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July 25, 2008

Dear State Fair Dog Show Participant;

We are glad you have entered your dog or dogs in the Ohio State Fair Junior Fair Dog Show! Enclosed with this letter you will find the following: (1) one single day exhibitor admission ticket (you will receive additional ones for days entered at registration on the first day); (2) one *2008 Ohio State Fair Junior Fair Dog Show* letter to exhibitors signed by Virgil Strickler, General Fair Manager – *this is your parking permit*; (3) one *2008 Ohio State Fair Walk Pass for Junior Fair Dog Show*; and (4) one map of the Fairgrounds. This information is applicable to all youth showing August 4-8. A separate letter has been mailed to youth entered in the Agility and You and Your Dog classes.

The *Rules for 2008 Ohio State Fair Junior Fair Dog Show Participation*, the *State Fair Dog Show Preparation Checklist*, and other pertinent information can be found online at <http://southcenters.osu.edu/4h/dog>. If you cannot access them, ask your county 4-H Educator to print a copy of the information for you. It is your responsibility to read, understand, and abide by the State Fair Dog Show rules.

Building Location

The State Fair dog activities will be held in the **Buckeye Building**, which is marked on your map. The Buckeye Building is located on the far east side of the Fairgrounds bordering Clara Avenue. Note that there is an arrow in front of Gate 7 with arrows directing exhibitors to the Buckeye Building for drop off and then onto DiSalle for parking.

Parking

The *2008 Ohio State Fair Junior Fair Dog Show* letter is your parking permit. Therefore, you must put that letter on your vehicle's dashboard for entry at Gate 7 into the Fairgrounds. Use the same letter each day you are showing. ***Please read the information about parking and re-entry in the enclosed letter.***

Dog Walk Passes

A Dog Walk Pass, on Ohio Expo Center/Ohio State Fair letterhead, allows you to walk your dog(s) in the designated areas near the Buckeye Building. Dogs are not to be taken anywhere else on the Fairgrounds. Keep this letter with you each day you show.

License, Health and Age Requirements

1. All dogs must be currently licensed in the exhibitor's county of residence. **The exhibitor must bring a certificate of license to health check. The dog license tag alone is not sufficient.** (Exception: Assistance Dogs. Many Assistance Dog Organizations (i.e. Pilot Dogs, Inc.) provide the appropriate licensing document for exhibitors. If they do not, the exhibitor is responsible for licensing. Guide, hearing, or service dogs are exempt from any fee.)
 - a. The exhibitor must pay a \$15.00 processing fee if he or she does not bring a certificate of license to health check and show officials must call his or her respective county auditor's office for verification. This fee must be paid prior to officials making the phone call.
2. The *2008 Ohio State Fair Dog Project Identification Form and Vaccination Certificate completed and signed* by a licensed, accredited veterinarian **is required for exhibition**. This certificate must include **ALL** information requested in the Identification Form section, completed

and signed by the exhibitor. The administering veterinarian must complete the information requested in the Vaccination Certificate section. **Other certificates of vaccination, computerized vaccination records, pet record cards, or kennel records will not be accepted. It is the exhibitor's responsibility to make sure that all health requirements for State Fair are met.**

3. The Ohio Department of Agriculture requires dogs to have current Rabies vaccinations. Veterinarians must document on the *2008 Ohio State Fair Dog Project Identification Form and Vaccination Certificate* whether the exhibitor's dog's rabies vaccination is current for 1 year or 3 years by filling in the "date expires" blank.

4. The Ohio 4-H Dog Program requires that all dogs be vaccinated yearly for Distemper, Hepatitis, Leptospirosis, Parainfluenza, and Parvovirus for exhibition at the Ohio State Fair Dog Show. However, if the veterinarian feels that administering the Leptospirosis vaccination would jeopardize the dog's health, it may be waived, and the administering veterinarian must initial the applicable box under the DHLPP section on the Vaccination Certificate. If the veterinarian follows the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA) recommendations or vaccine antibody titer tests, the administering veterinarian must initial the applicable box under the DHLPP section.

5. All vaccinations must be administered by a licensed, accredited veterinarian. If the veterinarian does not administer certain vaccinations to older or other dogs, those vaccinations must be noted by the administering veterinarian, either on the vaccination form or letterhead. ***For the Ohio State Fair Dog Show, all vaccinations must be current through August 8, 2008.*** (Note: Vaccination deadlines for county fairs may differ.)

6. **The 2008 Ohio State Fair Dog Project Identification Form and Vaccination Certificate is available from the county Extension office.** *It can also be downloaded from the OSU South Centers or Ohio 4-H website.* This same form may be used for county fair shows provided the vaccinations are current through August 8, 2008 for State Fair exhibition. *The use of this form/certificate at the county level must be approved by the county 4-H professional and must be consistent throughout the respective county.*

7. Any dogs exhibiting abnormalities or symptoms of sickness, disease, or parasite infestation as determined by the health check officials will be eliminated from the show and must be removed from the Fairgrounds. If a dog is under veterinary care for a health condition that is not infectious or contagious, the exhibitor must bring a health certificate from the attending veterinarian verifying the condition and treatment. **Decision of the health check officials is final.**

8. ***Bitches showing ANY signs of heat are not permitted on the Fairgrounds. They are not permitted to show!*** Each dog must go through a health check where all females will be checked for signs of heat. If a bitch shows **any** signs of heat, she will be eliminated from the show and must be removed from the Fairgrounds. Any bitch, which appears so attractive to males as to be a disturbing element, will be eliminated from the show and must be removed from the Fairgrounds. **Decision of the health check officials is final.**

9. **Pregnant and/or lactating (nursing) bitches are not permitted on the Fairgrounds, and are not permitted to be shown.**

10. Any male or female dog that is a disturbing element to other dogs will be eliminated from the show and must be removed from the Fairgrounds.

11. Before going to Registration, exhibitors must bring their dog, dog license certificate, and *2008 Ohio State Fair Dog Project Identification Form and Vaccination Certificate* to Health Check. Incomplete or falsified information is grounds for dismissal.

- a. The exhibitor must pay a \$15.00 processing fee if information on the health certificates is incomplete and show officials must call his or her veterinarian for verification. This fee must be paid prior to officials making the phone call.

Health Check and Registration Procedures

Health check will be open from 7:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. and from 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. (where we have afternoon registrations) each day. Health check stations will be located at both the East and South entrances to the Buckeye Building. *Registration* opens at 7:30 a.m. each day for the counties showing at 8:00 a.m. Refer to the **2008 Ohio State Fair Junior Dog**

Registration Times and Judging Schedule posted at the website listed above. The check-in times given to your county are for your convenience and for us to control the amount of dogs showing at one time. After 8:00 a.m., registration opens 20 minutes prior to the time your county is scheduled.

You must check in at one of the Health Check stations prior to going to Registration. Only one person needs to be in the Registration line. Do not bring your dog to Registration. If you check in at Registration before your county's assigned time, then you will be committed to showing soon after registering. You cannot wait until your assigned time. Also, if for some reason you are late in arriving, you will be put into the next available class, provided there one. Make sure you double check the day your class is showing and plan to arrive in time to get comfortable before your check-in time. If you have any problems or questions, look for the information table. We are there to help you.

Registration will begin about 20 minutes prior to the time you are scheduled to show (refer to the Judging Schedule found online). You must report to the Health Check Area with your license certificate and health papers prior to going to Registration. **Follow the signs for Health Check.**

Note: Only one person needs to be in the show registration line. This keeps the lines from being congested and/or long. Dogs are not checked again after going through the Health Check, therefore are not needed in the registration line. If showing on more than one day with the same dog, you need only go through Health Check the first time and do not need to report there again, unless you have an unsprayed female.

Exhibitor Responsibility for Dogs

Exhibitors are totally responsible for their dogs while on the Fairgrounds. Exhibitors are to use the marked areas for their dogs to relieve themselves. Exhibitors **MUST** clean up after their dogs. Only the dog(s) being shown can be brought to State Fair. **Do not** bring any other dogs along.

Dogs must be kept on a leash while on the Fairgrounds, except when participating in the ring during judging. Dogs are only permitted outside the Buckeye Building. Dogs are **NOT** permitted on the Midway or inside any building but the Buckeye Building.

Benching

There will be a designated benching area(s). You may bring a crate, fan, extension cord, power strip, and a chair for the exhibitor. These will be permitted in the benching area. Other chairs and coolers will be placed along the walls inside the building. **Do not bring x-pens or other space-consuming items!** These will not be permitted.

Dog sitting will not be offered; therefore, someone must stay with your dog throughout the duration of your stay. The Buckeye Building is a ways from the midway, so it is not a good idea to enjoy the fair until you know that you are done being judged (including run-offs). Again, someone must stay with your dog at all times if you leave the Buckeye Building.

Buckeye Building Flooring and Seating

The flooring is concrete and will be covered with mats. There will be limited seating; therefore you are permitted to bring small lawn chairs.

For all five (5) days of judging only the exhibitors, dogs, and show personnel will be permitted on the show floor areas. All parents, advisors, friends, etc. must stay out of the show area.

Showmanship

Questions will be selected from questions posted on the website. Hopefully those of you showing in Showmanship have already been studying!

Drill Team

Youths' dogs participating in the Drill Team competition on August 6 must meet the Ohio State Fair Dog Show Health Requirements. Health Check will be open until 2:00 p.m. for dogs not previously checked. Drill team entries must report to the Registration Table at 2:00 p.m.

Skillathon

A Dog Skillathon will be held on Monday, August 4 (12:00 noon – 4:00 p.m.), Tuesday, August 5 (11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.) during the Ohio State Fair Dog Activities in the Buckeye Building. This contest is open to any 4-H or FFA member. There are ten age divisions (9 through 18 years). Ages are determined as of 1/1/08. Skillathon lines will be divided into Junior (8-11 yrs.), Intermediate (12-14 yrs.) and Senior (15-18 yrs.) levels. Awards will be presented to the first place winner in each age division. Junior (8-11 yrs.), Intermediate (12-14 yrs.), and Senior (15-18 yrs.) age division winner awards will be presented. Other awards include participation tokens and outstanding awards. Awards will be presented at the end of the day on Tuesday, August 5.

State Fair Championship Title

Youth earning a State Fair Championship Title will receive their awards each day during the awards presentations. This includes those who earn enough points to reach 25 points this year. 4-H or FFA member may earn one title per year regardless of the number of dogs shown. State Fair Championship Title information can be found online at: <http://southcenters.osu.edu/4h/dog/>.

Exhibitor Versatility Awards

The 4-H Exhibitor Versatility Award (EVA) is new in 2008. The purpose of this award is to: (1) encourage youth to participate in several classes (including skillathon and poster) at the Ohio State Fair Dog Show, and (2) award youth for achieving excellence in the classes in which they are showing or participating. To earn a 4-H EVA, exhibitors must place in three (3) classes as follows: (1) receive a gold medal in Agility; (2) receive a gold medal in Rally; (3) place in the top five in all classes receiving placings, including the skillathon and poster; (4) finish in the top 20% of those receiving Outstanding of the Day rosettes in Sub-Novice A and Showmanship Junior A; or (5) pass all test items in the Assistance Dog class. Youth violating any of the *Rules for 2008 Ohio State Fair Junior Fair Dog Show Participation* or with points taken off for poor sportsmanship will not be eligible for this award.

An exhibitor must show in three classes and earn one placing as described above per class, with one dog in each of those classes. The 4-H EVA is based on the number of classes, not number of dogs per class (i.e. for agility and rally). The exhibitor may earn one 4-H Exhibitor Versatility Award a year.

Scores

Scores should be posted within a reasonable amount of time after you have shown your dog. In all classes but Sub-Novice A and Showmanship Junior A classes, if your score ranks among the top fifteen scores of all scores posted for your class, or in a tie for those scores, you will need to stay for the awards presentation. If your score is not among the top fifteen scores, you are finished for the day. All exhibitors in Sub-Novice A and Showmanship Junior A classes who receive a score of 200 points or higher will receive an Outstanding of the Day rosette during the awards presentations. The highest scoring individual in each of these classes will receive a trophy. Therefore, if you are tied for first place, or tied for any placing, you must be present for the run-off or you will lose your chance to advance in your placing. Ties will be broken as follows:

Sub-Novice, Novice Obedience: When two or more exhibitors have the same overall scores, the scores in the first exercise will be compared. The exhibitor with the highest score in the first exercise will receive the highest placing, and so forth. If all exhibitors have the same score in the first exercise, the scores in the second exercise will be compared, and so forth until ties are broken. If the scores are equal throughout all of the exercises, including the Exhibitor's

Appearance, Dog's Appearance, and Sportsmanship, ties will be broken by the exhibitors and their dogs performing a heeling pattern specified by the judge.

Graduate Novice & above Levels of Obedience: Ties will be broken by the exhibitors and their dogs performing an exercise specified by the judge.

Showmanship: When two or more exhibitors have the same overall scores, the scores in the first exercise will be compared. The exhibitor with the highest score in the first exercise will receive the highest placing, and so forth. If all exhibitors have the same score in the first exercise, the scores in the second exercise will be compared, and so forth until ties are broken. If the scores are equal throughout all of the exercises, including the Exhibitor's Appearance, Dog's Appearance, and Sportsmanship, ties will be broken by the exhibitors and their dogs performing a handling exercise as specified by the judge.

Score sheets will be mailed to the county Extension offices within two weeks of the last day of the Dog Show. Score sheets will not be available for review during the show.

Award Presentations

Award presentations will be made once the scores are tabulated and ties are broken for each entire class, not each judging time. Poster contest winners will be presented with their awards on Thursday, August 6, around 12:00 p.m. If you submitted a poster you are encouraged to attend that presentation. A list of award recipients will be posted on the Ohio 4-H web site at: <http://www.ag.ohio-state.edu/~4hfcs/fair/result.htm> after Saturday, August 1, as well as on the South Centers website. Posters may be taken after the awards are given. Any posters left at the end of the Dog Show on Friday will be discarded, so if you want your poster back and won't be able to get it, please arrange for someone else to pick it up.

Dog Show Photographer and Picture Taking Area

We will have Emily's Photography at the State Fair again this year available for you to have your picture taken with your dog, and then you can order pictures. Also, an area will be set up for picture taking. Dog show personnel will be taking pictures of first place winners only.

Rule Violations and Poor Sportsmanship

Individuals who violate any rule and/or exhibit poor sportsmanship during the Ohio State Fair Junior Fair Dog Show WILL BE DISQUALIFIED from showing and removed from the Fairgrounds. Judges' decisions are FINAL. Individuals are NOT permitted to have any discussion with judges at any time throughout the Dog Show. Individuals with concerns must express them in writing, give them to Show Personnel, and those concerns will be discussed at the fall State 4-H Dog Advisory Committee meeting. Confrontations with Judges and/or Show Personnel will result in removal of those individuals from the Fairgrounds and in disqualification of exhibitors.

Release Forms

You must pick up a release form to be able to get your dog(s) off the Fairgrounds. We will have them for you at registration. Below is an example of how to complete that form.

TO: GATE SUPERINTENDENT	Columbus, Ohio
This is to certify that _____ (<i>print your name here</i>) of _____ (<i>print your city and state here</i>) has permission to leave the Ohio State Fair with livestock, consisting of _____ (<i>print number of dogs here</i>) head of _____ (<i>print species - i.e. dog - here</i>).	
_____ Dogs _____	_____ <i>Lucinda Miller</i> _____
Department	Superintendent

In Summary...

I hope this final letter helps you be better prepared for the Dog Show. Consider it an honor to represent your county. Remember to review the rules and other State Fair Dog information found at the following website: <http://southcenters.osu.edu/4h/dog>. If you have any questions, I can be reached on my cell phone at 740.708.0359 or by e-mail at miller.78@osu.edu. During the Dog Show (August 4 - 8) the contact number at the Buckeye Building will be my cell phone (740.708.0359).

Sincerely,

Lucinda B. Miller
Extension Specialist, 4-H Youth Development
Superintendent, Ohio State Fair Junior Fair Dog Show

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