

Washington State 4-H Fair

WSU Puyallup ❖ 2606 W. Pioneer ❖ Puyallup, WA 98371

Off Season (Oct 1 – Aug 15): 253-445-4630; Fax 253-445-4587
Fair Time (Aug 16-Sept 30): 253-770-5410; Fax: 253-770-5412

Website: <http://4h.wsu.edu/statefair/index.htm>



1.17m(6/09)

TO: 4-H OBEDIENCE DOG SHOW PARTICIPANTS

FROM: Washington State 4-H Fair

SUBJECT: State 4-H Fair Participation Information – 2009

Congratulations! Your achievements have made it possible for you to represent your county 4-H program at the Washington State 4-H Fair. I hope that your experiences at State 4-H Fair this year will be good ones. State 4-H Fair organizers have prepared the following information for you, to help make your visit a satisfying one.

YOUR ASSIGNED SHOW DAY AT STATE 4-H FAIR IS _____, SEPT. _____

1. Please read this memo carefully. Information in this letter will be printed in bold if it is new for this year. Questions should be directed to your County Extension 4-H office or the State 4-H Fair office. Check current maps for new or unfamiliar locations. Important information about security, parking, dorms, passes, and camper space rentals is available in WS4HF 1.10m and is not repeated in this letter. Be sure to ask for that information.

There are new gate opening and ticket sales times that you should be aware of, for anyone entering the fairgrounds before 10 a.m. For more information see WS4HF/1.10m or go online to www.thefair.com.
2. If you can't participate, call your county 4-H office, or the State 4-H Fair Assistant Manager's office at (253) 770-5413.
3. The Washington State 4-H Fair, through consultation with state-wide dog leaders, has established reasonable levels of achievement necessary to successfully participate at the State 4-H Fair with an obedience dog. It is not appropriate nor in the best interest of the individual 4-H member for those achievement levels to be disregarded in the selection of youth and dogs who will represent the Washington 4-H Obedience Dog Project. Participants selected at the county level should have every possibility to be successful and to have positive experiences at the State 4-H Fair. County organizations or individuals that disregard qualification rules jeopardize the quality of the experience for the participant, future allocations and/or county participation. Qualification rules are listed in the Premium Book.
4. All exhibitor shall complete Exhibitor Information Form WS4HF/1.01m. It must be completed and turned in to the county office by date requested by county office personnel, or mailed to the State 4-H Fair office in time to be received prior to the first day of your attendance. The form is available from your County Extension Office.
5. If you will be staying in the dormitory with your dog the evening before your show day, please read carefully the information on page 3 of this letter.
5. The State 4-H Fair Premium Book is online at: <http://4h.wsu.edu/statefair/index.htm>. Please read all information relating to your participation prior to coming to State 4-H Fair.
6. As a State 4-H Fair participant, you are on exhibit to other 4-H'ers and the public. Behavior and appearance that shows pride and respect for yourself and the 4-H organization is expected of all 4-H exhibitors. Courteous, appropriate language and clean, appropriate clothing is part of your State 4-H Fair exhibiting responsibility.
7. If you have qualified for and want to make a public presentation at the State 4-H Fair, please let the Dog Superintendent know early on the morning of your dog show section. For your own convenience, you are encouraged to make your public presentation during the time you are at the fair with your dog.
8. All dogs must be brought in through the Green Gate, or driven through the Service Gate on 5th Street SW. If you walk your animal in from the Green Parking Lot; please pick up any waste they may drop, and dispose of it in the animal waste bin adjacent to the exercise yard on the fairgrounds. If you drive through the Service Gate, please unload and remove your vehicle promptly. There is limited parking space adjacent to the barns; other exhibitors will appreciate your courtesy. Vehicles must be removed by 8:45 a.m., or they will be towed.
9. Vet requirements are listed in the 2009 State 4-H Fair Premium Book. Please read that section carefully. *Your animal's health is your responsibility.* Your veterinarian should be consulted in determining the appropriate level of prophylactic care beyond basic immunization requirements (current rabies vaccination) stated in the

Premium Book. Other vaccinations are strongly recommended, but not required.

Rabies vaccination certificate requirements: “An inoculation certificate (WS4HF/1.30m) is available from County Extension offices, the WA State 4-H Fair Office, or on the 4-H website. It must be completed at the administering veterinarian’s office, and submitted for all dogs exhibited in the 4-H State Fair. No other document may be substituted. If rabies inoculation was given by a veterinarian who is no longer available (e.g. from a temporary clinic, etc.) the original receipt or veterinarian-generated document that includes (1) date of vaccination, (2) dog’s name or ID and age, (3) brand or type of vaccine, and (4) the veterinarian’s signature or clinic stamp should be stapled to the inoculation certificate (WS4HF/1.30m). The exhibitor should complete all information required on the inoculation certificate – except the lower portion that is reserved for clinic-veterinarian use.” PLAN AHEAD.

10. During vet check, any dog that can’t be handled reasonably and safely by the veterinarian will be eliminated from the show. Dogs returning for the Championship Obedience and/or Fitting & Showmanship contests will be vet checked again on championship day.
11. Exhibiting an animal at the State 4-H Fair implies your acceptance of the Animal Project Exhibitor Commitment to Quality Animal Care agreement. The written agreement is attached to this letter. Please read it carefully. Participation indicates your intent to comply with these statements.
12. The fair will provide veterinarians for vet check-in inspection only. If you find you need emergency vet services during your show day, please go to the barn superintendent for assistance. She will help you arrange for an office call with a local veterinarian and dismiss you from the show temporarily. All veterinarian service will be billed to the exhibitor at local rates, and must be paid at the time of the service.
13. Because of increased awareness by the general public of good animal welfare, you are expected to handle and exhibit your animal safely and humanely. Violations will be dealt with appropriately and promptly.
14. Only exhibit animals are allowed in the fair grounds. Do not bring any other dogs or puppies with you. Do not take your exhibit animals into any other animal barns. Obedience dogs may not be taken out onto the fair grounds, except when going to and from the dormitories.
15. Herdsmanship is one of your important exhibiting opportunities. Herdsmanship for your animal must be provided at all times while 4-H dogs are on display for the public. Educational information for the public is an important part of herdsmanship and benching decorations. Pride in yourself, your animal, and your county will be reflected in a clean, well-tended and pleasantly decorated

exhibit area. The display should identify your county, not your club. Special attention to cleanliness is important in how the viewing public feels about the 4-H Dog Project.

Western Washington Fair, our host, requests that we not prepare, serve, or eat/drink foods and beverages within the animal barns, and that we encourage our barn visitors to refrain from eating/drinking while in the barns. An appropriate location, out of sight of the public, will be provided for you to use for snacks or meals as necessary. Remember to wash your hands frequently, but especially before handling food. This reflects the serious nature of food contamination from animal contact – for barn visitors as well as exhibitors. Please cooperate in setting a good example for the more vulnerable urban public.

Herdsmanship ribbons will be available when you are released at 8:30 p.m. Ribbons will not be mailed to your county.

BARN RULES

16. **Dogs will be benched from 9:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. – or until completion of judging, whichever is later. Benching times apply during daily as well as championship day events. No dog will be left overnight in the benching area. No dog will be left unattended. Plan to arrive at the Dog Barn by 8:30 a.m. for vet check. Vet check must be completed and dogs on the bench by 9:30 a.m.**
17. Each club or county must be accompanied by an adult who will be responsible for members and for answering any questions on entries. Any one working or lingering behind the ropes in the benching barn will be expected to be appropriately dressed for herdsmanship. See the Premium Book for more information.
18. No dog will be crated or muzzled on the bench. Any dog causing problems will be disqualified and excused from the fair grounds.
19. Exhibitors with bitches in season may bring their own wire cage. Bitches in season must wear doggy britches at all times while at the fair, except when caged or while in the exercise yard.
20. All dogs must have suitable benching equipment, which includes a leather or web buckle collar and a benching chain with bolt snaps at each end. The benching chain should be short enough to prevent the dog from falling off the bench.
21. The benches are equipped with a loop to hook your benching chain to. No carpeting or other material is provided to cover the benches. A wooden partition divides the benches placed back to back. You should bring bench carpeting or other padding for your animal’s comfort.
22. All exhibitors should check in with the superintendent as soon as they arrive.

23. Those not complying with dog rules and barn rules will forfeit all premiums, awards, and ribbons, and will be excused from the fair grounds.

24. Daily competition will follow the same order as the classes are listed in the Premium Book.

DOGS AND DORMITORIES

Dormitory residency is provided for the use of 4-H exhibitors at State 4-H Fair. **See WS4HF 1.10m for important information about dormitory use.** One parent or chaperone per exhibitor is welcome. Because of housing demands, other family members should not expect to be accommodated. Dogs may be kept in the dormitories overnight, as long as that privilege is not abused. Please show consideration for the non-dog exhibitors and their chaperones/parents who are also using the facilities. The dormitory supervisors will expect you to follow the rules; eviction and loss of premiums will result from disregard of the following additional rules for dog exhibitors:

- a. **Veterinarians will not be available in the evenings for vet check. If you plan to stay in the dorm, reasonable effort will be made to keep non vet-checked animals as separated as possible in the dormitories. Your animal's health remains your primary responsibility, however.**
- b. **All dogs staying in the dormitory must be crated or tied to your bedpost.** Even if your dog sleeps in your bed, the dog must remain tied to the bedpost.
- c. **Arbitrary bed assignments may be made** to accommodate other occupants with allergies or fear of dogs. Not everyone in the dormitory with you will appreciate living with your animal in his or her sleeping area.
- d. **Animals are not to be bathed or groomed in dormitory or public rest room facilities.** There is a laundry sink in the closet in the northeast barn, in case you need to wash up your dog. Grooming tables are set up in the benching barn - please share their use equitably.

ANIMAL PROJECT EXHIBITOR COMMITMENT TO QUALITY ANIMAL CARE

This is an agreement, formal or implied, between 4-H participants and the management of the State 4-H Fair. Its purpose is:

- **To encourage ethical decisions and activities by 4-H youth.**
 - **To ensure the overall well being of all 4-H animals exhibited.**
 - **To ensure the use of commonly accepted practices in preparing and exhibiting animals for show.**
 - **To maintain a safe and wholesome food supply.**
 - **To maintain the intent and integrity of animal competitions and displays for future generations.**
1. The purpose of my participation in the Washington 4-H Animal Sciences Program is to strengthen my own knowledge, ability, and skill as a feeder, manager, trainer, caregiver, and exhibitor of animals and to develop my sense of responsibility and good character. If my project includes food production animals, my goal is to produce safe and wholesome food.
 2. I will do my own project work to the best of my ability.
 3. I will not use or allow abusive, fraudulent, or illegal practices or products to be used in the feeding, care, fitting, training, and showing of my animals.
 4. I will not misrepresent my animals or myself in any way.
 5. I will read, understand, and follow the rules, without exception, of animal shows in which I am a participant and ask that my parents and my 4-H leader do the same.
 6. My animal project is an example of how to accept what life has to offer, both good and bad, and how to live with the outcome. I will treat other people's animals with the same respect and care I give my own animals.
 7. I realize that I am responsible for the proper care and safe, humane treatment of my animals. I realize that I am also responsible for demonstrating strong moral fiber and good character as an example to others.
 8. I will voice any objections to events related to my participation by using the protest policy described in the premium book. I will not directly interfere with the judge, show management, or other exhibitors before, during, or after the event.
 9. I accept that failure to uphold this commitment could result in forfeiture of my right to participate in the 4-H Animal Sciences Program.