

Department 18J

Dog Care and Training

Lee Ann Sims, Superintendent

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Rules & Definitions

Sub Novice A = New dog and new handler in first year of 4-H dog project

Sub Novice B = Experienced handler and experienced dog, or experienced handler and new dog, or new handler and experienced dog.

General Information

1. Exhibitors participating in an Ionia County 4-H Club may not show dogs in any other County Fair during the current year. Exhibitors must be an active member of an Ionia County 4-H Club to participate in this show. Clover Climbers and Cloverbuds must be active members of an Ionia County 4-H Club to participate in this show. **Cloverbud = Youth Ages 7-8 years old.** They are permitted to do all activities, and receive a score, however there is no ranking or placing given. **Clover Climbers = Youth Ages 5-6 years old.** They can present their dogs to the judges and do as much or as little as the child is comfortable. An adult or older member is allowed to stay with the child during their time in the ring.
2. All dogs exhibited must have a **Dog Declaration** form submitted to the Extension Office or Superintendent by June 1st. The Declaration form will include required current vaccinations for rabies and DHLPP. The member must provide a veterinary certificate/receipt or product receipt as proof. Vaccinations against Bordetella and Corona virus are also strongly encouraged.
3. If it is you AND your dogs' first time showing in a class, 4-H or non 4-H, you may show in the "A" class. You are eligible to show in the "A" for the entire current year.
4. If you OR your dog have shown or participated in dog shows, 4-H or non 4-H, prior to the start of the current year in 4-H, you must show in the "B" class. If you OR your dog has received training, 4-H or non 4-H, prior to the current year, you must show in the "B" class.
5. 4-H Junior Showmanship rules apply to all showmanship classes. Members may show in one (1) Showmanship class only. To be eligible for the Sweepstakes Class, members must show in a Showmanship class they need not win their class. Winning their Showmanship Class does not make a member eligible for Sweepstakes. Winning the Sweepstakes Class means the member is able to participate in Sweepstakes. It is the member's responsibility to get the information needed and go to the mandatory meeting to participate in Sweepstakes.
6. 4-H Michigan State Dog Show Dress Code applies and is also subject to the discretion of the Judge.
7. Members are expected to clean up after their dogs. Members are expected to bring the necessary equipment for clean up.

8. Females in season will be allowed to show, but at the discretion of the Judge. Please inform the Ring Steward or the Superintendent for instructions. They should be kept away from the ring until called.
9. Once a dog has been excused from a class by the Judge for lameness or aggressive behavior, it may not be shown in any other class at this show. If a dog has chronic lameness, the member may show the dog, if they provide a written statement to the Superintendent, who will make the Judge(s) aware of the problem. Judge retains the authority to excuse the dog if the Judge feels it is necessary. Members are not to approach the Judge at any time before the show. Any questions addressed to the Judge(s) are to be asked after the show.

Registration is available from the Ionia Free Fair website.

Ionia Free Fair is not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged articles prior to, during or after the fair.

Obedience, Showmanship and Sweepstakes Classes will be held on Wednesday. Agility will be held on Thursday and using the entire ring. After Agility there will be an additional competition (s), to be announced, and it will be for fun only.

Obedience

5126 Clover Climbers
 5127 Cloverbuds
 Prizes: Participation Ribbons

5128 Sub-Novice A
 5129 Sub-Novice B
 5130 Novice A
 5131 Novice B
 5132 Graduate Novice A
 5133 Graduate Novice B
 5134 Advanced Graduate Novice A
 5135 Advanced Graduate Novice B
 5136 Open A
 5137 Open B
 Prizes: Ribbons 1st through 8th

High Score Obedience of Sub-Novice Groups
 High Score Obedience of Novice Groups and above
 Prizes: Plaques

Showmanship

5138 Clover Climbers
 5139 Cloverbuds
 Prizes: Participation Ribbons

5140 First Year Showmanship, members of all ages, 9-19 years old, members who have never shown any dog in any other show, 4-H or non 4-H, before the current year.
 5141 Junior Showmanship, ages 9-11
 5142 Intermediate Showmanship, ages 12-14
 5143 Senior Showmanship, ages 15-19
 Prizes: plaques

Best in Show
 Prize: Rosette Ribbon

Sweepstakes Qualifying Classes

Junior Sweepstakes, ages 9-11
 Intermediate Sweepstakes, ages 12-14
 Senior Sweepstakes, ages 15-19
 No prizes are given for these classes. They are only for determining the Dog Sweepstakes Exhibitor. First year showmanship exhibitors are allowed to show in these classes.

Agility

1. Dogs must be at least (1) year old.
2. The highest score will determine winners in each class. Ties will be broken with times.
3. Dog height is measured at the dog's withers.
4. Only flat buckle collars are allowed in Agility and can not have any tags or other items attached to the collar.

5. Senior dogs are dogs whose age is 9 years old or older. Senior dogs all jumps are no higher than 8" and long jumps are no wider than 16".
6. 4-H Michigan State Dog Show rules apply to all agility classes.
 5144 Clover Climbers
 5145 Cloverbuds
 Prizes: Participation Ribbons

Beginning Agility

Dogs are on leash, except for Beginning Agility C and dogs are off leash. All jumps are no higher than 8" and long jumps no wider than 16". Handlers are allowed to jump the jumps with their dog. Senior dogs can be on or off leash.
 5146 Beginning Agility A
 5147 Beginning Agility B
 5148 Beginning Agility C
 5149 Beginning Agility Senior Dog
 Prizes: Ribbons 1st through 8th

Intermediate Agility

All dogs are off leash. All jumps are set according to the dog's height, except for Senior dogs who will participate in Division One.

Division	Dog's Height
One	Under 10"
Two	Over 10"

5150 Intermediate Agility A
 5151 Intermediate Agility B
 5152 Intermediate Agility Senior Dog
 Prizes: Ribbons 1st through 8th

Advanced Agility

All dogs are off leash. All jumps are set according to the dog's height, except for Senior dogs who will participate in Division One.

Division	Dogs Height
One	Under 10"
Two	10-14"
Three	14-20"
Four	Over 20"

5153 Advanced Agility A
 5154 Advanced Agility B
 5155 Advanced Agility Senior Dog
 Prizes: Ribbons 1st through 8th

High Score of Beginning Agility Group
 High Score of Intermediate Agility Group
 High Score of Advanced Agility Group
 Prizes: Plaques