



Kenosha County 4-H Dog Project Policy Sheet and Rules of Conduct for Handlers In Dog Training Classes

The following policies have been established by the Kenosha County Dog Project Board of Directors as the standards by which the 4-H Dog Project is to be implemented. It is the Board of Directors' hope that these standards will be followed all 4-H members and leaders and will result in a positive, educational project experience for all youth in the 4-H Dog Project.

Questions concerning these standards should be directed to the Dog Project Board of Directors. These standards will be reviewed on an annual basis and the Dog Project Board of Directors reserves the option of revision to better meet the needs of the Kenosha County 4-H Dog Project.

1. Care of your dog is YOUR responsibility: feeding, watering, grooming, training, playing, and most importantly, LOVING. It's a good idea to go along when your dog is taken to the vet
2. Members must be in grade 4 or above to participate in the project.
3. Dogs must be 6 months of age by the first night of weekly training. Puppies under 6 months are not ready for training.
4. First-year Dog Project members MUST attend three of four monthly informational meetings during non-training months. All other members must attend two of the four. It is the member's responsibility to find out what was missed.
5. We will be using AKC rules as a guideline; they will be adapted at times to fit the 4-H program
6. All dogs to be trained and exhibited must provide a veterinarian certificate showing current proof of vaccination for:
 - a. Distemper, hepatitis, parainfluenza, Parvo virus
 - b. Rabies
 - c. Heartworm check and preventative medication
 - d. Fecal Check (...for parasites. Take a stool sample to the vet.)
 - e. Bordatella (Kennel Cough Vaccine)
7. Dog Health Requirement form must be turned in before the dog will be allowed on the training grounds.
NO EXCEPTIONS
8. Dog Project members will be required to participate in weekly dog training meetings which will begin each spring. Weekly training will continue until the County Fair. Be early for class. If a member is ten minutes late or more, member is marked absent and must make-up the class.
9. Since the training of the dog is the member's project and learning experience, during the training season the member will be the only trainer of the dog. Parents are encouraged to assist by reminding the child to practice, by watching practice and calling commands for the dog/child team, etc., but are not allowed to train the dog.
10. YOU MUST EMAIL THE DOG PROJECT PRIOR TO ANY ABSENCE (email address is kenosha4hdog@gmail.com). If three or more weekly lessons are missed and not made up, you will be dropped from the project and will not be allowed to show at the County Fair or State Dog Show. MEMBERS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO MISS ANY MORE THAN 3 TOTAL CLASSES – MAKE-UPS MUST BE DONE ON ALL WEEKLY LESSONS THAT ARE MISSED. Make-up lessons must be completed within two weeks of the absence. There are no make-up lessons for agility. Missing 3 agility classes results in dismissal for agility class only. (Any extended illness or family emergency should be discussed with a leader.)
11. You will learn a new exercise each week. Practice the exercise each day for 15-20 minutes. Do not skip a day and train the next day for 40 minutes. Do the exercise exactly as taught. Remember, it will show if you do not work with your dog. Dogs learn by repetition, and if you do not practice, your dog cannot be expected to learn.

12. Dogs that are sick or in season will not be permitted on the training grounds. If your dog is sick or in season, come to class without your dog, learn the lesson and practice it at home.
13. To reduce accidents, dogs should not be fed until after training classes. HANDLERS WILL CLEAN UP THE FOULED AREA – NO ONE ELSE!!
14. All dogs shall wear the required collar of proper size and fit for the class they are enrolled and each handler will use a leather leash for obedience class. A flat collar is required for agility. A showmanship lead and collar are required for showmanship class. Spike or pinch collars are not allowed except with trainer's/leaders' permission.
15. Each owner is responsible for his/her dog's conduct on the training grounds.
16. The only dogs allowed on the training grounds are those dogs that have been signed up in the 4-H Dog Project program for the current year.
17. If at any time a dog attacks or goes after another dog, the dog will be removed from all classes for the rest of the training night. This will be so noted by the leaders and a first warning will be issued. If after the first warning the dog attacks or goes after another dog, the dog will be removed from the dog project and will not be allowed to show at the fair. The dog will not be allowed to rejoin the dog project. If the member feels that their dog has been unfairly charged, the member may appeal the decision and a meeting will be called by the Board of Directors to hear the case.
18. If at any time a dog attacks or goes after a human, the dog will be removed from the dog project and will not be allowed to show at the fair. If the member feels that their dog has been unfairly charged, the member may appeal the decision and a meeting will be called by the Board of Directors to hear the case.
19. Dog owners will be responsible for injury and/or property damage caused by their dogs.
20. The leaders reserve the right to expel any dog and/or member from the class and the project.
21. Members are not to have on cell phones or use cell phones during training or meetings. If you must have your phone on, please place it on silent ring. If you must take the phone call please excuse yourself and your dog from the ring and take the phone call as quickly as possible and return to your class. Phones and texting should not be done when you are waiting for your turn, but rather watch and learn from others.
22. Training:
 - a. Any new member / dog, new member / previously trained dog or previous member/new dog team will enter the beginner (CGC) class for their first year of training.
 - b. Any member / dog team that has had previous training will be entered into a level B or C class until the member/dog team competes at a class higher than has been previously trained. The level B or C class is eligible for trophy in their class but not highest scoring dog. No trophy is awarded in any class unless qualifying score is achieved.
 - c. Any dog may be advanced to higher classes or dropped to lower classes for competition and/or training at key leaders' discretion.
23. When a member/dog team completes the graduate novice class, the member can request to withdraw from the obedience class. The member must submit a letter to the Board of Directors stating the reasons for withdrawing from the class. The Board of Director's decision is final within the project.
24. If a member has a question or complaint, the member and their parent should bring the issue to a leader that can help solve the problem. This leader will then setup a meeting with the party or parties involved. At the meeting the member, parent, leader and the involving parties will discuss the issues at hand. If, after the discussion the problem is not resolved, the member may petition in writing for a hearing with the Dog Project Leaders and/or Board of Directors. The decision of the Dog Project Leaders and/or Board of Directors is final.
25. The Kenosha County 4-H Council Alcohol Policy (see below) will be in effect on the training grounds and at all Dog Project activities and events.

Alcohol Policy – Any Junior Fair Division exhibitor in possession of alcoholic beverages and/or non-prescription drugs on the fairgrounds will be expelled from the grounds. They will have until noon of the following day to remove their animals and other Junior Fair exhibits. The exhibitor will lose all premium money, sale rights, and any future show rights, which are dependent on placings received at the Kenosha County Fair season.

Section 1 – If the individual's market animal exhibits have already been sold when he/she is found to be in possession of alcoholic beverages and/or non-prescription drugs, the individual will lose show and sale rights for the following Kenosha County Fair.

Section 2 – An exhibitor who is showing for his/her last year and is found to be in possession of alcoholic beverages and/or non-prescription drugs will have an additional 20% deducted from their check to be donated to the Building Fund.

Section 3 – An exhibitor already on probation from the past year who violates the alcoholic and/or non-prescription policy will lose all show and sale rights for all future Junior Fair Division exhibit years at the Kenosha County Fair.

Team Project Rule Infractions – Infractions of team project rules or standards will be dealt with in the following manner. The Project Team will send a letter to the member stating the infractions. The Team will hold a hearing for said member(s) to state his/her case upon written request from the member.

Should the Project Team determine there to be sufficient case to disqualify the member(s) from exhibiting in the Kenosha County Junior Fair their name(s) will be sent to the Kenosha County 4-H Council Board President.

The member(s) is then entitled to a hearing before the Kenosha County 4-H Council Board of Directors upon written request from the member. Their decision is final based on evidence presented, regarding disqualification of fair entries in the Kenosha County Junior Fair.