and “**B**” refer to the experience of the youth **and** dog.
 - a. “**A**” classes are for handlers or dogs with **NO** training or showing experience prior to the county’s current project year. “**A**” classes can never be repeated by the same youth, regardless of what dog is shown. “**A**” classes can never be repeated by the same dog, regardless of what youth shows that dog. Refer to “**A**” class information in the rules for each show discipline.
 - b. “**B**” classes can be repeated by the same youth regardless of what dog is shown, and by the same dog, regardless of who shows that dog, provided the youth and/or dog are not the class winners (exception: Showmanship and You & Your Dog). If/when a youth and/or dog wins first place in a “**B**” class, the youth and dog must move to the next level (exception: Showmanship, You & Your Dog, and specified advanced obedience classes). A dog must move to a higher level within a discipline, once that dog begins performing at that higher level. (Refer to each of the show discipline’s rules for rules specific to that discipline.)

Eligibility

Youth may enter any of the disciplines, levels, and classes they are eligible for as outlined in the *2024 Ohio State Fair Junior Fair Dog Show Rules*. The handler and dog must be able to perform the exercises required of the disciplines/levels/class(s) entered. *Youth may not enter classes without both youth and dogs being prepared prior to the State Fair to perform the required exercises. A zero (0) will be given to any handler/dog team not attempting an exercise, except as provided otherwise specifically in the rules.*

A zero (0) on the exhibitor's score sheet will result in an incomplete for that class, and therefore the exhibitor will not be eligible for an award, except as provided otherwise specifically in the rules.

Exhibitors may show one or more project dogs, provided the exhibitors and dogs meet the eligibility requirements of each respective class, as follows (refer to each respective show discipline rulebook for more detailed and complete information).

Show Disciplines

1. Agility

Youth may enter any number of project dogs in Agility and are permitted to enter more than one dog per Agility class. Youth showing in Agility may show the same or different project dog(s) in other disciplines/classes provided they meet those eligibility requirements.

2. Obedience

Beginner Novice A

Beginner Novice A is for the first-year member and first-year dog with no prior show experience.

Beginner Novice A youth are not permitted to show the same or different dog in any other obedience class. This is like any other "A" class and can never be repeated by youth or dog. Youth may show one project dog in Beginner Novice A.

Beginner Novice B and Pre-Novice

Youth may show two or more project dogs in Beginner Novice B and/or Pre-Novice, provided the youth and dog meet eligibility requirements. A dog cannot be shown in both Beginner Novice B and Pre-Novice in the same year. Youth may show the same dog in other non-obedience classes and/or a different dog in other disciplines/classes provided they meet those eligibility requirements. Youth may NOT show the same dog in another obedience class the same year.

Preferred Novice

Youth may show two or more project dogs at the Preferred Novice Level, provided the youth and dog meet class eligibility requirements. Youth may show the same dog in other non-obedience classes. Youth may NOT show the same dog in another obedience class the same year.

Novice

Youth may show one project dog at the Novice A level, provided the youth and dog meet class eligibility requirements. Youth may show two or more project dogs at the Novice B level, provided the youth and dog meet class eligibility requirements. Youth may show the same dog in other non-obedience classes and/or a different dog in other disciplines/classes provided they meet those eligibility requirements. Youth may NOT show the same dog in another obedience class the same year.

Advanced Obedience

Youth may show two project dogs in each of the following Obedience classes: Graduate Novice, Open, Graduate Open, and Utility provided youth and dogs meet eligibility requirements. Level "A" and "B" in Graduate Novice, Open, Graduate Open and Utility will be combined into single classes, without designation of experience. Classes provided at these levels will be listed as Graduate Novice, Open, Graduate Open and Utility. Youth may show the same dog or different dog in other non-obedience disciplines and/or a different dog in other obedience levels provided they meet those

eligibility requirements. Youth may NOT show the same dog in another obedience class the same year.

3. **Brace**

Youth must show two project dogs that are capable of performing the Novice exercises. Youth may show the same dogs or different dog in other disciplines/classes provided they meet those eligibility requirements. Youth showing in Beginner Novice or Pre-Novice classes cannot show in Brace.

4. **Teams**

Pre-Novice Team: Youth may enter two or more project dogs in Beginner Novice B and/or Pre-Novice and may enter more than one dog in Pre-Novice team provided the project dogs entered are for different teams.

Advanced Team: Youth may show a Novice level or above project dog in the Advanced Team class if having multiple dogs. Youth may participate in a second Advanced Team class provided they use a different project dog. Youth may show the same dog or different dog in other disciplines/classes provided they meet those eligibility requirements.

Team alternates must enter online for their respective Team class to be eligible to replace another team member.

5. **Rally**

Youth may show a maximum of two project dogs per Rally level. A level is Rally Novice, Rally Intermediate, Rally Advanced, or Rally Excellent. Therefore, youth may show two dogs in Rally Novice B, two dogs in Rally Intermediate B, two dogs in Rally Advanced, and two dogs in Rally Excellent. Youth may show the same dog or different dog in other disciplines/classes provided they meet those eligibility requirements.

6. **Showmanship**

Showmanship classes are based on age of youth and show experience of the youth and dog. Therefore, an exhibitor and dog can show in **ONE** Showmanship class only. Youth may show the same dog or different dog in other disciplines/classes provided they meet those eligibility requirements.

7. **You and Your Dog**

You and Your Dog classes are based on the age of youth. Therefore, an exhibitor and dog can show in **ONE** You and Your Dog class only. Youth may show the same dog or different dog in other disciplines/classes provided they meet those eligibility requirements. Refer to *You and Your Dog* rules for completion requirements of the *Dog Project and Record Book* for judging.

8. **4-H PetPALS**

Youth **MUST** be enrolled in the 4-H PetPALS Project No. 230 to be eligible to enter this class. Youth may show the same dog or different dog in other disciplines/classes provided they meet those eligibility requirements. [Note: Youth who have more than one 4-H PetPALS species [i.e. a dog and a rabbit, or dog and cat, etc.] can enter the rabbit or cat, etc. in 4-H PetPALS Day held (Date TBD) in the Youth Center.]

9. Assistance Dogs

- a. Assistance Dogs must be 6 months of age by show date. Youth taking Assistance Dog projects may show their Assistance Dogs in You and Your Dog classes. Youth must show in the appropriate age You and Your Dog level.
- b. Youth taking Assistance Dogs may show their Assistance Dogs in one Beginning Obedience level/class (Beginner Novice A, Beginner Novice B, or Pre-Novice) that meets the exhibitor's experience eligibility. Youth showing Assistance Dogs may show a different project dog(s) in other disciplines/classes provided they meet those eligibility requirements.
- c. Youth taking Assistance Dogs may enter the Canine Good Citizen class.
- d. Youth taking Assistance Dogs may also participate in the Poster Contest and Skillathon.

10. Canine Freestyle

Youth may show one project dog in a maximum of two Canine Freestyle classes, with the following exception: Youth showing in the Sassy Seniors class may NOT show this senior dog in another Freestyle class.

- *To show in a Canine Freestyle class at the Ohio State Fair, youth and their dogs must have practiced a routine and be prepared to perform the routine to the best of their abilities, as a result of training and practice.*

Youth may show the same dog or different dog in other disciplines/classes provided they meet those eligibility requirements.

11. Drill Team

Drill Team entries must consist of no more than two Drill Team entries per county. The same youth may participate on more than one Drill Team in their county provided they use a different project dog. Refer to the Drill Team rules for cross-county Drill Team eligibility. Refer to the Drill Team rules for the number/size of Drill Teams per county permitted to show. Youth may show the same dog or different dog in other disciplines/classes provided they meet those eligibility requirements.

- Drill Team entries must be made online. Drill Team alternates must enter online for their respective Drill Team class to be eligible to replace another team member.

12. AKC Trick Dog

Youth may enter AKC Trick Dog classes with the same or different project dog(s) and are permitted to enter more than one dog per Trick Dog class. Youth showing in AKC Trick Dog may show the same or different project dog(s) in other disciplines/classes provided they meet those eligibility requirements. AKC Trick Dog classes offered include Novice Trick Dog, Intermediate Trick Dog, and Advanced Trick Dog.

- *To show in an AKC Trick Dog class at the Ohio State Fair, youth and their dogs must have practiced the tricks performed and be prepared to perform to the best of their abilities, as a result of training and practice.*

13. AKC Canine Good Citizen (CGC)

Youth may enter AKC CGC classes with the same or different project dog(s) and are permitted to enter any number of project dogs in AKC CGC. Youth showing in AKC CGC may show the same or different project dog(s) in other disciplines/classes provided they meet those eligibility requirements. - *To show in an AKC CGC class at the Ohio State Fair, youth and their dogs must have practiced the test exercises and be prepared to perform to the best of their abilities, as a result of training and practice.*

Agility Rules for Ohio 4-H/Ohio State Fair Participation

Note: These Rules are in effect for the 2024 Ohio State Fair. It is strongly recommended that these Rules be followed at the county level.

Introduction

4-H Agility is a team sport that youth and their dogs participate in together. Patterned after the equestrian sport of show jumping, youth and their dogs learn to work together as a team to negotiate the course for standard classes or strategize a plan for optimum performance in games. Agility trials afford owners the opportunity to demonstrate a dog's physical ability and soundness, and willingness to work with its handler in a variety of conditions. This event requires conditioning, concentration, training and teamwork. Agility is a great form of exercise for both handlers and dogs, and a fun way to bond. 4-H Agility gives opportunities for handler and dog teams to develop confidence, problem solving skills, patience, and responsibility.

Ohio 4-H Agility Purpose and Vision

- Create an environment for positive youth development through the relationship between dog and handler teams as they interact and enjoy the sport of dog agility;
- Encourage development of life skills such as relationship building, cooperation, responsibility, problem solving, critical thinking and decision making;
- Cultivate an atmosphere of collaboration between interested youth, their dogs, and caring, safe and experienced adults;
- Provide opportunities for youth to exhibit skills in a positive environment at the club, county, and state levels; and
- Provide support for volunteers and youth to continue to "Make the Best Better."

Handler's Appearance

Exhibitors should be neat, clean, and well-groomed in appearance. They should wear clothing that is comfortable to handle in and appropriate for dog shows. Clothing should not distract, limit or hinder the judge's view of the dog. Youth with long hair should tie it back to keep it from interfering with handling or the judge's view.

- **Acceptable clothing** for agility includes club shirts (including t-shirts), jeans, and shorts. Slacks, dressy shorts, skorts, capri or crop pants, colored jeans, collared blouses and shirts, polo shirts, or similar attire are also acceptable. Acceptable footwear includes closed-toe shoes, rubber-soled shoes, flats, and similar type footwear.
- **Inappropriate clothing** includes clothing that is too tight or too revealing, such as short skirts, short shorts, tank tops, halter tops, spaghetti straps, low cut blouses or shirts, shorts hanging too low on the waist, clothing with holes or tears in the fabric, torn jeans of any kind, or other similar types of clothing. Do not wear clothing with lettering and distracting or offensive wording or designs. Do not wear hats. Do not wear sandals, open-toed shoes, high-heeled shoes, clogs, or similar type footwear. *Exhibitors dressed inappropriately will have points deducted or may be excused from the show ring.*

Dog's Appearance

Dogs must be clean, well-brushed and in good physical condition appropriate for the dog's age. The coat must be free from mats and loose hair.

Dogs are not permitted to be dyed or colored in any way. If coat or nails show any evidence of dye or coloring, the score sheet will reflect a major point deduction.

Hair in Dog's Eyes - Any dog whose hair surrounding the eyes, ears, or beard interferes with its performance may have its hair tied back with elastic bands or small plain barrettes. Ribbons or bows are not permitted.

Collars

- **Acceptable collars while in the agility show ring:** Well-fitting plain buckle or quick release collars must be worn by all dogs. Flat securely attached tags are permitted on these collars. Nothing may be hanging from the dog's collar.
- **Acceptable collars while outside the show ring:** Head halters, fancy collars, harnesses, martingales, and studded collars are permitted on dogs.
- **Unacceptable collars anywhere on the Fairgrounds:** Pinch collars, collars with prongs or spikes on inside or outside, electronic collars, or any other special training collars, or muzzles. Youth are subject to disqualification from showing and removal from the Fairgrounds if their dogs are seen wearing these collars or devices.

Leads

Leads, for use in the On-Lead agility classes, may be of fabric or leather and *must* be 6 feet in length. Slip leads are not permitted for use in On-Lead classes. Slip leads can be used to bring dogs into the ring in Levels 1-3 provided they are removed before the run begins. Chain leads are not acceptable.

All dogs must be kept on lead except when in the agility ring, and warm up or exercise area, and must be brought into and taken out of the ring on lead. Exhibitors in Levels 1-3 will *take off and drop* the lead at the start line and *pick up and put on* the lead at the finish line *before* leaving the ring. Dogs must be kept on lead in the ring when brought in to receive awards.

Interference and Double Handling

Assistance, interference, or attempts to control a dog from outside the ring is not permitted. A judge who is aware of such double handling or interference must substantially penalize the dog.

Fouling the Ring

Any dog fouling the ring will be disqualified and immediately excused from the ring. Fouling includes urine, feces or vomit.

General Agility Rules

1. Youth must meet all General Rules and Requirements as outlined in the *2024 Ohio 4-H and Ohio State Fair Junior Fair Dog Show Rules* listed at the beginning of this document.
2. Dogs must be a minimum of 18 months old to compete in 4-H dog agility.
3. 4-H members and their families should consult with their veterinarian before beginning agility training. Dogs with health or other physical limitations should not be trained or shown in agility without consulting a veterinarian. County and/or State show officials and/or judges have the authority to stop the performance of any dog whose soundness they question.
4. To participate in classes, shows, and demonstrations, exhibitors must have been trained on all pieces of agility equipment for their particular class level. Exhibitors must agree they will not attempt any piece of equipment on which they have not been trained.

5. Agility competitions must be performed on a level, shock absorbent surface that provides good footing for handler and dog teams.
6. For competitions, there will be a judge's briefing followed by a walk-through. At the completion of the walk-through, the first dog and handler team will then have 5 minutes to be on the start line. Walk-throughs may be split by height at the judge's discretion.
7. Exhibitors are not permitted to enter a class for exhibition only. All entries will be judged.
8. Exhibitors are not permitted to change classes or levels within classes after day-of-show registration.
9. A supervised warm-up area consisting of only a single jump will be provided in a specified area outside of the rings. No obstacle or jump shall be permitted elsewhere on the show grounds for training, warm-up, or other preparatory purposes. Exhibitors should not exhaust their dogs on the warm-up jump and may be asked to refrain from further use if they are observed overusing the warm-up jump.
10. Exhibitors in the On-Lead class must hold their lead at ALL times except when the dog is going through a tunnel. After each tunnel, the lead MUST be picked up before going on to the next obstacle.
11. Judges and/or show committee members have the right to inspect equipment prior to the beginning of the show and may modify the requirements to the extent necessary to eliminate any piece of unsafe equipment.
12. Training aids, toys, and/or treats are not permitted on the competition course at any time, including judge's briefing, walk-throughs and competition runs.
13. Handlers may not jump over the jumps with their dogs and are not permitted on the contact obstacles.
14. Handlers may not touch their dogs or any obstacle while running a competition course.
15. Poor sportsmanship will not be tolerated. At the judge's and/or show committee's discretion, the exhibitor may be excused and will receive no awards or points toward championship or versatility titles.
16. The judge will penalize any handler receiving outside assistance.
17. Each competition ring will have a line designating the entrance and the exit. There will not be a gate or barrier to keep the dog in the ring. A dog that runs over the line before, during or after the run without a leash or handler's control of the leashed dog, will be considered out of the ring. The team will be disqualified for the run and not be permitted to continue.
18. Any dog unable to complete the course for any reason (including leaving the ring, being out of control, not finishing in the maximum course time allowed, etc.) will be excused and will receive no awards or points toward championship or versatility titles.
19. Anyone not following the judge's direction will be excused and receive no awards or points toward championship or versatility titles.
20. Handlers may use voice commands, signals, or both. Handlers are encouraged to talk to their dogs and encourage them as the team navigates the course.
21. All agility jumps must be of the type that have a displaceable bar or plank.
22. All courses must have clearly identified start and finish times.
23. Once the judges indicate the team should start, the exhibitor will have 30 seconds to the start of the first obstacle. The team will be whistled off course if not started within the 30 seconds.
24. All obstacles for standard courses must be sequentially numbered.

Jump Heights and Measuring Dogs (Dogs will be measured as a part of registration.)

| Dog's Height | Jump Height |
|-----------------|-------------|
| 10" or less | 4" |
| Over 10" to 12" | 8" |
| Over 12" to 18" | 12" |
| Over 18" to 22" | 16" |
| Over 22" | 20" |

**Dogs are permitted to jump + or – one jump height of the listed heights above, with 4" being the minimum allowable jump height and 20" being the maximum allowable jump height. For example, a dog that measures to jump 16" may jump 12", 16" or 20". However, a dog that measures to jump 4" may not jump at a height lower than 4" and a dog that measures to jump 20" may not jump at a height higher than 20". The desired jump height MUST be declared on the Ohio State Fair Agility Entry Form and CANNOT be requested the day of the show.

2024 Ohio State Fair Agility Classes and Descriptions

Standard, Jumpers, and a game will be offered each year, consisting of the following divisions: On-Lead, Level 1, Level 2, and Level 3. Exhibitors competing in agility venues outside of 4-H should enter corresponding levels. Dogs with an off-lead leg toward an agility title must compete in Level 1 or higher.

Exhibitors can select a combination of on lead/off lead classes when entering by the agility trial deadline. Youth can show the same dog in one class on lead and in another class off lead at the appropriate level for that class. They may show the same dog also in a third class at the appropriate level for that class. Exhibitors are not expected to show the same dog at the same level in each of the classes, UNLESS stated elsewhere in the rules for those specific classes.

Standard Class Descriptions and Requirements

On-Lead Level

- On lead (handler must hold lead at all times except when dog is in the tunnel)
- Dogs must be a willing participant. Handlers must not use the lead to make the dog perform the obstacle. A major point deduction will be taken per occurrence for using the lead to make the dog perform. (See pages 25 and 26 for Scoring/Faults/DQ)
- The handler should avoid stepping on the lead to regain control of the lead.
- Dogs must enter and exit ring on lead.
- Courses should be a simple "S", "M" or "U" design
- No more than 10 obstacles are to be used and may include:
 - A-Frame (apex at 4'6")
 - Pause Table
 - Open Tunnel(s)
 - Jumps
- Standard course time is 60 seconds. *Maximum course time is 75 seconds. Dogs going over 75 seconds will be excused.*
- A dog with an off-lead leg toward any agility title in any venue is ineligible for this class.
- A handler and dog team may advance to Level 1 after earning one gold medal. The team is not required to advance if the dog cannot safely be off lead.

Level 1

- Off lead
- Dogs must enter and exit ring on lead.
- Courses should be a simple "S", "M" or "U" design.
- A total of 10 obstacles are used and may include:
 - A-Frame (apex at 4'6")
 - Pause Table
 - Open Tunnel(s)
 - Tire Jump
 - Jumps
- Standard course time is 60 seconds. *Maximum course time is 75 seconds. Dogs going over 75 seconds will be excused.*
- A handler and dog team may advance to Level 2 after earning one gold medal and **MUST** advance to Level 2 after earning three gold medals.

Level 2

- Off lead
- Dogs must enter and exit ring on lead.
- This course is slightly more challenging than a Figure 8.
- A total of 12-14 obstacles are used and may include:
 - A-Frame (apex at 4'6")
 - Pause Table
 - Open Tunnel(s)
 - Dog Walk
 - Tire Jump
 - 6 Weave Poles
 - Jumps
- Standard course time is 60 seconds. *Maximum course time is 75 seconds. Dogs going over 75 seconds will be excused.*
- A handler and dog team may advance to Level 3 after earning one gold medal and **MUST** advance to Level 3 after earning three gold medals.

Level 3

- Off lead
- Dogs must enter and exit ring on lead.
- This course is slightly more challenging than a Figure 8.
- A total of 13-15 obstacles are used and may include:
 - A-Frame (apex at 4'6")
 - Pause Table
 - Open Tunnel(s)
 - Dog Walk
 - Jumps and Tire Jump
 - 6 Weave Poles
 - Teeter
- Standard course time is 60 seconds. *Maximum course time is 75 seconds. Dogs going over 75 seconds will be excused.*
- Handler and dog teams may remain in this class.

Jumpers Class Descriptions and Requirements

On-Lead Level

- On lead (handler must hold lead at all times except when dog is in the tunnel)
- Dogs must be a willing participant. Handlers must not use the lead to make the dog perform the obstacle. A major point deduction will be taken per occurrence for using the lead to make the dog perform. (See pages 25 and 26 for Scoring/Faults/DQ)
- Dogs must enter and exit ring on lead.
- Courses should be a simple “S”, “M” or “U” design.
- Course will consist of 10 obstacles and may include:
 - Open Tunnel(s)
 - Jumps
- Standard course time is 60 seconds. *Maximum course time is 75 seconds. Dogs going over 75 seconds will be excused.*
- A dog with an off-lead leg toward any agility title in any venue is ineligible for this class.
- A handler and dog team may advance to Level 1 after earning one gold medal. The team is not required to advance if the dog cannot safely be off lead.

Level 1

- Off lead
- Dogs must enter and exit ring on lead.
- Courses should be a simple “S”, “M” or “U” design.
- A total of 10 obstacles are used and may include:
 - Open Tunnel(s)
 - Tire Jump
 - Jumps
- Standard course time is 60 seconds. *Maximum course time is 75 seconds. Dogs going over 75 seconds will be excused.*
- A handler and dog team may advance to Level 2 after earning one gold medal and MUST advance to Level 2 after earning three gold medals.

Level 2

- Off lead
- Dogs must enter and exit ring on lead.
- This course is slightly more challenging than a Figure 8.
- A total of 12-14 obstacles are used and may include:
 - Open Tunnel(s)
 - Tire Jump
 - Jumps
- Standard course time is 60 seconds. *Maximum course time is 75 seconds. Dogs going over 75 seconds will be excused.*
- A handler and dog team may advance to Level 3 after earning one gold medal and MUST advance to Level 3 after earning three gold medals.

Level 3

- Off lead
- Dogs must enter and exit ring on lead.
- This course is slightly more challenging than a Figure 8.
- A total of 13-15 obstacles are used and may include:
 - Open Tunnel(s)
 - Tire Jump
 - Jumps
- Standard course time is 60 seconds. *Maximum course time is 75 seconds. Dogs going over 75 seconds will be excused.*
- Handler and dog teams may remain in this class.

Mad-Shape-Dash™

Game Description and Requirements

This game was created in 2012 to provide a strategy-based game for the Ohio State Fair.

Objective: Complete the required number of triangle, circle, and line obstacles and then run to the finish line to stop the clock.

Levels: Refer to the requirements listed in the Standard section of the rules. Dogs may compete at a lower level for games. The only dogs permitted in the On-Lead class are those who compete in On-Lead in Standard.

Scoring: Mad-Shape-Dash will use the same scoring process as used in Standard. A team must complete the required amount of obstacles to get a medal. There is no partial credit.

Course Design: The course is set up with obstacles scattered across the ring. Start and finish lines are clearly marked.

On-Lead Level

- On lead (handler must hold lead at all times except when dog is in the tunnel)
- Dogs on lead must be a willing participant. Handlers must not use the lead to make the dog perform the obstacle. A major point deduction will be taken per occurrence for using the lead to make the dog perform. (See pages 25 and 26 for Scoring/Faults/DQ)
- No more than 10 obstacles are used and may include:
 - A-Frame (apex at 4'6")
 - Open Tunnel(s)
 - Jumps
- Maximum course time is 60 seconds

Level 1

- No more than 10 obstacles are used and may include:
 - A-Frame (apex at 4'6")
 - Open Tunnel(s)
 - Jumps
- Maximum course time is 60 seconds

Level 2 and Level 3

- A total of 12-14 obstacles are used and may include:
 - A-Frame (apex at 4'6")
 - Open Tunnel(s)
 - Dog Walk
 - Tire Jump
 - Jumps
 - Teeter
- Maximum course time is 60 seconds

How to Play: Teams must complete the required number of obstacles for their skill level. Time starts when the team crosses the start line and ends when the team crosses the finish line.

Obstacles:

- Triangle Obstacles: A-Frame, Dog Walk, Teeter
- Circle Obstacles: Tunnels, Tire Jump
- Line Obstacles: Bar Jumps

Number of Obstacles per Level

| | On-Lead | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 |
|----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Triangle | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Circle | 2 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Line | 3 | 3 | 5 | 6 |

Additional Notes:

1. Teams must cross the finish line before the standard course time.
2. Point accumulation ends when the standard course time ends, regardless of where the team is on the course.
3. If a team knocks a bar, the jump will not count towards required obstacles.
4. Teams only get credit for obstacles performed correctly.
5. Obstacles may be taken more than once.
6. Obstacles may not be taken back-to-back (the same obstacle cannot be taken twice in a row).
7. The handler needs to design a safe flowing path for the dog that includes all the required obstacles. Handlers will not be penalized for including extra obstacles over and above what is required.

Awards

Gold, silver, and bronze medals will be awarded to exhibitors meeting the requirements and qualifications described below. All youth will receive participation ribbons for each class in which they exhibit.

Scoring

Gold Medal – 5-point deduction or fewer (score of 95 or more)

Silver Medal – 6-15 points deducted (score of 85-94)

Bronze Medal – more than 15 points deducted with a medal eligible run (score of 84 and below)

Scores will not be posted. No one other than show management and judges may view exhibitors' score/scribe sheets. Score/scribe sheets will not be returned.

Minor Faults – 5-point deductions

1. Wrong Course – taking an obstacle in the wrong order or going the wrong direction over an obstacle (including back-weaving three or more weave poles). All 4 paws of the dog must be committed to an obstacle to be charged with this.
2. On and Off the Table – charged for the first occurrence only
3. Knocking a Bar off a Jump – applies whether dog, handler or lead drops the bar
4. Touching the Dog – incidental touches are acceptable
5. Jumping Off the Teeter – before it fully tips and touches the ground
6. Handler Tugging or Jerking on the Leash – 5 points per occurrence (will not medal if severe or constant)
7. Outside Help or Interference – such as telling handler which obstacle is next; commands and cues to dog, etc. – 5 points per occurrence (will not medal if severe or constant)
8. Handler Touching any Obstacle
9. Handler Jumps Over the Jump with Dog – 5 points for each occurrence
10. Failure to Pick up Leash – after tunnel and before the next obstacle or at any time during the course other than before a tunnel

Major Faults – 20-point deductions

1. Missed Contact Zone – dog fails to touch contact zone on the descent of any contact obstacle
2. Omitting any Obstacle – includes being told by the judge to omit the obstacle. It also includes handler omitting an obstacle by choice or error, or crossing the finish line before the last obstacle is completed correctly.
3. Physically Touching the Dog to Change its Path
4. Failure to Complete the Table – dog gets off the table without getting back on to complete the obstacle before the judge says, "Go."
5. Uncorrected Improper Entry to Weave Poles
6. Failing to Correct a Skipped Weave Pole
7. Failure to Correct on Pause Table – dog who jumps off before the beginning of the word, "Go."
8. Going over the Standard Course Time for Standard and Jumpers classes

Disqualifications Resulting in No Medal

1. Poor Sportsmanship
2. Fouling the ring (judge and/or show committee has discretion if conditions of ring, weather, etc., warrants extenuating circumstances)
3. Excessive use of lead to make the dog perform
4. Exceeding maximum course time
5. Improper equipment – It is the handler's responsibility to make sure equipment is correct. Refer to Collars and Leads, page 16.
6. A dog that stops working or leaves the ring prior to correct completion of the course
7. An extreme amount of outside help
8. An excessive amount of touching obstacles or the dog
9. Abuse of dogs anywhere on the show grounds
10. A dog that snaps, bites, or attempts to bite a human or other dog
11. Any handler not obeying the judge may be disqualified

Obstacle Performance Requirements

A-Frame – The dog must ascend the up ramp in the direction designated by the judge, cross over the apex and descend the down ramp, touching the safety contact zone before leaving the obstacle.

Dog Walk – The dog must ascend the up ramp in the direction designated by the judge, traverse the cross plank, and descend the other ramp, touching the safety contact zone before leaving the obstacle.

Jumps – The dog must jump over the hurdle in the direction designated by the judge, crossing between the hurdle's two supports and over the pole or planks, without knocking off the bars or planks.

Pause Table – The dog must jump onto the table and remain on the table for a period of 5 consecutive seconds. The judge will count the seconds out loud (count goes 5 & 4 & 3 & 2 & GO), when the dog is fully on the table. If the dog leaves the table before the judge completes the word, "GO," the handler will direct the dog back onto the table. An interrupted count is re-started from the point it was interrupted. The Pause Table will be set at 8" for dogs jumping 4", 8", or 12". The Pause Table will be set at 16" for dogs jumping 16" and 20".

Pipe Tunnel – The dog must enter the opening of the tunnel in the direction designated by the judge and exit the other end of the tunnel.

Teeter – The dog must ascend the teeter in the direction designated by the judge, cross the plank's pivot point causing the teeter to tilt to the ground on the other end, and descend the remainder of the plank, touching the safety contact zone before leaving the plank. The plank shall touch the ground prior to the dog leaving the plank. The dog must be in control of the plank.

Tire Jump – The dog must jump through the tire in the direction designated by the judge. A dog may touch the tire with its feet.

Weave Poles – The dog must weave in and out in a continuous motion down the complete line of poles. The dog begins by passing on the right side of the first pole, crossing the line of poles between poles numbered 1 and 2, then pass the left side of pole number 2, then crossing the line of poles between 2 and 3, and continuing in a sequence down the complete line of poles. A handler/dog team must correct for any missed poles and fully complete the weaving pattern.

Contact Information

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