

**Small Animal 2008
Evening Minutes
July 8, 2008**

1. Attendance: Amanda M, Sue M, Kim S, Marie M, Sherri B, Amy O.
2. Reports-Budget: \$2,033.79 after money from 3rd and 4th shows deposited.
 - MSP – Marie – Pay judge for show #2 \$25.00
 - MSP – Marie – Buy show kit from Sue for \$25.00 (for youth to rent/borrow)
 - MSP – Sherri – Buy show table for \$25.00 through Sue.
3. Old business
 - Next Year: Ready, Set, Show; Fun Show: 1st and 3rd Mondays in October-December from 5:30-6:30 pm...Run by Amanda M.
4. New business
 - State Fair Qualifiers: Amanda M, Tonya B, and Alexia
 - Voting on policy and rule changes:
 - MSP – Kim – Pass agility rules w/ corrections
 - MSP – Sherri – Pass 4-H Dog show rules and regulations
 - MSP – Sue – Pass general rules and policy and showmanship guidelines.
5. Adjournment – MSP Sue – 8:45pm.

Spokane County 4-H Small Animal Project Committee Policies

Place of business: 222 N Havana, Spokane, WA 99202

Purpose:

1. To support 4-H members in the Small Animal Projects (dog, cat, poultry, pocket pets, rabbits)
2. Provide competitions, educational, and fun activities.
3. Coordinate interaction between the different animal groups in our county and other counties as we can to share resources.
4. Create resources.

Membership:

1. Open to anyone (youth or adult) enrolled in and interested in any of the small animals. Clubs with small animals are encouraged to have someone there to represent the club.

Meetings:

1. Every first Monday at 6:30-8:00p.m. except when it conflicts with a holiday. (Must be extended by consensus of those present.)

Leadership:

1. Those present will fulfill the roles of facilitator and/or recorder as needed.

Quorum:

1. At least 3 enrolled members (one staff allowed to fill quorum) of the small animal projects.

Ground Rules:

1. All ideas presented will be respected.
2. All people will be treated with respect.
3. Follow the agenda and finish on time.

Agenda:

1. Agenda will be established at the beginning of the meeting.

Finances:

1. Each facilitator/chair will do a profit and loss report for their event to be turned in within two weeks following the event .
2. There will be four members and one staff as signers on the bank account. Two signatures are required on each check.
3. All checks must be approved and recorded in the committee report of a Small Animal Project Meeting
4. Funds collected and /or used for each animal project will be recorded in the ledger to show what funds are available for that animal project.

These policies will be reviewed annually in October.

The above policies were reviewed and corrected on August 4, 2008.

Signed by: Amy Obringer, Sue McCoury, Amanda McCoury, Kim Sams, and Sherri Ballman.

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Spokane County 4-H Dog Program

General Rules

Membership

1. The following groups are identified for activity participation:
 - Primary: K-2nd grades (K needs to be 5 years old by Jan. 1 of the current 4-H year.
 - Junior: 3rd-5th grades
 - Intermediate: 6th-8th grades
 - Senior: 9th-12th grades (12th grade not reached 19 years old by Jan. 1 of the current 4-H year.)
2. Members must be enrolled in the dog project to participate in dog events.
3. Primary members are not eligible for state fair.
4. IT SHALL BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE EXHIBITOR TO KNOW ALL THE RULES. Failure to follow the rules may be basis for disqualification.

Dog Eligibility

1. 4-H members need not own their 4-H project dog. A lend-lease agreement **is required and must be kept with project records. The dog must be under the members care and management 60 days before an official county exhibit activity.**
2. Two members in the same family may share a dog as their project. There must be an agreement in each member's records about the shared duties. The two family members may not show the dog in the same class at the same show.
3. Dogs may be any age (but old enough to have had their shots to compete in events outside their club. Dogs may be any breed, mixed or purebred, except wolf or coyote hybrids. Dogs may be spayed or neutered.
4. Blind and/or deaf dogs are allowed. Dogs that are lame or have other handicap may be used if the member brings a statement from a veterinarian stating that the use as a 4-H project animal will not have adverse effects on the dog's health.
5. Bitches in season are allowed. When in season, bitches must wear doggy britches.
6. The club leader may evaluate and exclude vicious and/or uncontrollable dogs from club participation after consulting with the 4-H Office Staff.
7. A completed dog record will be recognition of your project animal.
8. A copy of a veterinarian signed proof of rabies vaccination, proof of Distemper, and any lend/lease agreement must be submitted each year at the 4-H event.

Ribbons and Awards

The Danish System of Awards will be used at 4-H designated events. Every participant will receive a flat blue, red, or white ribbon. Rosettes may be awarded in addition to the Danish System Awards. Grand & Reserve Champion Awards may be awarded to the top score in each age division if that score qualifies for a blue ribbon. Ties will be broken only if there are more than two tied. Ties will be broken by run off.

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Point divisions for ribbons will be:

Showmanship

Blue 90-100, Red 80-89, White 79 and under.

Obedience

Blue 185 – 200, Red 170 – 184.5, White 169.5 and

under.

Advanced Novice and Above Blue 170 – 200, or Red 150 – 169.5, White 149.5 and under.

See current Washington State 4-H Fair Premium List for qualification requirements for State Fair. Because of limited allocations to State Fair, the final decision for who will represent Spokane County will not be made until all qualifying events have been held, allocations have been designated, and scores have been ranked in order (highest to lowest). Selection for state fair will be ranked by the member's highest showmanship score added to their highest obedience score for each dog and member.

The Spokane County 4-H Dog Project will conduct their activities in accordance with the publications EM4927E WA State Guide to Dog Project Showmanship and EM4924E WA State 4-H Dog Program Guidelines unless stated in these General Rules.

If any questions arise not covered by these publications or rules, please refer to current copies of the AKC materials provided 4-H members as described in EM2778 4-H Publications and Projects.

If there is confusion about a rule or requirement and no clarification can be located, the benefit of the doubt is given to the 4-H member.

Participation In Activities

Requirements for dogs:

1. Showmanship is required for each dog at all 4-H Spokane County 4-H Dog Shows.
2. A member may show a maximum of 2 dogs per show.
3. The member will decide which dog is shown as the second dog and that dog will receive Danish ribbons only.
4. Show superintendent may require aggressive dogs to be crated when not in the ring.
5. Anti-social or uncontrollable dogs will be sent home, at the discretion of show personnel.
6. Before attending county activities for the first time, a dog must demonstrate to a dog club leader (using the Canine Good Citizen Test as a measure) that the dog is obedient and the handler can control the dog.
7. Only dogs entered in novice and higher classes may be off leash at any time, and then only in the show or practice ring.
8. Dogs may be shown with minor non-contagious ailments, however, this is a show management decision and a veterinarian's certificate may be required. If you have a question about this, call the 4-H office.
9. Show personnel may dismiss a visibly ill animal from participation at any point of a show.
10. You may move your dog up in obedience classes during a 4-H year. If you move down in obedience classes during the 4-H year, you will not be able to qualify for state fair with that dog.
11. If you receive a blue ribbon score at county qualifying show in obedience, a minimum of 3 times, you must move up to the next level in obedience the following year.

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12. To qualify for state in pre-novice and novice, two blues are required in fit and show, and at least one blue AND one red in obedience. Advanced dogs need two blues in fit and show, and a qualifying state score in obedience.
13. Record Books are required to be completed and turned in by August 1st, to go to State Fair.

Requirements for all persons attending the event:

1. Volunteer staff must adhere to the policies in *EM0758 Washington State Youth Program Policy*.
2. All volunteers, participants, and parents must adhere to the Washington 4-H ethics code stated in *C1000 A Valuable Partnership*.
3. Use of alcoholic beverages and/or illegal substances by adults and youth is prohibited at all 4-H sponsored events Use and possession of any tobacco products is prohibited by all 4-H aged youth at all 4-H activities.
4. No abuse of animals. (Example: Striking your dog.)
5. Prong, spike collars, head collars, electric collars, and muzzles are not allowed in a show.
6. No coaching of youth while they are in the ring or showing their dogs.
7. Only 4-H members may groom or school a show dog while on the grounds.
8. The ring is off limits to everyone except the working show personnel.
9. Members Only may approach the judge for information, not to dispute a placing, and only after judging is completed.
10. All exhibitors must participate in Herdsmanship if offered. No eating or drinking during herdsmanship.
11. Show personnel or leader can ask any 4-H member, their parent or visitor to leave the grounds if behavior is unacceptable.
12. At a benched show, there is no eating or drinking in the benched area.
13. Exhibitors must dress tastefully. See page 9 EM4927E WA State Guide to 4-H Dog Project Showmanship Manual for guidelines.

Protests:

When an individual is assisting with a 4-H show or event, no one should interrupt or interfere in any manner. If you have a problem with the procedures, you may submit comments to the superintendent in writing. A judge's decision representing his or her preference, cannot be protested unless it is alleged to violate the rules.

A protest must be submitted in writing to the Spokane County 4-H Staff within 24 hours of show.

Updated August 4, 2008 by: Sue McCoury, Amanda McCoury, Marie Martin, Sherri Ballman, Kim Sams, and Amy Obringier

4-H Showmanship Guidelines

- *Be sure that YOU are properly groomed before you enter the ring
- *Make sure that your outfit allows you to properly gait and show your dog. If you are uncomfortable wearing your outfit or your shoes it will be noticeable in the ring.
- *When you buy shoes make sure to try them with the hosiery that you would be wearing when you show and at the speed that you show. That means that if you must run to gait your dog then you need to run in the aisles to be sure your shoes won't slip off and that you can run comfortably. Many shoes are ok to walk in but not to run in. Remember they don't have to be beautiful, just a neutral color, not detract from your outfit, and be comfortable.
- *Girls be sure that your top is cut high enough to allow you to bend forward and that your skirt is long enough to allow you to bend forward also. If you need to kneel on the ground then you need enough room in the skirt to do get up and down.
- *Guys be sure that your pants and jacket fit properly and are not sloppy or too tight. A nice shirt and tie look better than an oversized sloppy suit.
- *Clothing should be fitted and not sloppy and should project a business like look.
- * The color of your outfit should compliment your dog's color. Do not pick the same color as your dog because the dog's topline will disappear. Try not to wear wild loud prints as they draw attention to you and away from your dog. The object is to make your dog look the best it can look.
- *No dangly jewelry or flashy necklaces. Think elegant and understated. Less is better. The same is true for makeup.
- *Hair needs to be out of your eyes and off your collar. If your bangs will be flopping around then pin them back with a cute barrette or pin. Long hair should be in a bun, ponytail or braided so that it does not flop around. It may be quite windy going from one building to another or if you are showing outside, so hair spray is your friend. Guys your hair should be off your collar and neatly cut.
- *Nail polish is acceptable as long as it is subdued.
- * Be sure to check the height of your dog's head before you buy a new skirt so that it doesn't end where your dog's head is or hit the dog in the face when you move. Full skirts can be bad about interfering with the movement of a dog if you are not careful.
- * Consider having several outfits to choose from that you can mix and match pieces to. Also if you show in the summer, most shows are outdoors and a full suit in the summer can cause you to overheat, so look for a lighter fabric or a shorter sleeved version.

4-H Dog Show Rules and Regulations:

Equipment

Crates need not be new, but must be intact and in good working order with a latching door.

No holes in the sides of the crates.

Water must be offered to all dogs at least once every hour in a clean bowl.

Equipment must be appropriate for the class, correct size and in good repair.

No prong (pinch) collars, halti (head) collars, or flexi leads. Max leash length is 6 ft.

Clothing

Closed toe shoes only for all classes. Please wear appropriate showmanship clothing with skirts at or just below knees (business like attire). Boys should have dress pants (no blue jeans) shirt, tie, and/or vest/jacket. Underwear should not be showing. Obedience clothing should consist of long pants and nice shirt (no t-shirts with sayings) or you may wear your showmanship clothing. No shorts allowed. Long hair must be pulled back and bangs kept out of eyes. No rings, noticeable body jewelry, or dangly earrings. Nail polish should be clear or light colored if worn.

Dogs

Must be clean (white areas white!!!) and dark areas dark, free of parasites, mats, etc. Teeth should be clean of excessive tartar. Ears must be cleaned. Toenails must be trimmed.

Coats should be in good condition without bare spots, crusty lesions, or scabbed areas.

Grooming should be appropriate for the breed and the dog should be groomed as close to how it would appear in the breed ring as possible. (ex. shaved faces, feet, and tails on poodles).

Mixed breeds should be clean and well groomed with a neat appearance. A veterinarian will be consulted if there is any doubt to the health or safety of the dogs involved and their decision will be final.

Rabies certificate required, and proof of distemper required. Bring photocopies of proof of BOTH shots, and turn them into the show superintendent immediately upon arrival. No exceptions.

General behavior

No unsupervised children. 4-H'ers caught behaving inappropriately, or exhibiting discourteous behavior to the other exhibitors will be given one verbal warning. They will be asked to leave the show/booth at the second warning and not allowed to return.

4-H'ers not in the show ring during the show must be with their dog waiting quietly in the waiting area or seated in the bleachers with the dog crated.

4-H'ers are expected to be courteous to those in the ring and remain quiet. You may talk, but it should be in a quiet, inside voice that will not be disruptive to the dogs being shown. There will be no running outside of the ring allowed.

Dogs must be on leash at all times unless in the obedience ring or crated.

By signing this form, I agree to the above regulations, and I promise to abide by them.

Youth signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent signature: _____ Date: _____

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Dog Agility Guidelines for training for competition

Dog and handler must demonstrate to 4-H leader basic obedience to include all pre-novice exercise before beginning agility training. An ability by handler to control the dog off leash must be demonstrated before being allowed on contacts or over jumps.

Dog should be free of shoulder, knee, hip, and back problems to be allowed on raised contacts or over jumps. Raised contacts consist of (a-frame, dog walk, table, and teeter)

Handlers must be at least in the junior age group to begin agility training with an appropriately obedience trained dog.

Dogs must be at least 1 yr of age to be allowed to participate in training. Large breed dogs (50 lbs or more) must be 18 months old to begin training. (Use state rules for other questions.)

All beginning training should be done in a secure enclosed area (inside or outside) with secure footing for the dogs and handlers to ensure safety. Concrete floors must be matted if jumps or raised contacts are used.

No beginning dogs on contacts without spotters present on opposite side of equipment. If large dog is being handled or if a jr member is training a beginning dog, then 2 spotters must be used with one on either side of the dog.

Beginning dogs may have collars, but collars must be non-tightening (no training collars, martingales, head collars, etc) a spotter must be present at all times and handler must do all work at a walk. Leashes may be used on contacts at low levels at a walk, but may not be used on raised contacts. Leashes must be nylon or leather, no chain leads or flexi-leads.

Advanced dogs or dogs on raised contacts at full height may not have collars or leashes on to prevent injury to the child and/or the dog should the dog become entangled in the equipment.

Handlers and dogs must have taken formal agility training to include not only contacts and jumps but also agility handling skills prior to being allowed to enter a 4-H agility competition. Agility classes may be taught by 4-H leader if 4-H leader possesses knowledge and equipment to train in agility or may be taken at any local dog training club. Proof of completion of such classes must be furnished to 4-H leader or 4-H office prior to entering first class. Certificate of completion or signed note from instructors shall suffice as proof.