

2023 FRANKLIN COUNTY FAIR 4-H DOG SHOW INFO

Location/Date Info: The dog events are located at the ARF (Agility and Rally for Fun) facility at 659 Eastgate Parkway, Gahanna, OH 43230. These events are held separately from other Franklin County Fair events, which take place in Hilliard. The dog events are held on two days:

Friday, July 7, 2023	Saturday, July 8, 2023
Registration: 6:00 p.m. Show starts promptly at 6:30 p.m.	Registration: 8:00-9:00 a.m. Show starts at 9:00 a.m.
Events: Agility and Skillathon only - Please make every effort to complete Skill-a-thon if you attend Friday.	Events: Dog Skillathon, and all other disciplines (not agility)

Before the Fair

Make sure your dog has up-to-date vaccinations, and that your veterinarian has filled out a 2023 “Dog Project Identification Form and Vaccination Certificate” for your dog (download at: https://ohio4h.org/sites/ohio4h/files/imce/animal_science/Dog/2023/2023%20OSF%20ID%20Form%20Vacc%20Cert.pdf) Bring this form on BOTH DAYS.

Review and become familiar with 2023 Ohio 4-H/Ohio State Fair Dog Show Rules. Know what is required for each discipline (Agility, Obedience, Showmanship, etc.). For Example, some classes require your dog to be off leash, while other classes allow leashes. This information can be found on the Ohio 4-H Dog Resource page. Here you will also find 2023 score sheets, registration forms for The Ohio State Fair and updates to the current year Dog Show rules.

<https://ohio4h.org/statewide-programs/animal-sciences/dog/dog-resources>

SECTION 101- 4-H DOG PROJECT EVALUATIONS - REQUIREMENTS FRANKLIN COUNTY

<https://www.fcfair.org>

*** In between classes make sure to take your dog out to potty. In addition to loss of points during the evaluation, the facility charges \$5 fee anytime a dog fouls the ring (uses the bathroom on the green turf).

- A. Dog Appearance and Manner (important for all dog projects, except skill-a-thon)
- B. Members Appearance and Attitude
- C. Project and Record Book (201D - You and your dog - book must be current year and intact - **DO NOT CUT BOOK APART**)
- D. General Knowledge
- E. Skill-a-thon (all participants must complete Skill-a-thon)
- F. Educational Display (201D You and your dog - this is a 3–5-minute presentation)
- G. Ohio State Fair Dog Show Rules will apply to the classes offered.

Awards will be announced at the end of each class throughout the day **EXCEPT** You and Your Dog and Skill-a-thon (these will be announced at the end of the show on Saturday).

YOU MUST BRING A CRATE FOR YOUR DOG, NO EXCEPTIONS!!!! SAFETY IS A TOP PRIORITY

At the Fair - Always keep your dog on a short leash with a safe distance from other dogs/people - maintain a "Safety Bubble"

- Check in with the registration volunteers, without your dog.
- After you check in, choose a spot outside the ring to set up your chairs, dog crate, and other items that you've brought. Be mindful of the space marked as aiseways, and keep your area compact to allow everyone a spot to set up their equipment. If this is your first competition, or if your dog is the type that is upset by other dogs walking by, try to find a spot away from the rings in the back.
- Proceed to health check with your dog and Dog Project Identification Form and Vaccination Certificate. All dogs will be examined for signs of illness and parasites. Female dogs will be checked for signs of Estrus (this consists of a swipe of the vulva with a paper towel)
- Wait for your events and classes to be called. Pay attention to announcements and be prepared. For some classes the judge or other organizers will offer a briefing (explaining some of the basic rules and leading you without your dog through the course).
- In between classes make sure to take your dog out to potty. In addition to loss of points during the evaluation, the facility charges \$5 fee anytime a dog fouls the ring (uses the bathroom on the green turf).
- When your class is called to be evaluated, wait in line, or for first time dogs, wait with your dog in a crate away from the ring until the line for that class reaches the end. (You can also wait in line with your friends or familiar dogs). Wait for complete instructions from the judge before entering (especially in Obedience). Learn which events require you to wait until you are asked to start by the judge.
- You can participate in Skill-a-thon or You and Your Dog evaluations at any time, these two activities take place outside a ring. You will not be called to line up for these two activities... you must go to these when you are free.
- After the judging/evaluation, return to your spot (where you set up your chairs) and wait for award ceremonies and your next class. See note below on what to do between events.
- AWARDS – once the judging is completed for all participants in a class, ribbons will be awarded for the top performers. Gather with your competitors **without** your dog. Be sure to clap for your competitors as they receive their ribbons.

What To Do Between Events

While you are waiting between classes, take your dog for a potty break outside, and engage in whatever activities calm or distract your dog. If your dog is calm, practice the questions for You and Your Dog and Showmanship, fill out your 4-H project book for You and Your Dog, and review for skill-a-thon. If this is your dog's first competition, however, you will likely be spending most of your time staying by your dog's crate dog, taking it for walks outside (even if they don't need to potty, the competition is very loud, and the quiet helps de-stress), distracting your dog by doing simple, fun tricks, and, when all else fails, feeding high value treats. Reducing the stress levels of both you **and** your dog are the #1 key to having a positive experience.

ADVICE

Be prepared for things to go wrong. Being calm helps keep your dog calm. This can be challenging, especially when your dog is not cooperating after performing reliably in practice sessions! Sure, it

sounds like a cliché, but competitions are not about winning. Placing last can be disappointing, but now you understand your dog's behavior at a competition and your dog will also learn from the experience. Don't give up! Even the best dog has had a bad day or even a whole bad year! There's something about walking into the ring that can make dogs forget all their training. But after a few tries, things will get better. Keep working on it together with your dog, remember you are a team!!!!

What to Bring - Items in **Bold** are required

_____ **DOG CRATE** You can also bring a blanket or towel to cover your crate (this calms some dogs and prevents them from seeing other dogs walking by). A towel or blanket for your dog to lay on.

_____ **Bring a parent or other helper who your dog is comfortable with. You will need someone to hold your dog during the walk-throughs before events such as rally and agility, and during award ceremonies.**

_____ A veterinarian signed "**Dog Project Identification Form and Vaccination Certificate**"

_____ **Project books, educational display and questions with answers to study for You and Your Dog.**

_____ Bring a clean, 6-foot leash and collar. All events require you to remove dog tags, so it is easier to have an extra collar just for shows vs. breaking your fingernails trying to remove tags!

_____ Dog brush/grooming tools.

_____ Clip-on battery powered fan (to cool your dog)

_____ Ponytail holder or hair clip/band, and hairbrush – all events except for Skill-a-thon and Agility require members hair to be pulled back away from the eyes.

_____ Some events require you to wear professional attire. Dress shirt and tie for boys. A dress, pant suit, or romper with pockets for girls, dress shoes (flats for girls).

_____ A lint roller to remove dog hair from your nice outfit. Many dogs shed excessively in a stressful environment, so this is extra important at competitions.

_____ Cooler with drinks, snacks, and lunch. Dog events take many hours. (Expect to be there until 4pm or later)

_____ Water dish for your dog, and **lots** of water. Competitions take place in the summer, and your dog may be eating lots of salty snacks like peanut butter.

_____ Snacks and treats for your dog. You can feed your dog their regular meals at home before and after the competition (although you can also feed them at the event in their crate if you wish).

_____ Portable chairs to sit on for you and your helper.

_____ Towel to dry your dog's face (because many dogs drool when anxious, and you'll want to maintain a clean appearance).

_____ Books to read and other entertainment for the time between events.

_____ Wagon to carry all this stuff from your car to the competition venue! Although parking at ARF is very close to the event, and it isn't difficult to make multiple trips to your car.