



# South Dakota 4-H

## Dog Project Guide

## Table of Contents

<b>Section 1 – Dog Agility</b> . . . . .	<b>1-3</b>	<b>Section 5 – Project Leader/Member</b> . . . . .	<b>5-86</b>
What is agility? . . . . .	1-4	Forward . . . . .	5-87
Purpose of Agility . . . . .	1-4	Objectives . . . . .	5-87
Rules . . . . .	1-4	Risk & Responsibility . . . . .	5-87
Class Description/Requirements . . . . .	1-6	Aggressive Dog Policy . . . . .	5-87
On-leash Class . . . . .	1-6	Dogs in Season . . . . .	5-87
Off-leash Class . . . . .	1-6	Mistreatment of Dogs . . . . .	5-88
Advanced . . . . .	1-7	Ineligible Dogs . . . . .	5-88
Excellent . . . . .	1-7	Competing . . . . .	5-88
Obstacle Performance Requirements . . . . .	1-8	4-H Participation . . . . .	5-88
Scoring . . . . .	1-9	Vaccinations . . . . .	5-89
Obstacle & Jump Specifications . . . . .	1-11	Special Needs Exhibitors . . . . .	5-89
<b>Section 2 – Dog Obedience</b> . . . . .	<b>2-14</b>	4-H Classes . . . . .	5-89
Competition Purpose . . . . .	2-15	Use of the 4-H Emblem . . . . .	5-89
Chapter 1: General Guidelines . . . . .	2-15	Dog Show Planning Guide . . . . .	5-91
Chapter 2: Guidelines for Performance & Judging . . . . .	2-16	Dog Show Planning Checklist . . . . .	5-92
Chapter 3: Basic A & B . . . . .	2-20	Show Committee . . . . .	5-93
Chapter 4: Pre-Novice . . . . .	2-24	Publicity/Catalog Committee . . . . .	5-93
Chapter 5: Novice . . . . .	2-27	Awards Committee . . . . .	5-93
Chapter 6: Graduate Novice . . . . .	2-30	Food/Refreshments Committee . . . . .	5-93
Chapter 7: Open . . . . .	2-34	Ring/Equipment Committee/Needs Equipment . . . . .	5-93
Chapter 8: Graduate Open . . . . .	2-38	Set-Up Committee . . . . .	5-94
Chapter 9: Utility . . . . .	2-42	Stewards . . . . .	5-94
Chapter 10: Brace . . . . .	2-47	Judges . . . . .	5-96
Chapter 11: Team . . . . .	2-47	4-H Dog Show Safety and Etiquette . . . . .	5-97
Glossary of Terms . . . . .	2-49	Basic Safety at a Dog Show . . . . .	5-97
Jump Construction . . . . .	2-50	Courtesy Near the Ring . . . . .	5-98
<b>Section 3 – Dog Rally</b> . . . . .	<b>3-52</b>	Courtesy in Crating Areas . . . . .	5-98
Introduction . . . . .	3-53	Courtesy Outside the Building (and Motels) . . . . .	5-98
General Rules . . . . .	3-53	Courtesy at the Agility Area . . . . .	5-98
Classes & Advancements . . . . .	3-55	Courtesy at Show Time . . . . .	5-98
Guidelines for Judges . . . . .	3-56	Why Should I Bring a Kennel to the Show? . . . . .	5-99
Guidelines for Stewards . . . . .	3-57	More Dog Show Tips . . . . .	5-99
Rally Signs & Descriptions . . . . .	3-59	<b>Acknowledgement:</b>	
<b>Section 4 – Dog Showmanship</b> . . . . .	<b>4-68</b>	South Dakota 4-H Dog Committee	
Purpose of Showmanship . . . . .	4-69	Deborah Munger, Elizabeth Droke, Mary Bohn,	
Showmanship Competition . . . . .	4-69	Susan Busk, Karen Harr and Michelle Hanten	
Competition Rules . . . . .	4-69	<b>Photo credits:</b>	
Gaiting Patterns . . . . .	4-74	A-Frame: Jessica Kuldane; Dog Walk: Kristine Loland;	
4-H'ers Handling Skills . . . . .	4-77	See Saw: Rising Sun High Voltage, Stephanie Malone, owner;	
Judging the Competition . . . . .	4-78	Pause Table: Mojave Schnauzers, Las Vegas, NM;	
Proper Breed Presentation . . . . .	4-78	Pipe Tunnel: Bel-rose Bridgette of Sandwynn, CD RE OAJ AX,	
Showmanship Knowledge Questions . . . . .	4-79	Sandwynn Corgis & Ellis Dog Training; Weave Poles: Sweetbay	
Knowledge Question Resources . . . . .	4-82	Newfoundlands; Bar Jumps: Winwood's Blazing Star, Winwood	
		Farm; Panel Jump: © M. Plonsky (photo used with permission);	
		Tire Jump: Smokey Valley's Neko; Broad Jump: GCh Ashbrook	
		Put Me In, Coach RE AX AXJ NF, Tracey Deyette; Kountry Lover	
		Sydney, Kountry Silky Terriers; Jackey Photography, Beardstown,	
		KY; TBR English Springer Spaniels; Anna Kigilyuk, alfa-german-	
		shepherds.com; of Jimmie Robinson, danehaven.com;	
		Nestle Purina Body Condition System (used with permission).	

# **Section 1**

## Dog Agility



# Dog Agility

## What is agility?

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

## Purpose of agility

- Enhance the working relationship between the dog and handler.
- Build confidence in both dog and handler.
- Provide positive motivational training methods and interactions with the dog.
- Improve conditioning of dog and handler.
- Promote good sportsmanship and citizenship.
- Promote a better-rounded handler/dog team.
- Add new members and maintain established members in the dog project.

## Rules

Dogs can get seriously hurt performing agility, thus all attempts should be made to provide a safe environment for dog and handler. Because the safety of both dogs and 4-H'ers is of paramount importance, the following rules will be enforced.

1. Dogs participating in the agility program must have had one year of obedience training or participated in one year of county level 4-H dog obedience prior to participation.
2. Dogs must be a minimum of 12 months old to begin agility training. It is recommended that larger breeds be at least 18 months old. This is because the growth plates in the bones are still developing until the average age of fourteen months and even later for larger breeds.
3. No dogs with a physical or mental condition that would significantly impair their performance may participate. Examples include but are not limited to hip dysplasia, disc problems, severely slipped stifles, shoulder problems, or being overweight. A dog of advancing age that is sound may be able to compete.
- Members are strongly encouraged to consult his/her veterinarian before beginning agility training. The dog's weight/body condition is a consideration for judging soundness. Overweight or obese dogs are at increased risk of injury.
- At county events the county trainer or judge has the authority to stop the performance of any dog whose soundness s/he questions. If soundness is questioned, a veterinarian's written approval will be necessary
4. Female dogs in season are not permitted to compete at any level (county, regional, or state). If a dog comes into season during county achievement days, arrangements can be made to show at another county when the female dog is not in season.
5. Intact male dogs will be run at the end of their respective class (last) at the state show.
6. Dogs that show signs of aggression towards humans or other dogs will not be permitted to participate.
7. In order to advance to the next higher-class level, a score of 10 faults/points or less must be earned in a competitive setting (county, regional, or state 4-H show, or a USDAA, AKC or NADAC trial). A dog/handler team receiving 10 faults/points or less at a state competition must advance to the next level the following year. A scored run during a demonstration or class will not count. If the dog/handler team is able to advance, they must be able to perform all required obstacles in the next level before competing in a county, regional or state 4-H show.
8. The use of a completely fenced area is encouraged (but not required). The minimum ring size is at least a double obedience ring. A 100' x 100' or 80' x 120' (or larger) arena is strongly recommended. This allows for adequate spacing of obstacles, providing a safer course for the dog and handler



to run. At the higher levels, this helps to ensure an adequate distance between the entrance of adjacent obstacles preventing unnecessary obstacle choices for the dog. It also allows for the setting of safe obstacle approaches, especially for the contact obstacles (straight on versus an angled approach). A smaller ring size necessitates tight turns and close placement of obstacles which increases the risk of injury and potentially creates inappropriate advanced handling/discrimination moves that even the Excellent level dogs and handlers may not be prepared for.

If the ring size at a county or state show is smaller than recommended the judge will have the authority to reduce the required number of obstacles and/or change the course pattern to provide a safer or more appropriate course for the dogs and handlers. Upon agreeing to judge a county achievement day, the judge should request an equipment list in order to design courses. If a county does not have the required equipment for a given level, it cannot be offered at that county achievement days. Affected youth may make provisions to show at another county achievement days, IF the dog has been trained to perform that obstacle (for example: teeter or dog walk).

9. Training or trialing for agility on straight concrete or other smooth flooring is considered unsafe for both dogs and handlers. Mats or some other form of textured floor covering that will not slip are strongly recommended to be used to provide traction for both the dog and handler. This also provides cushioning for the dog when jumping, thus helping to protect the dog's joints. If held inside, county or state shows must have some form of textured flooring to provide traction and cushioning such as mats, carpeting, or artificial turf.
10. All courses must have a clearly designated start and finish. All obstacles must be sequentially numbered using cones or some other movable system. Obstacles on the course should be spaced approximately 18 feet apart. In no case shall obstacles be spaced any closer than 12 feet apart. Start and finish line areas should be kept clear for the dogs competing. Placement of check-in/scoring tables and an area for dogs waiting to run, etc. should be considered when setting up the agility area.
11. A three-minute group walk through without dogs will be allowed prior to the class at all county and state shows. At the state show, a practice jump and weave poles may be available if space safely allows. These are for use just prior to the class they are competing in, not by other teams for practice and/or training.
12. Judges will inspect all equipment prior to the beginning of the show and may modify the requirements to the extent necessary to eliminate any piece of unsafe equipment, or if an outdoor trial, weather conditions make performance of an obstacle unsafe.
13. All agility jumps must be of the type that have a displaceable bar or plank. Jumps made from PVC pipe are recommended for safety reasons, in case a dog inadvertently jumps into the standard. (The dog will usually knock the entire PVC jump over, versus wood standards which may not give, resulting in injury.) PVC jumps are also less expensive to make than wood.
14. The collar must be a plain, flat well-fitting buckle or quick/clip release collar with no tags or other attachments. Training collars, choke, pinch or electronic collars, head halters, and fancy collars are not permitted. In On-Leash and Off-Leash classes a collar is required; it is optional for Advanced and Excellent classes.
15. Handlers may not jump over the obstacles with their dogs.
16. Handlers may not touch their dogs or an obstacle while running the course.
17. Poor sportsmanship will not be tolerated. Any handler swearing, yelling at their dog, using excessive corrections, or loud complaints about exhibitors or the judge, etc., will be disqualified.
18. During the On-Leash class, the leash must be held at all times except when the dog is going through a tunnel or chute. After each tunnel, the leash must be picked up before the next obstacle is executed. A six-foot leash is recommended. The handler is encouraged to regain control of his/her dog before continuing to the next obstacle after retrieving the leash.

19. The judge will penalize any handler receiving outside assistance. In severe cases, the handler will receive a white ribbon. The show committee is responsible for investigating any incidents of outside assistance reported to them. See standard faults in the scoring section for more information.
20. A dog unable to complete the course for any reason, including leaving the ring, ceasing to work for a significant period of time as defined by the judge, being out of control, etc., will receive a white ribbon.
21. Any dog refusing an obstacle for the third time will be asked by the judge to go on to the next obstacle, anyone not obeying the judge's order will be disqualified.
22. Handlers may use voice commands, signals, or both. Handlers are encouraged to talk or cheer their dogs through the course. No treats or toys will be allowed on the course. A handler is allowed to have treats and/or a toy just outside the starting area while waiting for his/her turn to run. There is no penalty for multiple commands or verbal encouragement, but all must be in the spirit of good sportsmanship.
23. Any dog fouling the ring during a competitive run will a white ribbon. Do not attempt to move the dog if they have started to urinate or defecate (so it stays in one place!). Vinegar, or some other odor-neutralizing substitute, must be available to clean fouled equipment. Fouled equipment may be removed from the course at the judge's discretion, and all dogs running the course previously may, at the judge's discretion, be required to re-run the course. If time allows, the eliminated handler and dog may be allowed to run at the end of his/her class for experience, however no scoring or ribbon will be awarded for this type of run.
24. Jump heights are based on the dog's height at the top of the shoulders. A dog should be measured by a project leader when beginning agility, so that the dog and handler practice jumping at the correct jump height. A dog found to have jumped at a lower than required height may be asked by the judge to rerun the course at the correct height.

Dog's Height	Height of Jump
Under 10 in.	4 in.
10-14 in.	8 in.
14-20 in.	12 in.
Over 20 in.	16 in.

## Class Description/Requirements

All dogs must enter and exit the ring on leash.

To facilitate judging and decrease waiting times for competitors, the A-frame height will be 4 feet 6 inches for both the On- and Off-Leash classes. It is also recommended the judge use the same course for both the On- and Off-Leash classes. This will allow more flexibility in the run order and ease some of the pressures on both competitors and show organizers (e.g., managing the long sits and downs). Because the On- and Off-Leash groups are typically the biggest classes, using the same course will allow the judge to alternate between On and Off leash groups, providing added flexibility for competitors. Because the main objective of the Off-Leash class is to focus and control the dog without a leash, running the same course as the On-Leash class will still present a significant challenge for the Off-Leash competitor.

## On-Leash Class

The purpose of this class is to test the ability of a dog and handler to perform obstacles safely and correctly, testing the handler's ability to train a dog for beginning agility. The handler must demonstrate his/her control of the dog on leash around the agility obstacles. The main evaluation for this class is control and safe obstacle performance within the allotted time. Handlers should focus on safe obstacle performance and not on how quickly s/he can get around the course.

- The course shape is a simple S, M or U.
- Nine obstacles are approved for this class (no closed tunnel or chute due to safety concerns)
- These nine obstacles include:
  - o A-frame (apex at 4 feet, 6 inches)
  - o Pause table
  - o Pipe tunnel
  - o Six jumps
- The standard course time is 60 seconds.

## Off-Leash Class

The purpose of this class is to test the partnership between dog and handler and evaluate focus and control off leash. The dog will have learned obstacle

performance in the On-Leash class and now must demonstrate safe obstacle performance off leash. This presents a whole 'new' picture to the dog and handler making it acceptable to run the same course as the On-Leash class.

- After positioning the dog at the start line, the handler will remove the leash.
- The course shape is a simple S, M or U.
- Nine obstacles are approved for this class: (no closed tunnel or chute due to safety concerns)
  - o A-frame (apex at 4 feet, 6 inches)
  - o Pause table
  - o Pipe tunnel
  - o Six jumps
- The standard course time is 60 seconds.
- All dogs must be shown off leash with a collar.
- A dog with a leg toward a USDAA or NADAC, UKC or and AKC-novice agility title is ineligible, as is a handler having earned a USDAA Junior Handler Program (UJHP) Elementary certificate.
- Members may show at this level until achieving a round of 10 fault/points or less at a state level competition then must advance to the next level the following year.

Even if the handler and dog are able to advance, before competing in a county, regional or state show, the handler and dog must be able to safely and correctly perform all obstacles required for the next higher level. If a handler and dog enter a show and clearly do not know how to perform an obstacle or the handler states the dog has not performed the obstacle, they will be excused from the ring and not allowed to run to avoid possible injury to the dog.

Project leaders should not enter dogs at the next higher level, if the handler or dog is not ready, because doing so could hurt the team's confidence, or risk injury to the dog by performing agility above its experience level.

## Advanced

The purpose of this class is to further test the focus and control of the dog in the off-leash setting. It is expected that the handler will demonstrate more confidence and control with his/her dog than in the lower levels. New obstacles allow the assessment of the handler's continued ability to teach his/her dog agility obstacles.

The course shape is slightly more challenging than a simple figure 8. A pipe tunnel may be placed underneath the A-frame to facilitate the formation of a figure 8.

- After positioning the dog at the start line, the handler will remove the leash.
- Twelve to 14 obstacles are approved for this class: (no closed tunnel or chute due to safety concerns)
  - o A-frame (apex 5 feet) Pause table
  - o Pipe tunnel
  - o Dog walk (middle section elevation of 3 feet for 8-foot lengths or 4 feet for 12-foot lengths)
  - o Tire jump Long jump
  - o Four to six jumps
- The standard course time is 75 seconds.
- All dogs must be shown off leash with a collar.
- Dogs with a qualifying score toward a UKC title, a NADAC or USDAA regular title, or a qualifying towards an AKC-open agility title are ineligible, as is a handler having earned a UJJP Intermediate certificate.
- Members may show at this level until achieving a round of 10 fault/points or less at a state level competition then must advance to the next level the following year.

Even if the handler and dog are able to advance, before competing anywhere, the handler and dog must be able to safely and correctly perform all obstacles required for the next higher level. If a handler and dog enter a show and clearly do not know how to perform an obstacle or the handler states the dog has not performed the obstacle, they will be excused from the ring and not allowed to run to avoid possible injury to the dog. Project leaders should not enter dogs at the next higher level, if the handler or dog is not ready, because doing so could hurt the team's confidence, or risk injury to the dog by performing agility above its experience level.

## Excellent

The purpose of this class is for the handler to demonstrate advanced handling and training skills. More focus and control are expected, and the handler's training skills of obstacles are tested with the addition of more obstacles, including moving objects, such as the teeter. This is the highest level of 4-H agility; it is expected that these handlers will serve as mentors for beginning competitors.

- After positioning the dog at the start line, the



handler will remove the leash.

- The course shape is slightly more challenging than a simple figure 8, with a pipe tunnel allowed under the A-frame.
- The judge is given flexibility in course design, as long as adequate distance between obstacles and the approaches is maintained.
- The following 13 to 15 obstacles are approved: (no closed tunnel or chute due to safety concerns)
  - o A-frame (apex at 5 feet)
  - o Pause table
  - o Pipe tunnel (1 to 2 depending on availability)
  - o Dog walk (elevation 3 feet) and/or Tire jump
  - o Long jump
  - o Six weave poles See saw
  - o Four to six jumps
- All dogs must be shown off leash with a collar.
- The standard course time will be computed at 2 yards per second, not to exceed 75 seconds.
- Dogs that have completed an Open title in AKC or a Starters/Novice title in USDAA or NADAC agility competition are ineligible for this class.
- Dogs that purple at state can continue to show at this level indefinitely.

## Obstacle Performance Requirements

**A-Frame** – The dog must touch the safety (contact) zone with at least one paw while ascending the up ramp in the direction designated by the judge, cross over the apex and descend the down ramp, touching the safety (contact) zone with all four paws before leaving the obstacle.

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

**Pause Table** – The dog must jump onto the table and assume the down position for a period of five seconds. The judge will count the seconds out loud, commencing when the dog has fully assumed the down position. The count is, “5 and 4 and 3 and 2 and go.” If the dog leaves the table, or gets up before the five seconds are over, the handler will instruct the dog to resume that position. In the On and Off Leash Classes an interrupted count is re-started from the point it was interrupted. In the Advanced and Excellent levels, an interrupted count will be re-started from the beginning. Each tug on the leash to down the dog will be given a five-point penalty. After three attempts to

down the dog by tugging on the leash, the handler must move on to the next obstacle and the team will be given a 20-point fault.

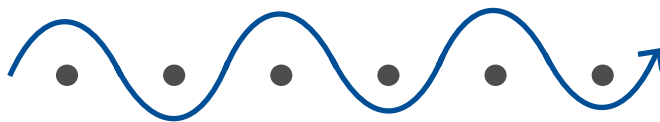
**Jumps** – The dog must jump over the obstacle in the direction designated by the judge, crossing between the two jump standards and over the bars or planks without knocking off the top bar or plank.

**Dog Walk** – The dog must touch the safety (contact) zone with one paw while ascending the ramp in the direction designated by the judge, traverse the cross plank, and descend the other ramp, touching the safety (contact) zone with all four paws.

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

**Weave Pole** – 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 (pole next to the dog’s left shoulder), crossing the line of poles between pole number 1 and 2, then wrapping around 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 demonstrating a weaving motion. A handler/dog team must correct for any missed poles, and fully complete the weaving pattern. A HANDLER CAN NOT TOUCH THEIR DOG DURING THE PERFORMANCE OF THE WEAWE POLES.

The handler’s hand may cross the plane of the weave poles, but s/he must not touch the dog. Handlers will be given three attempts at the weave poles; if not completed s/he must move on to the next obstacle and the team will be given a 20-point fault.



**Long (or broad) Jump** – The dog must jump over the planks without touching them; crossing between the front corner marker poles in the direction designated by the judge, clear the span of the planks and exit between the back-corner marker poles.

**Teeter or See Saw** – The dog must touch the safety (contact) zone with at least one paw while ascending the seesaw, cross the plank’s pivot point, causing

the see saw to tilt to the ground on the other end, and descend the remainder of the plank, touching the safety (contact) zone with all four paws 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. A performance deemed unsafe will be given a 20-point fault. The judge has the authority to automatically have the handler and dog redo the teeter if, in the judge's opinion, the unsafe performance could significantly impact future performances. No additional points will be given; however, the time will continue.

## Scoring

### Standard Faults – charged at 5 points

- 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 four paws of the dog must be committed to an obstacle to be charged with this.
- On and off the table – Charged for the first occurrence only.
- Knocking a bar off a jump. – Applies whether it was the dog, the handler, or the leash that knocked the bar off.
- Touching the dog or tugging the leash to down the dog.
- Missed Contact Zone – Yellow Zone
- Dog steps on or walks over the long jump.
- Tugging on the leash – five faults per occurrence, to elimination if it is severe or constant.
- Outside help or interference – Someone telling the handler which obstacle is next, any commands or cues to the dog etc. five faults up to elimination, depending on the severity.
- Handler touching any obstacle.
- Handler jumps over the jump with the dog – per each occurrence.
- Dog goes in the wrong direction between the tire and the frame.
- Anticipation of the table count – dog gets off before the judge finishes saying the word go.
- Failure to pick up the leash – After a tunnel and before the next obstacle is performed.

### Major Faults – charged at 20 points

- Omitting any obstacle – Includes being told by the judge to omit the obstacle because of the four-paw safety rule. It also includes such things as the handler omitting an obstacle by choice or by error or crossing the finish line before the last obstacle is completed correctly.
- Three refusals of a single obstacle.
- Uncorrected or improper entry to weave poles.
- Bailing off the seesaw—before it tips down and touches the ground.
- Bailing off the dog walk – before beginning the descending plank.
- Failure to correct on the pause table – dog who jumps off before the beginning of the word go; forcing or holding the dog down on the pause table.

### Automatic white ribbon:

- Eliminating in the ring.
- Constant tugging on the leash or dog out of control.
- Dog who stops working or leaves the ring may not complete the course.
- An extreme amount of outside help.
- An excessive amount of touching the obstacles or the dog.

### Disqualification (No Ribbon Awarded):

- Poor sportsmanship – including, but not limited to swearing, treating a dog harshly, complaining loudly about judges or other exhibitors, using treats in the ring, failure to omit and go on to the next obstacle when instructed to do so by the judge.
- Abuse of dogs anywhere on the show grounds.
- Dog attacks or threatens to attack a human or another dog.
- Use of treats or toys in the ring.

### Time Faults:

- Each class level has a specified time limit within which the course must be completed (standard course time).
- The timer will time each performance to .01 of a second.
- Any time beyond allotted time is considered a time fault and will be penalized on a 1 fault per one-second basis (or fraction).
- No bonus points are added for completing the course faster than required; thus, in all classes,

handlers should focus on correct obstacle performance which is where faults can occur instead of running the course as fast as possible.

**Final Score:**

- Course faults and time faults are added together and subtracted from an overall score of 200 points.

Score	Ribbon
190-200	Purple
180-189	Blue
170-179	Red
169 or less	White



## Obstacle and Jump Specifications

The following specifications will apply to all obstacles. When no tolerance or range is given for a dimension, a tolerance of 4.0 percent is implied. Tolerances do not apply when a range is specified.



**A-Frame:** The A-Frame is constructed from two panels, the top surface of which is constructed from wood or a wood-like substance. The panels are 35 to 49 inches wide, and their lengths are both within 2 inches of either

8 feet or 9 feet. Panels shall be of a consistent width and connected so as to eliminate gaps large enough to fit a dog's foot or toe. The height of the A-Frame is 54 inches when eight-foot panels are used and 60 inches when nine-foot panels are used, both with a one-inch tolerance. The top surface is painted and has a rough, non-slip surface. (Alternating layers of sand and flat, latex paints are recommended.) Slats are placed across the width of the panels to provide footing. They are  $\frac{3}{8}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch thick and  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch to 2 inches wide, and they extend within  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch of the panel sides. Slat edges shall be rounded or beveled; a  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch radius is recommended. The centers of the slats are spaced at 12 inches intervals with a 2-inch tolerance, and no slat is within 4 inches of the top or a contact zone. Contact zones are painted on the lower 42 inches of both panels with a  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch tolerance. The color of the zones contrasts with the rest of the panel, but it may not be white, black or brown. Bright yellow contact zones are recommended.



**Dog Walk:** The dog walk consists of a center section and two ramp sections. The surfaces of which are made from wood or a wood-like substance. All sections are 12 inches wide, plus or

minus an inch, and all are either 8 feet long or 12 feet long. Planks shall be connected so as to eliminate gaps large enough to fit a dog's foot or toe. Within a 2-inch tolerance, the top of the center section is 36 inches above the ground when using 8-foot sections and 48 inches when using 12-foot sections. The top surfaces of all sections are painted and have rough, non-slip

surfaces. (Alternating layers of sand and flat, latex paints is recommended.) Slats that conform to those described for the A-Frame are placed across the width of the ramp sections to provide footing. Contact zones are painted on the lower 42 inches of both ramps with a  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch tolerance, using the color specifications described for the A-Frame.



**See Saw:** The seesaw consists of a plank (or panel) supported near the center by a base that acts as a fulcrum. The plank is 12 inches wide with a 1 inch tolerance, and 12

feet long. The base extends at least 2 inches past the sides of the plank so the dogs can see the pivot point. The plank is balanced so that it hits the ground in less than three seconds when a three-pound weight is placed 12 inches from the raised end. The height of the seesaw measured to the top of the board at the pivot is 24 inches plus or minus 2 inches. The top surface of the plank is painted and has a rough, non-slip surface. (Alternating layers of sand and flat, latex paint is recommended.) Slats that conform to those described for the dog walk are optional. Contact zones, 42 inches long are painted on each end of the plank with a zero-inch tolerance, using the color specification described for the A-Frame.



**Pause Table:** The top of the pause table is 36 inches square, plus or minus 2 inches, with a non-slip surface (carpeting may be used but remember that it will make

the table much heavier to carry.) The vertical edge of the top of the table top must be 3 inches or greater in height and it is recommended that the table edge be of a color in contrast to the running surface and ring gating. The height of the table (within 1 inch) is 8 inches for dogs in the 8 inch and 12-inch divisions, and 16 inches for dog in the 16 inch and above division.



**Pipe Tunnel:** The open tunnel is a flexible tube of durable material that is capable of being formed into curved shapes. The two opening are either round or approximately

rectangular, with a height and width of 24 inches plus or minus 2 inches. Its length is 10 to 20 feet long and it is secured in position to prevent a dog from moving it. No portion of a tunnel holder that is underneath the tunnel shall be more than 1/2 inch thick. Tunnel supports used between the beginning and end of the tunnel shall not have rigid uprights such as steel or wood, that are capable of fitting between the ribs and projecting into the tunnel. It is recommended that sand bags or the largest containers of kitty litter be used as tunnel supports. They can be connected across the top by bungee cords or straps.



**Weave Poles:** The weave poles consist of six poles that are either stuck in the ground or mounted in a base. (The base design is recommended.) The poles are 1 to 1 1/4 inches in diameter and at least 36

inches high and uniformly spaced at intervals of 20 to 24 inches. The weave poles must flex at the base so as to accommodate larger dogs. It is recommended that if a rigid support is used at the base of each weave pole it does not exceed 4 inches in total height as measured from the ground to the top of the rigid support. (It is required that stripes be taped or painted on the poles to make them more visible to the dogs.) If a base is used, it may be no thicker than one inch and no wider than four inches, and it must be supported so as not to interfere with a dog's performance.



**Bar Jumps:** Bar jumps consist of displaceable bars supported by bar supports that are mounted to uprights. The supports must be positioned so that the tops of the bars can

be set within 1/4 inch of the four different jump heights (4 inches-8 inches-12 inches-16 inches). An additional position for a bar placed two to six inches above the

ground is also recommended. For a 4-inch jump, two bars can be crossed in an X using the 8-inch cups. The judge shall determine bar placement. The bars must be either cylindrical with a diameter between 1 1/4 and 1 3/4 inches, or square with sides measuring between 1 1/4 and 1 3/4 inches. Bars must be constructed from wood or plastic (PVC jumps are recommended because of increased safety). They must be 4 to 5 feet long and striped for visibility. The bar must sit on top of its support so that the bar is easily displaced. If rectangular bars are used, the top of the support must be flat and no wider than the bar it is supporting. If cylindrical bars are used, the supports may be no wider than the bar, and they should have a lip that is no more than 1/8 inch higher than the support, although lips up to 1/4 inch are allowed. Bolts used as bar supports are allowed if they comply with all other provisions of the section and if bars can be made displaceable from both directions. Bars held in place by Velcro™, magnets, etc. are not allowed. The inside of the uprights must be at least 32 inches tall, and the upright must be 1 to 4 inches wide. (An inside height of 42 inches and a minimum width of 32 inches are recommended for visibility. Widths less than 30 inches are recommended to facilitate handler movement on the course.)



**Panel Jumps:** The panel jump uses up to six cross-boards to give the illusion of a solid wall from the jump height to the ground. Specifications for the board supports and

uprights are the same as for the bar jump. The cross-boards are 4 to 5 feet long, 3 to 4 inches wide and no thicker than 1 inch. The top board for all jump height classes shall be a maximum of 4 inches high. Panels supports are to be placed 1 1/4 inches to 1 3/4 inches below the top of the board so as to be easily displaced.



**Tire (circle) Jump:** The tire jump, sometimes called the circle jump, consists of a tire (or a circular object that resembles a tire) suspended from a rectangular frame. The inner diameter of the tire is 24 inches plus or minus

an inch, and the wall is 3 to 8 inches thick. There must be at least 8 inches between the outside of the tire and the sides of the frame, and the frame must be tall enough to accommodate the tire's four different jump heights, as specified for the bar jump. The uprights of the frame shall be secured to the base and the base weighted or secured properly to the running surface so as to discourage tipping. The jump height is measured from the ground to the bottom of the tire opening.



**Broad Jump:** The broad jump is composed of either four 8-inch sections or five 6-inch sections, and four corner markers. The actual width of the 8-inch sections is 7 to 8 inches and the width of

the 6-inch sections are 5 to 7 inches. The sections are constructed from a top piece and two sidepieces. The length of the sections is between 4 and 5 feet long, and they may be of different lengths. To improve visibility, either the center of the sections or both ends must be marked with a color-contrasting band that is at least three inches wide. The sections are of varying height, and they may be arranged in either ascending order or as a hogback. (The ascending AKC obedience broad jump is recommended.)

When an ascending arrangement is used, each section is at least 1/2 inch higher than the previous one, and the height of the front edge of a section is at least 1/2 inch lower than the back edge. No portion of a section may be lower than 1 inch or higher than 6 inches. In a hogback arrangement, the sections ascend in height halfway across the jump and then descend. The ascending sections are at least 1/2 inch higher than the previous one, and the height of the front edge of a section is at least 1/2 inch higher than the back edge of the next. The descending sections are at least 1/2 inch lower than the previous one, and the height of the front edge of a section is at least 1/2 inch higher than the back edge. When an odd number of sections are used, the front edge of the middle section may not be higher than the back edge. No portion of a section may be lower than one inch or higher than 10 inches.

The length of the jump for both the ascending and the hogback configurations is twice the jump height of that division. Consequently, not all the sections are used in the lower height divisions. In those cases, the jump must be assembled with the lowest sections. The length of the jump (within one inch and the number of sections to be used for the different divisions are listed below. The corner markers are at least 1 inch wide and 36 inches high, and they may be decorated to improve visibility. They are either attached to the sides of the first and the last sections, or they are freestanding and placed as close as possible to those positions. (Freestanding is recommended.)

Division	Length (in)	# of 6 in sections	# of 8 in sections
4 in	8	1	1
8 in	16	2	2
12 in	24	3	3
16 in	32	4	3



# **Section 2**

## Dog Obedience

# Dog Obedience

## Purpose

4-H Obedience Shows and Matches are guided by the principles of good sportsmanship, both in and out of the ring. The purpose of 4-H Obedience Shows and Matches is to demonstrate the usefulness of the dog as a companion of man, not merely the dog's ability to follow specified routines in the 4-H obedience ring. All 4-H members in a class are required to perform the same exercises in the same way so that the relative quality of the various performances may be evaluated. However, the primary objective of 4-H Obedience Shows and Matches is to help youth develop life skills, by teaching them how to work with dogs safely and effectively. The result of this process will be a 4-H member who can apply dog handling skills in the home, in public places, and in the presence of other dogs, in a manner that will reflect credit on 4-H Dog Obedience.

The performances of the dog and the 4-H member in the ring must be accurate and correct, conforming to the requirements of these Guidelines. However, it is also essential that the dog demonstrate willingness and enjoyment of its work, and that smoothness and naturalness on the part of the 4-H member be given precedence over a performance based on military precision and decisive commands.

## Chapter 1: General Guidelines

### Section 1. Dog Show and Match Rules

The 4-H Obedience Guidelines shall govern the conduct of and shall apply to all persons and dogs participating in 4-H shows and matches.

### Section 2. Identification

No commercial advertising of any sort may be on clothing or the equipment in the show ring. The wearing of clothing with a 4-H emblem is encouraged. 4-H T-shirts, supplied by the Fair or from the counties, may be worn.

### Section 3. Family Members

More than one 4-H member may show the same dog in the same way, in different classes.

### Section 4. Dogs that May Not Be Shown

Dogs that have not been under the direct care and management of the 4-H member for a minimum of two months may not participate in 4-H Obedience Shows and Matches. This does not mean that the dog must live with the 4-H member, only that the 4-H'er must be regularly responsible for its basic care.

Dogs in obvious pain from a previous illness or injury shall not be shown. Consideration of a dog's physical disability needs to be addressed between the handler and project leader before starting the project. A veterinarian's written approval is required if a dog's soundness is questioned.

Dogs in season may not be shown.

### Section 5. When Titles Are Won

When a 4-H dog has won an outside title (i.e. AKC), it may be shown in 4-H Obedience Trials. If the 4-H member won the title, that team must show at the equivalent 4-H show level. If someone else won the title, the 4-H member must show at the highest level appropriate for that team as determined by the 4-H member, parent, project leader and/or 4-H Advisor.

Level of showing determined by experience of handler

4-H (level)	AKC (title show)
Pre-Novice	Pre-Novice
Novice	Novice
Open	Open
Utility	Utility

Once a dog and 4-H member have purpled at the state level (4-H), that team must advance to the next level. This option may be exercised at the county level if the team is unable to attend the State Fair. If a 4-H member starts over with a new dog, they may start at Basic B and progress accordingly.

### Section 6. Risk

The 4-H member entering a dog in a 4-H Event does so at his own risk and agrees to abide by South Dakota 4-H Rules and Guidelines.

## Section 7. Disturbances

Dogs that show aggression to other humans or dogs on the show grounds are not permitted to participate.

## Section 8. Decisions

At shows and matches the decisions of the Judge shall be final in all matters affecting the scoring and the working of the dogs and their handlers.

## Section 9. Obedience Ribbons

South Dakota 4-H uses the Danish System for determining ribbon placings. The following point schedule will be used at the South Dakota State Fair. Counties may develop a less stringent point schedule and "curve" if needed.

Ribbon	Points
Purple	180 – 200
Blue	160–179
Red	140–159
White	139 and less

## Section 10. Stewards

The Judge is in sole charge of his ring until his assignment is completed. Stewards are provided to assist him, but they may act only on the Judge's instructions. Stewards shall not give information or instructions to handlers except as specifically instructed by the Judge, and then only in such a manner that it is clear that the instructions are those of the Judge.

## Section 11. Ring Conditions

The ideal ring size is at least 40 feet wide and 50 feet long. The ideal surface or covering provides firm footing for the largest dogs. Rubber or similar non-slip material totaling at least four feet in width must be laid for the takeoff and landing at all jumps unless the surface, in the Judge's opinion, is such as to not require it. At an outdoor show or trial the rings shall be about 40 feet wide and 50 feet long. The ground shall be clean and level, and the grass, if any, cut short.

The Judge's table and chairs shall be of such size and location to cause no interference with the performance while in the ring.

Dogs are not allowed in the match ring until they are shown.

## Section 12. Preparedness of the Judge

Always bring:

- Water to drink
- Clipboard
- Bug spray
- Copy of the rules for 4-H judging
- Score sheets
- Stopwatch or timer
- Pencils
- Yardstick for measuring jumps and dogs
- Jacket
- Calculator for addition of score sheets
- Umbrella
- Patience!

Always wear comfortable shoes

ALWAYS allow plenty of time to get to the Show – arrive at least 30 minutes early.

## Chapter 2: Guidelines for Performance & Judging

### Section 1. Disabled Handlers

Judges may modify the specific requirements of these guidelines for disabled handlers as necessary to permit them to compete. Such handlers must be able to move about the ring without physical assistance or guidance from another person. Blind handlers may receive assistance in positioning themselves before, between and after each exercise, subject to the Judge's instructions. Regardless of the handler's disability the dogs are required to perform all parts of all exercises as described in these guidelines and penalized for failure to perform any part of an exercise.

### Section 2. Use of Leash

All dogs shall be kept on leash except when in the 4-H obedience ring or practice ring. Dogs must be brought into the ring and taken out of the ring on leash. Dogs may be kept on leash in the ring when brought in to receive awards, and when waiting in the ring before and after the Group exercises. When required, the leash shall be left on the Judge's table or other designated place between the individual exercises and during all exercises except the Heel on Leash and Group exercises. The leash must be of fabric or leather and, at the Pre-Novice level or lower, must be at least six feet long. For Novice level and higher, the leash must be at least four feet long to provide adequate slack in the Heel on Leash exercise.

### Section 3. Collars

Dogs in the 4-H obedience Basic A & B and Pre-Novice rings are allowed to wear one approved training collar. These include slip/combo combination collars (martingale),



choke collars (standard, show fur savers, nylon flat and American), Halti head collars, gentle leader collars (promise halters), German steel collars (sprenger, coastal and prong collars), harnesses, and plain buckle collars.

Dogs in 4-H Novice and higher classes must wear well-fitting plain buckle, slip collars, or choke collars. Slip collars of an appropriate single length of leather, fabric or chain with two rings, one on each end are acceptable. These are to be used only for training.

Collars must be well fitting. The collar length should not exceed the dog's neck measurement plus three inches. Nothing shall be hanging from the collars (no tags). Electronic collars are not allowed in any instance.

If there is a medical reason for the use of a different collar, it must be noted on the health certificate. IF APPROVED EQUIPMENT IS NOT USED, THERE WILL AN AUTOMATIC RIBBON DEDUCTION IN THE RING.

#### **Section 4. Heel Position**

In these guidelines, the Heel position means that the dog shall be straight in line with the direction the handler is facing, at the handler's left side, and as close as practical to the handler's left leg without crowding, permitting the handler freedom of motion at all times. Ideally, the dog's shoulder should be even with the handler's left hip. This shall be the definition whether the dog is sitting, standing, lying down, or moving at heel.

#### **Section 5. Hands**

In all exercises, the arm positions shall be taken before any heeling is done.

In all exercises in which the dog is required to "heel on leash" one of the options below shall be followed:

- The right hand and arm must move naturally, while the left arm is bent and the left hand shall hold the leash against, and centered in front of the body, in the area of the waist.
- The right arm is bent, and the right hand holds the leash against, and centered in front of the body, in the area of the waist, while the left hand loosely guides the leash at the handler's side.
- Both arms are bent to the waist and both hands hold the leash against, and centered in front of the body, in the area of the waist.

In all exercises in which the dog is required to "heel free" one of the options below shall be followed:

- The handler's arms and hands shall move naturally at the handler's sides while in motion, and shall hang naturally at the handler's sides while not in motion
- The right hand and arm must move naturally, while the left arm is bent to the waist and the left hand shall be held against, and centered in the front of the body, in the area of the waist.

The left forearm shall be carried, as much as possible, against the body. In either of the above situations the hands and arms may be adjusted during the Fast portion of an exercise, in order to maintain balance. There shall be a substantial deduction if the hands and arms are not carried in one of the positions stated above.

In all exercises in which the dog is required to "come to" or "return to" the handler and "sit in front", the handler's arms and hands shall hang naturally at his sides while the dog is coming in and until the dog has sat in front. A deduction shall be made if a handler's arms and hands are not hanging naturally at his sides while the dog is coming in and until the dog has sat in front.

#### **Section 6. Commands and Signals**

Whenever a command or signal is mentioned in these guidelines, the handler must give a single command (either a voice command and/or a hand signal). Any extra commands or signals must be penalized. Only two commands may use a simultaneous command and/or signal: Stay (all levels) and Drop on Recall commands (Graduate Novice/ Open). When a signal is permitted and given, it must be a single gesture with one arm and hand only, and the arm must immediately be returned to a natural position. When a signal command \*only\* is used it cannot be preceded by the call name of the dog. Delay in following a Judge's order to give a command or signal must be penalized, unless the Judge directs the delay because of some distraction or interference.

When given, signals must be inaudible, and the handler must not touch the dog. Any unusual noise or motion may be considered to be a signal. Signaling correction to a dog is forbidden and must be penalized.

Position of the arms and hands and movements of the

body that aid the dog shall be considered additional signals. However, a handler may bend over at the waist when commanding Down or Stay, and a handler may bend the body and knees as far as necessary to bring his hand on a level with the dog's eyes in giving a signal to a dog in the Heel position. In the Directed Retrieve exercise the body and knees may be bent to the extent necessary to give the direction to the dog.

Whistling or the use of a whistle is prohibited. The dog's name may be used once immediately before any verbal command or before a verbal command and signal when these Guidelines permit command and/or signal. The name shall not be used with any signal not given simultaneously with a verbal command. The dog's name, when given immediately before a verbal command, shall not be considered as an additional command, but a dog that responds to its name without waiting for the verbal command shall be scored as having anticipated the command. The dog should never anticipate the handler's directions but must wait for the appropriate commands and/or signals. Moving forward at the heel without any command or signal other than the natural forward movement of the handler's body shall not be considered as anticipation. Anticipation of commands will be given deductions.

Excessively loud commands by handlers to their dogs create a poor impression of 4-H obedience and should be avoided. Shouting is not necessary even in a noisy place if the dog is properly trained to respond to a normal tone of voice. Commands, which in the Judge's opinion are excessively loud, will be penalized. An extra command and/or signal in any non-principal part of an exercise does not, in itself, constitute a failing score.

### **Section 7. Praise**

Praise and petting are allowed between and after exercises, but points must be deducted from the total score for a dog that is not under reasonable control while being praised. A handler shall not carry or offer food in the ring. There shall be a penalty for any dog that is picked up or carried at any time in the 4-H obedience ring.

### **Section 8. Handling between Exercises**

In the Novice Classes the dog may be guided gently by the collar between exercises and to get it into proper position for an exercise. No other physical guidance, such as placing the dog in position with the hands

or straightening the dog with the knees or feet, is permitted and shall be penalized even if occurring before or between the exercises. In the Open and Utility Classes there shall be a penalty for any dog that is physically guided at any time or that is not readily controllable. Posing for examination and holding for measurement are permitted. Imperfections in heeling between exercises will not be judged. In the Open and Utility Classes minor penalties shall be imposed for a dog that does not respond promptly to its handler's commands or signals before or between exercises.

### **Section 9. Misbehavior**

Any display of fear or nervousness by the dog, or any uncontrolled behavior of the dog such as snapping, barking, or running away from its handler, whether it occurs during an exercise, between exercises, or before or after judging, may be penalized according to the seriousness of the misbehavior. The deduction will be at least one ribbon placing. The Judge may excuse the dog from further competition in the class and the team will receive a white ribbon. If such behavior occurs during an exercise, the penalty must first be applied to the score for that exercise. Should the penalty be greater than the value of the exercise during which it is incurred, the additional points shall be deducted from the total score under Misbehavior. If such behavior occurs before or after the judging, or between exercises, the entire penalty shall be deducted from the total score.

Any dog that relieves itself at any time while in the ring for judging will be penalized 25 points.

The Judge may disqualify any dog that attacks or attempts to attack any person in the ring. He shall excuse a dog that attacks another dog or that appears dangerous to other dogs or exhibitors in the ring. This team shall receive a white ribbon.

Any exhibitor or spectator may be excused from the show for unsportsmanlike conduct. This team shall receive a white ribbon.

The Judge should ALWAYS talk to the exhibitor and explain the reason behind the deduction or excuse from the ring.

### **Section 10. Orders and Minimum Penalties**

The orders for the exercises and the standards for judging are set forth in the following chapters. The lists

of faults are not intended to be complete, but minimum penalties are specified for most of the more common and serious faults. There is no maximum limit on penalties. A team that makes none of the errors listed may still fail to purple or receive a white ribbon for other reasons.

The following are some recommended deductions for judging:

There will be no scores of 0 for an exercise. The most points that can be taken from an exercise are 1/2 the total points for that exercise, except in the upper levels with the "Stay" exercises when up to a 20-point deduction can be made.

On the score sheets, the columns for point deductions will run right to left—the furthest left, the more severe the penalty.

- Minor – 1 to 2-point deductions per error.
- Substantial – 3 to 10 points per error.
- Major – up to 1/2 of the total points of the exercise can be deducted.

### **Section 11. Training on the Grounds**

There shall be no drilling nor intensive or abusive training of dogs on the grounds or premises at a 4-H Obedience Trial. All dogs shall be kept on leash except when in the 4-H obedience ring or practice ring. These requirements shall not be interpreted as preventing a handler from moving normally about the grounds or premises with his dog at heel on leash. Signals or such commands in a normal tone, as are necessary and usual in everyday life in heeling a dog or making it stay are acceptable. Physical or verbal disciplining of dogs shall not be permitted except to a reasonable extent in the case of an attack on a person or another dog. The show officials, and SDSU Extension staff, shall be responsible for compliance with this Section, and shall investigate any reports of infractions.

No electric shock and training collars are allowed on the grounds or premises at a 4-H Obedience Trial.

### **Section 12. Training and Disciplining in the Ring**

The Judge shall not permit any handler to train his dog by excessive verbal commands or by moving toward the dog to correct it in any way, nor to practice any exercise in the ring either before or after he is judged. Any handler who does either will be excused from further competition in the class. A dog whose handler

disciplines it in the ring may be excused from further competition in the class and shall receive a white ribbon. The Judge should always explain why a dog and handler are excused.

NO food or treats of any kind should be with the handler while showing his dog. A deduction of one ribbon placing will occur, if noted.

The Judge must immediately report any abuse of a dog in the ring to the Show Officials.

### **Section 13. Abuse of Dogs**

The 4-H Show Officials shall investigate any reports of abuse of dogs or severe disciplining of dogs on the grounds or premises of a show. Any person who conducts himself in any manner against the best interests of the 4-H program, or who fails to comply with the requirements of Chapter 2, Section 9 of these Guidelines shall be dealt with promptly, during the Show or Match if possible. The offender must be notified of the specific charges against him and be given an opportunity to address the charges. The Judge must immediately report any abuse of a dog in the ring to the Show Officials.

Any signs of dehydration or heat stress to the dog will not be allowed.

### **Section 14. Discipline of Exhibitors**

Any inappropriate behavior as determined by the Show Officials and/or South Dakota 4-H (either in or outside of the show ring) may result in immediate suspension. Formal grievance procedures may be initiated according to the standards outlined in the South Dakota 4-H Fairbook.

An explanation of the noted inexcusable behavior and why it is not acceptable should always be given to the handler. The judges should encourage this to be a learning experience.

### **Section 15. Standardized Judging**

Standardized judging is of paramount importance. Judges are not permitted to inject their own variations into the exercises but must see that each handler and dog executes the various exercises exactly as described in these Guidelines. A handler who is familiar with these Guidelines should be able to enter the ring under any Judge without having to inquire how the particular Judge wishes to have any exercise

performed, and without being confronted with some unexpected requirement. The only exception to a variation in the exercise is when the pattern area is fouled and an adjustment in the pattern must be done.

Dogs are worked individually except in a group exercise. The recommended time per dog is 5 to 7 minutes in the ring, not counting the group exercises. Variations to this can be made at the county level.

### **Section 16. Standard of Perfection**

The Judge must carry a mental picture of the theoretically perfect performance in each exercise. He scores each dog and handler against this visualized standard which combines the utmost in willingness, enjoyment and precision on the part of the dog, and naturalness, gentleness, and smoothness in handling. "Crisp-ness" of the performance is always encouraged—square corners, good posture of the handler, efficiency and accuracy in performing exercises, etc. Speed is not to be considered as the equivalent to willingness and enjoyment. Lack of willingness or enjoyment on the part of the dog must be penalized. Lack of precision in the dog's performance, roughness in handling, military precision or dogmatic commands by the handler will also be penalized. There shall be no penalty of less than 1 point.

### **Section 17. Judge's Directions**

The Judge's orders and signals should be given to the handlers in a clear and understandable manner, but in such a way that the work of the dog is not disturbed. Before starting each exercise, the Judge shall ask Are you ready? This question should be restated if something like a backwards collar is noted to give the handler a chance to correct the problem. At the end of each exercise the Judge shall say, Exercise finished. Each dog must be worked and judged separately except for the Group exercises. The judging of an exercise will begin when the Judge gives the first order, not before, unless the handler does not make the correction after the second Are you ready? is asked.

### **Section 18. No Added Requirements**

No Judge shall require any dog or handler to do anything, nor penalize a dog or handler for failing to do anything, that is not required by these Guidelines. Anything outside the 4-H Guidelines is not allowed

in a 4-H show. Judges should be certain to ask if the handler is familiar with the pattern being used and if he has any questions.

### **Section 19. Interference and Double Handling**

A Judge who is aware of any assistance, interference, or attempts to control a dog from outside the ring, must act promptly to stop such double handling or interference. He shall penalize the dog substantially or, if in the Judge's opinion the circumstances warrant, shall give the dog a white ribbon for the exercise during which the aid was received.

### **Section 20. Re-judging**

If a team has failed in a particular part of an exercise, it shall not ordinarily be re-judged nor given a second chance. If in the Judge's opinion the team's performance was prejudiced by peculiar and unusual conditions, the Judge may at his own discretion re-judge the team on the entire exercise. Should the Judge find it necessary to re-judge a team or teams from the Group exercises, they shall be re-judged with the next scheduled group within that class. The limits on the number of dogs allowed in the ring for the Group exercise shall remain consistent with Chapter 5, Section 10. Should there be no further group within that class, the dog or dogs to be re-judged shall immediately do the exercise alone. The team or teams involved will be re-judged only on the exercise in question.

### **Section 21. Explanations and Errors**

The Judge is not required to explain his scoring and need not enter into any discussion with any contestant or adult who appears to be dissatisfied. However, after prizes have been awarded and the score sheets turned in, the Judge is encouraged, but not required, to discuss the scoring with the exhibitors. Any interested person who thinks that there may have been a mathematical error or an error in identifying a dog may report the facts to one of the Stewards or to the Show Officials so that the matter may be checked.

## **Chapter 3: Basic A & B**

### **Section 1. Basic A**

This class is reserved for teams where both the handler and dog have no prior experience in the obedience show ring. If the 4-H member or dog has shown in another organization, they go to Basic B.



## Section 2. Basic B

Any 4-H member and/or dog with previous show experience can show here if it is determined appropriate by 4-H member, parent, project leader and 4-H Advisor.

## Section 3. Basic A & B Exercises and Scoring

Basic A	Basic B	Maximum Score
Heel on Leash	Heel on Leash	40 points
Figure Eight (on leash)	Figure Eight (on leash)	40 points
Sit for Exam (on leash)	Sit for Exam (on leash)	40 points
Sit Stay (on leash)	Sit Stay (leash attached, on ground)	40 points
Recall (on leash)	Recall (off leash)	40 points
Maximum Total Score		200 points

## Section 4. Heel on Leash & Figure Eight (same for both A & B classes)

The principal feature of this exercise is the ability of the dog and handler to work as a team. The orders for this exercise will be Forward and Exercise finished.

Signs, rather than verbal commands from the Judge, will be used for this exercise. Signs to be used are Right turn, Left turn, About turn, Slow, Normal, Fast and Halt/Sit. Fast means that the handler must run, and the handler and dog must move forward at a noticeably accelerated speed.

Turns will be used only when the handler is moving at a normal speed. Both change of pace signs must be followed by a normal sign. Turn signs may be placed in any sequence and may be repeated. Two of each turn sign must be available for the Judge's use. The Halt/Sit sign will be used once at the end of the exercise. The Judge should standardize the heeling pattern for all dogs in the class.

The leash must be six feet in length. It may be held in either hand or in both hands, but the hands must be held in a natural position. Any tightening or jerking of the leash and use of any extra commands and/or signals will be penalized.

The handler will enter the ring with the dog on a loose leash and stand with the dog sitting in the heel position. The Judge will ask if the handler is ready before giving the order, Forward. The handler may give

a command or signal to heel and will walk briskly and naturally with the dog on a loose leash. The dog should walk close to the handler's left side without swinging wide, lagging, forging, or crowding. The dog must not interfere with the handler's freedom of motion at any time. At the Halt/Sit sign, the handler will stop. The dog shall sit straight and promptly in the heel position without command or signal. The Judge will order, Exercise finished at the completion of this exercise.

A one-time single phrase of praise or encouragement, by the handler to the dog, will be allowed without penalty. (Good, yes, nice, super, great, and atta boy/ girl, are some examples of praise that would be allowed.) A verbal command to heel at the beginning of the exercise is the only command allowed during the heeling exercise.

Rally signs may be used. The signs may be placed either flat on the ground or on a stand. The course should be laid so that the signs are to the right of the handler.

## Figure Eight (same for both A & B classes)

The principal feature of this exercise is the ability of the dog and handler to work as a team. The orders for this exercise are: Forward, Halt, and Exercise finished.

For the Figure Eight, the handler will stand, and the dog will sit in heel position facing the Judge, midway between the two stewards, who will be standing

8 feet apart. The Figure Eight will be performed on leash; the handler may go around either steward first. After the Judge asks, Are you ready? and gives the order, Forward, the handler and dog will walk briskly around and between the two stewards twice.

There will be no about turn, fast or slow, but the Judge must order at least one halt during this exercise and another halt at the end. After each halt, it is permissible for the handler to give a command or signal to heel before moving forward again.

A one-time single phrase of praise or encouragement, by the handler to the dog, will be allowed without penalty.

In scoring this exercise the Judge shall accompany the handler at a discreet distance so that he can observe any signals or commands given by the handler to the dog. The Judge must do so without interfering with

either dog or handler.

### Section 5. Heel on Leash & Figure Eight Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unmanageable</li> <li>• Unqualified heeling</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Handler continually adapts pace to dog</li> <li>• Constant tugging on leash or guiding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improper heel position</li> <li>• Occasional tight leash</li> <li>• Forging or crowding handler</li> <li>• Lagging or sniffing</li> <li>• Extra command to heel or sit</li> <li>• Handler error</li> <li>• Heeling wide including turns and abouts</li> <li>• No change of pace including fast and slow</li> <li>• No sits or poor sits</li> <li>• Lack of naturalness or smoothness</li> </ul>

### Section 6. Sit for Examination (same for both A & B classes)

The principal feature of this exercise is that the dog sits in position before and during the examination without displaying resentment. Orders are: Sit your dog and Leave when you are ready, Back to your dog and Exercise finished. This exercise is to be performed with the dog on a six-foot leash.

On the Judge's order, the handler will command the dog to sit. The handler will then stand with the dog sitting in the heel position, give the command and/or signal to stay, walk straight forward about six feet to the end of the leash, turn and face the dog. The Judge will approach the dog from the front. Using the fingers and palm of one hand, the Judge will touch only the dog's head. On the order Back to your dog, the handler will walk around behind the dog and return to the heel position. The handler may gather the leash at any time while returning to the dog. The dog must remain sitting until the Judge has said, Exercise finished.

### Section 7. Sit for Examination Scoring

The scoring of this exercise will not start until the handler has given the command and/or signal to Stay, except for such things as rough treatment of the dog by its handler or active resistance by the dog to its handler's attempts to make it sit.

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stands, lies down or moves away from place it was left before or during examination</li> <li>• Growls, snaps or displays resentment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extra command after given the command to stay</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog moves its feet</li> <li>• Dog stands or moves away after examination is complete</li> <li>• Shyness</li> <li>• Tightening of the leash during the exercise</li> <li>• Handler error</li> </ul>

### Section 8. Sit Stay on Leash

#### Sit Stay on Leash – 45 seconds (Basic A)

The principal feature of this exercise is that the dog remains in the sit position for 45 seconds. Orders for this exercise are: Sit your dog, Leave your dog, Return to your dog, and Exercise finished.

The handler will stand with the dog sitting in heel position. Prior to starting the exercise, the Judge will ask if the handler is ready. When the Judge gives the order Sit your dog, the handler will command and/or signal the dog to sit, if they are not already sitting. The Judge will order Leave your dog, and the handler will give a command and/or signal to stay and immediately proceed to the end of the leash and turn to face the dog. The dog will remain seated for 45 seconds. At the Judge's command of Return to your dog, the handler will approach the dog from the front, and proceed to walk around and in back of the dog to the heel position. Once the handler has returned to heel position, the Judge will give the order Exercise finished. The Judge should not deduct points if the leash either touches or does not touch the ground.

#### Sit Stay – Handler Walk around the Ring (Basic B)

The principal feature of this exercise is that the dog remains in the sit position. Orders for this exercise are: Sit your dog, Leave your dog, and Exercise finished.

The handler will stand with the dog sitting in heel position in approximately the center of a marked 20' x 20' perimeter within the ring. Prior to starting the exercise, the Judge will ask if the handler is ready. The leash remains attached to the dog's collar and will be dropped/placed on the ground between the dog and the handler at the Judge's command. When the Judge gives the order Sit your dog, the handler will command and/or signal the dog to sit, if not already sitting. The Judge will order Leave your dog, and the handler will give a command and/or signal to stay and then walk 10 feet straight out from in front of their dog. The handler will then turn either to the right or left as directed by the Judge and walk the perimeter of the 20' x 20' marked area. Upon completing a full perimeter walk around the marked area, the handler will approach the dog from the front, and proceed to walk around and in back of the dog to the heel position. Once the handler has returned to heel position, the Judge will give the order Exercise finished.

### Section 9. Sit Stay on Leash Scoring

Scoring of the exercise will not start until after the Judge has ordered the handler to sit his dog, except for such things as rough treatment of a dog by its handler or resistance by a dog to its handler's attempts to make it Sit.

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog moves a substantial distance away from place it was left</li> <li>• Gets out of sit position</li> <li>• Repeated barking and whining</li> <li>• Additional command or signal by the handler</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog moves a short distance from where it was left</li> <li>• Barks or whines once or twice</li> <li>• Dog changes position after handler returns to heel position</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minor whine or bark</li> <li>• Excessively loud commands</li> <li>• Handler error</li> </ul>

### Section 10. Recall

#### Recall on Leash (Basic A)

The principal features of this exercise are that the dog stay where left until called by the handler, and that the dog responds promptly. Orders are: Leave your dog, Call your dog, and Exercise finished. On order from the

Judge, the handler may give a command and/or signal to the dog to stay in the sit position. The handler will then walk forward, to the end of the six-foot leash, and turn to face the dog.

On the Judge's order or signal, the handler will command and/or signal the dog to come. The dog must come directly, at a brisk trot or gallop, and sit in front near the handler. The dog must be close enough to its handler so that the handler could touch its head without excessive bending, stretching, or moving either foot.

A one-time single phrase of praise or encouragement while the dog is coming to the handler will be allowed without penalty. (Good, yes, nice, super, great, atta boy/girl, are some examples of praise that would be allowed.)

#### Recall off Leash (Basic B)

This exercise differs from the "Basic A". The leash is removed for this exercise and kept by the handler. When the handler removes the leash, s/he may hold it in any manner using one or both hands, or draped around the neck.

After the Judge's command to leave the dog, the handler will then walk forward, across the ring approximately 10 feet and turn to face the dog. On the Judge's order or signal, the handler will command and/or signal the dog to come. The dog must come directly, at a brisk trot or gallop, and sit in front near the handler. The dog must be close enough to its handler so that the handler could touch its head without excessive bending, stretching, or moving either foot.

After the Judge orders Exercise finished, the leash is reattached to the dog's collar.

A one-time single phrase of praise or encouragement while the dog is coming to the handler will be allowed without penalty. (Good, yes, nice, super, great, atta boy/girl, are some examples of praise that would be allowed.)

Caution should be taken to not fidget with the leash but to keep the hands calm and steady.

## Section 11. Recall Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dog does not come on first command or signal</li><li>• Dog moved from position</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Extra command or signal to stay</li><li>• Anticipated recall command</li><li>• Dog sat out of reach</li><li>• Dog leaves handler</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dog stood or lay down or touched handler</li><li>• Slow response or sat between feet</li><li>• No sit or poor sit</li><li>• Lack of naturalness or smoothness</li><li>• Handler error</li></ul>

## Chapter 4: Pre-Novice

### Section 1. Pre-Novice

The Pre-Novice class is for the handler and dog that have received a purple at the State 4-H Dog Show in Basic A and/or B. Teams may move up to Pre-Novice regardless of County or State ribbon placing.

### Section 2. Pre-Novice Exercises and Scoring

Exercise	Points
Heel on Leash	50
Figure Eight on Leash	25
Stand for Examination (off leash)	40
Recall (off leash)	45
Stay—Down	40
Maximum Total Score	200

### Section 3. Heel on Leash & Figure Eight

The purpose of this exercise is to demonstrate the ability of the handler and dog to work as a team. Orders for this exercise are Forward, Halt, Right Turn, Left Turn, About Turn, Slow, Normal, and Fast. All About Turns will be right about turns. Orders for halts and turns will be given only when the handler is moving at normal speed. The other orders may be given in any sequence and turns, and halts may be repeated.

The leash must be six feet in length. It may be held in either hand or in both hands, but the hands must be held in a natural position. Any tightening or jerking of the leash and use of any extra commands and/or signals will be penalized.

The handler will enter the ring with the dog on a loose leash and stand with the dog sitting in the heel

position. The Judge will say to the handler, Are you ready? The handler should answer either Yes, or No. When the handler is ready the Judge will give the order, Forward. The handler and dog walk briskly, and in a natural manner, with the dog on a loose leash. The dog should walk close to the handler's left side without swinging wide, lagging, forging, or crowding. The area from the dog's head to shoulder should be in line with the handler's left hip. The dog must not interfere with the handler's freedom of motion at any time. The handler may give a command OR signal to heel, NOT both.

Remaining Orders given by the Judge:

- **Halt:** When the Judge says, Halt, the handler stops. The dog should sit straight and promptly in the heel position. The handler should not give a command OR signal to the dog. The dog should not move until the handler again moves forward on the Judge's command. After each halt, the handler is permitted to give a command OR signal to heel before again moving forward.
- **Right Turn:** When the Judge says, Right Turn, the handler and dog make a ninety-degree (90°) turn to the right. This turn should be made squarely.
- **Left Turn:** When the Judge says, Left Turn, the handler and dog make a ninety-degree (90°) turn to the left. This turn should be made squarely.
- **About Turn:** When the Judge says, About Turn, the handler and dog make a one hundred-eighty degree (180°) turn to the right.
- **Slow:** When the Judge says, Slow, the handler and dog walk at a noticeably slower pace than normal.
- **Normal:** The handler and dog begin the heeling pattern at a normal pace. After the Judge gives the order to walk Slow, or Fast, he/she will give the order, Normal. The handler and dog then return to a normal pace.
- **Fast:** When the Judge says, Fast, the handler and dog must run, moving forward at a noticeably accelerated pace.

At the completion of the Heel exercise, the Judge will say, Exercise finished. At this time, it is appropriate for the handler to praise his/her dog.

### Figure Eight

For this exercise, the handler will stand, and the dog will sit in heel position facing the Judge, midway

between the two stewards who will be standing eight feet apart. The Judge will ask, Are you ready? The handler will say, Yes or No. After the handler and dog are ready, the Judge will give the order, Forward. The handler may choose to go in either direction. The handler and dog will walk briskly around and between the two stewards twice. The Judge will order at least one halt during this exercise and another halt at the end. There will be no about turn, fast, or slow during this exercise. At the completion of the Figure Eight exercise, the Judge will say, Exercise finished. At this time, it is appropriate for the handler to praise his/her dog.

The leash is removed for the remaining exercises and kept by the handler. When the handler removes the leash, s/he may hold it in any manner using one or both hands, or draped around the neck.

#### Section 4. Heel on Leash & Figure Eight Scoring

In scoring this exercise the Judge shall accompany the handler at a discreet distance so that he can observe any signals or commands given by the handler to the dog. The Judge must do so without interfering with either dog or handler.

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unmanageable</li> <li>• Unqualified heeling</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Handler continually adapts pace to dog</li> <li>• Constant tugging on leash or guiding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improper heel position</li> <li>• Occasional tight leash</li> <li>• Forging or crowding handler</li> <li>• Lagging or sniffing</li> <li>• Extra command to heel or sit</li> <li>• Heeling wide including turns and abouts</li> <li>• No change of pace including fast and slow</li> <li>• No sits or poor sits</li> <li>• Lack of naturalness or smoothness</li> <li>• Handler error</li> </ul>

#### Section 5. Stand for Examination off Leash

The purpose of this exercise is for the dog to stand and stay in position before, during, and after the examination without displaying resentment. The orders given by the Judge are, Stand your dog, and Leave when you are ready, Back to your dog, and Exercise finished.

On the Judge's order, the handler will take his/her dog to the place indicated by the Judge and have the dog sit in heel position. On the Judge's order to Stand your dog and Leave when you are ready the handler will stand/pose the dog by the method of the handler's choice, taking any reasonable time if he/she chooses to pose the dog as in the show ring. The handler will then stand with the dog in the heel position and give the command and/or signal to stay. The handler will then leave from heel position, walk straight forward about six feet, and turn and face the dog.

The Judge will approach the dog from the front. Using the fingers and palm of one hand, the Judge will touch the dog's head, body, and hindquarters. On the order Back to your dog, the handler will walk around behind the dog and return to the heel position. The dog must remain standing, without moving its feet, until the Judge has said, Exercise finished. At this time it is appropriate for the handler to praise his/her dog. The dog must not show any shyness or resentment during this exercise.



## Section 6. Stand for Examination Scoring

The scoring of this exercise will not start until the handler has given the command and/or signal to Stay, except for such things as rough treatment of the dog by its handler or active resistance by the dog to its handler's attempts to make it stand.

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dog moves away or sits before examination</li><li>• Dog growls or snaps</li><li>• Leaves ring</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dog moves away or sits during examination</li><li>• Dog shows shyness or resentment</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dog resists handler posing</li><li>• Extra command to stay</li><li>• Dog moves slightly</li><li>• Dog sits as handler returns</li><li>• Lack of naturalness or smoothness</li><li>• Handler error</li></ul>

## Section 7. Recall off leash

The purpose of this exercise is for the dog to stay where left until called by the handler, and for the dog to respond promptly to the handler's command or signal to come. The orders given by the Judge are, Leave your dog, Call your dog, and Finish. The handler will take the dog to the place designated by the Judge and have the dog sit in the heel position. On the Judge's order, Leave your dog, the handler may give a command and/or signal to the dog to stay in the sit position. The handler will then walk forward approximately 20 feet turn to face the dog, standing with the hand not holding the leash hanging naturally at the side of the body. On the Judge's order or signal to Call your dog, the handler will either command OR signal the dog to come, NOT both. The dog must come directly, at a brisk trot or gallop and sit straight, centered in front of the handler. The dog must be close enough to its handler so that the handler could touch its head without excessive bending, stretching, or moving either foot. The dog should not touch the handler or sit between the handler's feet.

On the Judge's order to Finish, the handler will give a command OR signal to finish, NOT both. The dog must go promptly to heel position and sit straight at heel. The method by which the dog goes to heel position is optional.

## Section 8. Recall Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dog does not come on first command or signal</li><li>• Dog moved from position</li><li>• Leaves ring</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Extra command or signal to stay</li><li>• Anticipated recall command</li><li>• Dog sat out of reach</li><li>• Dog leaves handler</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dog stood or lay down or touched handler</li><li>• Slow response or sat between feet</li><li>• No sit or poor sit</li><li>• No finish or poor finish</li><li>• Extra command to finish</li><li>• Lack of naturalness or smoothness</li><li>• Handler error</li></ul>

## Section 9. Down Stay – Handler Walk around the Ring

The principal feature of this exercise is that the dog remains in the down position. Orders for this exercise are: Down your dog, Leave your dog, and Exercise finished.

The handler will stand with the dog sitting in heel position in approximately the center of the ring. Prior to starting the exercise, the Judge will ask if the handler is ready. When the Judge gives the order Down your dog, the handler will command and/or signal the dog to down. The Judge will order Leave your dog, and the handler will give a command and/or signal to stay and then walk straight forward to the end of the ring. The handler will then turn either to the right or left as directed by the Judge and walk the perimeter of the ring. Upon completing a full perimeter walk, the handler will approach the dog from the front, and proceed to walk around and in back of the dog to the heel position. Once the handler has returned to heel position, the Judge will give the order Exercise finished.

## Section 10. Down Stay Scoring

Scoring of the exercise will not start until after the Judge has ordered the handler to leave his dog, except for such things as rough treatment of a dog by its handler or resistance by a dog to its handler's attempts to make it Lie Down.

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog moves a substantial distance away from place it was left</li> <li>• Gets out of down position before handler's first turn</li> <li>• Repeated barking and whining</li> <li>• Additional command or signal by the handler</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog moves a short distance from where it was left</li> <li>• Dog stood or sat after handler's first turn</li> <li>• Barks or whines once or twice</li> <li>• Dog changes position after handler returns to heel position</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minor whine or bark</li> <li>• Excessively loud commands</li> <li>• Dog stood or sat after handler's last turn</li> <li>• Handler error</li> </ul>

## Chapter 5: Novice

### Section 1. Novice Class

The Novice class is for handler and dog that have received a purple at the State 4-H Dog Show in Pre-Novice. Teams may move up to Novice regardless of County or State ribbon placing.

### Section 2. Novice Exercises and Scoring

Exercises	Points
Heel on Leash and Figure Eight	35
Stand for Examination off leash	30
Heel Free	45
Recall	30
Long Sit	30
Long Down	30
Maximum Total Score	200

### Section 3. Heel on Leash & Figure Eight

The principal feature of this exercise is the ability of the dog and handler to work as a team. Orders for the exercise are Forward, Halt, Right turn, Left turn, About turn, Slow, Normal and Fast. Fast signifies that the handler must run with handler and dog moving forward at noticeably accelerated speed. In executing the About Turn, the handler will always do a Right About Turn. Orders for Halts and Turns will be given only when the handler is moving at a Normal speed.

The orders may be given in any sequence and may be repeated as necessary, but the Judge shall attempt to standardize the heeling pattern for all dogs in any class.

The leash may be held in either hand or in both hands, provided the hands are in a natural position. However, any tightening or jerking of the leash or any act, signal or command which in the Judge's opinion gives the dog assistance shall be penalized.

The handler shall enter the ring with his dog on a loose leash and stand with the dog sitting in the Heel position. The Judge shall ask if the handler is ready before giving the order, Forward. The handler may give a command or signal to Heel and shall walk briskly and in a natural manner with his dog on a loose leash. The dog shall walk close to the left side of the handler without swinging wide, lagging, forging or crowding. Whether heeling or sitting, the dog must not interfere with the handler's freedom of motion at any time. At each order to Halt, the handler will stop after a few steps and his dog shall Sit straight and promptly in the Heel position without command or signal and shall not move until the handler again moves forward on the Judge's order. It is permissible after each Halt, before moving again, for the handler to give a command or signal to Heel. The Judge shall say, Exercise finished, after this portion of the exercise.

Before starting the Figure Eight the Judge shall ask if the handler is ready. The Figure Eight signifies that on specific orders from the Judge to Forward and Halt, the handler and dog, from a starting position about equidistant from the two Stewards and facing the Judge, shall walk briskly twice completely around and between the two Stewards, who shall stand eight feet apart. The handler may choose to go in either direction. There shall be no About Turn or Fast or Slow in the Figure Eight, but the Judge must order at least one Halt during and another Halt at the end of this portion of the exercise.

### Section 4. Heel on Leash & Figure Eight Scoring

In scoring this exercise the Judge shall accompany the handler at a discreet distance so that he can observe any signals or commands given by the handler to the dog. The Judge must do so without interfering with either dog or handler.

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unmanageable</li> <li>• Unqualified heeling</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Handler continually adapts pace to dog</li> <li>• Constant tugging on leash or guiding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improper heel position</li> <li>• Occasional tight leash</li> <li>• Forging or crowding handler</li> <li>• Lagging or sniffing</li> <li>• Extra command to heel</li> <li>• Heeling wide including turns and abouts</li> <li>• No change of pace including fast and slow</li> <li>• No sits or poor sits</li> <li>• Lack of naturalness or smoothness</li> <li>• Handler error</li> </ul>

### Section 5. Stand for Examination

The principal features of this exercise are that the dog stands in position before and during the examination and that it does not display resentment. Orders are Stand your dog and leave when ready, Return to your dog and Exercise finished. There will be no further command from the Judge to the handler to leave the dog.

On the Judge's order, the handler shall remove the leash and give it to a Steward who shall place it on the Judge's table or other designated place. The handler will take his dog, minimal guidance by the collar is allowed, to the place indicated by the Judge, and on the Judge's order, the handler will stand and/or pose his dog off leash. The 4-H member may use the method of his choice, taking reasonable time if he chooses to pose the dog as in the show ring. When he is ready, the handler will stand with the dog in the heel position, and give his command and/or signal to the dog to Stay, walk forward about six feet in front of the dog, turn around and stand facing the dog.

The Judge shall approach the dog from the front, and shall touch only the dog's head, body and hindquarters,

using the fingers and palm of one hand only. He shall then order, Return to your dog, whereupon the handler shall walk around behind his dog and return to the Heel position. The dog must remain standing until after the Judge has said, Exercise finished.

### Section 6. Stand for Examination, Scoring

The scoring of this exercise will not start until the handler has given the command and/or signal to Stay, except for such things as rough treatment of the dog by its handler or active resistance by the dog to its handler's attempts to make it stand.

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog moves away or sits before examination</li> <li>• Dog growls or snaps</li> <li>• Leaves ring</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog moves away or sits during examination</li> <li>• Dog shows shyness or resentment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog resists handler posing</li> <li>• Extra command to stay</li> <li>• Dog moves slightly</li> <li>• Dog sits as handler returns</li> <li>• Lack of naturalness or smoothness</li> <li>• Handler error</li> </ul>

### Section 7. Heel Free Performance and Scoring

This exercise shall be executed in the same manner as Heel on Leash and Figure Eight except that the dog shall be off leash and that there shall be no Figure Eight. Orders and scoring shall also be the same. A dog leaving the ring will receive a white ribbon.

### Section 8. Recall

The principal features of this exercise are that the dog stays where left until called by its handler, and that the dog responds promptly to the handler's command or signal to Come. Orders are Leave your dog, Call your dog and Finish.

On order from the Judge, the handler may give command and/or signal to the dog to stay in the Sit position while the handler walks forward about 35 feet to the other end of the ring, where he shall turn and stand in a natural manner (upright, with arms at sides) facing his dog. On Judge's order or signal, the handler will give command or signal for the dog to Come. The dog must come directly in at a brisk trot or gallop and Sit straight, centered immediately in front

of the handler's feet, close enough that the handler could readily touch its head without moving either foot or having to stretch forward. The dog must not touch the handler or sit between his feet. On Judge's order the handler will give command or signal to Finish and is allowed to take one step and the dog must go smartly to the Heel position and Sit. The manner in which the dog finishes shall be optional with the handler provided that it is prompt and that the dog Sits straight at Heel.

### Section 9. Recall Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog does not come on first command or signal</li> <li>• Dog moved from position</li> <li>• Leaves ring</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extra command or signal to stay</li> <li>• Anticipated recall command</li> <li>• Dog sat out of reach</li> <li>• Dog leaves handler</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog stood or lay down or touched handler</li> <li>• Slow response or sat between feet</li> <li>• No sit or poor sit</li> <li>• No finish or poor finish</li> <li>• Extra command to finish</li> <li>• Lack of naturalness or smoothness</li> <li>• Handler error</li> </ul>

### Section 10. Group Exercises

The principal feature of these exercises is that the dog remains in the Sit or Down position, whichever is required by the particular exercise. Orders are Sit your dogs or Down your dogs, Leave your dogs and Back to your dogs. All the competing dogs in the class take these exercises together, unless there are 12 or more dogs. Then, at the Judge's option, the class will be judged in groups of not less than 2 nor more than 12 dogs. Classes may be combined provided there are not more than 12 dogs competing in the combined classes. For a single off-leash dog, an on-leash dog/handler may be added for companionship. The Judge shall divide his class into approximately equal sections. The Group exercises shall be judged after each section.

The dogs in the ring shall be lined up according to the Judge's direction. Upon request from the Judge, the handlers shall unleash their dogs, neatly placing the leash on the ground behind the dogs.

For the Long Sit the handlers shall, On the Judge's order, command and/or signal their dogs to Sit if they are not already sitting. On further order from the Judge to leave their dogs, the handlers shall give a command and/or signal to Stay and immediately leave their dogs. The handlers will go to the opposite side of the ring, turn and stand facing their respective dogs. If a dog gets up and starts to roam, follows its handler, or moves so as to interfere with another dog, the Judge shall promptly instruct the handler or one of the Stewards to take the dog out of the ring or to keep it away from the other dogs.

After one minute from the time he has ordered the handlers to leave their dogs, the Judge will give the order to return, then the handlers must promptly go back to their dogs, each walking around and in back of his own dog to the Heel position. The dogs must not move from the Sitting position until after the Judge has said, Exercise finished. The Judge shall not give the order Exercise finished, until the handlers have returned to the Heel position.

Before starting the Long Down, the Judge shall ask if the handlers are ready. The Long Down is done in the same manner as the Long Sit except that the handlers shall, On the Judge's order, down their dogs to a position facing the opposite side of the ring, without touching either the dogs or their collars. Additionally, the Judge will order the handlers to return after three minutes. The dogs must not move from the Down position until after the Judge has said, Exercise finished.

The dogs shall not be required to sit at the end of the Down exercise.

### Section 11. Group Exercises Scoring

During these exercises the Judge shall stand so that all the dogs are in his line of vision, and he can see all the handlers in the ring without having to turn around.

Scoring of the exercises will not start until after the Judge has ordered the handlers to leave their dogs, except for such things as rough treatment of a dog by its handler or resistance by a dog to its handler's attempts to make it Sit or lie Down. A handler whose dog assumes a position in such a manner that it could interfere with an adjacent competing dog shall be required to reposition his dog and shall also be substantially penalized; in extreme cases the dog may

be excused with a white ribbon. The Judge shall not give the order, Exercise finished, until the handlers have returned to the Heel position.

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stood, sit or down within 15 seconds</li> <li>• Goes to another dog</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stood, sit or down within 15–30 seconds (sit stay) or 15 seconds–2 minutes (down stay)</li> <li>• Repeated whines or barks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stood, sit or down within 30–60 seconds (sit stay) or 2–3 minutes (down stay)</li> <li>• Forcing into position</li> <li>• Minor move before handler returns</li> <li>• Minor whine or bark</li> <li>• Excessively loud commands</li> <li>• Handler error</li> </ul>

## Chapter 6: Graduate Novice

### Section 1. Graduate Novice Class

The Graduate Novice class is for the handler and dog that have received a purple at the State 4-H Dog Show in Novice. Teams may move up to Graduate Novice regardless of County or State ribbon placing.

### Section 2. Graduate Novice Exercises and Scoring

Exercises	Points
Heel on Leash and Figure Eight (off Leash)	40
Drop on Recall	40
Dumbbell Recall	30
Recall over High Jump	30
Recall over Broad Jump	30
Long Down (Handler out of sight)	30
Maximum Total Score	200

### Section 3. Heel on Leash and Figure Eight Off Leash

The principal feature of this exercise is the ability of the dog and handler to work as a team. Orders for the exercise are Forward, Halt, Right turn, Left turn, About turn, Slow, Normal and Fast. Fast signifies that the handler must run with handler and dog moving forward at noticeably accelerated speed. In executing the About Turn, the handler will always do a Right About Turn. Orders for Halts and Turns will be given only when the handler is moving at a Normal speed.

The orders may be given in any sequence and may be repeated as necessary, but the Judge shall attempt to standardize the heeling pattern for all dogs in any class. The leash may be held in either hand or in both hands, provided the hands are in a natural position. However, any tightening or jerking of the leash or any act, signal or command which in the Judge's opinion gives the dog assistance shall be penalized.

The handler shall enter the ring with his dog on a loose leash and stand with the dog sitting in the Heel position. The Judge shall ask if the handler is ready before giving the order, Forward. The handler may give a command or signal to Heel and shall walk briskly and in a natural manner with his dog on a loose leash. The dog shall walk close to the left side of the handler without swinging wide, lagging, forging or crowding. Whether heeling or sitting, the dog must not interfere with the handler's freedom of motion at any time. At each order to Halt, the handler will stop after a few steps and his dog shall sit straight and promptly in the heel position without command or signal and shall not move until the handler again moves forward on the Judge's order. It is permissible after each Halt, before moving again, for the handler to give a command or signal to heel. The Judge shall say, Exercise finished, after this portion of the exercise.

Before starting the Figure Eight the Judge shall ask if the handler is ready. The dog will be unleashed, and the leash given to the Judge. The Figure Eight signifies that on specific orders from the Judge to Forward and Halt, the handler and dog, from a starting position about equidistant from the two Stewards and facing the Judge, shall walk briskly twice completely around and between the two Stewards, who shall stand 8 feet apart. The handler may choose to go in either direction. There shall be no About Turn or Fast or Slow in the Figure Eight, but the Judge must order at least one Halt during and another Halt at the end of this portion of the exercise.



#### Section 4. Heel on Leash and Figure Eight Off Leash

In scoring this exercise the Judge shall accompany the handler at a discreet distance so that he can observe any signals or commands given by the handler to the dog. The Judge must do so without interfering with either dog or handler.

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Unmanageable</li><li>• Unqualified heeling</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Handler continually adapts pace to dog</li><li>• Constant tugging on leash or guiding</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improper heel position</li><li>• Occasional tight leash</li><li>• Forging or crowding handler</li><li>• Lagging or sniffing</li><li>• Extra command to heel</li><li>• Heeling wide including turns and abouts</li><li>• No change of pace including fast and slow</li><li>• No sits or poor sits</li><li>• Lack of naturalness or smoothness</li><li>• Handler error</li></ul>

#### Section 5. Drop on Recall

The principal features of this exercise are that the dog stays where left until called by its handler, that it responds promptly to the handler's command or signal to Come and to Drop and remains in the Down position until again called or signaled to Come. The dog will be judged on the promptness of its response to command or signal and not on its proximity to a designated point.

Orders for the exercise are Leave your dog, Call your dog, a signal to Drop the dog, another Call your dog and Finish. The Judge's signal must be clear to the handler but not obvious or distracting to the dog. On the Judge's order, the handler may give command and/or signal for the dog to Stay in the Sit position while the handler walks forward about 35 feet to the other end of the ring, where he shall turn and stand in a natural manner (upright, arms at sides) facing his dog. The Judge will position himself behind the dog, facing the

handler. On Judge's order or signal, the handler shall give command or signal to Come and the dog must start directly in at a brisk trot or gallop. On the Judge's arm or hand signal, the handler shall give command and/or signal to Drop, and the dog must immediately drop completely to the Down position, where he must remain until, on Judge's order or signal, the handler again gives command or signal to Come. Once commanded to Come, the dog must come directly in at a brisk trot or gallop and Sit straight, centered immediately in front of the handler's feet, close enough that the handler could readily touch its head without moving either foot or having to stretch forward. The dog must not touch the handler or sit between his feet. On Judge's order the handler will give command or signal to Finish and the dog must go smartly to the Heel position and Sit. The manner in which the dog finishes shall be optional with the handler provided that it is prompt and that the dog Sit straight at Heel.

#### Section 6. Drop on Recall Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dog does not come on first command or signal after drop</li><li>• Dog does not drop on first command or signal</li><li>• Leaves the ring</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Extra command or signal to stay after handler leaves</li><li>• Dog moved from place left</li><li>• Dog anticipated drop, recall or come in</li><li>• Dog sat out of reach</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dog stood or lay down</li><li>• Extra command or signal before leaving</li><li>• Dog touched handler</li><li>• Slow response or sat between feet</li><li>• Slow return or drop</li><li>• No sit or poor sit</li><li>• No finish or poor finish</li><li>• Lack of naturalness or smoothness</li><li>• Handler error</li></ul>

#### Section 7. Dumbbell Recall

The purpose of this exercise is to show that the dog can perform a recall off leash while holding a dumbbell. This exercise will be performed like the Novice Recall but with the dog holding the dumbbell. In addition to the Novice Recall, the dog will promptly take, hold, and deliver the dumbbell when commanded.

The Judge's orders are Give your dog the dumbbell, Leave your dog, Call your dog, Take it, and Finish.

The handler will stand with the dog sitting in the heel position in a place designated by the Judge. When the Judge orders, Give your dog the dumbbell, the handler will present the dumbbell with one command. The dog must accept it readily and hold it. When the Judge orders, the handler may give the command and/or signal to stay and will walk forward to the other end of the ring and turn to face the dog. On the Judge's order or signal, the handler will command or signal the dog to come. The dog must come directly at a brisk trot or gallop.

When the dog is sitting in front of the handler, the Judge will order, Take it, and the handler will give a command and take the dumbbell. The dog must willingly give the dumbbell on command to the handler. The finish will be done as in the Novice Recall.

#### Section 8. Dumbbell Recall Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fails to take dumbbell on first command</li> <li>• Handler forces dumbbell into dog's mouth</li> <li>• Dog doesn't come on first command or signal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extra command to take dumbbell</li> <li>• Extra command or signal to stay</li> <li>• Dog drops dumbbell</li> <li>• Dog moves from place left</li> <li>• Dog anticipates recall</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog sat out of reach</li> <li>• Dog touches handler</li> <li>• Slow response or sat between feet</li> <li>• Slow retrieve</li> <li>• Dog mouths dumbbell</li> <li>• Dog fails to release dumbbell</li> <li>• No sit or poor sit</li> <li>• No finish or poor finish</li> <li>• Lack of naturalness or smoothness</li> <li>• Handler error</li> </ul>

#### Section 9. Recall Over High Jump

The purpose of the exercise is for the dog to stay until directed to jump, clear the jump on a single command or signal, and immediately return to sit in front of the handler. The Judge's orders are Leave your dog, Call your dog, and Finish.

The handler will stand with the dog sitting in the heel position at least eight feet from the jump. When the Judge orders, Leave your dog, the handler will give the command and/or signal to stay, go at least eight feet beyond the other side of the high jump, and turn and face the dog as in the Novice Recall. On the Judge's order, the handler will give the command or signal to jump. The dog must clear the high jump without touching it and, without any further command or signal, immediately sit in front of the handler. The finish is done as in the Novice Recall. In South Dakota 4-H, all dogs in obedience will jump the same jump heights as in agility and rally.

Height of dog at withers	Height to be jumped
Less than 10 inches	4 inches
Greater than 10 inches to 15 inches	8 inches
Greater than 15 inches to 20 inches	12 inches
Greater than 20 inches	16 inches

The high jump will be five feet wide and built to provide increments from four inches to 16 inches. The uprights of the high jump will be four feet high. It is suggested that the bottom board measure eight inches down from its top to the floor or ground. In addition, another eight-inch board, and two four-inch boards will be needed to create the four jump heights. A six-inch board may also be used. The jump will be a flat white. The height of each board will be indicated in black two-inch numbers.

## Section 10. Recall Over High Jump Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dog does not come on first command or signal</li><li>• Dog does not jump on first command or signal</li><li>• Leaves the ring</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Extra command or signal to stay</li><li>• Extra signal or command to jump</li><li>• Dog moved from place left</li><li>• Dog anticipated recall</li><li>• Dog does not clear jump</li><li>• Dog sat out of reach</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dog stood or lay down</li><li>• Dog touches handler</li><li>• Slow response to recall</li><li>• Dog sits between feet</li><li>• No sit or poor sit</li><li>• No finish or poor finish</li><li>• Minor jump touch</li><li>• Handler error</li></ul>

## Section 11. Recall Over Broad Jump

The purpose of this exercise is for the dog to stay where left until directed to jump, clear the jump on a single command or signal, and that the dog immediately return to sit in front of its handler after it has jumped. Each dog will jump twice the height it did for the high jump.

The handler will stand with the dog sitting in the heel position at least eight feet from the jump, facing the lowest side of the lowest hurdle. When the Judge orders, Leave your dog, the handler will give the command and/or signal to stay, go at least eight feet beyond the last hurdle, and turn and face the dog as in the Novice Recall. On the Judge's order, the handler will give the command or signal to jump. The dog must clear the entire distance of the broad jump without touching it and, without any further command or signal, immediately sit in front of the handler and finish as in the Novice Recall.

The broad jump will consist of four white telescoping hurdles, all about eight inches wide. The largest hurdle will measure about five feet long and about six inches at the highest point. In the ring, they will be arranged in order of size, evenly spaced, covering a distance equal to twice the height of the high jump setting for each dog. Four hurdles will be used for a jump of 32 inches, three for 24 inches and two for a jump of 16 inches and one for an eight-inch jump.

When decreasing the number of hurdles in the jump,

the highest hurdle will be removed first. It is the Judge's responsibility to see that the distance jumped by each dog is in accordance with these regulations.

## Section 12. Recall Over Broad Jump Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dog does not come on first command or signal</li><li>• Dog does not jump on first command or signal</li><li>• Dog walks over any part of jump</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Extra command or signal to stay</li><li>• Extra signal or command to jump</li><li>• Dog moved from place left</li><li>• Dog anticipated recall</li><li>• Dog does not clear jump</li><li>• Dog sat out of reach</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dog stood or lay down</li><li>• Dog touches handler</li><li>• Slow response to recall</li><li>• Dog sits between feet</li><li>• No sit or poor sit</li><li>• No finish or poor finish</li><li>• Minor jump touch</li><li>• Handler error</li></ul>

## Section 13. Long Down

During the Long Down exercise, the Judge shall stand so all the dogs and handlers are in his line of vision at all times. Class size will be no less than two dogs and no more than 12. For a single dog, an on-leash dog/handler may be added for companionship. Upon request from the Judge, the handlers shall unleash their dog, and neatly place it on the ground behind the dog.

After leaving their dogs, the handlers cross to the opposite side of the ring, leaving it in single file as directed by the Judge. They will go to a designated place, completely out of sight of their dogs, where they must remain until called by the Judge after time expires (five minutes in the Long Down, beginning when the Judge gives the order Leave your dogs.) On the Judge's order, the handlers shall return to the ring in single file in reverse order, facing their dogs at the opposite side of the ring, returning to them on the Judge's order. The Judge shall not give the order, Exercise finished, until the handlers have returned to the heel position.

## Section 14. Long Down Scoring

During these exercises the Judge shall stand so that all of the dogs are in his line of vision, as well as the handlers in the ring, or leaving and returning to the ring,

without having to turn around. Scoring of the exercises will not start until after the Judge has ordered the handlers to leave their dogs, except for such things as rough treatment of a dog by its handler or resistance by a dog to its handler's attempts to make it sit or lie down.

A handler whose dog assumes a position in such a manner that it could interfere with an adjacent competing dog shall be required to reposition his dog and shall also be substantially penalized; in extreme cases the dog may be excused with a white ribbon.

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog stood or sat down within 15 seconds</li> <li>• Goes to another dog</li> <li>• Leaves the ring</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stood, sit or down within 15 seconds to 3 minutes</li> <li>• Repeated whines or barks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog stood or sit within 3-5 minutes</li> <li>• Forcing into position</li> <li>• Minor move before handler returns</li> <li>• Minor whine or bark</li> <li>• Excessively loud commands</li> <li>• Handler error</li> </ul>

## Chapter 7: Open

### Section 1. Open Class

The Open class is for the handler and dog that have received a purple at the State 4-H Dog Show in Graduate Novice. Teams may move up to Open regardless of County or State ribbon placing.

### Section 2. Open Exercises and Scoring All exercises will be performed Off Leash

Open Exercises	Points
Heel Free and Figure Eight	40
Drop on Recall	30
Retrieve on Flat	20
Retrieve over High Jump	30
Broad Jump	20
Long Sit	30
Long Down	30
Maximum Total Score	200

### Section 3. Heel Free & Figure Eight

The principal feature of this exercise is the ability of the dog and handler to work as a team. Orders for the exercise are Forward, Halt, Right turn, Left turn, About turn, Slow, Normal and Fast. Fast signifies that the handler must run with the team moving forward at noticeably accelerated speed. In executing the About Turn, the handler will always do a Right About Turn. Orders for Halts and Turns will be given only when the handler is moving at a Normal speed. Orders may be given in any sequence and repeated as necessary, but the Judge shall attempt to standardize the heeling pattern for all dogs in any class.

The handler shall enter the ring with his dog and stand; the dog sitting in the Heel position. The dog will be unleashed, and the leash given to the Judge. The Judge shall ask if the handler is ready before giving the order Forward. The handler may give a command or signal to Heel and walk briskly and in a natural manner with his dog. The dog shall walk close to the left side of the handler without swinging wide, lagging, forging or crowding. Whether heeling or sitting, the dog must not interfere with the handler's freedom of motion at any time. At each order to Halt, the handler will stop after a few steps and his dog shall sit straight and promptly in the Heel position without command or signal and shall not move until the handler again moves forward on the Judge's order. It is permissible after each Halt, before moving again, for the handler to give a command or signal to Heel. The Judge shall say, Exercise finished, after this portion of the exercise.

Before starting the Figure Eight the Judge shall ask if the handler is ready. On specific orders from the Judge to Forward and Halt, the handler and dog, from a starting position about equidistant from the two Stewards and facing the Judge, shall walk briskly twice completely around and between the two Stewards, who shall stand 8 feet apart. The handler may choose to go in either direction. There shall be no About Turn or Fast or Slow in the Figure Eight, but the Judge must order at least one Halt during and another Halt at the end of this portion of the exercise.

The Judge shall discretely accompany the handler to observe any signals or commands given by the handler to the dog. The Judge must do so without interfering with either dog or handler.

## Section 4. Heel Free & Figure Eight Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unmanageable</li> <li>• Unqualified heeling</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Handler continually adapts pace to dog</li> <li>• Constant guiding</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improper heel position</li> <li>• Forging or crowding handler</li> <li>• Lagging or sniffing</li> <li>• Extra command to heel or sit</li> <li>• Heeling wide including turns and abouts</li> <li>• No change of pace including fast and slow</li> <li>• No sits or poor sits</li> <li>• Lack of naturalness or smoothness</li> <li>• Handler error</li> </ul>

## Section 5. Drop on Recall

The principal features of this exercise are that the dog stays where left until called by its handler, that it responds promptly to the handler's command or signal to Come and to Drop and remains in the Down position until again called or signaled to Come. The dog will be judged on the promptness of its response to command or signal and not on its proximity to a designated point.

Orders for the exercise are Leave your dog, Call your dog, a signal to Drop the dog, another Call your dog and Finish. The Judge's signal must be clear to the handler but not obvious or distracting to the dog. The Judge will position himself behind the dog, facing the handler. On the Judge's order, the handler may give command and/or signal for the dog to Stay in the Sit position while the handler walks forward about 35 feet to the other end of the ring, where he shall turn and stand in a natural manner (upright, arms at sides) facing his dog. On Judge's order or signal, the handler shall give command or signal to Come and the dog must start directly in at a brisk trot or gallop. On the Judge's arm or hand signal, the handler shall give command or signal to Drop, and the dog must immediately drop completely to the Down position, where he must remain until, on Judge's order or

signal, the handler again gives command or signal to Come. Once commanded to Come, the dog must come directly in at a brisk trot or gallop and Sit straight, centered immediately in front of the handler's feet, close enough that the handler could readily touch its head without moving either foot or having to stretch forward. The dog must not touch the handler or sit between his feet. On Judge's order the handler will give command or signal to Finish and the dog must go smartly to the Heel position and Sit. The manner in which the dog finishes shall be optional with the handler provided that it is prompt and that the dog sits straight at Heel.

## Section 6. Drop on Recall Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog does not come on first command or signal after drop</li> <li>• Dog does not drop on first command or signal</li> <li>• Leaves the ring</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extra command or signal to stay after handler leaves</li> <li>• Dog moved from place left</li> <li>• Dog anticipated drop, recall or come in</li> <li>• Dog sat out of reach</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog stood or lay down</li> <li>• Extra command or signal before leaving</li> <li>• Dog touched handler</li> <li>• Slow response or sat between feet</li> <li>• Slow return or drop</li> <li>• No sit or poor sit</li> <li>• No finish or poor finish</li> <li>• Lack of naturalness or smoothness</li> <li>• Handler error</li> </ul>

## Section 7. Retrieve on Flat

The purpose of this exercise is to show that the dog can retrieve promptly. Orders are Throw it, Send your dog, Take it, and Finish.

The handler will stand with his/her dog sitting in the heel position in a place designated by the Judge. On the Judge's order, Throw it, the handler will give the command and/or signal to stay. If the handler does use a signal, that signal may not be given with the hand that is holding the dumbbell. After the dumbbell is thrown at least 20 feet, the Judge will order the handler, Send your dog. The retrieve should



be executed at a brisk trot or gallop. The dog will go directly to the dumbbell and retrieve it, returning directly to the handler as in the Novice Recall without unnecessary mouthing or playing. On order from the Judge to Take it, the handler will give command or signal and take the dumbbell. The finish will be executed as in the Novice Recall.

The Judge will require the dumbbell to be thrown again before the dog is sent if it is thrown less than 20 feet, too far to one side, or too close to the ring's edge.

### Section 8. Retrieve on Flat Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog fails to go out on first command or signal</li> <li>• Dog fails to retrieve</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog goes before command or signal</li> <li>• Dog does not go directly to dumbbell</li> <li>• Extra signal or command</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Slow to obey</li> <li>• Dog mouths or plays with dumbbell</li> <li>• Dog drops dumbbell</li> <li>• Dog fails to release dumbbell</li> <li>• Dog touches handler</li> <li>• Dog sits between feet</li> <li>• No sit or poor sit</li> <li>• No finish or poor finish</li> <li>• Handler error</li> </ul>

### Section 9. Retrieve Over High Jump

The purpose of this exercise is for the dog to go out over the jump, pick up the dumbbell, and promptly return with it over the jump. The Judge's orders are Throw it, Send your dog, Take it, and Finish. This exercise will be executed in the same manner as the Retrieve on Flat, except that the dog will clear the high jump both going and coming. The handler will stand at least 8 feet, or any

reasonable distance beyond 8 feet, from the jump, will remain in the same spot throughout the exercise and will throw the dumbbell at least 8 feet beyond the jump. (These eight-foot distances should be clearly marked.)

Refer to the Graduate Novice Recall Over High Jump for jump height information.

### Section 10. Retrieve Over High Jump Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Goes to wrong jump</li> <li>• Uses jump as aid or climbing jump</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extra command or signal to jump</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Holding hand signals</li> <li>• Slow response</li> <li>• Hesitation or reluctance in jumping</li> <li>• Touching jump</li> <li>• No sit or poor sit</li> <li>• No finish or poor finish</li> <li>• Sat between feet</li> <li>• Touched handler</li> <li>• Handler error</li> </ul>

### Section 11. Broad Jump

The principal features of this exercise are the dog staying where left until directed to jump and the dog clears the jump on a single command or signal. Orders are Leave your dog, Send your dog and Finish. The handler will stand with his dog sitting in the Heel position in front of and at least 8 feet from the jump. On the Judge's order of Leave your dog, the handler will give his dog the command and/or signal to Stay and go to a position facing the right side of the jump. He will stand with his toes about 2 feet from the jump, and anywhere between the lowest edge of the first hurdle and the highest edge of the last hurdle.

On the Judge's order the handler shall give the command or signal to jump and the dog shall clear the entire distance of the Broad Jump without touching and, without further command or signal, immediately return to a sitting position in front of the handler. The handler shall change his position by executing a right-angle turn while the dog is in midair but shall remain in the same spot. The dog must come to the handler, stop directly in front of the handler, and Sit. The Finish command will be given, and the dog should return to the Heel position.

The Broad Jump consists of four hurdles made of boards about 8 inches wide. The largest measures about five feet in length and six inches high at the highest point; all are painted a flat white. When set up they shall be arranged in order of size and shall

be evenly spaced. They will cover a distance equal to twice the height of the High Jump as set for the particular dog. The low side of each hurdle and the lowest hurdle will be set nearest the dog. Four hurdles shall be used for a jump of 48 inches to 72 inches, three for 28 inches to 44 inches, two for a jump of 16 inches to 24 inches, or one for a jump of six inches to eight inches. When decreasing the number of boards in the jump, the highest hurdle shall be removed first. It is the Judge's responsibility to see that the distance jumped is that required by these Guidelines for the particular dog.

### Section 12. Broad Jump Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog walks over any part of jump</li> <li>• Dog does not jump on first command or signal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Goes before command or signal</li> <li>• Does not clear jump</li> <li>• Sat out of reach</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Slow response</li> <li>• Dog touches handler</li> <li>• Minor jump touch</li> <li>• Hesitation to jump</li> <li>• Poor return</li> <li>• Dog sits between feet</li> <li>• No sit or poor sit</li> <li>• No finish or poor finish</li> <li>• Handler error</li> </ul>

### Section 13. Group Exercises

During the Long Sit and the Long Down exercises the Judge shall stand so all the dogs and handlers are in his line of vision at all times. Class size will be no less than 2 dogs and no more than 12. For a single dog, an on-leash dog/handler may be added for companionship. Upon request from the Judge, the handlers shall unleash their dog, and neatly place it on the ground behind the dog.

After leaving their dogs, the handlers cross to the opposite side of the ring, leaving it in single file as directed by the Judge. They will go to a designated place, completely out of sight of their dogs, where they must remain until called by the Judge after time expires (three minutes in the Long Sit and five minutes in the Long Down, beginning when the Judge gives the order Leave your dogs.)

On the Judge's order, the handlers shall return to the ring in single file in reverse order, facing their dogs at the opposite side of the ring, returning to them on the Judge's order. The Judge shall not give the order, Exercise finished, until the handlers have returned to the Heel position.

### Section 14. Group Exercise Scoring

During these exercises the Judge shall stand so that all of the dogs are in his line of vision, as well as the handlers in the ring, or leaving and returning to the ring, without having to turn around. Scoring of the exercises will not start until after the Judge has ordered the handlers to leave their dogs, except for such things as rough treatment of a dog by its handler or resistance by a dog to its handler's attempts to make it Sit or lie down.

A handler whose dog assumes a position in such a manner that it could interfere with an adjacent competing dog shall be required to reposition his dog and shall also be substantially penalized; in extreme cases the dog may be excused with a white ribbon.

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stood, sit or down within 15 seconds</li> <li>• Leaves the ring</li> <li>• Goes to another dog</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stood, sit or down within 15-90 seconds (sit stay) or 15 seconds – 3 minutes (down stay)</li> <li>• Repeated whines or barks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stood, sit or down within 1.5-3 minutes (sit stay) or 3 – 5 minutes (down stay)</li> <li>• Forcing into position</li> <li>• Minor move before handler returns</li> <li>• Minor whine or bark</li> <li>• Excessively loud commands</li> <li>• Handler error</li> </ul>

## Chapter 8: Graduate Open

### Section 1. Graduate Open Class

The Graduate Open class is for handler and dog that have received a purple at the State 4-H Dog Show in Open. Teams may move up to Graduate Open regardless of County or State ribbon placing.

### Section 2. Graduate Open Exercises and Scoring

All exercises will be performed Off Leash

Graduate Open Exercises	Points
Signal Exercise	40
Scent Discrimination	30
Directed Retrieve	30
Moving Stand and Exam	30
Go Out	30
Directed Jumping	40

### Section 3. Signal Exercise

The principal features of this exercise are the ability of dog and handler to work as a team while heeling, and the dog's correct responses to the signals to Stand, Stay, Drop, Sit and Come. Orders are the same as in Heel on Leash and Figure Eight, with the additions of Stand your dog, which shall be given only when dog and handler are walking at normal pace and Leave your dog. The Judge must use signals for directing the handler to signal the dog to Drop, to Sit and to Come, in that sequence, and to Finish.

Heeling in the Signal Exercise shall be done in the same manner as in Heel Free, except that throughout the entire exercise the handler shall use signals only and must not speak to his dog at any time. The Judge's order of, Forward, the handler may signal his dog to walk at heel, and on specific order from the Judge in each case, shall execute a Left turn, Right turn, About turn, Halt, Slow, Normal and Fast. Fast signifies the handler must run with handler and dog moving forward at noticeably accelerated speed. These orders may be given in any sequence and may be repeated as necessary, but the Judge shall attempt to standardize the heeling pattern for all dogs in the class.

On the Judge's order, and while the dog is walking at heel, the handler shall signal his dog to Stand in the Heel position near one end of the ring. On further order to Leave your dog, the handler shall signal his dog to Stay, go to the other end of the ring and turn to face his dog. On separate and specific signals from the Judge,

the handler shall give his dog signals to Drop, to Sit, and to Come.

On Judge's order the handler will give command or signal to Finish and the dog must go smartly to the Heel position and Sit. The manner in which the dog finishes shall be optional with the handler provided that it is prompt and that the dog Sit straight at Heel. During the heeling part of this exercise the handler may not give any signal except when a command or signal is permitted in the Heeling exercises.

### Section 4. Signal Exercise Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Unmanageable</li><li>• Unqualified heeling</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Handler adapts pace to dog</li><li>• Any audible command</li><li>• Failure on 1st signal to: Stand, Stay, Drop, Sit or Come</li><li>• Anticipated command to: Stand, Stay, Drop, Sit or Come</li><li>• Sat out of reach</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Forging or crowding handler</li><li>• Lagging or sniffing</li><li>• Heeling wide</li><li>• Holding signals</li><li>• Slow response to signal, stand, down, sit or come</li><li>• No change of pace</li><li>• Extra command to heel or finish</li><li>• Poor sits</li><li>• Touching handler</li><li>• Sat between feet</li><li>• Poor finish or no finish</li><li>• Handler error</li></ul>

### Section 5. Scent Discrimination

The principal features of these exercises are the selection of the handler's article from among the other articles by scent alone, and the prompt delivery of the right article to the handler. The Judge will ask, Are you ready? immediately prior to taking the article from the handler. Taking of the article from the handler will be considered the first order, and scoring of the exercise will begin at that time. The remaining orders are Send your dog, Take It, and Finish. In each of these two exercises the dog must select by scent alone and retrieve an article, which has been handled by its

handler. The articles shall be provided by the handler and consist of two sets; each comprised of five identical objects not more than six inches in length, which may be items of everyday use. One set shall be made entirely of rigid metal, and one of leather design such that nothing but leather is visible except for the minimum amount of thread or metal necessary to hold the object together. The articles in each set must be legibly numbered, each with a different number, and must be approved by the Judge.

The handler shall present all 10 articles to the Judge, who shall designate one from each set and make a written note of the numbers of the two articles he has selected. These two handler's articles shall be placed on a table or chair within the ring until picked up by the handler, who shall hold in his hand only one article at a time. The Judge or Steward will handle each of the remaining 8 articles as he places them on the floor or ground at random and about six inches apart, with the closest article being about 20 feet from the handler and the dog. Before the dog is sent, the Judge must make sure that the articles are visible to the dog and handler, and that the articles are properly separated so that there will be no confusion of scent between the articles.

Handler and dog shall turn around after watching the Judge or Steward spread the articles and remain facing away from the articles until the Judge has taken the handler's scented article and given the order, Send your dog. The handler may use either article first but must return each immediately when ordered by the Judge. The Judge shall make certain that the handler imparts his scent to each article only with his hands. The article must remain in plain sight, and in the handler's hands. On the Judge's order, the handler will immediately place his article on the Judge's book or work sheet. The Judge, without touching the article, will place it among those on the ground or floor.

On the Judge's order, Send your dog, the handler may give the command to heel and will turn in place, right or left, to face the articles. The handler will come to a halt with the dog sitting in the heel position. The handler shall then give the command or signal to retrieve. Handlers may, at their discretion, on the Judge's order of Send your dog, execute with their dog a right about turn to face the articles, simultaneously giving the command or signal to Retrieve. In this

instance the dog shall not assume sitting position but go directly to the articles. The handler may give his scent to the dog by gently touching the dog's nose with the palm of one open hand. This may only be done while the dog and handler have their backs to the articles and the arm and hand must be returned to a natural position before handler and dog turn to face the articles.

The dog shall go at a brisk trot or gallop directly to the articles. It may take any reasonable time to select the right article, but only provided it works continuously. After picking up the right article the dog shall return at a brisk trot or gallop and complete the exercise as in the Retrieve on the Flat. These procedures shall be followed for both articles. If a dog retrieves a wrong article in the first exercise, that article shall be placed on the table or chair. The correct article must be removed, and the second exercise shall be conducted with one less article on the ground or floor.

## Section 6. Scent Discrimination Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unmanageable</li> <li>• Unqualified heeling</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does not go out on first command</li> <li>• No retrieve</li> <li>• Wrong article</li> <li>• Extra command</li> <li>• Anticipated</li> <li>• Sat out of reach</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Doesn't work continuously</li> <li>• Dropping article on return</li> <li>• Picked up wrong article then dropped</li> <li>• No sit in front</li> <li>• Sat after turn</li> <li>• Mouthing</li> <li>• Touching handler</li> <li>• Slow response</li> <li>• Sat between feet</li> <li>• Poor finish or no finish</li> <li>• Handler error</li> </ul>

## Section 7. Directed Retrieve

The principal features of this exercise are that the dog stay until directed to retrieve and that it go directly to the designated glove and retrieve it promptly. The handler will provide two gloves that are predominately white. They must be open and must be approved by the Judge. Handlers will stand with their backs to the unobstructed end of the ring midway between and

in line with the jumps. The dog will be sitting in heel position. The Judge or steward will drop the gloves across the end of the ring while the handler and dog are facing the opposite direction. One glove is dropped about 3 feet in from each corner.

The gloves will be designated One, and Two, reading from left to right when the handler is facing the gloves. The orders for the exercise are: One, or Two, Take it, and Finish. When the Judge designates the glove by number, the handler will turn in place to face the glove, halting with the dog sitting in heel position. The handler may not touch the dog or reposition it. The handler will give the dog the direction to the designated glove with a single motion of the left hand and arm along the right side of the dog. Either simultaneously with or immediately following giving the direction, the handler must give a verbal retrieve command. The dog must then go directly to the glove, completing the exercise as in the Retrieve on Flat.

Handlers may bend their bodies and knees as far as necessary to give the direction to the dogs but must then stand up in a natural position with their arms at their sides. The Judge will designate the same glove number for each handler.

#### Section 8. Directed Retrieve Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Does not go out on first command</li> <li>Does not retrieve right article</li> <li>Fails to retrieve</li> <li>Does not go directly to glove</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anticipated</li> <li>Sat out of reach</li> <li>Extra signal or command</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Touching dog when sending</li> <li>Slow response to commands</li> <li>Dropping article</li> <li>Mouthing or playing</li> <li>Poor delivery</li> <li>No sit in front</li> <li>Touching handler</li> <li>Poor sit</li> <li>No finish or poor finish</li> <li>Handler error</li> </ul>

#### Section 9. Moving Stand and Examination

The principal features of the exercise are that the dog heel, stand and stay on command by the moving handler, accept the examination without shyness or resentment, and return to the handler on command. The orders for the exercise are Forward, Stand your dog, both given while the handler is walking, and Call your dog to heel.

The handler stands with his dog sitting in the heel position at a point indicated by the Judge. The Judge asks, Are you ready? and orders, Forward. The handler commands or signals his dog to heel and walks briskly at a normal pace. After the handler has proceeded about 10 feet the Judge orders, Stand your dog. The handler will, without pausing, command and/or signal the dog to stand, continue forward 10-12 feet and turn around, either to the right or left, and stand facing the dog. The dog must stand and stay in position.

The Judge approaches the dog from the front and examines it by going over it with his hands as in dog show judging except that in no circumstances shall the examination include the dog's mouth or testicles.

The Judge then orders, Call your dog to heel, whereupon the handler commands and/or signals the dog to return to the heel position. The dog immediately returns in a brisk manner to the proper heel position beside the handler.

#### Section 10. Moving Stand and Examination Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Displays fear or resentment</li> <li>Sitting or lying down</li> <li>Growling or snapping</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Repeated whining or barking</li> <li>Failure to heel, stand and stay, accept examination or return to handler</li> <li>Extra command or signals</li> <li>Dog moves during exam</li> <li>Dog anticipates</li> <li>Dog repeatedly barks or whines</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Forging or lagging</li> <li>Wide</li> <li>Moves slightly on stand</li> <li>Handler hesitates or pauses</li> <li>Fails to return briskly</li> <li>Poor sit or return to heel position</li> <li>Slow response</li> <li>Handler error</li> <li>Poor finish</li> <li>Handler error</li> </ul>



### Section 11. Go Out

The purpose of this exercise is for the dog to go away from the handler to the opposite end of the ring and stop as directed. The Judge's orders are Send your dog and Return to your Dog.

The handler will stand in the approximate center of the ring between the jumps facing the unobstructed end of the ring. The Judge will order Send your dog, and the handler will command and/or signal the dog to go forward at a brisk trot or gallop to a point about 20 feet past the jumps in the approximate center of the ring. When the dog reaches this point, the handler will give a command to sit.

The dog must stop and sit with its attention on the handler, but it need not sit squarely.

The Judge will then order the handler, Return to your dog, and the handler will return to the heel position.

### Section 12. Go Out Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Does not leave on order</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Does not stop on command</li><li>Does not go at least 10 feet beyond jumps</li><li>Second command to sit</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Slightly off direction</li><li>Anticipated turn, stop or sit</li><li>Not back far enough</li><li>Doesn't sit on command</li><li>Handler error</li></ul>

### Section 13. Directed Jumping

The principal features of this exercise are that the dog stays where left, jumps as directed and returns as in the Recall. The orders are Leave your dog, Bar or High, and Finish. The jumps shall be placed midway in the ring at right angles to the sides of the ring and 18 to 20 feet apart, the Bar Jump on one side, the High Jump on the other. The Judge must make certain that the jumps are set at the required height for each dog by following the procedure described in Retrieve over the High Jump.

The handler will stand with the dog sitting in the heel position at the unobstructed end and in the center of the ring. On the Judge's order he will walk to the far end of the ring and turn to face the dog. The Judge will designate which jump is to be taken first by the dog and shall order either High or Bar, when designating either the High or Bar Jump. The handler shall command and/or signal the dog to return to him over the designated jump. While the dog is in midair the handler may turn so as to be facing the dog as it returns. The dog shall sit in front of the handler and, on the Judge's order, Finish as in the Novice Recall. The Judge will say, Exercise finished, after the dog has returned to the Heel position. The dog will be sent over only one jump, and the same jump will be used for all dogs as designated by the judge at the start of the class.

The height of the jumps shall be the same as required in the Graduate Novice classes. The High Jump shall be the same as that used in the Graduate Novice classes, and the Bar Jump shall consist of a bar between 2 and 2½ inches square with the four edges rounded sufficiently to remove any sharpness. The bar shall be painted a flat black and white in alternate sections of about 3 inches each. Two unconnected 4-foot upright posts about 5 feet apart shall support the bar. The bar shall be adjustable for each 2 inches of height from 4 inches to 36 inches, and the jump shall be so constructed and positioned that the bar can be knocked off without disturbing the uprights.

## Section 14. Directed Jumping, Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dog does not leave on order or stop on command</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dog does not go at least 10 feet beyond the jumps</li> <li>Dog climbs jump or knocks bar off</li> <li>Dog anticipates command</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Holding signals</li> <li>Slow response to directions</li> <li>Dog doesn't go back far enough</li> <li>Handler error</li> <li>Dog is hesitant or reluctant to jump</li> <li>Does not sit on command</li> <li>Anticipated turn, stops or sits</li> <li>No sit in front</li> <li>Touches handler</li> <li>Sat between feet</li> <li>Poor sits</li> <li>Anticipates finish</li> <li>No finish or poor finish</li> <li>Handler error</li> </ul>

## Chapter 9: Utility

### Section 1. Utility Class.

The Utility class is for handler and dog that have received a purple at the State 4-H Dog Show in Graduate Open. Teams may move up to Utility regardless of County or State ribbon placing.

### Section 2. Utility Exercises and Scoring

Exercise	Points
Signal Exercise	40
Scent Discrimination – Article 1	30
Scent Discrimination – Article 2	30
Directed Retrieve	30
Moving Stand and Examination	30
Directed Jumping	40
Maximum Total Score	200

### Section 3. Signal Exercise

The principal features of this exercise are the ability of dog and handler to work as a team while heeling, and the dog's correct responses to the signals to Stand, Stay, Drop, Sit and Come. Orders are the same as in Heel on Leash and Figure Eight, with the additions of Stand your dog, which shall be given only when dog and handler are walking at normal pace and Leave your dog. The Judge must use signals for directing the handler to signal the dog to Drop, Sit and Come, in that sequence, and to Finish.

Heeling in the Signal Exercise shall be done in the same manner as in Heel Free, except that throughout the entire exercise the handler shall use signals only

and must not speak to his dog at any time. At the Judge's order of Forward, the handler may signal his dog to walk at heel, and on specific order from the Judge in each case, shall execute a Left turn, Right turn, About turn, Halt, Slow, Normal and Fast. Fast signifies the handler must run with handler and dog moving forward at noticeably accelerated speed. These orders may be given in any sequence and may be repeated as necessary, but the Judge shall attempt to standardize the heeling pattern for all dogs in the class.

On the Judge's order, and while the dog is walking at heel, the handler shall signal his dog to Stand in the Heel position near one end of the ring. On further order to Leave your dog, the handler shall signal his dog to Stay, go to the other end of the ring and turn to face his dog. On separate and specific signals from

the Judge, the handler shall give his signals to Drop, to Sit, and to Come. On Judge's order the handler will give command or signal to Finish and the dog must go smartly to the Heel position and Sit. The manner in which the dog finishes shall be optional with the handler provided that it is prompt and that the dog Sit straight at Heel. During the heeling part of this exercise the handler may not give any signal except when a command or signal is permitted in the Heeling exercises.

#### Section 4. Signal Exercise Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unmanageable</li> <li>• Unqualified heeling</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Handler adapts pace to dog</li> <li>• Any audible command</li> <li>• Failure on 1st signal to: Stand, Stay, Drop, Sit or Come</li> <li>• Anticipated command to: Stand, Stay, Drop, Sit or Come</li> <li>• Sat out of reach</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No change of pace</li> <li>• Heeling wide</li> <li>• Forging or crowding handler</li> <li>• Lagging or sniffing</li> <li>• Holding signals</li> <li>• Poor sits</li> <li>• Extra command or signal to heel or finish</li> <li>• Slow response to signal, stand, down, sit or come</li> <li>• Sat between feet</li> <li>• Touching handler</li> <li>• Poor finish or no finish</li> <li>• Handler error</li> </ul>

#### Section 5. Scent Discrimination

The principal features of these exercises are the selection of the handler's article from among the other articles by scent alone, and the prompt delivery of the right article to the handler. The judge asks, "What method are you using to send your dog?" The handler must respond with either "After a sit" or "Send directly." The Judge will ask, Are you ready? immediately prior to taking the article from the handler. The taking of the article from the handler will be considered to be the first order and scoring of the exercise will begin at that time. The remaining orders

are Send your dog, Take It, and Finish. In each of these two exercises the dog must select by scent alone and retrieve an article that has been handled by its handler. The articles shall be provided by the handler and shall consist of two sets; each comprised of five identical objects not more than six inches in length, which may be items of everyday use. One set shall be made entirely of rigid metal, and one of leather of such design that nothing but leather is visible except for the minimum amount of thread or metal necessary to hold the object together. The articles in each set must be legibly numbered, each with a different number, and must be approved by the Judge.

The handler shall present all 10 articles to the Judge, who shall designate one from each set and make a written note of the numbers of the two articles he has selected. These two handler's articles shall be placed on a table or chair within the ring until picked up by the handler, who shall hold in his hand only one article at a time. The Judge or Steward will handle each of the remaining 8 articles as he places them on the floor or ground at random and about six inches apart, with the closest article being about 20 feet from the handler and the dog. Before the dog is sent, the Judge must make sure that the articles are visible to the dog and handler, and that the articles are properly separated so that there will be no confusion of scent between the articles.

Handler and dog shall turn around after watching the Judge or Steward spread the articles and shall remain facing away from those articles until the Judge has taken the handler's scented article and given the order, Send your dog. The handler may use either article first but must relinquish each one immediately when ordered by the Judge. The Judge shall make certain that the handler imparts his scent to each article only with his hands. Additionally, between the time the handler picks up each article and the time he gives it to the Judge, the article is held continuously in the handler's hands, which must remain in plain sight. On the Judge's order, the handler will immediately place his article on the Judge's book or work sheet. The Judge, without touching the article with his hands, will place it among those on the ground or floor.

On the Judge's order of Send your dog, the handler may give the command to heel and will turn in place, right or left, to face the articles. The handler will come

to a halt with the dog sitting in the heel position. The handler shall then give the command or signal to retrieve. Handlers may, at their discretion, on the Judge's order of Send your dog, execute with their dog a right about turn to face the articles, simultaneously giving the command or signal to retrieve. In this instance the dog shall not assume sitting position but shall go directly to the articles. The handler may give his scent to the dog by gently touching the dog's nose with the palm of one open hand. This may only be done while the dog and handler have their backs to the articles and the arm and hand must be returned to a natural position before handler and dog turn to face the articles.

The dog shall go at a brisk trot or gallop directly to the articles. It may take any reasonable time to select the right article, but only provided it works continuously. After picking up the right article the dog shall return at a brisk trot or gallop and complete the exercise as in the Retrieve on the Flat.

These procedures shall be followed for both articles. If a dog retrieves a wrong article in the first exercise, that article shall be placed on the table or chair. The correct article must be removed, and the second exercise shall be conducted with one less article on the ground or floor.

## Section 6. Scent Discrimination Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No retrieve</li> <li>Wrong article</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Does not go out on first command</li> <li>Extra command</li> <li>Anticipated</li> <li>Sat out of reach</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Doesn't work continuously</li> <li>Dropping article on return</li> <li>Picked up wrong article then dropped</li> <li>No sit in front</li> <li>Sat after turn</li> <li>Mouthing</li> <li>Touching handler</li> <li>Slow response</li> <li>Sat between feet</li> <li>Poor finish or no finish</li> <li>Handler error</li> </ul>

## Section 7. Directed Retrieve

The principal features of the exercise are that the dog stays until directed to retrieve, that it goes directly to the designated glove, and that it retrieves promptly. The orders for the exercise are One, Two or Three, Take it, and Finish. In this exercise the handler will provide three predominantly white, cotton work gloves, which must be open and must be approved by the Judge. The handler will stand with his back to the unobstructed end of the ring with his dog sitting in the Heel position midway between and in line with the two jumps. The Judge or Steward will drop the three gloves across the end of the ring, while the handler and dog are facing the opposite direction. He will place one glove in each corner and one in the center, about 3 feet from the end of the ring, and for the corner gloves, about 3 feet from the side of the ring. All three gloves will be clearly visible to the dog and handler when the handler turns to face the glove designated by the Judge. There shall be no table or chair at this end of the ring. The gloves shall be designated One, Two or Three reading from left to right when the handler turns and faces the gloves. The Judge will give the order One, or Two or Three. The handler then may give the command to Heel and turn in place, right or left to face the designated glove. The handler will come to a halt with the dog sitting in the Heel position. The handler shall not touch the dog to get it into position nor may he reposition the dog. The handler will then give his dog the direction to the designated glove with a single motion of his left hand and arm along the right side of the dog and will give a verbal command to retrieve either simultaneously with or immediately following the giving of the direction. The dog shall then go directly to the glove at a brisk trot or gallop and retrieve it without unnecessary mouthing or playing with it, completing the exercise as in the Retrieve on the Flat. The handler may bend his body and knees to the extent necessary in giving the direction to the dog, after which the handler will stand erect in a natural position with his arms at his sides.

The exercise shall consist of a single retrieve. Prior to the start of judging the Judge shall decide to either (a) assign the gloves to dogs so that successive dogs in catalog order will have different gloves, or (b) to assign the gloves as the dogs appear in the ring for judging so that two successive dogs do not retrieve the same glove. In either case each glove shall be used approximately the same number of times.

## Section 8. Directed Retrieve Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Does not go out on first command</li> <li>Does not retrieve right article</li> <li>Fails to retrieve</li> <li>Does not go directly to glove</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anticipated</li> <li>Sat out of reach</li> <li>Extra signal or command</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Touching dog when sending</li> <li>Slow response to commands</li> <li>Dropping article</li> <li>Mouthing or playing</li> <li>Poor delivery</li> <li>No sit in front</li> <li>Touching handler</li> <li>Poor sit</li> <li>No finish or poor finish</li> <li>Handler error</li> </ul>

## Section 9. Moving Stand and Examination

The principal features of the exercise are that the dog heel, stand and stay on command by the moving handler, accept the examination without shyness or resentment, and return to the handler on command. The orders for the exercise are Forward, Stand your dog, both given while the handler is walking, and Call your dog to heel.

The handler stands with his dog sitting in the heel position at a point indicated by the Judge. The Judge asks, Are you ready? and orders, Forward. The handler commands or signals his dog to heel and walks briskly at a normal pace. After the handler has proceeded about 10 feet the Judge orders, Stand your dog. The handler will, without pausing, command and/or signal the dog to stand, continue forward 10-12 feet and turn around, either to the right or left, and stand facing the dog. The dog must stand and stay in position.

The Judge approaches the dog from the front and examines it by going over it with his hands as in dog show judging except that in no circumstances shall the examination include the dog's mouth or testicles.

The Judge then orders, Call your dog to heel, whereupon the handler commands and/or signals the dog to return to the heel position. The dog immediately returns in a brisk manner to the proper heel position beside the handler.

## Section 10. Moving Stand and Examination Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Displays fear or resentment</li> <li>Sitting or lying down</li> <li>Growling or snapping</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Repeated whining or barking</li> <li>Failure to heel, stand and stay, accept examination or return to handler</li> <li>Extra command or signals</li> <li>Dog moves during exam</li> <li>Dog anticipates</li> <li>Dog repeatedly barks or whines</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Forging or lagging</li> <li>Wide</li> <li>Moves slightly on stand</li> <li>Handler hesitates or pauses</li> <li>Fails to return briskly</li> <li>Poor sit or return to heel position</li> <li>Slow response</li> <li>Handler error</li> <li>Poor finish</li> </ul>

## Section 11. Directed Jumping

The principal features of this exercise are that the dog goes away from the handler in the direction indicated, stops, jumps as directed and returns as in the Recall. The orders are Send your dog, Bar or High, and Finish. The jumps shall be placed midway in the ring at right angles to the sides of the ring and 18 to 20 feet apart, the Bar Jump on one side, the High Jump on the other. The Judge must make certain that the jumps are set at the required height for each dog by following the procedure described in Retrieve over the High Jump.

The handler, from a position on the centerline of the ring and about 20 feet from the line of the jumps, shall stand with his dog sitting in the Heel position. On the Judge's order he shall command and/or signal his dog to go forward at a brisk trot or gallop to a point about 20 feet beyond the jumps and in the approximate center of the unobstructed end of the ring. When the dog has reached this point the handler shall give a command to Sit; the dog must stop and sit with his attention on the handler but need not sit squarely.

The Judge will designate which jump is to be taken first by the dog and shall order either High or Bar, when designating either the High or Bar Jump. The handler shall command and/or signal the dog to return to him over the designated jump. While the dog is in midair the handler may turn so as to be facing the dog as it returns. The dog shall sit in front of the handler and, On the Judge's order, Finish as in the Novice Recall.



The Judge will say, Exercise finished, after the dog has returned to the Heel position. When the dog is again sitting in the Heel position the Judge shall ask, Are you ready? before giving the order to send the dog for the second part of the exercise. The same procedure shall be followed for the second jump.

The Judge will choose which jump is taken first, but both jumps must be taken to complete the exercise and the Judge must not designate the jump until the dog is at the far end of the ring. The dog shall clear the jumps without touching them.

The height of the jumps shall be the same as required in the Open classes. The High Jump shall be the same as that used in the Open classes, and the Bar Jump shall consist of a bar between two and two and one half inches square with the four edges rounded sufficiently to remove any sharpness. The bar shall be painted a flat black and white in alternate sections of about three inches each. Two unconnected four-foot upright posts about five feet apart shall support the bar. The bar shall be adjustable for each two inches of height from four inches to 36 inches, and the jump shall be so constructed and positioned that the bar can be knocked off without disturbing the uprights.

## Section 12. Directed Jumping, Scoring

Major deductions	Substantial deductions	Minor deductions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Goes to wrong jump</li> <li>• Dog climbs jump or knocks bar off</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dog does not leave on order, stop on command or jump as directed</li> <li>• Dog does not go at least 10 feet beyond the jumps</li> <li>• Dog anticipates command</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Holding signals</li> <li>• Slow response to directions</li> <li>• Dog doesn't go back far enough</li> <li>• Handler error</li> <li>• Dog is hesitant or reluctant to jump</li> <li>• Does not sit on command</li> <li>• Anticipated turn, stops or sits</li> <li>• No sit in front</li> <li>• Touches handler</li> <li>• Sat between feet</li> <li>• Poor sits</li> <li>• Anticipates finish</li> <li>• No finish or poor finish</li> </ul>

## Chapter 10: Brace

### Section 1. Brace Class

This class is for two dogs working in unison at all times. Dogs need not be alike in size, markings, or sex, to be a Brace. Dogs do not have to be owned by the same person, but must be handled by one person, and be under the direct care and management of the 4-H'er for a minimum of two months, as stated in Chapter 1.

Dogs may be shown unattached or coupled. The Coupler device must be at least 6 inches in overall length. Whichever method used must be continued throughout all exercises. Collars and leashes used for this class are listed in the General Guidelines for Pre-Novice and higher levels of Obedience. It is recommended the dogs wear the same type of collar when performing Brace. If choke chain collars are used, the inside dog's collar should be put on "upside down", due to the leash attachment being on the left side of the dog. This placement ensures the collar releases after any tightening of the leash/collar combination. Placing the faster of the two dogs on the outside of the two dogs helps to prevent lagging in heeling and turns.

Available levels for Brace are Pre-Novice and Novice. The same score sheets used in individual performances are used for Brace. If the dogs are in different Obedience levels, they compete in the highest level. One handler only is allowed for the same two dogs performing this class. If one of the dogs is needed for another Brace, this can be done, if handled by another 4-H'er. The dogs are judged together as one, for a maximum of 200 points.

Commands for the dogs are given as one command, to both dogs at one time.

The dogs' names can be said individually, such as "Snickers/Lucy-Stay", or as a pair, "Girls-Stay". Whichever way the commands are given, this should stay consistent throughout all exercises. The hand signal is given as one movement across the faces of both dogs. The exception is for the Stand for Examination exercise. The dogs can be individually posed with their name and command to "Stand", or as one command, as in the "Stay" commands. After each dog is stood, and position checked, the Handler should stand up, give one "Stay" command, and step away from the dogs. On the Recall exercise, dogs are

called together as one, "Snickers/Lucy-Come". The Finish command is given once, for both dogs to finish as one, either around or next to the handler. A right finish is generally recommended for the Brace. The Drop on Recall exercise requires BOTH dogs to drop, at the same time, with one or a double command, either by voice or hand signal. The dogs are then called in together, as one.

## Chapter 11: Team

### Section 1. Team Class

The Team class is for teams of any four dogs and handlers that are eligible under these Guidelines. Dogs do not have to be the same breed, size, coloration, or sex. Handlers and dogs can be from different counties but must be competing at the same level. If the option is available and enough dogs are available from

a county, a team of larger dogs, and one of smaller dogs should be considered. This is not a requirement, but just adds additional uniformity. Team members are recommended to wear the same type of clothing and shoes, again to keep as uniform as possible. Also, it is recommended to have matching leashes and

similar collars, but this IS NOT a requirement for Team. The Team consists of four handlers—one being the Captain. The Captain sets the pace for heeling, and when to start an exercise. The Captain can be either on the left or right side of the Team. Other Team members should always be aware of the Captain's position and lineup accordingly with this individual. Spacing of the dogs is done by measuring an arm's length between the members. Placing the 4-H'er's hand on the next one's shoulder at the beginning, when the team is setting up, ensures correct spacing between dogs and handlers. When starting to practice for Team, it is recommended to practice without the dogs, to ensure that members are comfortable marching together and can work on foot work and spacing more easily. Team requires more practice for the handlers than the dogs!

There shall be two judges, one of whom will call commands while the other scores the team's performance. The Teams will be judged one at a time, except for the Long Sit and Long Down exercises, which shall be done with no more than four teams (16 dogs) in the ring.

The dogs on a team will perform the exercises

simultaneously and will be judged as specified for the Pre-Novice or Novice class. The age level the team is judged is determined by the oldest handler on the Team. Five dogs can be entered,

with one dog/handler considered an alternate. If the alternate is required at the County show level, the dog/handler replaced, will become the alternate, if the team qualifies for the state level. In all exercises, the teams have the option of executing the Judge's commands on the Team Captain's repeat of the command. In the Figure Eight portion of the Heel on Leash exercise, five Stewards will be used. The Stewards shall stand eight feet apart in a straight line. One handler, with dog sitting in Heel position, shall stand about equidistant from each of two Stewards, all members of the team facing in the same direction. On orders from the Judge, the Team shall perform the Figure Eight, each handler starting around the Steward on his left and circling only the two stewards between whom he had been standing. It is very important to time the Come command to be called at the same time. Even though the dogs all have different names, if the word

"Come" is said at the same time, this greatly improves the dogs returning to their handler. The Finish shall be done in unison on the command from the Judge.

## Section 2. Team Class Scoring

Scoring of the Team class shall be based on the performance of the dogs and handlers individually plus team precision and coordination. Each dog and handler will be scored against the customary maximum for a team total of 800 maximum available points. Individual dog's scores shall be recorded; a specific score sheet is available for Team scoring.

## Glossary of Terms

(Taken from AKC Obedience and Rally\* Regulations)

**Brisk, briskly** – keenly alive, alert, energetic

**Command** – verbal order from handler to dog

**Crooked** – a dog that is not straight in line with the direction the handler is facing

**Crowding** – a dog so close to handler as to interfere with handler's freedom of motion

**Directly** – immediately, without deviation or hesitation

**Drop completely** – a down position that would be acceptable for a Long Down exercise

**Forging** – to move forward or ahead steadily, but in a gradual fashion

**Gently** – with kindness, without harshness or roughness

**Guiding gently by the collar** – control of the dog by holding any part of the collar with minimal pressure on the dog's neck

**Handler** – one who holds and incites a dog during a match

**Lagging** – to walk or move slowly, to fall behind

**Lame** – irregularity or impairment of the function of locomotion, irrespective of the cause or how slight or severe

**Maximum penalty** – all points lost or Non-Qualifying zero. In 4-H, a Maximum Point Deduction means that at least one-half of the total points for that exercise will be deducted if the youth/dog team fails to perform one part of that exercise.

**Minor penalty** – 1 point to 2 points per fault or error

**Mouthing** – when a dog chews or rolls the dumbbell in its mouth unnecessarily

**Natural Manner** – not artificial; free of affectation; what is customarily expected in the home or public places

**Order** – direction from Judge to handler, either verbal or nonverbal

**Pause** – a complete stop of forward motion by the handler

**Pivot** – turning in the circle occupied by the handler before they started the turn; a turn in place

**Prompt Response** – without hesitation, immediate, quick

**Resentment** – resistance, unwillingness

**Signal** – nonverbal direction from the handler to dog

**Show Official** – any person having official duties, volunteer or paid, during a particular show or event

**Smartly** – quickly, vigorously

**Substantial penalty** – 3 points or more per fault or error

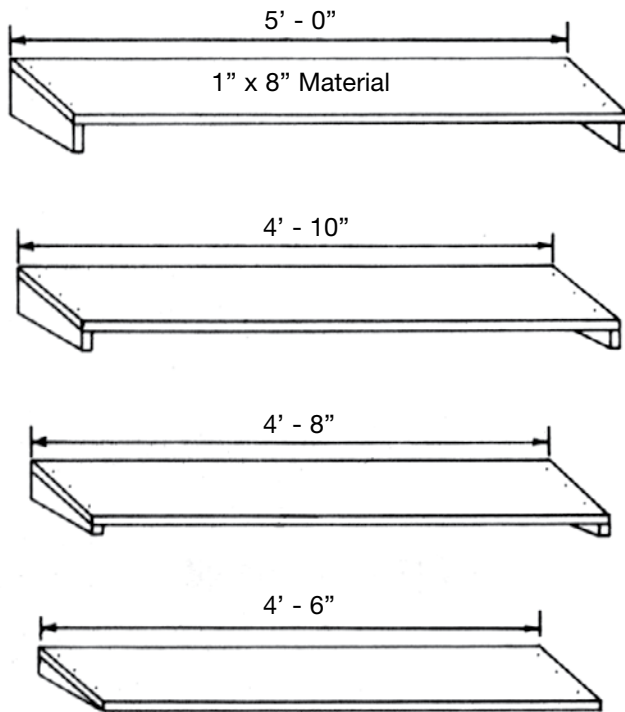
**Team** – associated together, as those on one side in a match

**Turn in place** – turning in the circle that was occupied by the handler before they started to turn

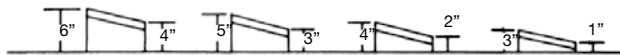
**Withers** – highest point of the dog's shoulder

## Jump Construction

### Suggested construction of Broad Jump



### ELEVATION

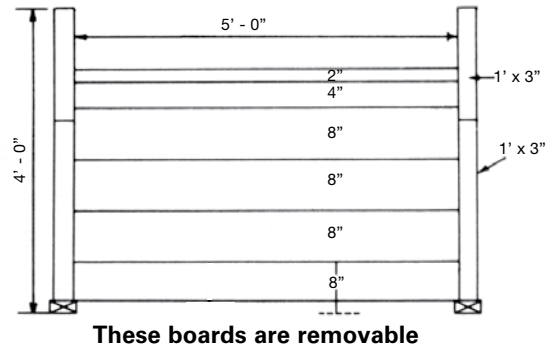


#### End view of four hurdles

This jump must be painted a flat white.

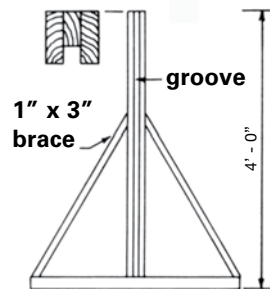
**NOTE:** The lowest height for either the high or bar jump is now 4 inches.

### SUGGESTED CONSTRUCTION OF HIGH JUMP



### FRONT VIEW

#### top view of groove



This upright consists of two pieces 1" x 3" and one piece 1" x 2", nailed together, with the 1" x 2" forming the groove for the boards to slide in.

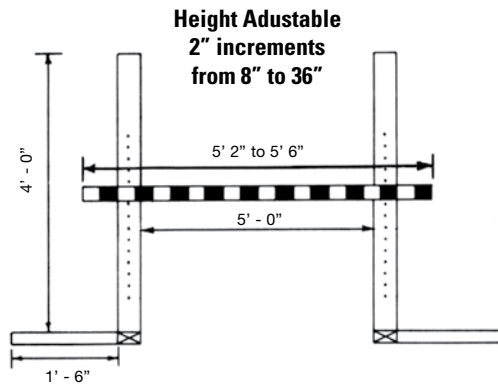
### SIDE VIEW

The high jump must be painted a flat white.

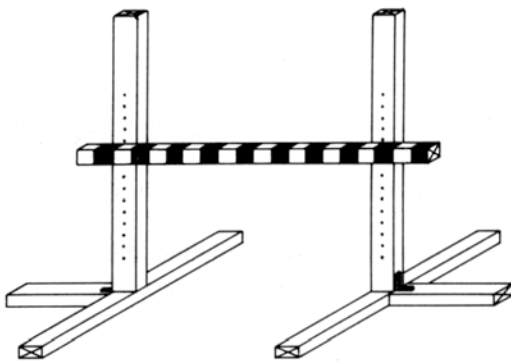


## Jump Construction

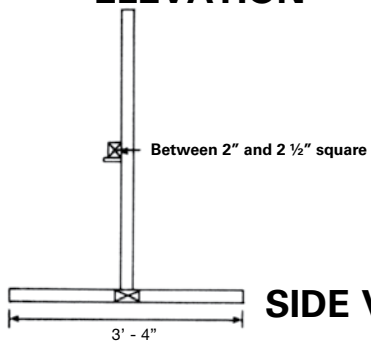
### Suggested construction of Bar Jump



**FRONT VIEW**



**ELEVATION**



**SIDE VIEW**

# **Section 3**

## Dog Rally

# Dog Rally

## Introduction

Rally, like other 4-H Dog activities, is a sport in which all participants should be guided by the principles of good sportsmanship both inside and outside the ring. Rally trials demonstrate the usefulness of the dog as a companion of mankind, not merely the dog's ability to follow specified routines in the ring. All participants in the rally classes are required to perform the same exercises in substantially the same way so that the quality of the various performances may be compared and

scored. The basic objective of Rally is to provide an activity that does not require extensive precision for success. Dogs who participate in Rally are dogs that have been trained and conditioned to behave in the home, in public places, and in the presence of other dogs. Dogs in rally events should demonstrate willingness and enjoyment. To that end, handlers may use encouragement, praise and body language throughout the rally course.

Rally is a sport in which the dog and handler complete a course that has been designed by the rally judge. The judge tells the handler to begin, and the dog and handler proceed at their own pace through a course

of designated stations (10 to 20, depending on the level). Each of these stations has a sign providing instructions regarding the next skill that

is to be performed. Scoring is not as rigorous as traditional obedience. Rally provides a link from the Canine Good Citizen (CGC) program to obedience or agility competition, both for dogs and handlers. In addition, rally promotes fun and enjoyment for dogs at all levels of competition.

The team of dog and handler moves continuously at a brisk, but normal pace with the dog under control at the handler's left side. There should be a sense of teamwork between the dog and handler both during the numbered exercises and between the exercise signs; however, perfect "heel position" is not required.

Any faults in traditional obedience that would be evaluated and scored as a one-point deduction or more should be scored the same in Rally, unless otherwise mentioned in these rules.

After the judge's Forward command, the team is on its own to complete the entire sequence of numbered signs correctly.

unlimited communication from the handler to the dog is to be encouraged and not penalized. Unless otherwise specified in these Rules, handlers are permitted to talk, praise, encourage, clap their hands, pat their legs, or use any verbal means of encouragement. Multiple commands and/or signals using one or both arms and hands are allowed; the handler's arms need not be maintained in any particular position at any time. The handler may not touch the dog or make physical corrections. At any time during the performance, loud or harsh commands or intimidating signals will be penalized.

To the extent applicable and in all things similar, Rally will follow the same General Rules as the South Dakota 4-H obedience Rules. Exceptions will be those items specifically identified and explained in these Rally Rules.

Females in heat may not be shown in Rally.

## General Rules

### Section 1. Space Requirements

The required minimum area for a rally course is 40 x 50 feet, however 40 x 80 feet is recommended. The floor covering or ground surface must be the same as would be suitable for traditional obedience.

### Section 2. Signs and Holders

AKC approved signs will be used in 4-H rally events. The designated wording and symbols must be used. Signs must be a minimum of 8 ½ x 11 inches and a maximum of 11 x 17 inches. Weather conditions should be considered when securing signs and holders. Colors are optional.

Twenty exercise sign holders are required plus one each for the Start and Finish signs. All sign holders or signs (not including those for Start and Finish) will be clearly and sequentially numbered on the course, with numbers approximately 3 inches high. Signs with an asterisk (numbers 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 17, 18, 19, and 34) may be used multiple times on a rally course. Two of each of those signs must be available for the judge's use. All other signs may only be used once on any course.

Stationary exercises are any signs indicating a "Halt" or no forward motion.

### Section 3. Placement of Signs

Signs will be placed to the right of the handler's path except for those indicating a change of direction, in which case the sign will be directly in front of the handler to aid in that change. Exercises using cones may require entry with the sign on the left. Exact placement of signs is made by the judge while walking the course along the path that will be taken by the handlers. The course for each class will be posted at the ring prior to the familiarization time (see Section 5). The course used for that day's event should accompany the judge's book when turned in to the show committee.

### Section 4. Location of Performance in relation to Signs

Except for exercises requiring entry with the sign on the left, exercises are performed near (within 3 feet) the designated signs, either directly in front, or in front and to the left of said signs. When executing signs requiring pace changes, changes must occur at similar intervals. ex. If the handler begins a fast pace 3 feet before the fast sign, s/he must change to a normal pace 3 feet before the normal sign. Likewise, if the handler changes pace as s/he reaches a sign, s/he would change pace again as s/he reaches the next sign.

### Section 5. Familiarization Time

Approximately every two hours, the judge will allow a 10-minute walkthrough for handlers without their dogs. The same course should be used for "A" and "b" classes at Novice and Advanced levels, so those walkthroughs may be done at the same time. The judge must be available during this period to answer any questions the handlers might have. The judge will also

brief the handlers on the course during this period.

### Section 6. Judging and Position for Starting

The judge's orders will be, Are you ready? followed by, Forward. No other orders are necessary. Timing begins when the judge says Forward.

Timing ends when the dog and handler cross the finish sign.

The dog can be in a sit, down or stand at the Start sign to begin the Rally course.

Dogs **MUST** enter the ring on leash and exit on leash, even in Advanced b and excellent.

### Section 7. Scoring and Ribbon placements

The score sheet and ribbon placing will be recorded and handed out at the completion of each class. Times will be used only to break ties. The following scale will be used:

Score	Ribbon
90-100	Purple
80-89	blue
70-79	Red
below 69	White

In order to qualify for State Fair and Pass to the next level, the team must earn a minimum of 90 points at County level. Scoring of all levels is based on a maximum score of 100 points. The following deductions shall apply:

1-point deduction for each of the following:

- Tight leash
- Dog interfering with handler
- Poor sits
- Slow, delay, or resistance to respond
- Touching or ticking a jump, pylon, post or person
- Out of position

3-point deductions for each of the following:

- Repeat of a station (a maximum of 2 re-tries allowed)
- Pylon/post knocked over (on figure 8, spiral and serpentine)
- Lack of control
- Loud command or intimidating signal
- Excessive barking
- For each 30 seconds over allowed time

10-point deduction for each of the following:

- Incorrectly performed station
- Hitting the jump
- Over the class time limit

1- to 10-point deduction:

- Lack of teamwork
- Lack of briskness
- Handler error

25 –point deduction:

- Eliminating in the ring

Non-Qualifying (NQ) scores shall be given for:

- Minimum requirements not met
- Dog unmanageable, or uncontrolled barking
- Station not attempted
- Consistently tight lead
- Substantially out of position/not completing the honor exercise
- Bar knocked off uprights
- Using a jump as an aid in going over
- Failure of dog to go over the jump in the proper direction
- Handler error (different from the above 10-point deduction. Used when it is evident that the handler does not know how to complete the exercises.)

The table steward is responsible for totaling deductions on the judge's worksheet and transferring them to the judge's book. Final scores may be recorded in the official judge's book by the table steward, however, the judge must verify the scores and sign the book.

### Section 8. Timing

All dogs will be timed. Time will begin when the judge says Forward and end when the dog and handler cross the Finish. Handlers and dogs are to move briskly. Ideally, courses are designed to be completed within 1 1/2 - 2 minutes. A Major fault of 10 points will be deducted for going over the class time limit.

### Classes & Advancements

All classes will be divided into the three 4-H age divisions, beginner, Junior and Senior. leashes and collars for Rally novice must meet the requirements of basic obedience. Collars in Rally Advanced and Rally excellence must be a properly fitted flat or slip collar. No training collars allowed. Nothing may be hanging from the collar.

### Section 1. Rally Novice Class

All exercises are judged with the dog on leash, and all dogs must enter and leave the ring on leash. Rally Novice A and b must have between 10-15 stations (Start and Finish are not included) with no more than five (5) stationary exercises per class (these may include any of signs 1- 36).

Rally Novice A will be for any first-time 4-H'er that has not competed in any Rally or obedience classes. Rally Novice b will be for any 4-H'er that has participated in Rally or traditional obedience. It is also for any experienced 4-H'er that is beginning a new dog. The time limit for this class is 4 minutes.

### Section 2. Rally Advanced Class

All dogs will enter and leave the ring on leash. Rally Advanced A and b must have between 12 and 17 stations (Start and Finish not included) with no more than seven (7) stationary exercises per class (these may include any of signs 1- 36 and 101-118). The time limit for this class is 3 1/2 minutes.

Rally Advanced A is for dogs that have passed 4-H Rally Novice but have not received a minimum passing score of 70 in Advanced A. This class will be judged with the dog ON leash.

Rally Advanced b is for dogs that have passed Rally Novice level (or the non 4-H equivalent) but have not received a passing score of 70 points in Advanced b. This class will be judged with the dog OFF leash. A

4-H'er may show in A and b progressively, or choose to show only in b, according to their training level or their show experience outside of 4-H.

**Note:** The normal 4-H progression is Rally Novice – Advanced A – Advanced b. Advanced A may be skipped at the handler's discretion; it MUST be skipped if s/he has participated in non-4-H Rally competition at the Advanced level.

### Section 2a. Jumps

one jump must be used for this class. It may be any jump used as standard equipment in 4-H obedience classes (broad jump, high jump, or bar jump) except that 4-foot wide jumps may be used in place of 5-foot wide jumps. It is the judge's responsibility to see that the jumps are set for each dog in accordance to these Rules.



The broad Jump will consist of three telescoping hurdles, each approximately 8 inches wide. The largest hurdle will measure about 4 feet 10 inches long (if from a 5-foot set) and about 5 inches at the

highest point. In the ring, broad jump hurdles will be arranged in order of size from smallest to largest. They will be evenly spaced, covering a distance equal to twice the height of the high jump set for each dog. Three hurdles will be used for a jump of 32 inches, two hurdles for a jump of 16 or 24 inches, or one hurdle for a jump of 4 or 8 inches. When decreasing the number of hurdles in the jump, the highest hurdle will be removed first.

- The High Jump consists of two uprights and solid boards of varying widths that combine to make each dog's required jump height.
- The bar Jump also has two uprights. These are constructed to support only a striped bar which is set at the dog's required jump height.

### Section 2b. Jump Heights

The dog's jump height shall be given on the entry form. entries may be arranged according to the jump height of the dogs, from either high to low, or low to high.

The dog's height at the withers determines its jump height.

Dog's Height	Height of Jump
under 10 inches	4 inches
10-14 inches	8 inches
14-20 inches	12 inches
over 20 inches	16 inches

### Section 3. Rally Excellent Class

Rally excellent must have between 15-20 stations (Start and Finish not included) with no more than seven stationary exercises per class (these signs shall include any of all signs numbered 1-36, 101-118, 201-211 and 298-299). All exercises are judged with the dog off leash. unlike in the Rally Novice and Advanced Classes, in Rally excellent handlers are not allowed to pat their legs or clap their hands to encourage the dog. Verbal encouragement, multiple commands, and/or inaudible signals using one or both arms and hands are allowed; the handler's arms need not be maintained in any particular position at any time. Handlers may not touch their dog or make any physical corrections. There will be no A and b divisions in this class. A dog

completing the Rally excellent level may continue to compete at this level indefinitely. Sign 298 and two jumps must be used for this class. Jumps may be any jump or any combination of the jumps that may be used as standard equipment in the obedience classes (broad jump, high jump, or bar jump) except that 4-foot jumps may be used in place of 5-foot jumps. Jumps may not be used consecutively in the course. The time limit for this class is 3 minutes.

For more information: Rally-o: The Style of Rally obedience, 3rd edition by Charles 'bud' Kramer ISBN: B0006ROFZ8

### Guidelines for Judges Classes & Advancements

The 4-H Rally Rules and Guidelines are the basic guide for judging, however, not every possible fault or error is covered, only the more common and serious ones.

Rally Rules (and sign descriptions) clearly define the exercises, their order and the standard by which they are to be judged. The rules set the standard for a perfect score of 100 points by which each dog's performance is judged. The rules give the judge guidelines for how an exercise is to be performed. While rally is not judged with the same precision as formal obedience, rally judges must make decisions based on a mental picture of the perfect performance within the framework of these rules. Studying the 4-H Rally Rules and Guidelines, exhibiting and attending seminars all increase a judge's knowledge. Putting the acquired knowledge into practice permits a judge to apply the principles of sound judging.

Judges are given full discretionary authority within the framework of the rules, and they must exercise this authority impartially. Judges are required to make their own decisions and accept the responsibility this implies. If a decision depends on the exact wording of a rule, the judge is expected to consult the book before making the decision.

A judge may not discard, modify, or require anything not specified in the 4-H Rally Rules and Guidelines. A rally level passed is intended to evoke admiration. Therefore, the accomplishment must be based on performances that fully meet the requirements of the 4-H rules. Scores for each exercise must be amply justified by the performance of the dog and handler. The 4-H handler of any dog receiving a ribbon in rally

has every reason to be proud. Earning a qualifying score should indicate a credible performance that fully justifies the achievement level of both the dog AND the youth.

### Preparing for Judging

**Ring** – upon arrival, the judge should post the course(s) outside the ring. The judge may alter the course because of unforeseen ring conditions and post the change(s). Prior to the scheduled judging time, the judge should inspect the ring, which must meet all the requirements of the 4-H Rally Rules and Guidelines.

Size shall be determined by means of the judge pacing the ring. Checking the ring also requires the judge to:

- examine the signs and sign holders to ensure they are secure.
- examine the distractions used in the offset Figure 8 to determine that they can be seen and smelled but not consumed.

Measure the jumps in the Advanced and excellent classes to ensure they meet the requirements.

**Order of exhibitors** – the judge should review the entry list and respond to exhibitors requesting a change of order for class conflicts and re-order as they are able. They should review procedures with the Ring Steward to accommodate entrants in other classes, but not to the point of delaying classes. The judge may also arrange entries according to the dog's jump heights, either low to high or high to low. A judge need not mark absentees in the judge's book until the end of the class. Judges are not required to wait beyond the completion of each class for dogs/handler teams.

**Judging Schedule** – The judging schedule will be based on no more than 15 dogs per hour. Judges may take rest or meal times at their discretion.

### Judge's Records

#### Section 1. Judging the classes

The judge should honor an exhibitor's request to be excused.

#### Section 2. Judge's Book

When judging is finished, the judge should review and sign the book and mark the time they are finished for the day. The book along with a copy of each course for the classes is then returned to the Rally Chair or Show Chairperson. These books will help the judge to answer questions from exhibitors or parents, provide

valuable information into the success and needs of the program for the upcoming year, and help to improve the next year's show by showing numbers of entrants, actual exhibitor numbers, time needed for each class, and where the children and leaders need help in making improvements in their training classes.

### Guidelines for Stewards

#### Introduction

Stewarding functions in the rally ring are broken down into four general categories: Gate steward, table steward, ring steward, and time steward. In Rally Novice and Rally Advanced, only three stewards are necessary; one person can serve as both the ring steward and the time steward.

The time steward will monitor and report each dog's time to the table steward. Each steward's functions are described below. It is essential that all stewards be at ringside at least 30 minutes prior to the scheduled start of judging to receive any specific instructions from the judge and to assist in setting up the rally ring as directed by the judge.

#### Job Descriptions

##### Section 1. Gate Steward

The primary responsibility of the gate steward is to ensure that the next dog to be judged is immediately available when the judge indicates that s/he is ready. As soon as the judge begins judging the dog in the ring, call the next dog and ensure the handler is ringside before the dog in the ring has completed the rally exercises. Dogs may not enter the ring until the judge invites them in. It is the responsibility of the gate steward to ensure that the class judging is not delayed because the judge is waiting for dogs. If the dog listed next on the entry list is not at ringside, do not hesitate to call the next dog in order. Stewards are not required to seek out handlers. It is the 4-H'er's responsibility to be present and ready when called. Report any absences to the judge at the end of the class. The judge will decide if the 4-H'er is to be marked absent. Follow this procedure, even if the 4-H'er has checked in.

The gate steward also checks in exhibitors. Ask the exhibitor's name and the name of the dog, then check the entry list. For Advanced and Excellent classes, note the jump height of the dog on the entry list. Double-check this with the rules to be sure the dog is jumping

the correct height. The Gate Steward should also take the leash from each handler when the dog is brought into the ring and return it as the dog and handler complete the "Finish" sign but before they leave the ring.

At check in exhibitors may make requests for special consideration, such as asking to be judged out of order or disabled 4-H'ers may have an attendant help them. The Gate Steward manages these requests, consulting the judge or show chair as necessary.

## **Section 2. Table Steward**

The extent to which a judge uses a table steward varies greatly. Some judges prefer to do their own bookwork and do not feel it is necessary to have the steward perform many of these duties. The steward must receive specific instructions from the judge as to what will be required. Judges must use worksheets to communicate with the table steward. The judge may ask the table steward to prepare and have the worksheet ready for the next dog. ensure that the class, proper ID Number, and breed of dog are entered correctly on the sheet. Double-check to see that the scores on the worksheet have been added correctly. Initial the worksheet and transfer the score and time to the judge's book. If an error is detected, bring it to the attention of the judge, and then enter the corrected score and time in the judge's book.

The table steward ensures that all ribbons are available at the conclusion of judging. The judge may ask the steward to assist in awarding the ribbons and trophies to the exhibitors.

## **Section 3. Ring Steward**

Each judge in Rally will have at least one ring steward. It is particularly important for the ring steward to report to the ring at least 30 minutes prior to judging to assist in setting up the rally course and to receive specific instructions from the judge. During Novice classes, the ring steward should remain outside the ring but stay alert to any possible problems and be ready to follow whatever instructions the judge may give.

For Advanced and excellent classes, it is essential that the ring steward have a tape measure or steel rule to ensure accuracy in setting the broad jump. The first duty of the judge is to check that the jumps are properly set. Stewards must arrange the jumps quickly and accurately, or much time will be wasted.

- The Jumps – although the gate steward will ask the handler what height the dog jumps, the handler may only know the height of the dog. Therefore, it is essential that the ring stewards be familiar with the Rules in order to set the jumps correctly. See Section 2b for the appropriate chart.

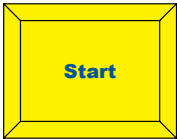

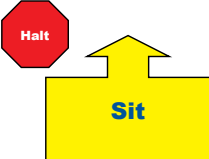
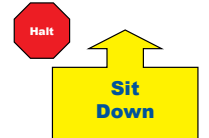
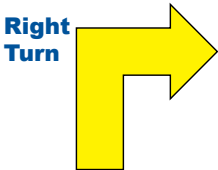
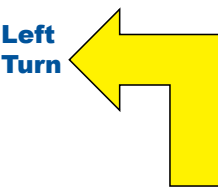


## **Section 4. Time Steward**


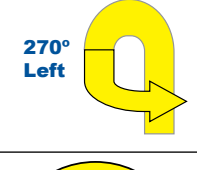



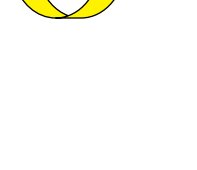

In the Novice and Advanced classes, the ring steward and the time steward may be the same person, however in the excellent class, two separate stewards are necessary.



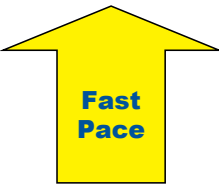




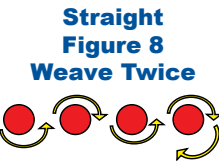
If two or more dogs in a class earn the same score, the tie is broken by time. The timer is positioned outside the ring in a place specified by the judge. The timer should be lined up with the Start sign. When the judge gives the order Forward, the timer starts the stopwatch and stops it when the dog and handler cross the Finish station. Times are reported immediately to the table steward after each dog completes the course.

## Rally Signs & Descriptions


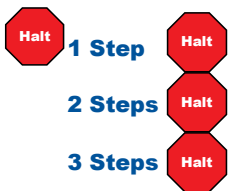
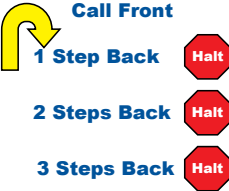

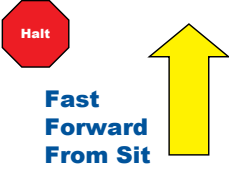


Judges may use duplicates of stations marked with an asterisk in designing their courses. excellent/Advanced only exercises are designated with a green color, and excellent only with a light green color.

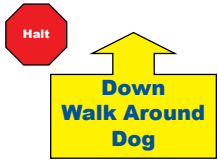
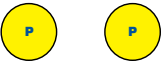
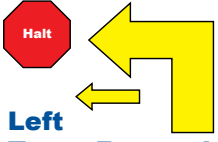


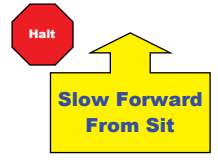


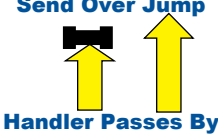
Sign	Name	Description
	1. Start	Indicates the beginning of the course. Dog does not have to be sitting at start.
	2. Finish	Indicates the end of the course – timing stops.
	3. HALT – Sit	While heeling, the handler halts and the dog sits in heel position. The team then moves forward, with the dog in heel position. (Stationary exercise)
	4. HALT – Down Dog	While heeling, the handler halts and the dog sits. The handler then commands and/or signals the dog to down, followed by the command to heel forward from the down position. (Stationary exercise)
	*5. Right Turn	Performed as a 90° turn to the right, as in traditional obedience.
	*6. Left Turn	Performed as a 90° turn to the left, as in traditional obedience.
	*7. About Turn Right	While heeling, the team makes a 180° about turn to the handler's right.
	*8. About U Turn	While heeling, the team makes a 180° turn to the handler's left.

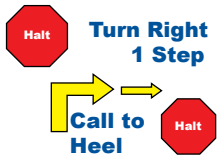

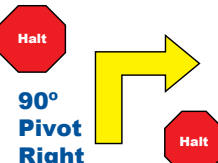
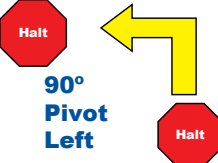
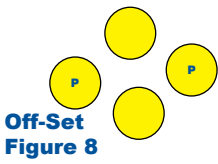
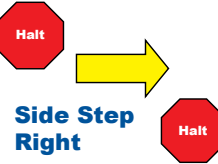
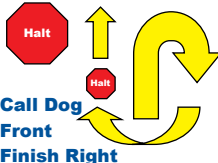
Sign	Name	Description
	*9. 270° Right Turn	While heeling, team makes a 270° turn to the handler's right. 270° turns are performed as a tight circle, but not around the exercise sign.
	*10. 270° Left Turn	While heeling, the team makes a 270° turn to the handler's left. 270° turns are performed as a tight circle, but not around the exercise sign.
	11. 360° Right Turn	While heeling, team makes a 360° turn to the handler's right. 360° turns are performed as a tight circle, but not around the exercise sign.
	12. 360° Left Turn	While heeling, the team makes a 360° turn to the handler's left. 360° turns are performed as a tight circle, but not around the exercise sign.
	13. Call Dog Front – Finish Right – Forward	While heeling, handler stops forward motion and calls the dog to front position (dog sits in front and faces handler). Handler may take several steps backward as the dog turns and moves to sit in the front position. Next, handler commands and/or signals the dog to change from the front position by moving to the handler's right, around behind the handler, toward heel position. As the dog clears the handler's path, he moves forward before it completely returns to heel position. The dog doesn't sit before moving forward in heel position. (Stationary exercise) Handler must not step forward or backward to aid dog as it moves toward heel position. (Stationary exercise)
	14. Call Dog Front – Finish Left – Forward	While heeling, handler stops forward motion; calls the dog to front position (dog sits in front and faces the handler). Handler may take several steps back as the dog turns and moves to sit in the front position. Next, handler commands and/or signals the dog to change from the front position by moving to the handler's right, around behind the handler, toward heel position. As dog clears the handler's path, he moves forward before it has completely returned to the heel position. The dog does not sit before moving forward in heel position with the handler. (Stationary exercise)
	15. Call Dog Front – Finish Right – HALT	While heeling, handler stops forward motion and calls the dog to the front position (dog sits in front and faces the handler). Handler may take several steps backward as the dog turns and moves to sit in the front position. Next, finish to the right; dog returns to heel position by moving around the right side of handler. Dog must sit in heel position before moving forward with the handler. Handler may not step forward or backward to aid dog as it moves toward heel position. (Stationary exercise)


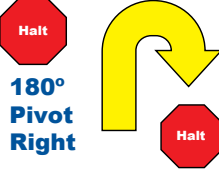
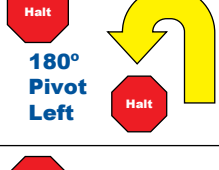
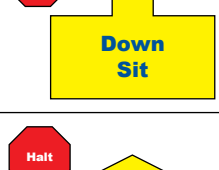
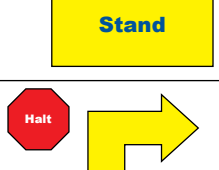
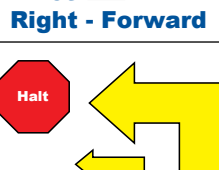

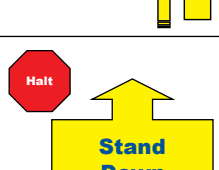

Sign	Name	Description
	16. Call Dog Front – Finish Left – HALT	While heeling, handler stops and calls dog to the front position (dog sits in front and faces the handler). Handler may take several steps backward as dog turns and moves to a sit in the front position. Next, finish to the left; dog returns to heel position by moving around the left side of the handler and sits in heel position. Dog must sit in heel position before moving forward in heel position with the handler. (Stationary exercise)
	*17. Slow Pace	Dog and handler must slow down noticeably. This must be followed by a normal pace unless it is the last station on the course.
	*18. Fast Pace	Dog and handler must speed up noticeably. This must be followed by a normal pace.
	*19. Normal Pace	Dog and handler must move forward, walking briskly and naturally. This station can only be used after a change of pace.
	20. Moving Side-Step Right	While heeling, the handler takes one step to the right, leading with the right foot, and continues moving forward along the newly established line. The dog moves with the handler. The exercise shall be performed just before the exercise sign. (This exercise shall be considered a change of direction and the sign shall be placed directly in line with the handler's path requiring the handler and dog to sidestep to the right to pass the sign.
	21. Spiral Right – Dog Outside	This exercise requires three pylons or posts placed in a straight line with spaces between them of approximately 6-8 feet. Spiral Right indicates the handler must turn to the right when moving around each pylon or post. This places the dog on the outside of the turns. The exercise sign is placed near or on the first pylon or post where the spiral is started.
	22. Spiral Left – Dog Inside	This exercise requires three pylons or posts placed in a straight line with spaces between them of approximately 6-8 feet. Spiral left indicates that the handler must turn to the left when moving around each pylon or post. This places the dog on the inside of the turns. The exercise sign is placed near or on the first pylon or post where the spiral is started.
	23. Straight Figure 8 Weave Twice	This exercise requires four pylons or posts placed in a straight line with spaces between them of approximately 6-8 feet. The exercise sign is placed near or on the first pylon or post where the exercise is started. entry into the weaving pattern is with the first pylon or post at the dog/ handler's left side. The dog and handler must complete the entire exercise by passing the last pylon or post.

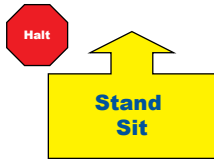









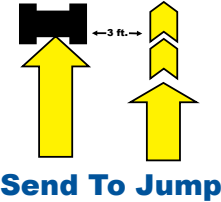
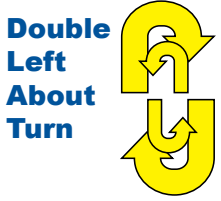

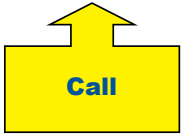
Sign	Name	Description
<b>Serpentine Weave Once</b> 	24. Serpentine Weave Once	This exercise requires pylons or posts placed in a straight line with spaces between them of approximately 6-8 feet. The exercise sign is placed near or on the first pylon or post where the exercise starts. entry into the weaving pattern is with the first pylon or post at the dog/handler's left side. The dog and handler must complete the entire exercise by passing the last pylon or post. It should be noted that in this exercise, the team does not weave back through the obstacles as they do in the Straight Figure 8.
	25. HALT – 1, 2 And 3 Steps Forward	Handler halts and the dog sits in heel position. The handler takes one step forward and halts with the dog maintaining heel position. The dog sits when the handler halts. This is followed by two steps forward– halt, and three steps forward– halt, with the dog heeling each time the handler moves forward and sitting each time the handler halts. (Stationary exercise)
	26. Call Front – 1, 2 And 3 Steps Backward	While heeling, handler stops forward motion and calls the dog to the front position (dog sits in front and faces the handler). Handler may take several steps backward as the dog turns and moves to a sit in the front position. With the dog in the front position, handler takes one step backward and halts. Dog moves with the handler and sits in the front position as the handler halts. This is followed by the handler taking two steps backward and a halt, and three steps backward and a halt. each time, the dog moves with the handler to the front position and sits as the handler halts. Handler then commands and/or signals the dog to resume heel position. When returning to the heel position, dog does not sit before handler moves forward. (Stationary exercise)
	27. Down and Stop	While moving with the dog in heel position, handler commands and/or signals the dog to down as he comes to a stop next to it. once dog is completely down, handler moves forward, commanding dog to move forward from down position. (Stationary exercise)
	28. HALT – Fast Forward From Sit	Handler halts and dog sits in heel position. With dog sitting in heel position, handler commands and/or signals dog to heel and immediately moves forward at a fast pace. This must be followed by a normal pace. (Stationary exercise)
	29. Left About Turn	While moving with dog in heel position, handler makes an about turn to the left, while at the same time, dog must move around handler to the right and into heel position. Dog does not sit before moving forward in heel position with handler.
	30. HALT and Walk Around Dog	Handler halts and dog sits. With the dog sitting in heel position, the handler commands and/or signals the dog to stay, then proceeds to walk around the dog to the left, returning to heel position. The handler must pause in heel position before moving forward to the next station. (Stationary exercise)

Sign	Name	Description
	31. HALT and Walk Around Dog	Handler halts and dog sits. With the dog sitting in heel position, the handler commands and/or signals the dog to down and stay, then proceeds to walk around the dog to the left, returning to heel position. The handler must pause in heel position before moving forward to the next station. The dog heels forward from the down position. (Stationary exercise)
 <p><b>Figure 8 No Distractions</b></p>	32. Figure 8 – No Distractions	Two pylons or posts spaced approximately 6-8 feet apart. The team enters the sequence with the posts on either left or right and will perform a complete figure 8 around the posts or pylons, crossing the center point three times.
 <p><b>Left Turn - Forward</b></p>	33. HALT – Left Turn – Forward	Handler halts, dog sits. With the dog sitting the handler commands and/or signals the dog to heel, as the handler turns to the left and continues to move forward in the new direction without hesitation. The dog must turn with handler as the handler turns. (Stationary exercise)
 <p><b>Right Turn - Forward</b></p>	*34. HALT – Right Turn – Forward	Handler halts, dog sits. With the dog sitting, handler commands and/or signals the dog to heel, as the handler turns to the right and continues to move forward in the new direction without hesitation. The dog must turn with the handler as he turns. (Stationary exercise)
 <p><b>Call Front Return to Heel</b></p>	35. Call Front – Return To Heel	While heeling, handler stops forward motion and calls the dog to the front position. The handler may take several steps backward as dog turns and moves to sit in the front position. Dog sits in front and faces the handler. The handler will then walk around behind the dog and return to the heel position and pause. Dog must remain sitting as handler walks around dog. (This is a 180° change of direction, about turn.) (Stationary exercise)
	36. HALT – Slow Forward From Sit	The handler halts, and the dog sits in heel position. The handler then commands and/or signals the dog to heel and moves forward at a slow pace. The dog must maintain heel position as handler slowly moves forward. This must be followed by a normal pace, unless it is the last station on the course. (Stationary exercise)
 <p><b>About Turn Right Forward</b></p>	101. HALT – About Turn Right And Forward	Handler halts and dog sits. With the dog sitting in heel position, the team turns 180° to the right and immediately moves forward. (Stationary exercise)
 <p><b>About "U" Turn Forward</b></p>	102. HALT – About "U" Turn And Forward	Handler halts and dog sits. With the dog sitting in heel position, the team turns 180° to the left and immediately moves forward. (Stationary exercise)
	*103. Send Over Jump – Handler Passes By	While moving with dog in heel position, handler directs it to take jump as he passes by with no pause, hesitation or stops. When the dog completes the jump in the proper direction, it is called to heel position and the team continues to the next exercise.

Sign	Name	Description
	104. HALT –Turn Right One Step –Call To Heel	Halt–Handler halts and dog sits. While dog sits, handler commands and/or signals dog to stay. The handler then turns to the right, while taking one step in that direction, and halts. Dog is directed to heel position and must move and sit in the new location before moving forward to the next station. (Stationary exercise)
	www – Stand Dog – Walk Around	Handler halts and dog sits. With the dog sitting in heel position, handler stands the dog and commands and/or signals the dog to stay as he walks around the dog to the left, returning to heel position. The handler must pause in heel position before moving forward to the next station. In the Advanced class, handler may touch the dog, move forward to stand the dog, and may pose the dog as in the show ring. (Stationary exercise)
	106. HALT –90° Pivot Right – HALT	Handler halts and dog sits. While the dog sits in heel position, handler pivots 90° to the right and halts. Dog moves with handler and sits in heel position. (Stationary exercise)
	107. HALT – 90° Pivot Left – HALT	Handler halts and dog sits. While the dog sits in heel position, handler pivots 90° to the left and halts. Dog moves with the handler and sits in heel position. (Stationary exercise)
	108. Offset Figure 8	The exercise requires 2 pylons or posts placed 8–10 feet apart, around which the team will perform a complete Figure 8, crossing the center line three times. Two distractions will be placed to the sides of the Figure 8 about 5–6 feet apart. entry may be between the pylons or posts and the distraction on either side. Distractions consist of two securely covered containers with tempting dog treats; dog toys may replace one or both containers, or be placed next to the containers. The exercise sign may be placed on or near the cone where entry is made into the Figure 8.
	109. HALT – Side-Step Right – HALT	Handler halts in front of station sign and the dog sits. With dog sitting in heel position, handler moves one step directly to the right and halts. The dog moves with handler and sits in heel position when he halts. Perform the exercise just before the exercise sign. This exercise is considered a change of direction and the sign shall be placed directly in line with the handler's path, requiring he and dog to sidestep to the right to pass the sign. (Stationary exercise)
	110. HALT – Call Dog Front – Finish Right	Handler halts and dog sits. With the dog sitting in heel position, the handler calls the dog to front and the dog sits in the front position, facing the handler. on command, the dog then moves from the front position around the right of the handler and sits in heel position. Handler must not step forward or backward to aid the dog during the exercise. (Stationary exercise)

Sign	Name	Description
	111. HALT – Call Dog Front – Finish Left	Handler halts and dog sits. With the dog sitting in heel position, the handler calls the dog to front and the dog sits in the front position, facing the handler. on command, the dog then moves from the front position around the left of the handler and sits in heel position. Handler must not step forward or backward to aid the dog during the exercise. (Stationary exercise)
	112. HALT – 180° Pivot Right – Halt	Handler halts and dog sits. With the dog sitting in heel position, the handler pivots 180° to the right and halts. The dog moves with the handler and sits in heel position. (Stationary exercise)
	113. HALT – 180° Pivot Left – HALT	Handler halts and dog sits. With the dog sitting in heel position, the handler pivots 180° to the left and halts. The dog moves with the handler and sits in heel position. (Stationary exercise)
	114. HALT – Down – Sit	Handler halts and dog sits. With dog sitting in heel position, the handler commands and/or signals the dog to down, then to sit. (Stationary exercise)
	115. HALT – Stand	Handler halts and dog sits. With dog sitting in heel position, handler stands the dog. Handler may touch the dog, move forward to stand the dog and may pose it as in the show ring. Handler then resumes heel position while dog stands in place. Handler pauses before moving forward. (Stationary exercise)
	116. HALT – Pivot Right– Forward	The handler halts and the dog sits in heel position. The handler commands and/or signals the dog to heel, then pivots to the right and dog and handler move forward. (Stationary exercise)
	117. HALT – Pivot Left – Forward	The handler halts and the dog sits in heel position. The handler commands and/or signals the dog to heel, then pivots to the left and dog and handler move forward. (Stationary exercise)
	118. HALT – Leave Dog – 2 Steps – Call To Heel – Forward	The handler halts, and dog sits in heel position. While dog remains sitting, handler takes two steps forward and pauses. Handler moves forward and commands dog to resume heel position. The dog must move briskly. (Stationary exercise)
	201. HALT – Stand–Down	Handler halts and dog sits. With dog sitting in heel position, the handler will stand the dog (without physical handling or moving forward), then command and/or signal the dog to down. The handler then commands and/or signals the dog to heel forward from the down position. (Stationary exercise)

Sign	Name	Description
	202. HALT –Stand–Sit	Handler halts and dog sits. With dog sitting in heel position, the handler will stand the dog (without physical handling or moving forward), then command and/or signal the dog to sit. The handler then commands and/or signals the dog to heel forward from the sitting position. (Stationary exercise)
	203. Moving Stand–Walk Around Dog	While heeling and without pausing, the handler will stand the dog and walk around the dog to the left, returning to heel position. The handler must pause in heel position after returning to the dog. Dog must move forward from the standing position.
	204. Moving Down—Walk Around Dog	While heeling and without pausing, the handler will down the dog and walk around the dog to the left, returning to heel position. The handler must pause in heel position after returning to the dog. The dog must move forward from the down position.
	205. Backup 3 Steps	While heeling, the handler reverses direction walking backward at least 3 steps, without first stopping, and then continues heeling forward. The dog moves backward with the handler and maintains heel position throughout the exercise without sitting.
	206. Down While Heeling	While moving forward, without pause or hesitation, the handler will command and/or signal the dog to down and stay as the handler continues forward about 6 feet to the Call to Heel marker. The handler will turn and face the dog, pause and then command and/or signal the dog to heel. This is a 180° change of direction, about turn. (This sign will be followed within 6 feet by the Call to Heel marker.) Dog must return to heel position and sit; the handler must pause before moving forward. (Stationary exercise)
	207. Stand While Heeling	While moving forward, without pause or hesitation the handler will command and/or signal the dog to stand and stay as the handler continues forward about 6 feet to the Call to Heel marker. The handler will turn and face the dog, pause and then command and/or signal the dog to heel. This is a 180° change of direction, about turn. (This sign will be followed within 6 feet by the Call to Heel marker.) Dog must return to heel position and sit; the handler must pause before moving forward. (Stationary exercise)
	208. Stand – Leave Dog – Sit Dog – Call Front – Finish	While heeling, the handler will stop and command and/or signal the dog to stand. The dog must stand and stay without sitting first. Then the handler will walk forward approximately 6 feet to the Call to Heel marker. The handler will turn to face the dog and command and/or signal the dog to sit. When the dog sits, the handler will command and/or signal the dog to front. The dog sits in the front position facing the handler. on command and/or signal, the dog will move to heel position. Dog must sit in heel position before moving forward with the handler. (Stationary exercise) (This exercise reverses the direction of the team.)

Sign	Name	Description
	209. Stand – Leave Dog – Down Dog – Call Front– Finish	While heeling, the handler will stop and stand the dog using a command and/or signal, then walk forward approximately 6 feet. The dog must stand and stay without sitting first. The handler will turn to face the dog and command and/or signal the dog to down. When the dog downs, the handler will command and/or signal the dog to front. The dog must sit in the front position facing the handler. on command and/or signal, the dog will move to heel position. The dog must sit in heel position before moving forward with the handler. (Stationary exercise) (This exercise reverses the direction of the team.)
	210. Send To Jump	At the sign, handler will command and/or signal the dog to leave heel position to execute the jump. The dog must leave handler immediately and execute jump. Handler must maintain a straight path of at least a 3-foot distance away from the jump and may not pass the jump until the dog has returned to heel position. The dog must jump in the proper direction and return to heel position without pause, hesitation, or stopping.
	211. Double Left About Turn	While moving with the dog in heel position, handler makes an about turn to the left while at the same time, the dog must move around the handler to the right and into heel position. The handler must take one or two steps forward before performing the exercise a second time. The handler will end up turning 360° to the left as the dog turns 360° to the right around the handler. The dog does not sit at any time during this exercise.
	298. Sit Stay	The sign will be used as a marker for the exercise. Dog remains in the sit position until the handler retrieves the leash, returns to heel position and the judge says exercise finished.
	299. Call To Heel	This sign will be used as a marker for associated exercises.



# **Section 4**

## Dog Showmanship

# Dog Showmanship

## Purpose of showmanship

Showmanship helps 4-H members develop skills and knowledge in dog show handling. It allows 4-H members to learn about breeds of dogs and general grooming responsibilities. In showmanship; versus obedience, rally obedience and agility, the judge evaluates the handler's knowledge and experience. The guidelines and score sheets outline the minimum expectations for performance; however, this may vary somewhat with each judge. In contrast, in agility the handler guides the dog through the course and the dog either can do the obstacle or not, a very clear result. This difference in evaluation takes into account the team's readiness to move up to the next level of showmanship; for example, confidence, poise, knowledge, and lead handling.

## Showmanship competition

Showmanship competition provides 4-H members with a meaningful experience where they can practice and improve their handling and sportsmanship skills. Showmanship gives each 4-H member the opportunity to present themselves and their dog to the best of their ability. This is exemplified by a handler working as a team with his or her dog, so the dog is stacked, alert, and under control, while at the same time the 4-H'er appears confident and in control. It is important to remember at all times that the 4-H showmanship ring is not the AKC showmanship ring. (In the AKC showmanship ring the dog is being judged, while in 4-H the handler is being judged.)

Showmanship will be evaluated on the following five basic areas:

1. Proper breed presentation
2. Ring procedure
3. Knowledge
4. Grooming of dog
5. 4-H'ers appearance and conduct

## Competition Rules

### Eligibility for Participation

Any dog may be shown in 4-H showmanship, regardless of breed or cross. Conformation of the dog

is not evaluated in 4-H showmanship. A mixed breed dog should be shown by the breed standard it most closely resembles, even if it is not a cross of that breed.

No dog in season may be shown.

### Classes

There are two showmanship classes:

- Novice: For 4-H members who have never earned a purple ribbon at the county or state show level.
- Open: For 4-H members who have earned purple ribbon at the state show level in Novice. Because showmanship is based on the 4-H'ers ability, they may not drop back to novice if they use a new dog for showmanship. If a member chooses not to go on to the State Dog Show the County Project Leader and Member may use their own discretion and advance to the next level.

In 4-H showmanship, members advance from novice to open through each age level.

- Beginner Class will be for ages 8-10
- Junior Class will be for ages 11-13
- Senior Class will be for ages 14-18

Special State Award:

There will be a top five ranking with awards for only the Senior Open Showmanship Level at the State Dog Show. This will be determined by a run-off of the two highest scores in each Senior Open Showmanship class. Note: the stewards of these classes will tell the top scorers in each class that they are required to return for the final run-off.

### Hardship Clause

If a 4-H'ers dog should get injured, killed, or an intact female come in season after the county Achievement Days, he/she is allowed to substitute another dog for the South Dakota State 4-H Dog Show. This is only allowed in the Showmanship area of the dog project.

### Eliminating in the Ring

The 4-H'er will be docked one ribbon placing for any dog that eliminates in the ring.

## Leads

There are several types of showmanship leads. They come in many styles, sizes, weights, and colors. Some include:

- loop lead – this type has a loop at the end that slips over the dog's head. Caution should be used when showing with this lead, so that it does not slip off the dog's head.
- martingale – this type has an additional loop at the end of the first loop and the dog's head is placed between the two loops. This allows the handler to have more control with the dog.
- slip collar with a short leash/lead – this type is like those sometimes used in obedience but with a lead of four feet or less. The size of links should be appropriately matched to the size of the dog. It is appropriate for beginning and/or large and/or strong dogs to be shown with a slip collar.

A showmanship lead is preferred, but no deduction shall be made for obedience leashes AT THE BEGINNER LEVEL ONLY. The size/weight of the lead should be appropriate for the size and/or breed of the dog. Most large dogs should not be shown on lightweight leads.



Lead held correctly.



Lead held incorrectly.



Lead placed correctly on dog.



Lead placed incorrectly on dog.

Regardless of which lead is used, the handler must be in control of the dog and the lead shall be held and used neatly. Deductions shall be made for leads hanging down or flapping about the dog. The handler's lead should be ready at all times and deductions shall be made for time spent wrapping leads and getting ready to move out.

In the 4-H showmanship ring, the lead should never be removed when presenting the dog to the judge.

## Use of Bait

In the 4-H showmanship ring, baiting of dogs with food is allowed at the Open Level. If a 4-H'er uses bait, it must be used discreetly, with no deliberate baiting near other dogs. If the bait is dropped in the ring and not immediately picked up OR is used to deliberately distract other dogs, the 4 H'er will automatically receive a white ribbon. Small toys are allowed in the 4-H showmanship ring, and a squeaker may be used only during individual examination.

The purpose of baiting is to animate the dog when stacking it in the lineup or during individual presentation to the judge. Dogs show animation and/or expression by either wagging their tail or perking up their ears. Bait is also used to free stack the dog and keep his attention. (For a description of "free stack" look under the heading titled "stacking".)

- Baiting is to be done discreetly, without a lot of fanfare and flare. Never stretch an arm out when holding the bait so that it catches any other dog's attention. Be respectful of the others in the ring.
- The size of the food bait pieces should be appropriate for the size of the dog. Semi-moist food chunks work best because they can be easily handled and quickly broken off without too much mess. Dry/hard bones or food cannot quickly be broken into smaller pieces. Bait should not be messy or gooey.
- "Mouth bait" (like hot dogs) that is actually kept in your mouth is not permitted in the 4-H ring. This is to prevent any accidental choking. While this type of bait certainly has its merits, it is not appropriate in 4-H for safety reasons.
- Keep bait in a bait bag or in a skirt, pants, or jacket pocket until ready to use it.
- Do not take the bait out of the pocket or bait bag until in the ring and the judge has placed the group in the order, he/she wants it to be in. If free

stacking the dog, use the bait as needed to stack. If hand stacking the dog, bait is not needed until after the dog has been stacked, for animation, as the judge is looking the group over.

- Be sure to put the bait back in a bait bag or pocket before gaiting around the ring in a group. Never, ever leave the bait in the hand when not using it.
- Put any bait away right before the judge approaches for the individual examination of the dog.
- When doing an individual gaiting pattern, keep the bait in a pocket or bait bag. While completing the pattern and returning to the judge, take the bait out to present the dog to the judge.
  - Bait should be held directly in front of the dog. At what height/level to hold the bait depends on the size of the dog and experience of the handler. Again, think of the overall picture being created for the judge. If bait is held too high for a big dog, it will throw the balance of the dog totally off – big dogs have a habit of reaching for something high.
  - If small dogs are baited too low, they do not respond.
- Never, ever throw the bait while in the 4-H showmanship ring. Never toss the bait in the air, expecting to catch it while trying to get the dog's attention. (You may not catch the bait.) This is just common courtesy and respect to other dogs and 4-H'ers in the ring.

### Clothing

At the State Dog Show all exhibitors are required to follow the Livestock dress code:

4-H livestock exhibitors will receive a 4-H t-shirt for the South Dakota State 4-H Dog Show. The t-shirts will be made available to all livestock exhibitors. The t-shirts are donated by Farm Credit Services of America to recognize the participants' importance to the 4-H program and the South Dakota State Fair.

The t-shirts will be required for all youth wishing to participate in showmanship opportunities while exhibiting at the South Dakota State 4-H Dog Show; they emphasize the importance of proper dress and equal representation of all youth. In addition, the t-shirts will provide a uniform recognition of 4-H youth participating in livestock programs at the State Fair.

If the above requirement is ever lifted, the following guidelines should be followed:

The 4-H'er should be neatly and appropriately dressed when exhibiting in the show ring. All shirts must have sleeves and be tucked in. Dark colored jeans, pants, shorts (fingertip length) or skirt (fingertip length) are acceptable. No torn blue jeans, no commercial advertising on shirts or equipment and no caps are allowed in the show ring. Wearing closed-toed and closed-heeled shoes is necessary when showing any animal.

All clothing should be appropriate for moving when handling a dog. Choose attire that allows free movement of the arms and legs. No special consideration shall be given to a handler because of the color of clothing. Avoid wearing jewelry that makes noise or interferes with handling. Shoes should be flat and easy to walk in. Low heeled, rubber-soled shoes are best since they provide good traction. High-heels and flip-flops, sandals or open heeled shoes such as clogs are not appropriate. No deduction shall be made for wearing tennis shoes.

These clothing rules also apply to anyone judging the Dog classes.

### Ring Procedure

Individual judges vary their judging routine and the following components may be mixed in any order. Basic procedure includes:

1. Gaiting by group and individual
2. Stacking (posing) the dog
3. Individual examination of dog

### Gaiting

Make gaiting smooth, straight, and the correct speed. When in motion, the dog should move naturally and freely. Avoid traveling ahead of or behind the dog.

Always keep the show lead in the hand that is beside the dog. Unlike in Obedience, the arm should be extended out from the side, held above the dog's head. Do not keep the lead too tight or too loose for the breed or individual dog. The lead should never be so tight as to pull the dog's feet off the ground.

Avoid unnecessary motions or noises that detract from the gaiting procedure. Use the entire ring unless the judge instructs otherwise. If a mat is used, it is for

the dog to gait on without slipping. The dog should be centered on the mat while gaing with the 4-H'er off to the side. If the mat is wide enough, the handler should gait on the mat, too.)

The dog is to be kept between the judge and handler at all times. It is a major fault if the 4-H'er is between the judge and the dog for a significant amount of time (examples: an entire side of the ring, entire pattern, all the way around the ring). It is a minor fault if the handler is between the judge and the dog for a minimal amount of time and he/she corrects the mistake.

It is very important for the handler to have economy of motion and minimize hand switching as much as possible.

A courtesy turn is optional in 4-H but is recommended to get the dog moving or to reposition the dog during a pattern. As the courtesy turn is completed the handler continues directly into the designated pattern with no stop in between. At this point it is acceptable for the 4-H'er to briefly pass between his/her dog and the judge. To execute the courtesy turn, it is done at the beginning of the individual pattern, by stepping away from the judge either beside or in front of the judge; turning to the right, doing a 270 degree turn, (refer to Rally guidelines), then step away to the pattern assigned. If the courtesy turn cannot be executed smoothly, it should not be done because it then detracts from the overall teamwork.

### Group Gaing

Enter the ring in the order assigned by the steward. The judge may choose to rearrange the dogs according to size and/or speed.

During group gaing, the 4-H'er and dog will always move counter-clockwise around the ring. Under no circumstances will a judge direct the group to move clockwise around the ring. Gaing is usually done around the perimeter of the ring with dogs on the left side of the handler. Passing should never be done except at the judge's request.

### Showing 4-H Dogs on the Table

- The use of the table is optional at the county level but will be used at the state level. See the list of dogs that are usually tabled at the end of this section. The judge will forego the table if a handler's size is too small to lift their dog safely.

- The showmanship table is a regular grooming table, without the grooming arm. The suggested size is 18 inches wide and 30 inches long.
- There is no hard and fast rule for the placement of the table in the show ring. It should be placed sensibly, to prevent a lot of wasted time and wasted steps for the judge. It should not be placed in a spot that would be in the way of the gaing dog and handler.
- After the handler places his/her dog on the table he will stand on the far side of the table facing the showmanship class, the judge will stand with her back to the class. The judge may move from her side to the front or back of the table but never on to the same side of the table as the handler.
- The dog is stacked according to the breed (See: AKA Breeds by Group at [www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org)). The Judge will usually observe the side of the dog from the middle of the ring, then move to the front of the table. At this point the judge may ask the 4-H'er to show the bite and will then check the grooming.
- The dog should be carefully lifted onto the table and then stacked. Don't expect perfection right away, when working with dogs that are not used to being on the table, be patient. This takes some training for the dog to get used to it. Use praise, and occasional treats, to help the dog feel comfortable.

The front feet should be placed near center front edge of the table; they should be close to the edge but not touching the metal edging. It is permissible to carefully lift a small breed by its chest and gently set it into position. Never use the dog's tail to lift him up or to put him in position. Great care when lifting the dog down from the table as some dogs may get excited and try to jump. **NOTE:** If a Whippet is shown on the table, they jump on and off on their own – do not lift them.

The end of the lead should be placed over the handler's shoulder – it is also acceptable to hold the lead in the hand.

The dog's head should be up, and the dog should remain quiet and still in order for the judge to go over it for grooming.

## Breeds Usually Shown on the Table

### Non-Sporting Group:

- American Eskimo
- Bichon Frise
- Boston Terrier
- French Bulldog
- Lhasa Apso
- Lowchin
- Poodle (miniature)
- Schipperke
- Tibetan Spaniel
- Shiba Inu
- Tibetan Terrier

### Hound Group:

- Basenji
- Beagles
- Dachsund
- Petit Basset Griffon Vendeen
- Whippet

### Sporting Group:

- Cocker Spaniels
- English Cocker Spaniels

### Herding Group:

- Cardigan Welsh Corgi
- Pembroke Welsh Corgi
- Puli
- Shetland Sheepdog
- Swedish Vallhund

### Working Group:

- No dogs

### Toy Group:

- All dogs are usually tabled.



## Gaiting Patterns

### Pattern Key:

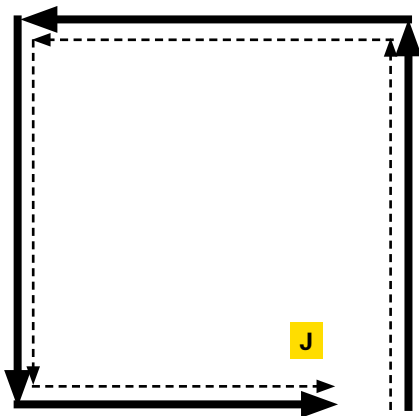
Solid line with arrows = Handler

Broken Arrows = Dog

**J** = Judge

It is important that handlers leave space between themselves and the dogs in front of them for safety reasons and to give the judge the best view of their dog). Crowding other dogs is a major fault.

During group gaiting, when the faster dogs are at the front of the line and “catch up” to the smaller dogs at the end of the line, it is appropriate for the 4-H’er to slow down the gait of his/ her dog. Those with a faster/larger dog should continue gaiting at a slower speed, even if it is not the proper speed for his/her breed.



### Individual Gaiting

During individual gaiting, the 4-H’er should move the dog at the correct speed for its breed. He/she needs to move at a speed that will match the dog’s appropriate gait. Trotting is when one front leg and the opposite rear leg move forward at the same time.

Pacing is when the legs on the same side of the dog move forward at the same time. Gaiting will allow the judge to evaluate the dog’s side, front, or rear movement. The judge needs to be able to see how the dog’s legs move along a straight line. The 4-H’er will be asked to perform one or more of the following patterns:

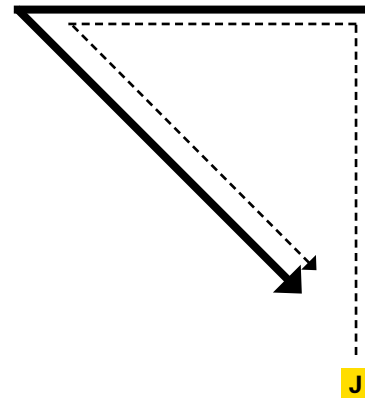
1. Triangle pattern All Levels except for Cloverbuds
2. “L” pattern Beginner Open, Junior Novice & Open; Senior Novice & Open
3. “T” pattern Junior Open; Senior Open
4. Down and Back Cloverbuds only

### “Triangle” Pattern

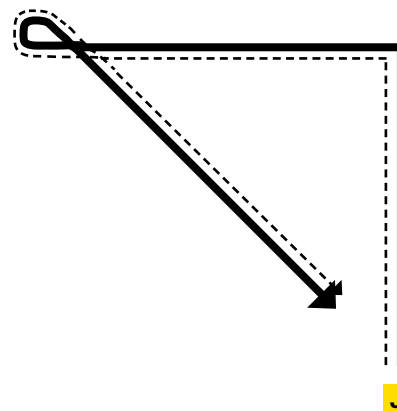
This pattern is performed in the shape of a right triangle. The handler and dog will proceed in a straight line away from the judge to the opposite end of the ring. At the corner make a left turn and proceed all the way to the next corner. Then one of three turns may be made before proceeding up the diagonal and back to the judge. Under no circumstances may a judge direct a handler to do a reverse triangle where the s/he would go down the diagonal first.

Here are the three variations to the triangle pattern turn:

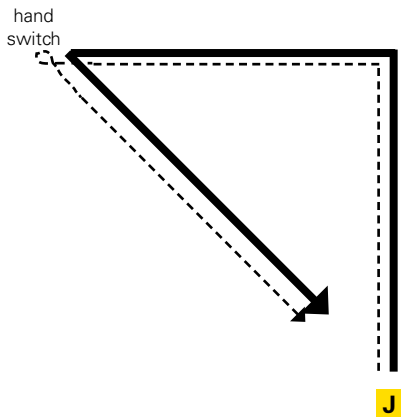
1. The easiest option is to simply make a left turn onto the diagonal. The handler does not switch hands with the lead and the dog stays on the handler’s left side.



2. The second option is to make a circle in the corner (called a courtesy turn) with the dog always remaining on the handler’s left side. The 4-H’er does not switch hands with the lead. At this point it is acceptable to briefly pass between the dog and the judge.



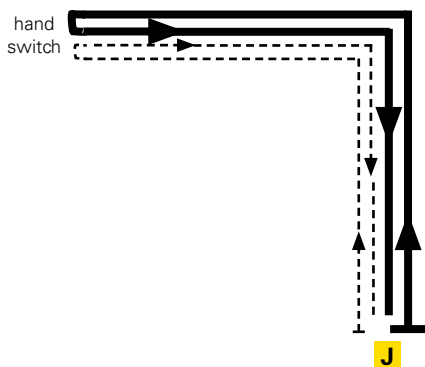
3. The third option is for the handler to switch hands with the lead and cross the dog over in front of him/her. The dog completes a circle as the 4-H'er and dog turn into/toward each other and proceed up the diagonal with the dog on his/her right side.



### "L" Pattern

This pattern is performed in the shape of an uppercase letter "L". The handler and dog will proceed in a straight line away from the judge to the opposite end of the ring. At the corner make a left turn and proceed all the way to the next corner, switching hands with the lead. The handler and dog turn into/toward each other and proceed back to the other end of the ring. At the final corner, the handler again has three options for executing the final turn.

1. The easiest option is to simply make a right turn and proceed back to the judge. The 4 H'er does not switch hands with the lead and the dog stays on the 4 H'ers right side.



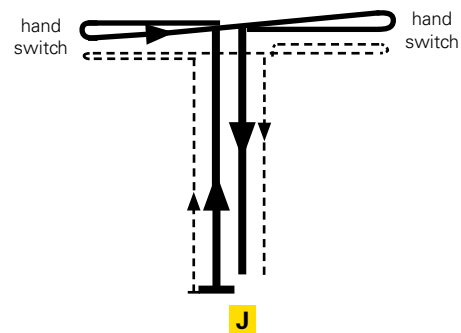
2. The second option is to make a circle in the corner (courtesy turn) with the dog always remaining on the 4-H'ers right side. Do not switch hands with the lead.

3. The third option is for the 4-H'er to switch hands with the lead and cross the dog over in front of him/her. The dog completes a circle as the handler and dog turn into/toward each other and proceed back to the judge with the dog on the his/her left side.

### "T" Pattern

This pattern is performed in the shape of an uppercase letter "T". The judge will indicate where to start the "T" pattern. The 4-H'er and dog will proceed in a straight line away from the judge to the opposite end of the ring. The 4-H'er should turn to the left and proceed to the corner of the ring. He/she then switches hands with the lead. The 4 H'er and dog turn into/toward each other and proceed to the other end of the ring. At the other end, he/she again switches hands with the lead. The handler and dog again turn into/toward each other and proceed back to the center of the ring.

The 4-H'er then turns back toward the judge and proceeds in a straight line back to the judge.



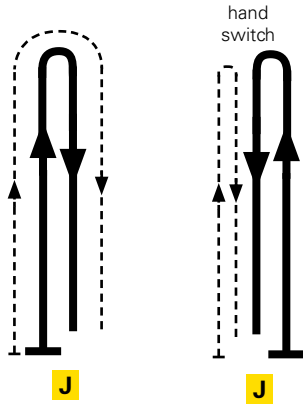
### Down and Back

The 4-H'er and dog will be asked to gait across the ring either on the diagonal or from end to end. At the opposite end of the ring, the 4 H'er has the option to do (1) an about turn or (2) to switch hands with the lead.

- If an about turn is executed, the dog stays on the same side (left or right) and goes around the outside of the handler.
- If the handler switches hands with the lead, he/she and dog turn into/ toward each other and proceed to the other end of the ring. The dog ends up on the opposite side of the handler from where it originally started (left to right or right to left).
- Executing a U-turn (where the 4-H'er goes around the dog) is a major fault.
- This will be used only at the Clover Bud level.

## Switching Hands

It may be necessary in some patterns to switch the lead from one hand to the other to ensure the dog is always between the judge and the handler. These changes should be done gracefully at the corners of the patterns only as necessary to be sure the judge has an unobstructed view of the dog.



## Completion of the Pattern

It is customary for the 4-H'er to stop a few steps back from the judge. Some judges will use a hand signal to designate when to stop, others may not.

If a judge does not signal, be sure to stop six feet from the judge. Most breeds should stop and stand with all four feet square. This is called "free stacking". The dog should walk into the stack squarely, without the handler moving the dog's feet by hand. It is encouraged to show off the dogs best physical attribute, such as a happy alert expression, proper head for the breed, body confirmation for the dogs, etc., by a front or side presentation of the dog to the judge. This can show the 4-H'er's additional knowledge of showmanship. Using hands to stack the dog upon the completion of an individual pattern is considered a major fault.

## Stacking

Stacking dogs should be done when the class stops gaiting around the ring. It should be maintained while the judge is doing individual examinations of other dogs in the class. The exception would be that occasionally the judge may give direction "to relax your dog" due to large class size, etc. This means that it is ok for the dog to sit or lie down; HOWEVER, the 4-H'er must remain attentive to both the judge and his/her dog's needs.

In the 4-H showmanship ring, handlers whose breed of dog is customarily shown in the AKC ring on a table

may stack their dog on the floor or may request a table.

When stacking the dog, it is acceptable for the handler to either kneel on one or both knees or stand depending on individual preference and comfort level. Minor deductions shall be made for any 4-H'er who is not able to move gracefully and quickly around the dog. Major deductions shall be made for crawling on both knees.

4-H'ers may lift from underneath the chest or mandible and hips to stack their dog.

- Never use the tail to stack the dog (as is done with some breeds in the AKC ring). It is considered a major fault to use the tail to stack a dog.
- Never lift all four feet of the dog off the floor at the same time. It is considered a major fault to lift all four feet of the dog off the floor at the same time.

## Table stacking guidelines

Lift the dog to the table so that the hindquarters of the dog approach the table first. This may help the dog to correctly position the front feet at the edge of the table. It is considered a major fault to lift the dog to the table by the tail (as done with some breeds in the AKC ring). Free stacking is walking the dog into the proper stack and keeping his attention. The breeds that are stacked square are the easiest to work with and look the best free stacked.

As the judge moves to various locations in the ring, it is important that the 4-H'er keep the dog between himself/herself and the judge. The handler should not at any time block the view of the dog from the judge (hands on tail, hands over muzzle, etc.). It is acceptable for him/her to stack the dog by reaching over the dog to position the feet furthest from him/her. For safety reasons, under no circumstances may a judge leave the ring in order to make the handlers switch sides. If a judge wants to observe the group switching sides, they should move the "line up" to the diagonal.

It is each member's responsibility to find out how their breed is customarily stacked. For specific information on stacking, see the "Proper Breed Presentation" section of this book. While stacking the dog, handlers will be evaluated on the correct stack for the breed. All breeds are stacked with their front feet positioned evenly with each other.

It is each handler's responsibility to leave sufficient space between themselves and the dog in front of them. Sufficient space means there is enough room for the judge to walk between the dogs without touching either dog or feeling crowded.

4-H'ers should work to develop proficiency in speed and ease of stacking. To begin learning this process, begin by practicing walking the dog into a stack until the dog will automatically place its front feet squarely.

The judge may request that 4-H'ers move to a different location in the ring or restack their dog facing another direction. When this occurs, it is important to be able to turn the dog gracefully and to re-stack the dog quickly.

### **Individual Examination of the Dog**

Individual examinations of each dog will be conducted, usually from the group stack. The judge may look at the dog from a few steps back and then move forward to examine the dog. While the judge is doing this, the 4-H'er should be attentive to the judge while maintaining full control over the dog.

When preparing for the individual exam, the 4-H'er may slide their left hand into the collar and wrap their hand around the dog's jaw/head as best as they can, for increased control of the dog during their exam. The dog should be held firmly, not tightly. The lead may be dropped during this time only, without deduction.

Some judges may ask the handler to show either the dog's bite or their teeth. To show the bite, lift the front lips of the dog to show how the teeth come together. To show the teeth, lift the side lip and expose the side teeth. The judge will be looking for cleanliness. 4-H'ers should be careful not to get his/her hands or head in the way of the judge's view.

If the judge moves off-side, the 4-H'er should move, so the dog stays between the handler and the judge, while keeping the dog under control. The handler should remain on the off-side as no judge should cross behind a handler. (The recommendation is that the handler step back from the dog remaining on the off side but still allowing the judge to view the entire side view of the dog's off side).

## **4-H'ers Handling Skills**

Handlers should appear prepared, confident, and attentive. They should be courteous to both the judge and fellow exhibitors. Handlers are expected to handle their dogs without distracting other 4-H'ers or their dogs. Those who crowd or disturb other dogs must be faulted.

Handlers should be aware that judges will excuse any dog that: (1) is out of control, (2) injured (healed injuries that do not cause the dog pain are excluded), or (3) shows aggression toward other dogs or people. If there is any question about an injury and the ability of a dog to be shown, the 4-H'er should plan ahead and provide the show committee and the judge with a document from a licensed, practicing veterinarian that states that it is okay for the dog to be shown. Those who exhibit impatience or mistreatment of their dogs will be faulted.

### **Posture**

- While gaiting, the handler's back should be straight, head up and watching where he/she is going.
- If choosing to kneel while stacking, try to keep the body straight and use the legs to raise and lower oneself to the dog's level. When showing large breeds, bend at the waist only when necessary and as quickly and smoothly as possible.

### **Smoothness**

- In the ring remain calm, cool, and collected. Remember not to rush.
- All actions should be smooth, controlled, and purposeful. Jumpy and jerky actions make one appear nervous and unsure.

### **Attentiveness**

- Look confident. Remember to smile and enjoy the show.
- It is NOT appropriate to talk to other exhibitors or spectators. One's attention should always be focused on what is happening in the ring, including the dog, the judge, and other exhibitors.
- Know where the judge is located and always keep the dog visible to the judge.
- While gaiting, it is appropriate to make occasional eye contact with the judge. Eye contact should be subtle and natural. It should not be forced nor look "fake".

- It is important to listen to the judge's instructions. If unsure of an instruction, it is appropriate to ask the judge for clarification.

### Sportsmanship

- Think positively when entering the show ring.
- No matter the placing, be humble and gracious. It is appropriate to sincerely congratulate the class winners. In a like fashion, class winners should accept congratulations from others graciously.
- If the judge provides feedback, listen attentively and thank him or her.
- It is courteous to express personal appreciation to those who are involved with the show including show committee members, 4-H staff and volunteers, judges, award donors, etc.

While competing, 4-H'ers should remember that the judge will consider the following questions:

1. Is the dog responsive to the handler? Do they work as a team?
2. Does the dog appear stacked or interested at all times?
3. Is the dog under control?
4. Is the dog gaited correctly to the best of its ability?
5. Do both the dog and 4-H'er appear relaxed?
6. Is the dog presented with an economy of motion that gives the appearance of ease and minimum effort used to present the dog?

### Judging the Competition

- Judges should evaluate the general conduct of the 4-H members in the showmanship ring.
- When judging 4-H showmanship classes, judges shall utilize patterns and procedures outlined in the South Dakota 4-H Dog Showmanship Rulebook.
- Each judge may vary their routine from class to class. Within a class, judges must be consistent in the initial examination of each handler, using the same individual gaiting patterns, the same procedural requests, and allowing approximately the same amount of time for each handler. More challenging variations may be used as tie-breakers, call-backs, or the final judging of a class.
- It is suggested that the judges ask the questions either at the time of the examination of the dog, or after the handler and dog do their individual pattern. Once a question is posed, the judge should do it the same way the whole day of judging.

- Under no circumstances should a 4-H judge ever ask two handlers to complete the down and back pattern (side by side) at the same time.
- The 4-H judge shall be inside the ring at all times when judging. At no time shall the judge ask the handler to perform any gaiting patterns with the judge on the outside of the ring.
- A main principal of 4-H Showmanship is to learn the spirit of competition. Judges shall be aware of sportsmanship in the ring and serious deductions shall be made for deliberate rudeness or unsportsmanlike conduct. Winning is important but secondary to the development of sportsmanship during competition. Judges who reward unsportsmanlike conduct or action compromise the very premise of 4-H! The South Dakota 4-H Dog project uses the American Kennel Club (AKC) categorized dog breeds as a guide for the eight dog groups. They are: Sporting, Hound, Working, Terrier, Toy, Non-Sporting, Herding and Miscellaneous.

### Proper breed presentation

A mixed breed dog should be shown by the breed standard it most closely resembles, even if it is not a cross of that breed. The South Dakota 4-H Dog project uses the AKC and UKC standard breeds as guides for each dog's breed.

When the judge asks a 4-H'er what breed he/she is showing the dog as, he/she should reply with the breed's proper name. For example: say "Shetland Sheepdog" rather than "Sheltie".

The following guidelines apply to all breeds:

- If the tail of the breed being shown is supposed to be up, and stays up, it is better if the handler leaves it alone.
- The South Dakota 4-H Dog Project recognizes that many dogs in 4-H competition may not measure up to breed standards, especially around tail carriage. Many dogs may have low tail sets and some high tail sets, which makes it fairly difficult to make the tail "an extension of the topline". In those cases, 4-H'ers should present the tail to the best of their ability, but not "crank" the tail over the dog's back.
- In all breeds, when the stacking guidelines mention that the rear legs should be stretched out, it is important to consider the dog's structure. If a dog is not structurally able to stretch out its rear

legs, the 4-H'er should do the best he/she can to present the best overall picture.

- In all breeds, when the gaiting guidelines mention gaiting speed, dogs will be shown at a trot. This means that the dog is trotting but the dog is always under control. The 4-H'er needs to move at a speed that will match the dog's appropriate gait.
- There is no set speed to gait any breed, it is at the speed the dogs look best.

## Showmanship Knowledge Questions

In 4-H, questions will be asked by the judge. Questions may only be asked about information contained in the current 4-H Dog Curriculum. Members should be prepared to answer questions (in accordance with their age class), about general dog knowledge, specific questions about their dog, and about their breed of dog. If the dog is a mixed breed, answer questions based on the breed standard it most closely resembles, even if it is not a cross of that breed. Handlers shall not be expected to answer questions about any breed other than their own.

### Beginner novice level

1. How do you care for your dog?
2. How often do you groom your dog?
3. What breed are you showing your dog as?
4. To what AKC group does your breed belong?
5. In what country did your breed originate?
6. For what purpose was your breed developed?
7. What vaccinations are required for your dog to participate in 4-H dog shows?
8. Name one internal parasite and one external parasite.
9. What is one sign of poor health?

### Beginner open level

#### General:

1. How old is your dog?
2. There are over 300 breeds of dogs. What breed are you showing your dog as?
  - What AKC group is he/she in?
  - How many groups are listed on the AKC website? (8)
3. How much of your dog's care are you responsible for?
  - How often does your dog get food & water?
  - How much does your dog eat and drink?
4. Know one example of how to correctly groom your dog. (See: Dog Grooming section)

## Health & Nutrition:

1. What vaccinations has the dog been given?
  - Rabies?
  - Distemper/Hepatitis/Parvo/Parainfluenza?
  - Dewormed?
  - Bortetella?
  - Lyme?
2. What is Rabies? (A fatal disease transmitted by bites from infected animals. It causes signs of nervousness and erratic behavior.) – Treatment is unsuccessful and always fatal.
3. Know the dog body parts (See 1-8 in Body Parts section)
4. What is one sign that a dog is sick?
5. A healthy dog should have:
  - Clear & alert eyes
  - Glossy coat
  - Good appetite
  - Well-muscled limbs
  - Neither too thin nor overweight
6. The normal temperature for a dog is 100.5 – 102.5°F
7. How does one handle a flea or tick problem on a dog.
8. A well-balanced dog food should be the main food a dog eats.
9. Dogs have very few taste buds, they rely on their sense of smell to determine taste preference.
10. Dogs don't need human food for treats.

#### For Example:

- If a 20# dog is fed a small oatmeal cookie; it is like a human eating 1 whole hamburger or an entire candy bar!
- A Chihuahua's average weight is 4#; if that dog is just 2# over-weight it is like an extra 63# on a human!

## Reproduction:

1. A dog has puppies in 58–63 days.
2. The puppy can smell, eat and vocalize as soon as it is born.
3. What sex is your dog? Is it spayed or neutered?
  - A female is "spayed" (the uterus and ovaries are removed).
  - A male is "neutered" or "castrated" (the testicles are removed).

## Junior level

(Know all of the Beginner dog information as well as the Junior Information)



### General:

1. Of the 300+ breeds of dogs; know 10 (see [www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org))
2. Know the 8 dog groups in the AKC (see [www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org))
  - Sporting
  - Hound
  - Working
  - Terrier
  - Toy
  - Non-sporting
  - Herding
  - Miscellaneous class
3. What is the original purpose of this dog's breed (or main breed if showing a mixed breed dog) & what group does it belong to?
4. Know three examples of how to correctly groom this dog. (See: Dog Grooming section)
5. A dog's sense of smell is two million times stronger than a human's.

### Health & Nutrition:

1. Be able to describe two of the following diseases and which vaccination can help prevent it.
  - Rabies: A virus that infects the CNS (Central Nervous System, causing erratic behavior – always fatal – Rabies vaccine
  - Distemper: Causes pneumonia and seizures. Picked up by contact with secretions from an infected dog's nose. Treatment is difficult – most die. – DHLPP Combo vaccine.
  - Parvovirus: Causes vomiting and diarrhea. Transmitted by exposure to contaminated feces. Treatment is intensive, requiring intravenous fluids and medications. Mainly a disease of unvaccinated puppies and dogs; younger pups more likely than older dogs to die. – DHLPP Combo vaccine
  - Hepatitis: Causes fever, vomiting, and diarrhea. Virus is found in feces and saliva. Treatment consists of aggressive fluid therapy – often fatal – DHLPP Combo vaccine.
  - Parainfluenza: Causes coughing and sneezing. Transmitted by nasal secretions. Antibiotic treatment helps speed recovery. – DHLPP Combo vaccine.
2. What is the best weight for this dog? (See the Standard Weight Chart).
  - Is the dog overweight, underweight, or, just

right? (See the Canine Body System Chart for assistance).

3. Know the dog body parts (See 1 – 15 in Body Parts section).
4. Normal heart rate 70–140 beats per minute depending on the dog's size.
  - Know how to take a dog's heartbeat. Place a hand over his chest, just behind the elbow. Count the number of heart beats during for 15 seconds and multiply by 4.
5. Name one external and one internal parasite
  - External (Fleas, ticks, mange, lice, mites, ringworm)
  - Internal (Roundworm, hookworm, tapeworm, whipworm)
6. A well-balanced dog food should be the main food a dog eats
  - The amount of dog food depends on how active and how large the dog is and the caloric content of the dog food.
  - Know how much food this dog requires to maintain a healthy weight.
7. Dogs do not need human food for treats.

*For Example:*

- *If a 20# dog eats 1 hotdog on a bun; It is like a human eating 2 hamburgers or 2 whole chocolate bars.*
- *A Boston Terrier's average weight is 19#. If that dog is just 4# overweight, it is like an extra 26# on a human.*

### Reproduction:

1. Whelping, is when a female dog has her puppies
2. The puppy will open his eyes in about 15 days.
3. Heat and Estrus reference the female breeding season, a female dog will have her first heat cycle as early as 6 months.

### Senior level

(Know all the Beginner & Junior Dog information as well as the Senior information)

### General:

1. Know the 8 AKC dog groups and One breed from each group.
2. Know how to correctly groom your dog. (see Dog Grooming section) and be ready to explain how you groom your dog.
3. Know how to figure the age of your dog. (see enclosed chart)

4. Know the history of your dog's breed. (or main breed if showing a mixed breed dog)
5. What are the breed standards for your dog's breed? (or main breed if showing a mixed breed dog)

#### Health & Nutrition:

1. Normal breathing rate 10–30 respirations per minute
  - Know how to check your dog's breathing rate. You can either check his sides or hold your wet finger in front of his nose for 15 seconds, counting the breaths and multiplying by 4.
2. Know the internal & external parasites. (see "Junior Level"); And how you check for them
  - External: physical exam
  - Internal: blood work, stool sample
3. "Zoonosis" –is a disease (such as Rabies or Worms) which can be transmitted from animals to humans.
4. Know all of the dog body parts listed in Body Parts section
5. Which vaccinations and wormers do you give your dog and why?
6. How many teeth does your dog have?
7. Be able to describe any of the following diseases and which vaccination can help prevent it.
  - Rabies, Distemper, Parvovirus, Hepatitis & Parainfluenza (see: Junior level; Health & Nutrition #1)
  - Bordetella: Causes coughing and sneezing. Transmitted by nasal secretions. Antibiotic treatment helps control symptoms. – "Bordetella" vaccine.
  - Lyme Disease: Causes fever and joint inflammation. Transmitted by ticks. Treatment with antibiotics usually successful. – "Lyme vaccine"
  - Leptospirosis: Causes kidney and liver disease. Picked up from water contaminated by infected urine. Many infections go unnoticed; severe infections are often fatal. – DHLPP Combo vaccine.
8. A well-balanced dog food should be the main thing your dog eats:
  - There are different choices of food for different ages & weights of dogs. What kind of dog food do you feed your dog if he is overweight or older?
9. By using the enclosed charts Standard Weights and Canine Body Condition System, be able to describe which body condition score your dog has and the characteristics of that score.
10. Dogs do not need human food for treats.
 

*For Example:*

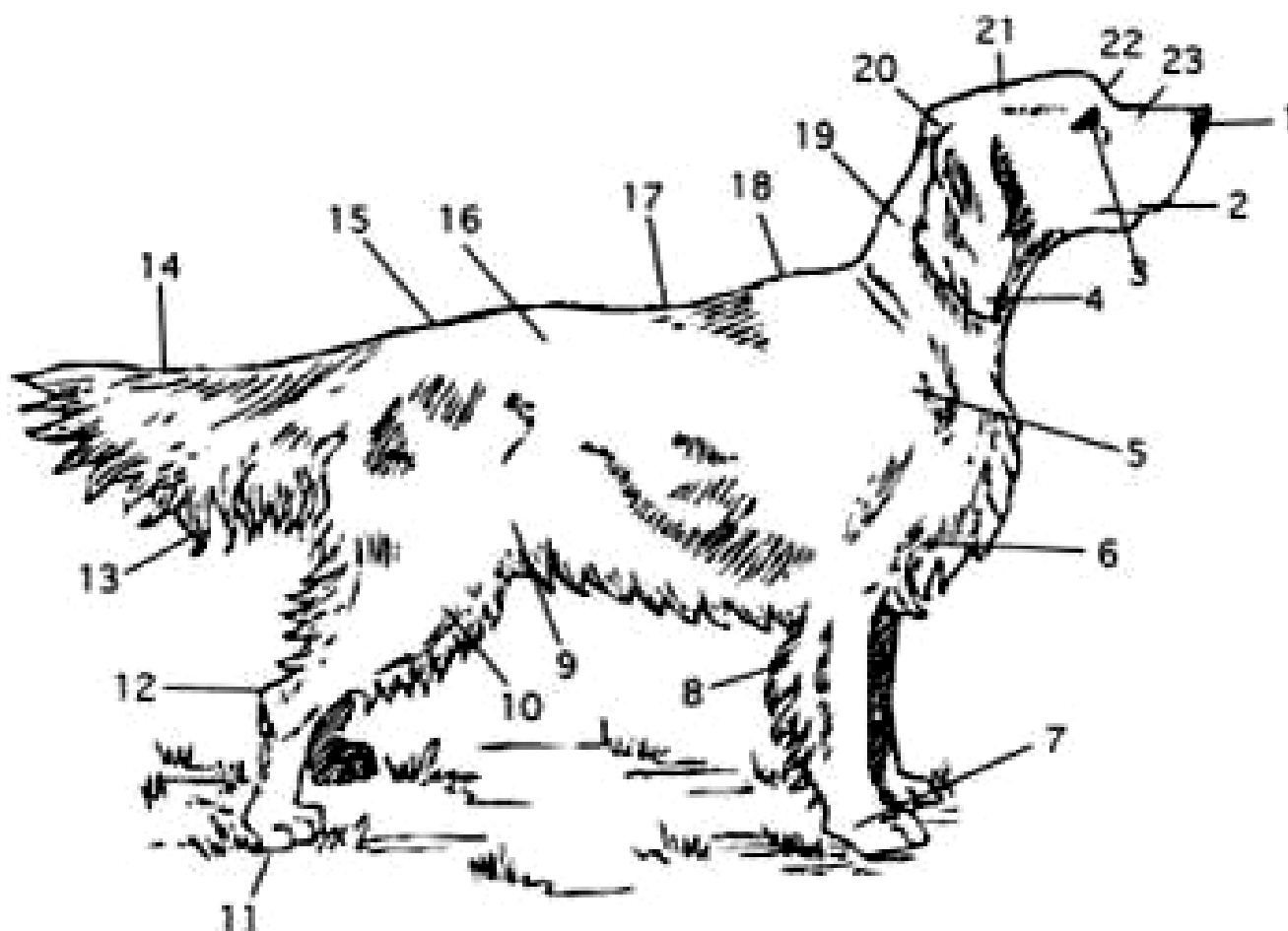
  - *If a 20# dog eats 1 ounce of cheddar cheese: It is like a human eating 2½ hamburgers or 1½ chocolate bars!*
  - *A Border Collie's average weight is 35#. If that dog is just 6# overweight, it is like an extra 25# on a human!*
  - *A Golden Retriever's average weight is 70#. If that dog is just 8# overweight, it is like an extra 14# on a human!*

#### Reproduction:

1. The puppy's ears will open in about 21 days.
2. If a female dog comes in heat twice a year and has six to ten puppies each time, theoretically, in six years she and her offspring could be the sources of 67,000 dogs.
3. "Gestation" a period of about sixty-three days in the dog, from fertilization to whelping.

## Knowledge Question Resources

### Dog body parts



1. nose
2. flews
3. eye
4. ear
5. shoulder
6. brisket
7. pastern
8. elbow

9. tuckup
10. stifle
11. toes
12. hock
13. feathers (not on all breeds)
14. tail
15. croup
16. loin

17. back
18. withers
19. neck
20. occiput
21. skull
22. stop
23. muzzle

## Dog Grooming

In showmanship dogs are required to be well-groomed. 4-H'ers are allowed assistance from a professional groomer but are strongly encouraged to learn these skills as they advance in experience. Excessive grooming of the dog in the ring to gain the judge's attention will be considered a minor fault. Use of a brush or comb to reposition messy hair is acceptable but should be done very discreetly.










- **Coat**—The dog's coat must be clean, not scaly, free of mats, and free of loose hair. It is a major fault if a dog has mats or external parasites.
- **Ears**—The dog's ears should be free of dirt, parasites, and excessive hair.
- **Eyes**—The dog's eyes should be clean and free of matter.
- **Toenails**—The dog's toenails should be trimmed. It is a major fault if the dog's toenails are excessively long.



Toenail trimmed correctly.

Any dog with hair over its eyes that interferes with its vision may have the hair tied back with up to four rubber bands or plain, straight, rectangular-shaped barrettes that have a solid exterior color. No ribbons or bows are allowed.

## Charts





Snacks fed to a 20 lb dog	Human Equivalent	
	No. of Hamburgers	No. of Chocolate Bars
 1 small cookie		
 1 oz. cheddar cheese		
 1 hot dog		

## Relative Age of Your Pet in Human Years

Adult Size in Pounds

Age	0-20	20-50	50-90	>90
1	15	15	15	15
2	24	24	24	24
3	28	28	28	28
4	32	32	32	32
5	36	36	36	36
6	40	42	45	49
7	44	47	50	56
8	48	51	55	64
9	52	56	61	71
10	56	60	66	78
11	60	65	72	86
12	64	69	77	93
13	68	74	82	101
14	72	78	88	108
15	76	83	93	115
16	80	87	99	123

## Standard Weights per Breed and Sex

	Breed	Male	Female
	Cairn Terrier	14	13
	Cavalier King Charles Spaniel	13-18	13-18
	Chihuahua	3-8	3-8
	Italian Greyhound	9-16	9-16
	Shih Tzu	9-16	9-16
	Toy Poodle	5-8	5-8
	West Highland White Terrier	15-21	15-21
	Yorkshire Terrier	4-7	4-7
	Border Collie	30-45	30-45
	English Bulldog	50	40
	Cocker Spaniel	24-38	34-32
	French Bulldog	21-28	21-28
	Chinese Shar-Pei	45-60	45-60
	Siberian Husky	45-60	35-50
	Staffordshire Bull Terrier	35-40	30-35
	Whippet	20-40	20-40
	Belgian Malinois	60-65	60-65
	Briard	75-100	50-65
	Doberman Pinscher	65-90	65-90
	German Shorthaired Pointer	55-70	45-60
	German Shepherd	75-95	75-95
	Golden Retriever	65-75	55-65
	Irish Setter	70	60
	Labrador Retriever	65-80	55-70
	Weimaraner	55-90	55-90
	Bernese Mountain Dog	90-120	70-100
	Bloodhound	90-110	80-100
	Great Dane	130-180	100-150
	Great Pyrenees	115	85-90
	Irish Wolfhound	100-120	90-105
	Mastiff	175-190	175-190
	Newfoundland	130-150	100-120
	Rottweiler	85-135	80-100
	Saint Bernard	120-200	120-200



Nestlé PURINA

# BODY CONDITION SYSTEM

TOO THIN

1

Ribs, lumbar vertebrae, pelvic bones and all bony prominences evident from a distance. No discernible body fat. Obvious loss of muscle mass.

2

Ribs, lumbar vertebrae and pelvic bones easily visible. No palpable fat. Some evidence of other bony prominence. Minimal loss of muscle mass.

3

Ribs easily palpated and may be visible with no palpable fat. Tops of lumbar vertebrae visible. Pelvic bones becoming prominent. Obvious waist and abdominal tuck.

IDEAL

4

Ribs easily palpable, with minimal fat covering. Waist easily noted, viewed from above. Abdominal tuck evident.

5

Ribs palpable without excess fat covering. Waist observed behind ribs when viewed from above. Abdomen tucked up when viewed from side.

TOO HEAVY

6

Ribs palpable with slight excess fat covering. Waist is discernible viewed from above but is not prominent. Abdominal tuck apparent.

7

Ribs palpable with difficulty; heavy fat cover. Noticeable fat deposits over lumbar area and base of tail. Waist absent or barely visible. Abdominal tuck may be present.

8

Ribs not palpable under very heavy fat cover, or palpable only with significant pressure. Heavy fat deposits over lumbar area and base of tail. Waist absent. No abdominal tuck. Obvious abdominal distention may be present.

9

Massive fat deposits over thorax, spine and base of tail. Waist and abdominal tuck absent. Fat deposits on neck and limbs. Obvious abdominal distention.



1



3



5



7



9



The **BODY CONDITION SYSTEM** was developed at the Nestlé Purina Pet Care Center and has been validated as documented in the following publications:

Mawby D, Bartges JW, Moyers T, et. al. *Comparison of body fat estimates by dual-energy x-ray absorptiometry and deuterium oxide dilution in client owned dogs.* *Compendium* 2001; 23 (9A): 70

Laflamme DP. *Development and Validation of a Body Condition Score System for Dogs.* *Canine Practice* July/August 1997; 22:10-15

Kealy, et. al. *Effects of Diet Restriction on Life Span and Age-Related Changes in Dogs.* *JAVMA* 2002; 220:1315-1320

Call 1-800-222-VETS (8387), weekdays, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. CT



Nestlé PURINA



# **Section 5**

Project Leader/Member

# Project Leader/Member

## Forward

This section was developed by the State 4-H Dog Project Committee for 4-H members, 4-H leaders, county extension staff, show coordinators and parents. It establishes uniform guidelines and procedures for the 4-H Dog Project and events throughout the various counties and state. Please use this document when setting up shows and establishing show rules.

These overall policies and procedures are used in addition to the rules and regulations for the individual events of obedience, rally obedience, showmanship and agility. In certain situations, these overall policies supersede the rules and regulations for the individual events.

## Objectives

The purpose of the South Dakota 4-H Dog Project is to help 4-H'ers:

- Develop leadership, initiative, self-reliance, and sportsmanship.
- Experience the pride and responsibility of involvement with a dog.
- Learn a greater love for animals and develop a humane attitude toward them.
- Prepare for citizenship responsibilities by working together in groups and supporting community dog projects and activities.

## Risk & Responsibility

Owners enter dogs in a 4-H show at their own risk and agree to abide by 4-H rules and regulations. The owner has sole responsibility for the dog and is liable if the dog hurts a person, another dog or damages property at any 4-H dog activity or event.

## Aggressive Dog Policy

Dogs must be kept on leash at all times unless instructed otherwise by your dog training instructor or a judge.

Any dog that attempts to bite or attack a human or another dog will immediately be removed from the activity or event. Any bite incident must be reported to the local authorities in compliance with South Dakota

law. If the incident occurs during training, the situation will be reviewed by the county dog committee, including input from the dog training instructors, the county extension staff, and the family of the 4-H'er involved. The committee may put the dog on probation, require individual training with the dog and handler, require the dog to wear special equipment at any 4-H event or activity, or expel the dog from 4-H activities and events for a period of time. If the incident occurs during a 4-H dog show, the Show Committee will review the situation and determine if a ribbon will be awarded, or if the dog will be disqualified and excused from the show or class.

Expelling a dog from 4-H events and activities is a rare occurrence but could be necessary for the safety of other members and dogs. Should a dog actually be expelled, it is an action against the dog and NOT the 4-H'er. The county dog committee will look at many solutions and encourage the 4-H'er to attend classes without the dog and train it at home. Solutions may include using a different dog – including leasing a dog from another person. 4-H'ers will always be welcome in every other phase of the project including skillathon, project meetings, exhibiting educational displays, etc.

It is also important to note that members are legally responsible for the actions of their dog. Everyone in class should have appropriate liability insurance (usually a part of a home owners or renter's insurance policy) for their own protection. Safety is of paramount importance!

## Dogs in Season

4-H members should NOT bring dogs in season to training sessions or 4-H events or activities without direct permission from their dog leader. 4-H leaders must consider the safety of the entire group. While your dog may act normally, she could present such distractions around her that a normally safe environment becomes out of control.

Female dogs in season are not permitted to compete at the State Show level. At the county level, female

dogs in season may be shown at the project leader's discretion in Obedience and Showmanship classes. The dog should be the last dog in the ring and separated from other dogs.

Female dogs in season may not show in Agility and Rally at any level. Instead, mutually agreed upon arrangements may be made to allow such dogs to compete at another county's qualifying show when the dog is not in season.

The judge must remove from competition any dog in season, any dog a handler cannot control, any handler who interferes willfully with a competitor or a competitor's dog, or any handler who abuses a dog. The judge may excuse from competition any dog considered unfit to compete, or any female dog so attractive to males as to be disruptive.

### Mistreatment of Dogs

Absolutely no abuse or mistreatment, verbal or physical, of dogs will be tolerated in 4-H. Anyone caught hitting, kicking, or otherwise physically abusing a dog will be immediately dismissed from the event or activity.

Use care with dogs being left in cars in the summer. The temperature inside of a car parked in the sun (even with the windows rolled down) can reach a temperature high enough to cause brain damage in only 10 minutes. Leaving a dog in a car in hot weather is considered abuse under South Dakota law and law enforcement personnel are permitted to break into cars to rescue dogs. Please do not leave any dog in a closed car.

### Ineligible Dogs

1. No dog belonging wholly or in part to a judge or residing in the same household as the judge may be entered in the same classes where that judge is officiating, except in the case of extreme circumstances.
2. A Wolf or Wolf-Hybrid or Coyote or Coyote-Hybrid may NOT be shown in 4-H. (They cannot be vaccinated for rabies.)
3. No dog shall be eligible to compete if it is taped or bandaged in any way or if it has anything attached to it for medical corrective purposes. Exceptions may be made with written confirmation from a veterinarian that the dog is able to compete, AND UPON approval of the judge.

4. No dog shall be eligible to compete with a physical condition that is detrimental to the health of the dog. This includes pregnant dogs, dogs that have recently whelped, dogs with an injury that impedes movement or a dog in obvious pain.
5. A 3-legged dog may NOT compete in agility but may compete in obedience, showmanship or rally obedience.
6. A dog with an abnormal gait or other condition may show with written confirmation from a veterinarian that the dog is able to compete, AND UPON approval of the judge.
7. The judge and/or Show Committee may excuse any dog attempting to attack any dog or person in the show or ring. Said dog may be disqualified and no ribbon awarded.

### Competing

4-H members are welcome to participate in shows and events outside of 4-H. In many cases, even if the dog wins a title through an outside organization, they may still participate in some 4-H events.

For agility, if a team has a Novice title in AKC, UKC, NADAC, CPE or USDAA, it has demonstrated that it can do the On/Off Leash classes in 4-H. The team may start at Advanced or at Excellent if it has the obstacle skills.

- For obedience, refer to 01-4017-2013 South Dakota 4-H Dog Project Obedience Rule Book.
- For showmanship, 4-H members may compete in AKC Showmanship and 4-H with no restrictions.
- For rally obedience, refer to 01-4009-2013 South Dakota 4-H Dog Project Dog Rally Rule Book.

### 4-H Participation

1. The youth must have a completed 4-H enrollment on file and be enrolled in the Dog Project to be eligible to exhibit.
2. The South Dakota 4-H Dog Project ID Vaccination and Verification Certificate must be completed and uploaded to 4HOnline or submitted to the local 4-H office before attending project meetings or no later than June 1 of the current year to qualify to show at the State 4-H Dog Show. If the form is received after June 1, the 4-H'er cannot receive anything higher than a blue ribbon at the county show and is not eligible for champion, reserve champion, or other special awards, nor can he/she qualify for the State Dog Show.

3. The 4-H member does not need to own the dog but must have trained, groomed and cared for the dog since June 1 of the current year. If the 4-H'er qualifies for the State 4-H Dog Show, he or she must sign the registration form for the State 4-H Dog Show stating that he or she has trained, groomed and cared for the dog since June 1 of the current year.
4. A 4-H member may not substitute or change dogs after the county show in agility, obedience or rally obedience for any reason. In showmanship, the 4-H'er is being judged on his/her ability to handle a dog; thus if a 4-H member's dog should get injured, killed or an intact female come into season after qualifying, the 4-H'er is allowed to substitute another dog for the State 4-H Dog Show.
5. A 4-H member may show a maximum of two dogs per lot.
6. More than one 4-H'er may show a dog in the various events; however, concern should be first for the health and safety of the dog. So, when starting the dog project this should be kept in mind. See specific rulebooks for class requirements.

## Vaccinations

The South Dakota 4-H Dog Project ID Vaccination and Verification Certificate must be completed and uploaded to 4HOnline or submitted to the local 4-H office before attending project meetings or no later than June 1 of the current year to qualify to show at the State 4-H Dog Show. This is the only vaccination information accepted for the county dog shows. Do not attach invoices, etc., from the veterinarian. The certificate **MUST** be signed and dated by the veterinarian.

- If more than one 4-H'er is showing the same dog, for example someone is borrowing another's dog for Brace, have two certificates (one for each handler) completed for the dog.
- Complete a separate form for each project dog.
- When attaching the photo, the photo is to be of the dog only. The photo should not cover up any of the important information. The South Dakota Board of Animal Health requires dogs to have current Rabies vaccinations. Please have your veterinarian document on your Dog IDV certificate whether your vaccination is current for 1 year, 2 years, or 3 years by filling in the "Revaccination Due Date".

A current Distemper, Hepatitis, Leptospirosis, Parainfluenza, and Parvovirus (DHLPP) vaccination is required for 4-H dogs. There are some variables that will determine whether your veterinarian will suggest a vaccination every year, every two years, or every three years. The 4-H Dog IDV certificate allows for your veterinarian to indicate whether he or she believes your dog would be revaccinated one year, two years, or three years from the listed vaccination date. In very rare cases, primarily due to the health condition of the dog, a veterinarian will not recommend a DHLPP vaccination be given to a specific dog. In these cases, a titer will be required which demonstrates that antibodies are present in the blood that may protect the dog from infection and/or disease. (An adequate titer value does not guarantee an effective immune response.) If this is the case, a proof of titer must be attached to the Dog IDA form. The Leptospirosis requirement may be waived by your veterinarian. If so, there is a box for the veterinarian to check on the 4-H Dog IDA stating "I certify that this dog has not been vaccinated for Leptospirosis". Although not required, it is recommended to ask your veterinarian about prevention for Kennel Cough, Lyme's Disease, Corona, Heartworm, etc. It is good practice to carry your current Rabies Certificate with you when you are out with your dog.

## Special Needs Exhibitors

At the county level, project leaders shall encourage special needs members to participate in classes based on their abilities. Special exceptions or modifications to classes shall be made as required to allow the 4-H member a satisfactory experience. Special needs members may advance to state competition; but please notify 4-H staff/volunteers of any special needs of the exhibitor in advance.

## 4-H Classes

Refer to sections 1-4 in this guide book for descriptions of the classes offered. At county and state events, classes are divided by 4-H age, determined as of January 1st: Beginner – 8 to 10 years of age, Junior – 11 to 13 years of age, Senior – 14 to 18 years of age.

## Use of the 4-H Emblem

Use of the 4-H name and emblem is regulated by federal law that states only activities or programs under the supervision of the Cooperative Extension Service may use the name and emblem. Any district,

area, regional, or state 4-H dog event, training, or show must have the approval of the extension staff. No special permission is required for a local club or county to hold trainings for their 4-H members or a local club or county to hold a show for their 4-H members (commonly called a "Fun Match" or "Mock Show"). Any 4-H club or county program may hold an Agility and/or Obedience and/or Showmanship show under the rules set by the South Dakota 4-H Dog Project Committee. One show at the county level must be designated as the qualifying show for participation in the State 4-H Dog Show.

A local club or county may hold an invitational show for their 4-H members as well as 4-H members from other counties. Fun Matches or Invitational Shows may include classes for non-4-H members. It is recommended that there are separate classes and awards for the two divisions (4-H and non-4-H). This should be noted in show publicity. If classes for non-4-H members are included in the show, the show publicity should also state that "the show will be conducted under South Dakota 4-H Dog Show Rules and Guidelines". Shows sponsored by other organizations or that do not provide separate classes for 4-H'ers are not permitted to use the name and emblem of 4-H. In such instances, the title "Junior Dog Show" or other similar name should be used.

No identifiers such as badges, coats with kennel names or training schools thereon, club identification, or ribbon prizes shall be worn or displayed, nor any visible means of identification used by an individual when exhibiting a dog in the ring. A plain 4-H clover is acceptable.

## Dog Show Planning Guide

This guide provides a general outline for planning a dog show. 4-H dog shows are a great opportunity for youth/adult partnerships and for youth to be involved in a leadership role.

### Three to nine months prior to your show:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Meet as a committee and choose a show coordinator.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Decide who will take charge of each area of responsibility (see checklist).
- \_\_\_\_\_ Decide the time, date, and place of the show. Work with extension staff to secure a show location.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Decide which classes to offer.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Discuss the show budget and how to handle finances. Discuss entry fees, if any, and deadlines. Work with extension staff.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Discuss promotion for participants and audience
- \_\_\_\_\_ Discuss awards (review all 4-H Rules). Awards will be needed for all classes.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Discuss judges. A list of trained judges is available through the county 4-H office.  
It is preferred that judges at the county level come from this list but choose judges who are well-qualified and work well with youth. Consult with the county staff concerning fee structure and payment. Expect to pay a judge's fee, plus mileage and expenses. Determine who will contact the judges and do so. This is normally done three to eight months in advance of the show date.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Discuss equipment and supplies.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Discuss refreshment arrangements, if any.

### One to two months before the show, meet again to:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Discuss how to handle registrations
- \_\_\_\_\_ Verify the judges and date. Make sure that judges have copies of current rules and regulations, and score sheets.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Get reports from sub-committees.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Discuss any last-minute change of plans.

### Two weeks before the show, the coordinator should contact helpers and ask:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Are there any loose ends?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Is everything in place?

### One night (or several hours) before the show:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Everyone helps with set-up.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Get final details and instructions.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Be sure someone is available to greet and orient all judges, ring stewards, and other volunteers.



## Dog Show Planning Checklist

Positions/help/items needed for show: \_\_\_\_\_

See suggested lists below for positions/help/items needed.

Date and Time of Show: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Show Site: \_\_\_\_\_

Ring Size: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Entries Expected: \_\_\_\_\_

Length of Show: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*Remember, some members will have several entries. Use these formulae to estimate the time needed for the show:

- Obedience—7 entries/hour/judge
- Showmanship—10 entries/hour/judge
- Agility—20 minutes for course building plus 30 entries/hour/judge
- Rally—5 entries/hour/judge

If there are more than 30 total entries across all events, plan on at least two judges.

Judges: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Classes to Offer (Eligible for State Dog Show) (These classes may be broken down by exhibitor's age, dog's jump height, etc.) See current dog contestant packet for classes.

## Show Committees

### Entries/Registration Committee

- Collect pre-registration and/or entries
- Collect entry fees
- Record rabies vaccination dates and other information required. State law requires rabies vaccination information. 4-H members should be aware that they should carry proof of vaccinations with them anytime they travel with their dog. \*See IDV certificate.
- Assign exhibitor numbers
- Compile and distribute class lists to rings

Hint—Make a master list of the exhibitor, entry fee paid, exhibitor number, club or county, dog name and/or breed, rabies check-off, and classes. Make a list for each class.

### Publicity/Catalog Committee

- Write press releases for local papers and radio stations, hang posters/flyers in neighborhood stores
- Send the show results to the local paper; photos improve publication chances.
- Publish show catalog listing all exhibitors by class with exhibitor number, name, club or county. You may wish to include an introductory paragraph about your judge(s) or sell advertisements to offset costs.
- Acknowledge prize donors

### Awards Committee

- Determine the type of awards to be given and compile a list with the necessary numbers. Consult the local 4-H office for pre-existing supplies and traditions. Awards can be trophies or rosettes, 4-H ribbons, gift certificates, pet supplies, books, giftware, etc. Have enough awards for each class, pursuant to 4-H rules, including enough purple, blue, red and white ribbons for all entries (count the entries, not exhibitors!)
- Place any orders for awards and ribbons at least two months in advance.
- If you are looking for donations, solicit them well in advance of the show date.
- Display the awards on a table at the show. Make signs to recognize your donors!
- Record the winners in the order in which the award will be presented and organize the awards for easy presentation. The judge will normally hand the

award to the exhibitor.

- Send thank you notes to all donors.

### Food/Refreshments Committee

- Work with the 4-H office to determine whether or not a food license is necessary.
- Plan a menu and estimate costs.
- Solicit food donations
- Recruit volunteers to shop for and prepare the food and work in the food stand.
- It is a courtesy to give judges a free meal. Many groups provide food and drinks to all show volunteers.

### Ring/Equipment Committee/Needed Equipment

- Locate and assemble ring barriers (anything from stakes and rope to fencing material)
- Secure surface materials (to provide good footing for indoor shows). Advanced Obedience classes held indoors require matting of some type.
- Measure rings and list needed equipment for each. (Refer to sections 1-4 of this guide for ring size, equipment needed, and how the ring is to be set up. This can be found at <https://extension.sdstate.edu/south-dakota-4-h/competitions-state-fair>.)
- Judge's table for each ring, three chairs for each ring
- Table and chairs for registration
- Table/display for awards
- Clipboard, stopwatch (watch with second hand), calculators, chalk, blank paper, pens/pencils, yardstick, clean-up supplies, hand wipes/disinfectant, golf tees (if the show is held outside), and electric tape for each ring.
- Score sheets for all exhibitors – completely filled out before the show. Have extra sheets on hand.
- A current copy of South Dakota 4-H Dog Project Guide. This can be found at <https://extension.sdstate.edu/south-dakota-4-h/competitions-state-fair>.
- Jumps for advanced classes in Obedience and Rally Obedience
- Showmanship table for Showmanship classes (optional)
- Agility equipment
- Poster board and markers
- Clean-up Supplies
- PA system for announcements

## Set-Up Committee

- Refer to sections 1-4 for ring size, equipment needed, and how the ring is to be set up. This can be found at <https://extension.sdstate.edu/south-dakota-4-h/competitions-state-fair>.
- Set up tables with supplies for each ring
- Set up registration table and awards table
- Roll out mats; in advanced classes, a center mat is also required. Handling mats correctly differs according to the materials.

**Foam and Foam/Rubber-Blend Mats**—A foam mat will lay very flat and never require taping if it has been handled correctly. Whenever possible, move mats while they are rolled. NEVER drag a mat from the end.

If it is necessary to move a foam mat which has already been unrolled, LOOSELY fold the mat in half, and then fold it at least once more, and preferably twice more to bring it down to a size that can be moved without stretching it.

Pulling mats sideways from place to place by the ends (even small distances of just 4-5 feet) is what creates the big ripples along the edge of the mats. Sometimes when laying down a foam mat that has ripple damage, you can make the mat lay flat without tape by giving it a slight curve to the right or left once it is on the floor. If making a fully matted utility ring, it is sometimes possible to put the rippled edge slightly under the edge of the adjoining mat.

If it is absolutely needed to tape a foam mat, try to use as little tape as possible, just taping it at intersections and places where people need to walk over the edge of the mat. To remove the tape, never grab the end of the tape and just rip it up. When removing tape, get down on your knees and remove the tape VERY carefully, inch by inch. It is a painstaking process. It is best to SLOWLY and carefully pull up on the tape with one hand while the other hand presses the mat downward toward the floor. Even this careful tape removal sometimes takes off the surface of the mat. The ripping up of tape in one big pull often leaves a mat with a big rip or hole.

**Rubber Mats**—Rubber mats are becoming less common. They are very heavy in comparison to the newer foam mats. Rubber mats are stiff (while the foam types tend to flop when lifted). Rubber mats sometimes split or crack when handled in cold

temperatures (they become quite brittle), but at room temperature are safe to handle.

Rubber mats often have ridges that are very sharp to the touch on the top of them. They are almost impossible to ruin by duct tape (so feel free to tape away as long as you are sure it is a rubber and not a foam mat). Rubber mats can take much more rough handling than a foam mat. One can move a rubber mat by pulling from the ends without doing it much harm. If you don't know for sure that you are dealing with a rubber mat, then it would be better to treat the mat as if it were made of foam.

- Have clear and separate entrance and exit to each ring if possible.
- The ring barriers should never be set right on the edge of perimeter mats! Mats should always have at least two feet of clearance to the ring barrier. The exception is that fully matted rings do not need the two-foot buffer zone.
- Jumps for Obedience should NEVER be placed right next to the ring barriers. In all class levels involving jumps, the dog must have the option to walk around the jump on either side rather than going over the jump.

## Stewards

The judge is in sole charge of the ring until the assignment is completed. Stewards are provided for assistance but may act only on the judge's instructions. Stewards shall not give information or instructions to the owners except as specifically instructed by the judge, and then only by making it clear the instructions are those of the judge.

### Obedience Ring Steward Duties

- A Chief Ring Steward should be chosen and should locate at least two stewards for each Obedience ring.
- If necessary, a training or briefing session should be held with stewards.
- Keep the next dog in a staging/holding area while current exhibitor is in the ring.
- Act as "posts" for figure 8 exercises. Posts must stand still and be silent.
- Line up dogs for long sits and downs while final 2 dogs are in the ring.
- Set the jumps before the exhibitor enters the ring, if required for the class.
- Lead handlers to holding area for out-of-sight stays

when required.

- Assist the judge in placing articles or gloves, if requested, in the appropriate classes.
- Assist the judge in adding the score sheets, if requested, and in recording results. Stewards should be advised that the results are confidential and may not be shown to anyone without the judge's permission. Score sheets should be left face down on the table and removed when the stewards leave their ring.
- Act as an assistant to the judge. No steward shall have the authority to make any changes or decisions independent of the judge and/or Show Committee.

### **Showmanship Steward Duties**

- Call an entire class (or part of a class if the class is too large). Line class up in catalog order. Bring class into the ring when instructed by the judge.
- Assemble the next class after the judge has completed the individual examinations of the dogs in the present class.
- Assist the judge in recording results. Stewards should be advised that the results are confidential and may not be shown to anyone without the judge's permission. Score sheets should be left face down on the table and removed when the stewards leave their ring.
- Act as an assistant to the judge. No steward shall have the authority to make any changes or decisions independent of the judge and/or Show Committee. Stewards may watch for violations of the 4-H Showmanship rules.

### **Agility Ring Steward Duties**

It takes many people to put on a successful Agility Show. Listed below are the helpers needed at each ring for the smooth operation of the Agility Show.

Judge

Gate Steward – 1

Ring Stewards – 2 to 3

Leash Runner – 1

Score Sheet Runner – 1

Scribe – 1

Timer – 1 (must be the same person for all dogs in a class)

Table Stewards – 2

The Gate Steward makes sure dogs and handlers are ready at the start line when called. This steward has

the running order of the dogs and handler and calls out the names of handlers and dogs to make sure they are present and aware of when they will be going into the ring.

Hints to make the show run faster and smoother:

- Know how many dogs to keep on deck
- Know when the next dog should enter the ring
- Decide where leashes and collars are to be left
- Review procedures to follow in case of a ring conflict

The Ring Stewards reset bars for height changes or when they are knocked down. Some helpful hints:

- Know where you should be positioned
- Know your duties – to straighten the collapsed tunnel after each dog, reset any knocked down bars, reset jumps for the next height, others as necessary (straighten weave poles, etc.)
- Know special instructions for adverse weather (if necessary)

The Score Sheet Runner delivers the scribe sheet to the Table Steward. Sheets are usually taken one at a time, after each dog runs the course. While the job requires lots of walking, running is not required.

The Scribe marks on the score sheet when the judge raises his hand to identify a fault.

- The judge will explain the arm signals to be used.
- Record the time from the timekeeper's stopwatch exactly as it reads and do not convert it to seconds.
- Always watch the judge – not the dog or its handler.
- Ask any questions about the previous dog's score before the next dog runs – this will eliminate any confusion.

The Timer uses a stopwatch to time a dog during a run. This job requires one's full attention, because accurately starting and stopping the time as the dog crosses either the start or finish line is critical. One person must time an entire class. The judge will give specific instructions on timing a class before the first dog runs.

- Be very comfortable with the stopwatch and how to use it.
- At the end of each run, show the stopwatch to the scribe to copy onto the scoresheet.
- Know what to do if the stopwatch malfunctions – always check the stopwatch as soon as the dog is

past the start line to verify that it is working.

- Be sure you clearly understand where the start and finish lines are and that the time begins and ends when the dog crosses the line.
- The judge will explain how he will signal that he and the scribe are ready for the dog to begin.

The Table Stewards add up marks made by the Scribe and write the score on the master score sheet.

- Take the scribe sheet from the Runner,
- Use a calculator to compute how much (if at all) the dog exceeded the course time,
- Add up the faults (they are all in multiples of 5) and determine the score.
- There should always be at least one experienced scorer to give instructions and answer questions.

### Rally Ring Steward Duties

Rally competitions also require multiple stewards.

Gate Stewards ensure that the next dog to be judged is immediately available when the judge is ready.

- Keep the show running smoothly by knowing how many dogs to keep on deck and when the next dog should enter the ring.
- Report any absences to the judge at the end of the class. The judge will decide if the 4-H'er is to be marked absent.
- Check in exhibitors. Ask the exhibitor's name and the name of the dog, then check the entry list. For Advanced or Excellent classes, note the jump height of the dog on the entry list. (Double-check this with the rules to be sure the dog is jumping the correct height.)
- Take the leash from each handler when the dog is brought into the ring and return it as the dog and handler complete the "Finish" sign but before they leave the ring.
- Manage any special requests the exhibitors voice, consulting the show chair as necessary.

The Table Steward assists the judge according to the directions given. The extent to which a judge uses a table steward varies greatly. Some judges prefer to do their own bookwork and do not feel it is necessary to have the steward perform many of these duties. The steward will receive specific instructions from the judge as to what will be required.

- Judges will use worksheets to communicate with the table steward. The judge may ask the table

steward to prepare and have the worksheet ready for the next dog.

- Ensure that the class, proper ID Number, and breed of dog are entered correctly on the sheet.
- Double-check to see that the scores on the worksheet have been added correctly. Initial the worksheet and transfer the score and time to the judge's book. If an error is detected, bring it to the attention of the judge, and then enter the corrected score and time in the judge's book.
- Ensure that all ribbons are available at the conclusion of judging.
- If asked, assist in presenting the ribbons and awards to the exhibitors.

Ring Stewards are assigned with a minimum of one/judge. It is particularly important for the ring steward to report to the ring at least 30 minutes prior to judging to assist in setting up the rally course and to receive specific instructions from the judge.

- During Novice classes, remain outside the ring but stay alert to any possible problems and be ready to follow whatever instructions the judge may give.
- For Advanced and Excellent classes, have a tape measure or steel rule to ensure accuracy in setting the broad jump. Arrange the jumps quickly and accurately, or much time will be wasted.
- Be familiar with the rules in order to set the jumps correctly. Refer to section # of this guide for the correct heights.

The Time Steward is necessary for the Excellent class, though not always used in the others. If two or more dogs in a class earn the same score, the tie is broken by time. The timer is positioned outside the ring in a place specified by the judge, lined up with the Start sign.

- When the judge gives the order Forward, start the stopwatch and stop it when the dog and handler cross the Finish station.
- Immediately report the time to the table steward after each dog completes the course.

### Judges

Judges for the State 4-H Dog Show are chosen and approved by the State 4-H Dog Project Committee Chairs for each event. The judge's decisions shall be final in all matters affecting the scoring and judging of each class. The Show Committee shall decide all other matters arising at the show.

### Interference and Double Handling

A judge who is aware of any assistance, interference, or attempts to control a dog from outside the ring must act promptly to stop such double handling or interference and shall penalize the dog substantially. If, in the judge's opinion, the circumstances warrant, the dog shall be given a score of zero for the exercise during which the aid was received or the dog shall be disqualified, and no ribbon awarded.

### Explanations and Errors

The judge is not required to explain his scoring and need not enter into any discussion with any exhibitor who appears to be dissatisfied. Any interested person who thinks that there may have been an arithmetical error or an error in identifying a dog may report the facts to one of the stewards or the Show Committee so it may be checked.

### Compliance with Regulations

Each person entering a 4-H show shall be familiar with the regulations listed in the South Dakota 4-H Dog Project Guide.

### Misbehavior

Any display of fear, nervousness or uncontrolled behavior by the dog such as snapping, barking or running away from the handler, whether it occurs during an exercise, between exercises, or before or after judging, may be penalized according to the seriousness of the misbehavior. The judge may disqualify the dog. All dogs must be kept on leash except when in the show ring. Dogs must be taken in and out of the ring on leash.

Dogs must be kept on leash in the ring when brought in to receive awards and when waiting before and after the group exercises. The leash shall be left on the judge's table between the individual exercises and during all exercises when off-leash work is required.

### 4-H Dog Show Safety and Etiquette

Safety at dog shows is up to all participants. Participation at a dog show is no fun if you or your dog gets hurt. Everyone must work together to minimize the risks.

### Basic Safety at a Dog Show

- Keep your dog on leash at all times (except when required in the ring or at the Agility warm-up jump).
- Keep your leash short and your dog close to you.

- Be aware of your dog's actions at all times. It is very easy to be distracted while talking to people.
- Keep plenty of space between your dog and other dogs at the show. Be especially cautious in crating areas, doorways, stairways, elevators, and ring entrances.
- Never run near other dogs. Running excites the prey drive in many dogs.
- Do not make and hold direct eye contact with anyone else's dog. In dog language, you are challenging that dog to a fight.
- Be extra cautious of any dog that has food or toys (and sometimes even their human). These are all things that dogs will fight to protect.
- Always ask before touching any other person's dog, and never pat a dog on top of the head.
- Keep a close eye on small children. If it is necessary to bring a small child to the show, be sure they are closely supervised. Most dog bites occur to kids between the ages of two and nine years old.
- Learn to "read" a dog's body language. Signs of aggression may include a lifted lip, a very soft (almost inaudible) growl, a tail held higher and stiffer than normal (stiff tails sometimes shake), or the hair on the back of the neck and upper back standing up straighter than normal. Signs of a fearful dog (who may bite out of self-defense) are a head held lower, a tail between their legs (or just held down), backing away. Fearful and aggressive dogs may or may not offer a warning growl.
- Remember that you are legally and ethically responsible for your dog's behavior. This includes any damage caused by your dog to property, a human or another dog. Do carefully consider if your dog would be a safety risk before you decide to bring him to a dog show. You can be held legally responsible for any medical or veterinary costs incurred if your dog harms anyone. You can also be dismissed from the show and forfeit your opportunity to compete.
- In the case of a dogfight, never try to separate the dogs with your bare hands. Fighting dogs will not take the time to look at what they are biting. If they are on leash, use their leashes to pull them apart. If not, try throwing water on them or throwing some other object. Don't endanger yourself by getting in their way. 99.9% of the time, they will quit as soon as one of them submits (give in) to the other.



- All dog aggression incidents should be reported to the Show Committee for investigation.

### Courtesy Near the Rings

Good sportsmanship is one of the goals of the 4-H Dog Project. Everyone deserves a fair chance to succeed.

- Do not eat food (lunch or snacks) near the rings.
- Do not let kids play near the rings.
- Keep a few feet back from ringside while watching or waiting. Be careful that your dog doesn't have a foot or tail protruding into the ring. Encourage spectators to stay back too.
- Keep dog treats and toys well back from the edge of the ring. Squeaky toys, bells and clickers should be kept even further away.
- Do not warm up too close to the ring. Stay back at least 20 feet for warm-ups.
- Remember that training or drilling is not allowed at any time in the show building. The difference between training and warming up is a thin line. Warming up is no more than 3-4 forward and halts or 1-2 recalls, fronts, etc. done within 2-3 minutes of the time you are to enter the ring to be judged. Training would be anything in excess of that.

### Courtesy in Crating Areas

- Prevent urban sprawl. Stack your crates if space is limited and limit the use of exercise pens and grooming tables. Keep chairs, coolers, etc., contained to a small area.
- Keep it clean. Grooming powders and sprays can drift to other dogs and bother people with allergies or respiratory problems. No one likes to have empty pop cans and other litter strewn about.
- Get to know your neighbors. Know who owns the dogs in the kennels near yours and watch out for each other's dogs and belongings. There are some animal rights groups who have been known to slip poison treats to dogs, poison water, or let all of the dogs out of their kennels. Unattended belongings and dogs can be a target for thieves too.
- Keep the peace. If your dog cries, barks or digs excessively when you leave him, then please stay with him, find someone else to stay with him, or take him with you when you leave the area. Your neighbors in the crating area will be most appreciative.

### Courtesy Outside the Building (and Motels)

- Allow your dog to relieve itself only in designated exercise areas.
- Clean up after your dog. No one wants to step in your dog's leavings and cleaning up does help to reduce the spread of parasites. Keeping the grounds clean will also help ensure that we will be welcome to use this site again next year.
- Parents should not train, drill or do Obedience warm-ups with their child's dog.
- Abuse of dogs will not be tolerated anywhere. Any incident of hitting, kicking, yelling at, or severely disciplining a dog should be reported to the Show Committee for investigation.

### Courtesy at the Agility Area

- The warm-up jump is only for the use of dogs and handlers entered in Agility. It is not to be used by dogs that are not entered in Agility and not for kids to have a high-jumping contest.
- Priority at the warm-up jump is to the dog that needs to run first.
- Please be courteous enough to keep your time at the warm up jump to only 1-3 repetitions when there is a line.
- Remember that only dogs that are actually entered in Agility may be on Agility equipment. This includes any time before, after, and between classes. Anyone violating this rule should be reported to the Show Committee.

### Courtesy at Show Time

- It is your job to be at ringside and ready to go. It is not the responsibility of the ring steward to go looking for you or to call your name over the P.A. system. For Obedience classes, please be ready when the dog before you enter the ring. Line up for sit and down exercises when the last dog of your "group" goes into the ring for their individual judging. For Showmanship, it is time to assemble the class when the second to last dog in the class before yours is completing the group examination/ gaiting. For Agility, be at ringside 3 dogs before your turn.
- If you think that you might need to be in two rings at the same time, please notify the ring steward (not the judge) in both of the rings that could be in conflict as far in advance as possible. The ring steward will work with you to resolve the problem.

Usually it is possible to show earlier or later within an Obedience class to accommodate the problem. If you have notified the steward of both rings, they will try to do whatever is necessary for you to be able to show. If you did not notify the steward, it may be assumed that you are absent, and you may miss your opportunity to show.

- Please wait for the judge to ask you to enter the ring.
- No one other than show officials may be in the show rings before or after the show or during the breaks of a show. There is no practicing or training in the rings!

### Why Should I Bring a Kennel to the Show?

- Dogs are den animals. A crate trained dog will consider a kennel to be their home away from home. They will feel safer and more secure in their own space.
- A kennel gives your dog a place to rest between classes. In the excitement of a show, most dogs will spend all of their time watching everything and may be too tired to focus and perform several hours later when it is your turn to show. To further encourage your dog to rest at the show, you may want to cover the kennel with a bed sheet (temperature permitting) or move the kennel to a non-busy location.
- Keeping your dog in a kennel gives you more freedom to move around and enjoy the show without needing to keep such a close eye on what your dog is doing. It is also less likely that another dog would get into a scuffle with your dog.
- Keeping your dog in the car on a sunny day can cause brain damage or even death if the temperature in the car gets high enough. The police and humane authorities may legally break into a car to rescue a dog that appears to be in distress.
- If you don't bring a kennel, someone must be holding the end of the leash at all times. It is NOT acceptable to tie your dog to something and leave them unsupervised.

### More Dog Show Tips

- Be sure to label your dog kennel and other personal belongings. The information on your kennel should include, the dog's name, your name,

address, phone number, county, your veterinarian's contact information, and an emergency contact.

Be sure to include any special medical conditions your dog has on the card. If you prefer to not have your address and phone number visible, you may put it inside an envelope labeled "emergency information" taped to your kennel.

- Bring water from home for your dog. Water changes can sometimes cause diarrhea.
- Practicing too much on show day can tire your dog so much that he won't be able to focus when it is your turn in the ring. Nervous kids want to practice over and over but sometimes this can be too much of a good thing.
- Bring lots of plastic bags and be sure that they are with you at all times.
- Bring your rabies certificate with you to the show. The 4-H health form is on file, but the legal proof of your rabies vaccination is still the certificate (not the tags or a bill from the vet). You will need this if there is any kind of bite incident in which the police, a veterinarian, or medical doctor is involved.
- You may want to bring a book, a craft project, or a game to the show with you. Sometimes show days can get long.

Smile, enjoy the day and have fun. Keep it in perspective. Remember that your partner is a dog, and the judges can only judge what they see that day. Everybody and every dog have good days and bad days. Tomorrow may have a different outcome. The real achievement in Dog Project is not the color of the ribbon, but in your relationship with your dog, and what you have learned about life and responsibility. Some members who receive red or white ribbons are the real champions because of how far they have come, or how big their challenge was. Not all dogs' talents lie in obedience. Some breeds were developed to work closely under the command of humans, and some to think and act independently of humans. Each individual child and dog have different gifts. Some handlers have personal challenges. Some don't have access to a coach with lots of experience. Some don't have a coach at all. Sometimes the ones who gained the most are not the ones with the trophies. Hold your head up and smile. If you learned something on the journey, you are a winner!