



# Dog

Please refer to Floyd County Extension website: <https://extension.purdue.edu/county/floyd> for exhibit guidelines

## Project Introduction

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The educational 4-H dog program and related activities (such as workshops and tours) provide youth with a fun and hands-on learning experience which develops both swine subject skills (such as nutrition, housing, and health care) and life skills (such as responsibility, decision-making, nurturing, and communications) under the direction of caring adults.

Animals **DO NOT** have to be a winner at the County Fair to show at the State Fair. Visit the Indiana State Fair website for more information.

## Exhibit Guidelines

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Project guidelines for completion: All dog project members must answer a 10-question worksheet and complete information in Green 4-H Folder. The questions are available from the 4-H office or on the Floyd County Extension website.

**LEVELS:**      **Beginner** - 4-H members grade 3, 4, 5 as of January 1 of current year  
                    **Intermediate** - 4-H members grade 6, 7, 8 as of January 1 of current year  
                    **Advanced** - 4-H members grade 9, 10, 11, 12 as of January 1 of current year

**Exhibit options, may do one or more:**

- Exhibit animal(s)
- Poster
- Action Demonstration

In addition to or an alternative to exhibiting an animal a 4-H member may exhibit a poster on a topic covered in their manual and/or present an Action Demonstration.

At the time of enrollment, must have dog enrolled <https://v2.4honline.com> by **May 15<sup>th</sup>** of each year.

**Any exceptions to the above rules will be decided upon by the Livestock Committee. Decisions of the Livestock Committee are FINAL.**

**NO FOR SALE SIGNS ON PENS OR IN BARN.**

**No smoking in or around barns at any time.**

1. A dog shown in the dog project must belong to the 4-H member or to a member of his/her immediate family. The dog may be shown with only one handler who has cared for the dog.
2. Dogs must have Certificate of Vaccination 4-H form 671 documentation from the vet. These vaccinations cover Rabies, Distemper, Hepatitis, Leptospirosis, Bordetella (kennel cough), and Parvovirus vaccinations within the past 12 months. Vaccinations must remain current. Any dog whose vaccinations expire must be re-vaccinated and have an updated form 671. Dogs must also have an up-to-date Rabies Certificate. The Certificate of Vaccination must be filled out, must be initialed on each vaccination line by vet, and returned to the 4-H Leader, along with Rabies Certificate, when the dog comes to first class. No dog may attend classes or be exhibited if showing symptoms of any communicable disease or parasite. Vaccination form is found at [https://extension.purdue.edu/4-H/\\_docs/projects/dog/dog-vaccination-form.pdf](https://extension.purdue.edu/4-H/_docs/projects/dog/dog-vaccination-form.pdf).
3. Certain required vaccinations have not been proven effective in wolf-hybrids; therefore, because wolf-hybrids cannot meet the vaccination requirements of the Indiana Board of Animal Health, wolf-hybrid dogs cannot be shown in the 4-H Dog Program.
4. Dogs must be brought to class on 6' leather or fabric leash. 4-H members must be able to control any dogs brought to class. Flexi/retractable leads are NOT acceptable.
5. Obedience classes: Dogs must wear a well fitted slip, buckle, or martingale collar made of leather, or fabric without tags. A head halter may be used during beginning training classes (not during any judged event). Choke chains or prong collars are NOT permitted at Dog Club meetings or judged events.
6. Agility: Dogs must wear a flat buckle collar without tags. The 4-H leader may make exceptions on a case-by-case basis for beginning training classes. Dogs must be 15 months old prior to June 1st to show Agility.
7. Appropriate attire and safe and secure footwear are required for all club meetings and judged events. Exposing cleavage, bare midriff, or buttocks is inappropriate. Short-shorts, short skirts, spaghetti straps, low cut shirts, bare midriffs, etc. are not appropriate clothing. Smooth/slick soled boots, high heels, backless slip-ons, loose fitting shoes, floppy or open-toed sandals, or other unsafe footwear are not allowed during training sessions or shows. Inappropriate attire and footwear will be penalized in the judged events.

8. Female dogs in season may not be brought to any meeting or judged events. 4-H members are encouraged to attend class. Female dogs in heat may not show at County Fair.

9. No treats, treat bags, training aids (for example: clickers) or toys are allowed in the judging ring or staging area for shows except bait for showmanship.

10. Obedience level 1A is only open to 4-H members and dogs who are both in their first year of the project. Any 4-H member or dog with formal obedience training before January 1st of the current year must show in Level 1B or higher. Training is considered dog participation in obedience or handling classes or dog being trained by an individual who has previously participated in obedience or handling classes.

11. Agility scoring will be based on AKC agility rules with a maximum of 200 points per run. Points are deducted for faults made by the dog, faults made by the handler, and each second the run lasts over the Assigned Course Time.

12. Handler must wear tied athletic shoes or walking shoes. (No sandals, western boots, etc.) • Dog must wear a well-fitting buckle collar with no tags

**Indiana 4-H Aggressive Dog Policy - Form found on Floyd County website:**

<https://extension.purdue.edu/county/floyd/>

The safety and well-being of 4-H members and volunteers is a primary concern with all Indiana 4-H Program opportunities. Families should err on the side of caution in selecting a dog for the 4-H member to exhibit. A dog that has a known history of aggression or biting is not appropriate for involvement in the 4-H Program. On occasion, the 4-H member may have difficulty managing their dog within the 4-H Program. The following guidance has been provided for the Indiana 4-H Dog Program as the owner/exhibitor of the dog bears responsibility for the dog's actions. In the subsequent policy, the term "4-H Dog Personnel" will include County 4-H Volunteers, County Extension Educators, State 4-H Staff and appropriate County and State Fair Directors.

A dog that bites a human or another dog at any 4-H Dog Event must be immediately removed from that event by the 4-H member and will subsequently be excused from the 4-H Program. The member should be directed by 4-H Dog Personnel on-site to remove the dog if the member does not willingly. If a determination is made by the 4-H Dog Personnel that a dog bit in self-defense, it may be allowed to remain at the 4-H Dog Event.

Dogs that display other signs of aggression, including but not limited to barking and standing ground, growling, lunging and snapping will be given one verbal warning. They will be removed from the event after the second violation at the same event. To be removed from a 4-H Dog Event, there must be two violations at the same event.

Any dog that is removed from a 4-H Dog Event due to aggressive behavior will be placed on probation for 2 weeks. Written notification of the probation will be given to the 4-H member. The 2-week period will start upon written notification to the 4-H member. While on probation, the 4-H Dog Personnel and the 4-H member and parents will work together to determine the best course of action for the dog. This may include (but is not limited to) working individually with the dog and 4-H member, asking the 4-H member to use a different dog or having the 4-H member attend events without their dog. At the end of the designated probation period, 4-H Dog Personnel will decide regarding the dog's return to 4-H Dog Events.

Dogs that are removed from a 4-H Dog Event twice will be immediately excused from the 4-H program and will not be allowed to re-enter. Excusing a dog from the 4-H Program is rare but could be necessary for the safety of 4-H members, volunteers, and other participating dogs. Should a dog be excused from the program, it must be remembered that the action is against dog and not the 4-H member. 4-H Dog Personnel should look at many solutions and encourage the 4-H member to attend classes without their dog while training it at home or potentially bringing another dog to 4-H events. 4-H members will always be welcome in every other part of the dog project.

In the event that a dog is removed from a 4-H Dog Event or excused from the 4-H program, 4-H Dog Personnel should report such to the State 4-H Office so that the information is available at all county 4-H dog programs and the Indiana State Fair.