



BC Agricultural Expo

September 24-27, 2026
North Thompson Agriplex
Barriere, BC



4-H & OPEN YOUTH/OPEN RULES AND REGULATIONS DOG DIVISION

IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ALL CLUB LEADERS TO ENSURE THAT ALL MEMBERS, PARENTS AND/OR HELPERS ARE FAMILIAR WITH AND FOLLOW ALL DOG DIVISION RULES.

2026 Dog Representatives: Sue Wessel and Cheryl Betker

ENTRIES:

1. Entry deadline is June 30. No refunds of entries after deadline. All Leaders must enclose an address, contact name, and phone number with entries – please specify your Club name.
2. Fees:
 - a. 4-H Dog Project members - \$20.00 per entry (plus 5% GST) GST# 778362723
 - b. Open Youth and Open participants - \$25.00 per entry (plus 5% GST) GST# 778362723
3. Age of participants:
 - a. 4-H Junior - 9 to 11 years as of Dec 31st of the previous year
 - b. 4-H Intermediate - 12 to 14 years as of Dec 31st of the previous year
 - c. 4-H Senior - 15 to 19 years as of Dec 31st of previous year
 - d. Open Youth - 6 to 8 years at the time of the fair (ex. Cloverbuds)
 - e. Open - 9 years and older at the time of the fair
4. 4-H Dog project entry fee for the BC Agricultural Expo includes:
 - a. Judging
 - b. Showmanship* (see additional information below)
 - c. Unit Work (must register using the 4-H unit currently enrolled in)
 - d. Agility (optional)
 - e. Costume Class (optional)
5. Open Youth or Open Dog project entry fee for the BC Agricultural Expo includes:
 - a. Obedience
 - b. Agility
 - c. Showmanship* (see additional information below)



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6. 4-H members may enter one Dog division category at the fair:
 - a. as a 4-H member competing with their registered 4-H dog in 4-H classes, or
 - b. as an Open member competing with either their registered 4-H dog (or another dog that abides by these rules and regulations) in Open classes

7. Open Youth and Open members may compete with a dog that abides by these rules and regulations and is at least 6 months old. Dogs entered in Open Youth or Open classes are not eligible to compete in 4-H classes (and vice-versa).

8. Dog class prizes will be awarded as follows:
 - a. 4-H Dog Judging – by age group (1st to 5th)
 - b. 4-H Dog Showmanship* – by age group (1st to 5th), Champion class to follow (1st and 2nd)
 - c. 4-H Unit Work – by unit and age group (1st to 5th), Overall top score (1st and 2nd)
 - d. 4-H Dog Agility (optional) – by age group (1st to 5th)
 - e. Costume Class (optional) – participation prize
 - f. Open Youth and Open Obedience – by age group (1st to 5th)
 - g. Open Youth and Open Agility – by age group (1st to 5th)
 - h. Open Youth and Open Showmanship* - by age group (1st to 5th)

9. Additional Showmanship information for 4-H, Open Youth, and Open participants: If there are fewer than 3 participants in any 4-H age group, Open Youth, or Open category, groups may be blended for the group showmanship portion of the competition. This will not alter the prize categories.

10. Baiting: Treats may be used during Unit Work classes and as a reward at the end of Agility classes. Treats are not allowed in the ring during showmanship classes.

11. All entries must have the following:
 - a. Uploaded at the time of entry: a health/vaccination certificate documenting current vaccinations that extend beyond the fair dates, including Rabies, Distemper, Adenovirus, Parvovirus, Parainfluenza, Leptospirosis, and Bordetella.
 - b. Acceptable social behavior, especially around children and other dogs.



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12. All dogs must be on a leash and under control at all times. Off leash exceptions - only when participating in designated show ring activities or while in pens or crates in the dog areas.
13. The use of collars or devices that are designed to enforce pain or compliance are prohibited in all dog classes and while waiting outside the ring. Prohibited collars include, but are not limited to, shock/stim/tickle, prong, choke, and spray collars. Flat collars, martingale collars, and head halters are acceptable when properly fitted. Collars and halters may be subject to inspection prior to each class.
14. All dogs will enter and exit using designated entry ways and use the main roads to access the dog areas and campground. Dogs are to be exercised in designated areas only. Dogs and handlers will not wander in barns or other areas occupied/used by livestock.
15. Dog care (walking, grooming, feeding, etc.) is the responsibility of the member.
16. All dog droppings are to be cleaned up promptly and disposed of in an outdoor garbage bin.
17. The Dog Rep and/or the Grievance Committee has the right to remove any dog and owner/handler from the grounds if the dog and its owner/handler are not conforming to any of the General Barn or Dog Division Rules, or if a participant is not exhibiting sportsmanlike behaviour.
18. Decorating for Stall Competition is optional but is to be completed by the club members.

Any questions regarding the rules are to be directed to the BC Agricultural Expo Dog Rep.