

Dog

4-H Project Newsletter

This newsletter will be updated in December of each year, if necessary, based on changes made to the project at the 4-H Nova Scotia Annual General Meeting in November.

Welcome to the 4-H Dog Project! This newsletter will give you an overview of the Dog project, answer some of your questions concerning expectations of the project, and provide you with project ideas and some resources. Project newsletters are an excellent reference to keep on hand to refer to throughout the year. Enjoy your year in the Dog project and when working on your project, remember to "Learn to do by Doing." If you have any questions, please contact your Regional Agriculture Leadership Coordinator (ALC).

GENERAL 4-H INFORMATION

Ages for Members:

Junior Members: 9 - 13 years of age as of January 1, as of the current year.

Senior Members: 14 - 21 years of age as of January 1, as of the current year.

4-H members may register in the club and county of their choice, but must only be registered in one club, in one province. Members may register in one club and access projects in a neighboring club if that club is willing to assist with leadership of a certain project.

Project Completion:

All 4-H members must complete 'project requirements', for each of their projects, at their club Achievement Day. If you are unable to attend your own club Achievement Day, please make prior arrangements with your Regional ALC. Completion of your project qualifies you to move on to any further county, provincial, or national 4-H competitions relating to that project in the current 4-H year. School projects are not permitted to be used as 4-H projects. Each member must complete and display their own project work (i.e., two members cannot share a project for project completion).

What is Achievement Day?

Achievement Day allows members to display their project work to the public and have their projects evaluated, non-competitively. Project completion at Achievement Day is based on the following system:

A Green project completion sticker will be given to a member who has completed:	A Silver project completion sticker will be given to a member who has completed:	A Gold project completion sticker will be given to a member who has completed:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Record Sheet • Project Work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Record Sheet • Project Work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Record Sheet • Project Work
Plus one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communications • Club Contribution • Judging 	Plus two of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communications • Club Contribution • Judging 	Plus all three of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communications • Club Contribution • Judging

RECORD SHEET – Each member must complete a satisfactory record sheet. Record sheets may be hand written or typed. *For more useful information, refer to Record Sheet Guidelines.*

PROJECT WORK – Each 4-H project (e.g., woodworking, dairy, etc.) has specific project work requirements. Each members' project work will be evaluated on the quality of the work, degree of difficulty for experience/age, the way articles are displayed/presented, and whether all requirements are met. A 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place ribbon will be given for each project. Please review project requirements for each project carefully. In non-livestock projects, members must complete the required number of items as outlined, unless prior approval is given by the Regional ALC. This request should be made in advance of the member's Achievement Day. Consideration of an item counting as additional items will be given based on members age, degree of difficulty, time required to complete, etc.

COMMUNICATIONS – Members who participate in public speaking and/or demonstrations at club level will receive recognition on their Achievement Day Certificate. Each club has its own standards for communications, so members should confirm with the general club leader.

CLUB CONTRIBUTION – Members are encouraged to be actively involved in their club, county, province, and community. The club contribution aspect is an assessment on such things as a member's attendance at meetings and events, attitude, effort, cooperation, and self-expression. Each club has its own standards for club contribution. Evaluation of this Achievement Day component is done by the Club General Leader and / or project leader(s). The standard for club contribution should be communicated clearly to all members by club leaders at the beginning of the 4-H year.

JUDGING – In each project, members are asked to compare four (4) articles or livestock (e.g., 4 wooden shelves in the woodworking project or 4 heifers in a dairy class), then evaluate them to place the class in order from first (closest to the ideal), to fourth (furthest from the ideal). Oral reasons, using proper terminology, are given to an official judge for the project to support those choices. There are many useful judging resources available through your Regional ALC. In each county, a judging box is also available to borrow to help practice judging skills. It includes judging information and cards as well as judging classes, with reasons. Clubs may book these supplies through the Regional ALC.

At 4-H Nova Scotia Provincial Show, 4-H animals participating in the 4-H Nova Scotia Show competitions are used to make up livestock judging classes (e.g., 4 intermediate Holstein calves). Members are responsible for notifying their Regional ALC by September 15 by email if they do not wish to have their animal used. Please keep in mind that judging classes can only be provided if members are willing to offer their animals for a judging class. As such, 4-H members are encouraged to let their animal be used in a judging class if possible.

Project Work Requirements

On Achievement Day, Dog members must complete showmanship with their registered 4-H Dog. Please note the dress code for all Dog classes is dress pants or skirts, shirt or blouse. **No jeans or t-shirts are permitted.** Sneakers may be worn but hard soled boots are encouraged for member's safety. Members can wear sun-safety hats when showing livestock in an outdoor area. The dress code will be enforced at 4-H Nova Scotia 4-H Shows.

Livestock Registration

4-H members must select their 4-H animals by May 1st of the current 4-H year, and must submit livestock registration information to the Regional ALC by May 15th of the current 4-H year. This information is necessary to assist with county show/exhibition planning, including judges, class schedules, awards, etc. The following information must be submitted for Livestock Registration requirements: name of member, junior member/senior member, dog project level (ie. Pre-novice, novice, etc), sex of animal, breed of animal, and date of birth of animal.

4-H animals may be substituted between the registration deadline of May 15th and Achievement Day in the case of injury, sickness, disease or death of the animal. If an animal is to be substituted prior to Achievement Day, pre-approval from the Regional ALC is necessary. A vet certificate may be required. After Achievement Day, no substitutions are permitted. 4-H members who complete their livestock project with their own registered/approved animal on Achievement Day may use another 4-H member's 4-H animal in a showmanship class at county show/exhibition and the 4-H Nova Scotia Show.

4-H Nova Scotia Provincial Show Class & Sections:

Each county is eligible to send the top two junior and top two senior members in each section to the Nova Scotia 4-H Provincial Show.

The sections are as follows:

CLASS #2: SHOWMANSHIP

Section 8:	Junior Dog
	Senior Dog

CLASS #54: DOG

SECTION 1:	Obedience – Pre-Novice – Junior
SECTION 2:	Obedience – Pre-Novice – Senior
SECTION 3:	Obedience – Novice – Junior
SECTION 4:	Obedience – Novice – Senior
SECTION 5:	Obedience – Graduate Novice – Junior
SECTION 6:	Obedience – Graduate Novice – Senior
SECTION 7:	Obedience – Novice Intermediate – Junior
SECTION 8:	Obedience – Novice Intermediate – Senior
SECTION 9:	Obedience – Open – Junior
SECTION 10:	Obedience – Open – Senior

LEADER RESOURCES

There are many resources available locally to the dog project members. For more information on training and showing dogs, check out some of the following resources:

- 4-H Dog Project Leader Manual - The Leader manual provided by the NS Department of Agriculture contains a bulk of information about caring for and showing dogs in 4-H.
- Canadian Kennel Club (CKC) - CKC members can be very helpful. They can help by sharing their experiences with dogs and are very good resource people for 4-H Dog Project Leaders. Check the CKC website for up to date information on showing dogs in Canada (www.ckc.ca).
- Canadian Kennel Club Obedience Trail Rules & Regulations - This booklet can be obtained by contacting the Canadian Kennel Club at: 89 Skyway Avenue, Suite 100, Etobicoke, Ontario, M9W 6R4 or by calling 416-657-5511.
- CKC Canine Good Neighbour Program - The Canine Good Neighbour Program teaches the dog and owner to demonstrate good manners at home, in public places and in the presence of other dogs. More information on this program can be found at the Canadian Kennel Club Website (www.ckc.ca).

PROJECT IDEAS

Your club can plan many special activities to add to the 4-H Dog Project. Besides learning about showmanship and the obedience trial, you may want to work on some of the following:

- Nutrition - A very important part of keeping a pet; study your dog's nutritional requirements.
- Pests and diseases - Visit a local vet for a presentation and discussion. Study life cycles of common pests such as fleas and worms.
- Judging - Go to a kennel to practice judging different types of dogs.
- Grooming - Hold sessions to learn proper grooming techniques for your dog.
- Breeds - Visit local breeders to learn about different breeds and their uses. Attending a dog show to see the different breeds is interesting.

Some Important Rules and Regulations

- **CKC has updated their obedience sections.** Please note the following changes: in the Pre-Novice levels members no longer perform the circle left/right but instead perform a figure 8. As well in the Novice Intermediate class the point distributions have changed and honour has been replaced with recall over high jump holding dumbbells. Please see the obedience expectations which are on page 2 of this newsletter.
- Dogs should be shown on a six (6) foot flat lead (leather or other material) for obedience classes. The collar can be a buckle or link collar. In Showmanship classes, a smaller, shorter lead is used. Ideally, the length should be from the show person's hip to the dog's neck (with head held erect). Acceptable collars are: link collar, choker chain, or a nylon collar.
- **Vaccinations:** It is recommended that dogs be vaccinated every year for Distemper, Canine Parvovirus (Parvovirus), Hepatitis, Parainfluenza, Corona Virus (optional), and Rabies vaccination-every three years. **Members can include the vaccination information regarding their dog on the Veterinary Record Section of the Dog Record Sheet.**
- Members are only allowed to show one dog.
- A member who qualifies for Grand Champion Showmanship Class participates. Their dog does not.
- At the 2000 NS 4-H Council Annual Meeting, it was resolved that **"With the approval of the leader** there be no restrictions on the number of years' experience of either the member or dog in the dog project."
- It was accepted at the 2005 NS 4-H Council Annual Meeting that the Nova Scotia 4-H Dog Project be revised to reflect the **obedience** guidelines set out by the CKC except for the CKC rules pertaining to the requirements of being purebred and in regards to neutering and spaying of the dogs.

- It was accepted at the 2006 NS 4-H Council Annual Meeting that the 4-H Dog Obedience classes be judged according to the CKC Junior Handling Rules and Regulations, which state;
- "Each exercise shall be scored by the point system in place under CKC rules. However, the judge will score 75% of the total marks on the basis of the handler's performance, and 25% of the total marks on the performance of the dog/handler team. Scores shall be awarded on the basis of the handler's performance".
- It was accepted at the 2007 NS 4-H Council Annual Meeting that the 4-H Pre-Novice level have the same requirements according to CKC rules with the exception of **off leash** changed to **on leash** at the 4-H Pre Novice level.
- The 2013 4-H NS Annual Meeting approved a resolution that a 6-foot leash must be used for the recall exercise and the long sit exercise in the dog project.

PERFORMANCE EXPECTATIONS

SHOWMANSHIP - All Levels

- Dogs should be under control
- Members should be able to show dog's teeth
- Dogs should be clean and conditioned
- Members should be able to move their dog through ring patterns including but not limited to: simple round, diagonal, T- pattern, and L- pattern. This should be done smoothly and professionally
- Members should be able to perform a courtesy turn and move up and stack dog (according to breed)
- Members should be in constant control and eye contact with judge

OBEDIENCE - Pre-Novice Class

- Heel on Leash (60 points)
- Figure 8 (12' between posts) (35 points)
- Sit for Examination (35 points)
- Recall (40 points)
- Long Sit-30 seconds (30 points)
- OBEDIENCE - Novice Class
- Heel on Leash and Figure 8 (40 points)
- Stand for Examination (30 points)
- Heel Free (40 points)
- Recall (30 points)
- Long Sit-1 minute (30 points)
- Long Down-3 minutes (30 points)

OBEDIENCE - Graduate Novice Class

- Heel on Leash-No Figure 8 (40 points)

- Stand for Examination-Off Leash (30 points)
- Heel Free and Figure 8 (40 points)
- Drop on Recall (30 points)
- Long Sit-3 minutes handler out of sight (30 points)
- Long Down-3 minutes handler out of sight (30 points)

OBEDIENCE - Novice Intermediate Class

- All exercises are off leash.
- Heel Free and Figure 8 (40 points)
- Stand for Examination (30 points)
- Drop from Heel (35 points)
- Recall Holding Dumbbell (30 points)
- Recall over High Jump holding dumbbell (40 points)
- Recall over Broad Jump (25 points)

OBEDIENCE - Open

- All exercises are off leash.
- Heel Free and Figure Eight (40 points)
- Drop on Recall (30 points)
- Retrieve on Flat (25 points)
- Retrieve over High Jump (35 points)
- Broad Jump (20 points)
- Long Sit-3 minutes handler out of sight (25 points)
- Long Down-3 minutes handler out of sight (25 points)

CONTAGIOUS/INFECTIOUS DISEASE & QUARANTINE:

4-H members, leaders, parents and livestock owners are reminded that 4-H achievement days and shows are showcases for the 4-H program, and the agricultural industry in this province. They are reminded that infectious diseases can be transmitted during transport, as well as at the show. As such, it is strongly recommended for the protection of the public, participants, and the animals at the show, that animals having or showing signs of infectious diseases not be brought to shows. As well, livestock exhibitors and owners must understand that in attending 4-H Shows, there is a risk of their animal contracting disease regardless of the best efforts of all involved.

If you suspect that your animal has a contagious/infectious disease, please contact your local vet immediately and learn more about the consequences, treatment, and transmission of the disease.

A brochure providing additional information on "Infectious and Contagious Diseases Affecting 4-H Livestock" is available. If you wish to receive a copy by mail or email, please contact your ALC for this information. It contains important information for all livestock members on this topic and will be critical to review with 4-H Clubs, livestock owners, and your local veterinarian when making decisions about attending 4-H achievement days and shows.

SPORTSMANSHIP – Be a Good Sport!

In 4-H, Sportsmanship plays a key role in living by the motto of 'Learn to Do by Doing'. Please take the opportunity to consider good sportsmanship when at 4-H events. Here are some key factors to good sportsmanship:

GOOD CONDUCT – Demonstrate and maintain high standards of personal behaviour and conduct. You are representing your family, your club, your community and the 4-H program.

FAIRNESS – Learn and follow the rules. Be objective and honest. No matter what the results try your best by using your true skills without cheating. Treat others fairly.

HONESTY – Be a reliable person, do not lie or deceive. Be straightforward in everything you say and do. Understand your abilities and skills, accept the fact that you cannot do everything perfectly, but you still can do many things well.

COMPETITION - Competition experiences enhance positive youth development and prepare youth with competitive knowledge, skills and attitudes. Take pride in your accomplishments and in improving your skills – you are all winners, even if the ribbon color doesn't appear to reflect this.

COURTESY – Be well-mannered in your conduct. Be respectful, thoughtful, considerate, cooperative, friendly, and cheerful, no matter whether you do well or not. When you have concerns, questions, or suggestions, be polite in expressing them. Be pleasant and nice toward other participants, spectators, program officials, judges, the media, your leaders, parents and others. Give others the benefit of the doubt. Treat people and animals kindly. Keep your emotions under control.

GRACEFUL ACCEPTANCE OF RESULTS – Accept judges' results and suggestions with a positive attitude. The judge's decision is final. Regardless of the outcome; thank all that were involved in helping you put forth your best effort. Thank the organizers for their efforts; Sponsors for their generous donations; Agriculture Leadership Coordinators for their wisdom and guidance; Judges for their skilled eye and time given to the 4-H program; and anyone else who has helped you along the way.

The work in any 4-H project should always be done by the members. Hiring, or the use, of professionals and/ or adults to prepare projects for 4-H shows are not acceptable. Using these people as resources provides 4-H members with the information and skills to do the job on their own.

4-H Nova Scotia has a Code of Conduct in effect for all members and leaders. It is to be followed always throughout the year. If you would like a copy of what are acceptable practices in the 4-H program, please [Visit 4-H Nova Scotia's website for more information!](#)

You might also be interested in...

For more information about any of the below opportunities, please contact your regional ALC:

4-H POSTER CONTEST – Create a hand-drawn or computer-generated poster focused around the annual 4-H Theme. Deadline and evaluation is normally at county rally.

4-H THEME CONTEST – Put on your thinking cap and be the one to come up with next year's 4-H theme! Submissions due to Provincial 4-H Office by July 1st. (i.e., "Let 4-H Reign Supreme in 2018").

WOOL & RECYCLING COMPETITION – Open to all 4-H members. These articles must be made from 100% wool or a minimum of 75% recycled materials and members must exhibit a Competition Report Sheet with their entry.

GIANT VEGETABLE COMPETITION – Each year a new vegetable is selected for the Giant Vegetable competition held at the 4-H Provincial Show. Each county can send one junior and one senior giant vegetable entry to the show.

TRACTOR DRIVING COMPETITION – The tractor competition is open to teams of 3 members (1 driver and 2 assistants); the driver must hold a valid class#5 driver's license or tractor license. The driver will drive a tractor and trailer through an obstacle course. The score is calculated based on safe operation and judge's evaluation. One team per county will advance to 4-H Provincial Show.

RECORD KEEPING COMPETITION – An entry will be one record sheet for a project completed in the current year by that member, with a detailed analysis included. Entries in this competition must include a 1 to 4 page analysis of the work and costs in the project for the given year in order to be eligible. Entries should be displayed in a binder/folder. The top two senior and top two junior record sheets per county will be eligible for the Record Keeping Competition at the 4-H Provincial Show, but entries must first qualify at county level. All county entries must be forwarded to Truro by September 15th of the current 4-H year for judging prior to the 4-H Provincial Show.

AWARDS, TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES, AND SCHOLARSHIPS – Each year, 4-H Nova Scotia covers the registration fee to National and International travel opportunities for members awarded such travel experiences. Also, there are several scholarships available to 4-H members in Nova Scotia.

JUNIOR LEADER PROJECT – This project is designed to build leadership skills by providing members with the opportunity to lead any aspects of their club which interest them (e.g., projects, recreation, communication, etc.).

GRADE 10 PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT CREDIT – Members must achieve GOLD completion and document at least 110 hours of 4-H related work to qualify. For more information visit the [NS Department of Education & Early Childhood Development Personal Development Credit website](https://pdca.ednet.ns.ca/) <https://pdca.ednet.ns.ca/>

NOVA SCOTIA YOUNG SPEAKERS FOR AGRICULTURE – Senior Members and screened volunteers up to age 24 compete by creating and presenting a speech on one of five topics from Canadian Young Speakers for Agriculture (<https://cysa-joca.ca/>). The winner represents 4-H Nova Scotia at the Canadian Young Speakers for Agriculture competition held annually in November at the Royal Agriculture Winter Fair in Toronto. Deadline to register for the competition is September 15th of the current 4-H year.

Dog RECORD SHEET

Name of club member _____ 4-H age _____

Name of club _____

Years in 4-H _____ Years in the project _____

Project _____ (Beef, Dairy, Market Steer, or second-year project)

CALF INFORMATION

Breed if calf _____ Sex _____

Date of birth _____ Registration No _____

Name of calf _____

Sire of calf _____

Dam of calf _____

HEALTH RECORDS

DATE	PROBLEM	CURE	COST

CALF WEIGHT CHART

Calf weight at beginning of project		Age of calf	
Calf weight at end of project		Age of calf	
Weight gain for period			

CALF HEIGHT CHART

Calf height at beginning of project		Age of calf	
Calf height at end of project		Age of calf	
Height gain for period			

FEED & MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSE RECORDS

Month	Milk Consumed		Roughages		Ration / Grain		Misc. Expenses	Total
	kg or lb	cost/mo	kg or lb.	cost/mo	kg or lb.	cost/mo		
Totals								

NOTE:

Roughage includes pasture, haylage, hay, grass silage

Ration/Feed includes corn, grains, etc.

Miscellaneous costs include registration, housing, saw dust, equipment, etc.

Animal owned by farmer or Animal owned by 4-H member/family

Meeting Summary

How many general club meetings did you attend this year? _____

How many project meetings did you attend this year? _____

Please list any other club/county activities that you may have participated in during the past year?
