



4-H PEI - Canine Project

Guidelines for Fairs & Exhibitions

Class 2 - Sections 1-3

Guidelines

- 4-H Members (*ages 9-21 as of January 1, 2023*) having completed all requirements of the **4-H PEI Canine Project**, are eligible (and encouraged) to show in the **4-H Canine Class / Sections** at PEI Fairs & Exhibitions.
- Members are asked to complete and submit an **Exhibition Entry Form** indicating the Exhibition, Class & Sections in which they intend to participate (*See Pg. 2*) - **Entry form is due at the 4-H PEI Office on or before June 1, 2023.**
- Members are reminded to read & adhere to the **General Livestock Rules.**
- The recommended dress code for canine classes is:
 - ⇒ **Collared or button-up shirt, blouse or dressy shirt** (*NO tank tops or sleeveless shirts*)
 - ⇒ **Skirts, dress pants or dress jeans** (*NO shorts, tights, very short skirts or sweat pants*)
 - ⇒ **Hard soled or closed toed shoes for member's safety** (*NO flip flops, sandals or open toed shoes*)
- Dogs can be of any age, but members and leaders must use caution with puppies to make sure they are not being overworked. Dogs may be purebred or crossbred.
- Members can own their own dog OR borrow a dog to use for the project. However, the member must have had access to the dog for practice & prep for the 4-H Canine Classes.
- Dogs must be collared & leashed at all times. Leashes are to be 2 meters long (or 3-5 meters for recall) and in good condition. Retractable leashes not allowed. If choke chain is used it must be put on correctly or the member will be disqualified.
- Crates are mandatory at Fairs & Exhibitions where 4-H Classes are offered. Dogs do not always have to always be in their crates when not working, but it does allow for them to have a place to rest and to free the member for other activities. It is mandatory that dogs have access to water when in their crates.
- Dogs must be clean and well-groomed, healthy and sound (no ailments or serious injuries). Dogs must also be up-to-date on their Distemper and Parvovirus vaccinations.
- Un-spayed, female dogs in season **must** be the last dog in the ring so as to not distract the other dogs.
- Dogs having relieved themselves (urination or defecation) in the show ring will have points deducted from their score.
- At any sign(s) of aggression (either dog to dog, dog to human, or dog to other animals), the judge can ask that the dog be removed from the class, confined to its crate or removed from the show grounds. If other 4-H officials or staff see behavior outside of the show ring that causes them to question if the dog may become aggressive they are to ask the member to isolate the dog until the judge can be asked to assess the situation.
- The humane treatment of all animals is expected 100% of the time. The judge will have the discretion to excuse a member from a class if they feel they are causing their dog distress.
- Members are not to physically manipulate their dogs to perform a maneuver in the show ring.
- Members are not permitted to carry or offer food or toys in the show ring. Praise and petting are allowed between and after exercises, but points may be deducted from the total score for a dog that is not under reasonable control while being praised.



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Section Requirements

PRELIMINARY

Each team must demonstrate **eight** of the following **10** commands:

- Heel**
- Left Turn**
- Right Turn**
- About Turn**
- Heel: figure 8**
- Sit** with command
- Sit & Stay:** handler to walk away and stand 2 meters in front of dog during the examination. Dog must stay for 10 seconds
- Down** with command
- Recall:** the dog must come on recall and sit in front of the handler
- Sit for examination:** the dog must sit facing the handler

INTERMEDIATE

Each team must demonstrate proficiency in **ALL 10** of the listed Preliminary exercises **PLUS** at least **six** of the following **9** commands:

- Heel: slow**
- Heel: fast**
- Heel: figure 8 two times with an automatic sit following each one**
- U Turn**
- Automatic Sit** at the halt command.
- Stand for examination** - handler to walk away and stand 2 meters in front of dog during the examination.
- Sit-Stay:** 30 seconds
- Down-Stay:** 60 seconds
- Recall:** With "Finish" to the heel position.

ADVANCED

Each team must demonstrate proficiency in **ALL 19** of the listed Preliminary and Intermediate level commands **PLUS** the following:

- Sit and Stay:** 1 minute
- Down and Stay:** 3 minutes

Note: For the advanced level, the leash should be loose at all times. Handlers will lose points each time the leash is tight.

CLASS 2 - Sections 1-3

- 1 Canine *Preliminary*
- 2 Canine *Intermediate*
- 3 Canine *Advanced*

Please Note:

- *The age of the member does not determine the section in which they show*
- *Member/Dog teams will enter in the class section which best suits their training for the current 4-H year. This should be determined through mutual discussion with the 4-H member and their Canine leader.*

PLEASE NOTE: **Champion Canine** will follow the Preliminary, Intermediate & Advanced Classes

