

Kent County 4-H Dog Program Dog Project Guidelines

(As amended 1/10/2001 by the Kent County Dog Committee)

These guidelines have been developed to help ensure a safe and successful dog project for each 4-H member. Each dog must continue to meet the guidelines to be used as a project dog. If the dog fails to meet the guidelines, the dog will be excused from the project. The dog may be evaluated at a later date to re-determine its status. The leaders of each Dog Group will determine if the dog meets the guidelines. Dogs that exhibit inappropriate behavior at fair must be reported to one of the Key leaders.

Dog Guidelines:

1. A Dog must be free from communicable disease, parasites and up to date on its shots as required by the Kent County Fair Board.
2. A Dog must have socially acceptable behavior* and not be a threat to the other 4-H members, leaders, judges or members' dogs.
3. A Dog must be able to handle the stress of working outside of the home environment.
4. A Dog must be responsive and controllable by the 4-H member.
5. Dogs must be physically fit and free from lameness. (For chronic lameness due to arthritis or permanent injury, a veterinary certificate outlining the problem and the appropriateness of the dog to participate will be accepted.
6. Borrowed Dogs – Borrowed dogs **must live** with and be cared for by the 4-H Member from May 1 through fair. In households where the project animal is the family pet, the member should be in charge of the dog's routine care, including trips to the veterinarian, feeding, exercise and all training.
7. Explorers may use any dog that has been declared by May 1st to show at Fair. This dog may be another 4-H member's declared dog and does not have to live with the Explorer during the project time.
8. A dog that has been trained or titled in obedience or agility by a person other than the 4-H member must be shown at a higher level.
9. Intact dogs will run last on the agility course, Males then Females.

*Socially acceptable behavior would not include:

1. Dogs that may bite someone either out of aggression, stress or fear.
2. Dogs that are seriously dog aggressive.
3. Dogs that are unable to be controlled by the 4-H member.

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DOG NOTEBOOK REQUIREMENTS FOR KENT COUNTY

1st year: CHOOSE 3 of 6 below – include these with your Dog Record Book

1. Label the major parts of the dog. Diagram available at the 4-H office.
2. List the vaccinations you give your dog and what type of heartworm control you have chosen.
3. Make a list and describe at least 5 responsibilities of dog ownership.
4. Write a description of the breed of dog used as your project animal. In the case of a mixed breed, use the breed the dog most closely represents.
5. List the basic (novice) obedience commands and a brief explanation of each.
6. Agility – List the beginner obstacles of the agility course. Explain what a contact zone is.

2nd year: CHOOSE 3 of 6 below – include these with your Dog Record Book

1. Label the bones of the dog's skeleton. Diagram available from the 4-H office.
2. List the seven groups recognized by AKC and give a brief description of each group. Name one breed in each group. Include a picture of each of the seven breeds.
3. List things to do to socialize a young dog.
4. Agility - List the nine eliminations in the beginner agility course.
5. Describe grooming your dog.
6. Make a list of the pros and cons of neutering.

3rd year: CHOOSE 3 of 6 below – include these with your Dog Record Book

1. Agility - List the agility faults and deductions at your level.
2. Paste an ingredient label on a sheet of paper from your dog's food and give reasons why you have chosen that particular feed.
3. List and write a short description of five different uses of dogs and how they help man. Examples include search and rescue, canine police, Service dogs etc.
4. Report on one internal and one external parasite common to dogs and composite a drawing of each parasite cycle.
5. List the proper summer care of dogs.
6. Do an in-depth description of one breed of dog you do not own. Include history of the breed, number of registrations of individuals per year, disqualifying faults. Include copy of the standard of perfection from either A.K.C. or U.K.C. (HYPERLINK <http://www.AKC.org> and (HYPERLINK <http://www.U.K.C.dogs.com> www.ukcdogs.com)

4th year: CHOOSE 3 of 6 below – include these with your Dog Record Book

1. List five signs of a healthy dog including temperature, heart rate etc.
2. List ten supplies used in a canine first aid kit and what they are used for.
3. Write a report on how to crate train a dog or puppy.
4. Describe the added obstacles for the intermediate agility level and describe your training procedures for these obstacles.
5. List the five major personality types of dogs and the type of behavior you can usually expect from each type. Also do a labeled sketch or write a paragraph on their body posture when scared or threatened.
6. Explore one dog-related career and write a report on it. Examples may include vet office, pet store, animal shelter, dog groomer, professional handler, canine officer etc.

DOG NOTEBOOK REQUIREMENTS FOR KENT COUNTY

5th year: CHOOSE 3 of 6 below – include these with your Dog Record Book

1. Describe the components of the Canine good Citizenship Test. (www.AKC.org)
2. Describe the added obstacles for the advanced agility level and describe how you would train for them. List the faults and eliminations for the advanced level.
3. Do a report on show sportsmanship, dress and conduct.
4. Do a report on canine parvovirus.
5. Prepare ten questions and interview one person who works in a dog-related industry and report on it. (other than your #6 of your 4th year)
6. List the exercises for the open obedience class and describe each one. Tell what jump heights your dog would have to jump.

6th year: CHOOSE 3 of 6 below – include these with your Dog Record Book

1. Describe four types of dog aggression and how to deal with them
2. Describe both OFA and CERF and tell what they are and how they benefit dogs.
3. Select one disease of dogs and describe symptoms, diagnosis and treatment. Examples: bloat, hip displasia, distemper, influenza.
4. List the exercises for the utility class and describe each one. Give the jump heights your dog would have to do.
5. Select one dog sport (outside of conformation, obedience or agility) and report on it. Examples may include field trials, coon hunts, lure coursing, weight pulls, sled races, flyball & herding.
6. Draw, label and explain the digestive system of the dog.

7th year: CHOOSE 3 of 6 below – include these with your Dog Record Book

1. Report on one breed rescue group and how they operate.
2. Report on one dog medical issue that was not previously reported on. Describe the symptoms, diagnosis and treatment.
3. Write a report on choosing a new puppy. How to choose the right breed or mix for your family. Write a breed description including: genetic diseases, temperament, health concerns, and the history of that breed.
4. Write a report on either Leader Dog training or Service Dog training and their program for foster puppy placement.
5. Explain the difference between AKC, NADAC, and UKC agility organizations. Include differences in their rules, points, and disqualifications.
6. Do a service/community project relating to dogs and report on it. Examples are veterans home, rescue group, and work at an AKC agility trial. Etc.

DOG NOTEBOOK REQUIREMENTS FOR KENT COUNTY

8th year and beyond

This will be a **Dog Master Level**. Independent individualized study. 4-H member will choose one (1) of the following: Use your imagination, the areas are endless. You may repeat an area but you may not repeat the same topic.

1. Member may give a dog-training lesson to a group (3 or more) of 4-H members. They may be in their own club; it is encouraged to give lesson to other groups such as school, scouts, etc. This session can be on showmanship, obedience, agility, grooming, or another dog related area. Lesson must be documented with a report. The report may be of the member's own choosing: written, or poster with photographs.
2. Member may do a demonstration, perhaps at the Animal Communications Contest, by videotape on a dog science related area, or for other groups. (Ex. Digestive disorders, diseases, genetics, breeding, whelping, or any dog science or vet science area) Demonstration must be between 12-15 minutes in length, be thorough in content, accurate and create a viewer interest in the subject. Demonstration must be documented with a report. The report may be of the member's own choosing: written, or poster with photographs.
3. Member must attend at least one (1) dog committee leader meetings within the 4-H calendar year and write a secretary report on the meeting to be included in the notebook.

See next page for Notebook Guidelines.

KENT COUNTY 4-H DOG CARE PROJECT

Notebook Guidelines

A notebook is required in order to show the project animal in performance events at the fair. Each year a project record sheet must be included and it will have a photograph of the project animal. One project record must be completed for each dog the exhibitor will be showing. The notebook should be neat and legible with the most recent year being on the top.

1. Put all materials in a three-ring binder.
2. Materials must be placed in notebook in the following order:
 - A. Table of Contents
 - B. Current Shot Records - Can be obtained from your veterinarian. If you give your own shots, you must include the serial numbers. (If showing more than 1 dog, place each shot record directly in front of corresponding dog project record.)
 - C. Dog 4-H project record for each dog you are exhibiting. (Be sure to include your photographs).
 - D. Notebook Requirements - (minimum) 3 of 6 for current year. Number each requirement according to the number on the notebook requirements, in the upper right hand corner. Place a tab or divider between each requirement. (You may do more than 3 requirements)
3. Label all illustrations, drawings or pictures.
4. Place a divider between the current year and last years notebook items.*(It is only necessary to include the previous year in your notebook)*
5. Be sure your notebook items are in your own words. Copying material is against the law, and is considering stealing. If you download a breed standard from a canine website, be sure the website is included on the paper. This gives the publisher credit for their work. Copied material, other than where credit id is given, is a deduction. Members may include pamphlets or additional material but **not** in place of their own work.
6. Have someone proofread your notebook. Ask a parent, a teen leader in your club, or your 4-H leader to help you.
7. Creative cover and pages are not necessary but do enhance the overall appearance of the notebook.
8. Check over the judge's page to make sure you have included all the required elements. Remember neatness and orderliness counts for 10 points.

Extra notebook items, photo records, and extra personal effort all count as bonus points.