
DOGS

Multi-County Dog Show
Judged Tuesday, June 23 at 6:00 PM
Check-in begins at 5:30 PM
Boone County Fairgrounds – Open to the Public
Entries are due June 1

Illinois 4-H reserves the right to modify or cancel events if risks are identified or if safety guidelines must be followed.

REGULATIONS

1. All exhibitors must have completed the Quality Assurance and Ethics Certification and are expected to be familiar with and abide by both the principles of that certification and the Illinois Humane Care for Animals Act.
2. Rally is not offered as competition currently.
3. **Judging starts promptly at 6:00 p.m.** It is the exhibitor's responsibility to be at ringside when their class is called. Judges are not required to hold classes for late entries.
4. Proof of rabies vaccination must be submitted prior to the show. More information will be provided during registration.
5. All dog/handler teams must have earned the Canine Good Citizen Certificate together. If you are unable to be evaluated by an AKC qualified evaluator, your instructor can also sign off on the skills needed to pass the CGC test.
6. To be eligible to exhibit at the 4-H Dog Show each dog/handler team will be required to show proof of completing a training with a certified trainer/facility for their designated class. Scorecards for each obedience class will be provided by the local extension office.
7. A dog being shown in the dog obedience project must be trained by and belong to the exhibitor or to a member of his/her immediate family. The dog can be leased for the length of the project and a signed agreement should be on file with the local 4-H extension office by May 1 of the current year.
8. Exhibitors shall be limited to one entry/dog in each obedience class. The same dog can be entered once in each show discipline (Obedience, Showmanship). A 4-H member may show multiple dogs.
9. All dogs must be leashed or crated while on the grounds. Dogs must always be under the exhibitor's supervision.
10. A dog that is not under the control of the exhibitor, or shows viciousness toward its handler, judge, or other dogs will be excused from further competition.
11. Female dogs in season cannot participate in the show.
12. A run-off will be held in case of a tie for total score.
13. All participants must use appropriate show equipment. Acceptable leashes are a maximum of 6 ft. (can be shorter in advanced classes) of leather, nylon, or canvas. No prong, slip chain training collars, or electronic collars will be allowed on the grounds. No identification tags on collars used in the show ring. Harness or other training aids such as a gentle leader are not acceptable show equipment. No slip chain "training" or pinch/prong or electronic collars will be allowed. No flexy or retractable leashes allowed.
14. Special problems not covered by these rules will be acted upon by the superintendents and Extension staff in accordance with the Illinois 4-H Policies including the Youth Code of Conduct and Member Behavior Guidelines.

15. No un-entered dogs will be allowed on the grounds. All dogs must leave the fairgrounds after the show is finished.
16. Waste management: Please clean up after your dog. Cleaning supplies will be available.
17. Awards will be secured and determined based on enrollment in classes.
18. Information regarding the State 4-H Dog Show will be available at the County Show for those with qualifying scores. For more information, please contact the office.
19. Judges' decisions are final.
20. 4-H premiums paid will be using an X factor. Premium values will be:
Blue: 5X, Red 4X, and White 3X

DOG CLASSES

COSTUME

1. Dog and handler to be dressed in costume.
2. Dog will be dressed at show time ONLY to avoid the risk of dog overheating.
3. As soon as the class is finished, the costume will be removed from dog and handler.
4. Dog must enter and exit the ring on leash.
5. Exhibitor will be judged on the thought and creativity put into the costume for the dog and handler.
6. Participants cannot share a dog with another exhibitor.

SHOWMANSHIP

1. Exhibitors will be judged on handling skill, knowledge of breed standards of their dog, dog show terminology and elementary dog anatomy. The judge has the right to question exhibitors in one or all of these areas.
2. Dogs will be judged on cleanliness, general health, and grooming.
3. Purebred and non-purebred dogs are eligible for this class. The breed of dog has no bearing on judging or placement.
4. A dog eligible for Showmanship that must be withdrawn for good and sufficient reason (a female in season or veterinarian excuse) may be replaced by another dog owned by the handler or the family. This must be in writing (giving the reason) at the beginning of the show.
5. Judges' decisions are final.

Junior Showmanship – for handlers ages 8-13, as of September 1, 2025

Senior Showmanship – for handlers ages 14 and older, as of September 1, 2025.

OBEDIENCE

1. All dog/handler teams must have earned the Canine Good Citizen Certificate together. Proof of CGC certificate will need to be provided prior to the show.
2. Dogs do not have to be AKC registered to show in the 4-H obedience show. AKC rules will be used as a guideline for judging. If a dog has 3 qualifying scores at either 1) county show, 2) state 4-H dog show, 3) AKC sanctioned match, 4) AKC trial, in beginner novice or novice, three months prior to the State 4-H Dog Show, it must be shown in the next higher class.
3. A run-off will be held in case of a tie for total score.
4. All beginning level classes will use on-leash heeling exercises. (Beginner Novice I and II, Preferred Novice, Novice, and Graduate Novice)
5. All advanced classes will use novice off lead heeling exercises. (Graduate Novice, Pre-Open and above)
6. In most classes, commands/signals given by handler will be either voice or hand, but not both. The Stay command can be both verbal and a signal. See full AKC rules and regulations for clarification of your class's specific rules.

7. Exercises for all classes may be done in any order, depending upon scheduling and the judge's preference.
8. The following are the exceptions as compared to AKC in the classes offered for the 4-H show: 4-H has two levels of Novice obedience. Level 1 for dogs new to the novice class and Level 2 for dogs who have successfully shown in Novice previously, or the youth showed a different dog previously.
9. 4-H is based upon Positive Youth Development – meaning that the dog training project is for the youth only, not for a parent to train the dog and the youth to show it.

50401 Beginner Novice I

(For inexperienced handlers and inexperienced dogs)

1. Heel on Leash (forward, halt, right turn, left turn, about turn, slow, normal, and fast).
2. The last order signifies that the handler and dog must break pace. These orders will be given by utilizing posted signs – Maximum points 40
3. Figure Eight (on leash) – Maximum points 40
4. Sit for Exam (on leash) – Maximum points 40
5. Sit Stay (walk around ring – Maximum points 40
6. Recall (off leash front/no finish) – Maximum points 40

50402 Beginner Novice II

(For experienced handlers and inexperienced dogs or experienced dogs and inexperienced handlers)

1. Heel on Leash (forward, halt, right turn, left turn, about turn, slow, normal, and fast).
2. The last order signifies that the handler and dog must break pace. These orders will be given by utilizing posted signs – Maximum points 40
3. Figure Eight (on leash) – Maximum points 40
4. Sit for Exam (on leash) – Maximum points 40
5. Sit Stay (walk around ring) – Maximum points 40
6. Recall (off leash front/no finish) – Maximum points 40

50403 Preferred Novice

1. Heel on Leash and Figure 8 – Maximum points 40
2. Stand for Examination (off leash) – Maximum points 30
3. Heel Free (on leash) – Maximum points 40
4. Recall (off leash with finish) – Maximum points 30
5. Sit or Down Stay-Walk around the Ring – Maximum points 30
6. Sit Stay-Get Your Leash (off leash) – Maximum points 30

50404 Novice

1. Heel on Leash and Figure 8 (on leash) – Maximum points 40
2. Stand for Examination (off leash) – Maximum points 30
3. Heel Free (off leash) – Maximum points 40
4. Recall (off leash) – Maximum points 30
5. Sit Stay – Get your leash (off leash) – Maximum points 30
6. Group Exercise – Sit & Down Stay (on leash) – Maximum points 30

50405 Graduate Novice

1. Heel Free and Figure 8 (off leash) – Maximum points 40
2. Drop on Recall – Maximum points 40
3. Dumbbell Recall – Maximum points 30
4. Dumbbell Recall over High Jump – Maximum points 30
5. Recall over Broad Jump – Maximum points 30
6. Stay – Get your leash (sit, down) – Maximum points 30

50406 Pre-Open

1. Heel Free and Figure 8 – Maximum points 40
2. Command Discrimination (Stand, Down, Sit) – Maximum points 30
3. Drop on Recall – Maximum points 30
4. Retrieve on Flat – Maximum points 20
5. Retrieve over High Jump – Maximum points 30
6. Broad Jump – Maximum points 20
7. Stay – Get your leash (Sit, Down) – Maximum points 30

50407 Open

1. Heel Free and Figure 8 – Maximum points 40
2. Command Discrimination (Stand, Down, Sit) – Maximum points 30
3. Drop on Recall – Maximum points 30
4. Retrieve on Flat – Maximum points 20
5. Retrieve over High Jump – Maximum points 30
8. Broad Jump – Maximum points 20
9. Stay – Get your leash (Sit, Down) – Maximum points 30

50408 Graduate Open

1. Signal Exercise – Maximum points 40
2. Scent Discrimination – Maximum points 30
3. Go Out – Maximum points 30
4. Directed Jumping – Maximum points 40
5. Moving Stand and Examination – Maximum points 30
6. Directed Retrieve – Maximum points 30

50409 Preferred Utility

1. Signal Exercise – Maximum points 40
2. Scent Discrimination Article #1 – Maximum points 30
3. Scent Discrimination Article #2 – Maximum points 30
4. Directed Retrieve – Maximum points 30
5. Moving Stand and Examination – Maximum points 30
6. Directed Jumping – Maximum points 40

50410 Utility

1. Signal Exercise – Maximum points 40
2. Scent Discrimination Article #1 – Maximum points 30
3. Scent Discrimination Article #2 – Maximum points 30
4. Directed Retrieve – Maximum points 30
5. Moving Stand and Examination – Maximum points 30
6. Directed Jumping – Maximum points 40

The Department of Agriculture shall use its best efforts to secure sufficient appropriations to fund premiums. In any year for which the General Assembly of the State of Illinois fails to make an appropriation sufficient to pay such premiums, premiums amounts may not be accurately reflected in this Premium Book.