



# **DOG PROJECT GUIDEBOOK**



**Species-Chair:**

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<b>IMPORTANT DATES</b>		<b>IMPORTANT INFO</b>	
Registration	June 7 <sup>th</sup>	Record Book	Required

## **General Requirements**

- ◆ Participating youth must abide by all general rules and regulations listed in the Northwest Michigan 4-H Livestock Council’s Member Guidebook. This includes, but is not limited to, Code of Conducts, registration deadlines, showmanship and market requirements, etc.
- ◆ To participate in a 4-H dog project, youth must attain the age of five (5) or older by January 1<sup>st</sup> of that calendar year and be a current member of a dog project group with a leader.
  - Members that are 5-7 years of age will participate in the 4-H Cloverbud program and will have their own Cloverbud classes.
- ◆ Registration is due to the Northwest Michigan 4-H Livestock Council Auction Committee no later than the June council meeting.
- ◆ Youth are required to complete a project record book depicting their 4-H experience for the year.

## **Animal Requirements**

- ◆ Members may show only ONE obedience, ONE showmanship, ONE rally and ONE agility class. Member may use no more than 2 dogs.
- ◆ Two competitors cannot show the same dog with the exception of Cloverbuds.
- ◆ Female dogs in season will NOT be allowed to show at the fair.
- ◆ Dogs with a physical disability, such as the loss of an eye or leg, will be allowed to show if a statement of fitness is provided from the veterinarian.
- ◆ Dogs exhibiting aggressive behavior or lameness may be excused from the show event.

## **Fair Week Requirements**

- ◆ Dogs are NOT allowed in the barns, midway or food court area of the fairgrounds.
- ◆ Owners are responsible for cleaning up after their animals.
- ◆ Appropriate collars and leashes will be required in each class. You CANNOT have dog tags on the collars.
  - In Showmanship class, use a showmanship leash; it is best if it matches your dog’s coloring as close as possible.
  - In Obedience class, use a buckle collar, chain collar, martingale collar, or snap collar and a 6 ft leash (this is for pre-novice class).
  - In an Agility class, use a buckle collar and leash.

- Dogs running in off leash classes shall remain on leash until in agility ring. Leash will be handed to leash runner.
- ◆ Show attire:
  - Clothing worn in the show ring shall not draw undue attention to one's self or distract other handlers, spectators, or judges.
  - Blue jeans, t-shirts, sweatshirts, halter tops, low cut blouses/sweaters, mini-skirts, or shorts are not allowed.
  - If wearing a skirt, it is recommended it be loose.
  - Skirts and dresses must be a respectable length.
    - Respectable length is defined as: being as long or longer than the tips of the individual's finger when arms are fully extended at their side
  - NO sandals, boots, or high heels.
  - NO clothing with club name and/or personal identification will be allowed.

### **Tips**

- ◆ The dog should be well matched to the exhibitor and not exceed what the 4-H member can handle.