

# Osceola County 4H/FFA

## Open Dog Show

### *Chairperson(s)/Contact Information:*

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- Committee
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The purpose of this show is to give the area 4-H/FFA students the opportunity to practice/show in a show setting, in order to prepare for the State Fair Dog Show. Participation in the State Fair is not required. It also allows for participants who are interested in competing in Dog Sports, but do not currently own their own dog, to work towards learning the different sports.

### **ELIGIBILITY:**

- Exhibitor must be five (5) years old by September 1, of the current 4-H year.
- Cloverbuds may enter all classes, however they will not be judged, but will receive feedback on their performance.
- Exhibitor must be a current member of a state of Florida 4-H or FFA club.
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### **GENERAL RULES:**

- Registration will be online only. Closing date for the Open show will be January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026 at midnight.
- **ALL ENTRIES MUST BE APPROVED BY THE 4-H COUNTY EXTENSION AGENT AND THE 4-H LEADER, OR FFA TEACHER OF THE ENTRANT.**
- **There will be a \$15.00 entry fee for up to 2 dogs per exhibitor. All fees are Non-Refundable.**
- The show will be held on January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026, in the KVLS Arena. Time 0830. This will be held PRIOR to the Osceola County Fair.
- All animals must have proof of vaccinations. Please bring this to a workshop you attend, or to the show.
- Females in season will not be allowed to participate.
- All dogs must be owned and in the exhibitor's possession by November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025, to be eligible for the Owner Handler classes. The junior handler must be the exclusive handler in all venues (4H, AKC, UKC, etc) throughout the project (October 1<sup>st</sup> thru March 1<sup>st</sup>) year, to participate in the Open Dog Show.

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- All dogs NOT owned by the exhibitor can be shown in the OPEN classes only. The Open class exhibitor is not eligible for the Champion of Champions Award. The junior handler must be the exclusive handler in all venues (4H, AKC, UKC, etc) throughout the project (October 1<sup>st</sup> thru March 1<sup>st</sup>) year, to participate in the Open Show.
- All dogs must be at least 6 months old to show in the Obedience, Rally and Showmanship classes. Dogs must be 15 months old to compete in Agility.
- All dogs must be in good health on show day.
- Approval for use of a substitute dog, due to extenuating circumstances, may be granted by the dog Show Chairperson. Substitute dogs must be owned and in your possession by December 1<sup>st</sup>. Exhibitor must notify the chairperson as soon as possible after determination that a substitute dog is necessary no later than January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026. No substitutions will be allowed after that date, **except females in heat.**
- Dog show committee shall reserve the right to refuse entry to any aggressive people or animals.
  - **MANDATORY PARTICIPATION IS REQUIRED AT A SCHEDULED WORKSHOP, DATES TO BE ANNOUNCED.**
- Exhibitors must be able to control their dogs at all times.
- All exhibitors will be responsible for cleaning up after their dog.
- Animals **MUST** be kept on a leash at all times, except during performances requiring unrestricted movement.
- While on show grounds, no one other than the Youth exhibitor may handle, train, work, or groom his/her dog. Violation of this rule will result in disqualification.
- Talking to your dog is always encouraged in Rally & Showmanship and acceptable while exhibiting. No touching will be allowed in Obedience & Rally.
- No pinch collars will be allowed.
- Treats will only be allowed in the ring during Showmanship. No treats are allowed in the ring during Obedience, Rally or Agility.
- Dogs must be clean, nails trimmed, coat brushed and parasite free.
- Exhibitors should be clean, neat and well groomed.
- Dress required is white collared shirt with dark pants. Closed toed shoes or boots are required. 4H or FFA accessories are strongly recommended.
- No caps or hats.
- Limit of one dog per handler per class, with a maximum of 2 dogs per exhibitor shown.
- For families, a dog may be shared between siblings, but the dog may only show once per class.

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- **YOUTH DOG SHOW DEFINITIONS:**
- **Basic Handler/ Exhibitor** -Exhibitors WHO HAVE never competed in ANY state-level dog show, OR any outside venue (i.e. AKC, USDAA, UKC, NADAC, etc.) AND is competing within their FIRST PROJECT YEAR of 4H or FFA. Handlers may compete in Basic classes with a basic dog for only one year and then must move up to the next level.
- **Basic Dog**- Any dog that that has NEVER competed in ANY state level dog show, or any outside venue (i.e. AKC, USDAA, UKC, NADAC, etc.) AND is being shown by a basic handler. A dog may compete in Basic classes with a basic handler for only the first full year of 4H or FFA with a dog project.
- **Experienced Handler**- Exhibitor who has previously shown at a state-level dog show, has competed in outside venue (i.e. AKC, USDAA, UKC, NADAC, etc.), or has already competed their first full year of 4H or FFA with a dog project.
- **Experienced dog**- Any dog that has previously shown at a state-level dog show, has competed in any outside venue (i.e. AKC, USDAA, UKC, NADAC, etc.), or has been part of a dog and handler team that has completed their first full year of 4H or FFA with a dog project, OR any titled dog whether handler was the person who titled the dog or not. Any titled dog must be entered into the class equivalent to their title or higher AND entered into the "B" class.

## **ATTIRE FOR OBEDIENCE, RALLY & AGILITY**

1. All exhibitors will be required to be clean and neat and dressed in white, green, blue, or black jeans/slacks, or tan Khaki slacks with a solid white shirt with a white collar. FFA or 4-H accessories are strongly recommended.
2. No caps or hats.
3. Closed-toed shoes or boots are required.

## **ATTIRE FOR SHOWMANSHIP**

Exhibitors should be clean, neat, and well-groomed. They should wear clothing that is comfortable to handle in and appropriate for dog shows. Clothing should not distract, limit, or hinder the judge's view of the dog. Official 4-H or FFA dress is acceptable. No heels or open-toed shoes are allowed due to safety issues.

Exhibitors should appear confident, prepared, businesslike, and attentive. They should be courteous to both the judge and other exhibitors. Exhibitors are expected to handle their dogs without distracting the dogs of the other exhibitors. Exhibitors

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should not crowd, and they should not distract others by continued use of toys and bait. Exhibitors should be alert to the needs of their dogs. They should use firm but thoughtful hands in controlling and handling their dogs. Exhibitors should not be impatient or heavy-handed.

### SECTION 1 - Showmanship

#### **CLASSES:**

01. Cloverbud
02. Novice
  - Owner/Handler
  - Open
01. Advanced
  - Owner/Handler
  - Open

### SECTION 2 - Skill-a-thon

#### **CLASSES:**

01. Cloverbud (age 5-7)
02. Junior (age 8-10)
03. Intermediate (age 11-13)
04. Senior (age 14-18)

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## SECTION 3 - Obedience

### CLASSES:

- Cloverbud.
  - Cloverbuds will follow the **Basic** Obedience Test.
  
- Basic Novice
  - For beginner handlers and beginning dogs in their first year of show.
  - **Owner/Handler**
  - **Open**
  - All ages compete together unless the number of entries warrants splitting age divisions.
  
- Novice (A & B)
  - For handlers and dogs ready to compete in novice exercises, except dogs with novice obedience titles or handlers and dogs that have won First Place in Novice A at a previous State Level Dog Show. Those teams will compete in Novice B.
  - **Owner/Handler**
  - **Open**
  - All ages compete together unless the number of entries warrants splitting age divisions.
  
- Advanced
  - **Owner/Handler**
  - **Open**
  - All ages compete together unless the number of entries warrants splitting age divisions.

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## ***Basic :***

- Heel on leash
- Figure 8 on lead
- Sit and Down commands
- Recall on lead
- Sit for exam on lead
- 30 Second Sit Stay on lead
- 30 Second Down Stay on lead

## ***Novice Obedience Test:***

- Heel on leash
- Figure 8 on lead
- Sit and Down commands
- Recall on lead
- Stand for examination on lead
- One minute Sit Stay on lead **in group**
- One minute Down Stay, on lead **in group**

## ***Advanced Obedience Test:***

- Heel on leash
- Figure 8 on lead
- Heeling off lead
- Recall off lead
- Stand for examination off lead
- Sit Stay Get Leash
- One minute Sit Stay, on lead **in group**
- One minute Down Stay, on lead **in group**

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## SECTION 4 - Rally Obedience

### **CLASSES:**

#### 01. Cloverbud

- Novice
  - Basic  
For first year handlers with beginner dogs
  - Owner/Handler
  - Open
  
- Novice A
  - For 2<sup>nd</sup> year or greater handlers, or dogs with qualifying scores in Rally or Obedience from any recognized accredited outside venue (i.e. AKC, UKI, etc.)
  - Owner/Handler
  - Open
  
- Novice B
  - For Dogs or handlers that have earned a Novice Title in Rally or Obedience in an accredited outside venue, or have placed Top 3 with a qualifying score at a state event or previous fair.
  - Owner/Handler
  - Open
  
- Intermediate
  - Intermediate A  
For dogs that have won a Novice Rally title, but have not earned a qualifying score in Rally Advanced.
  - Intermediate B For dogs and handlers that have earned an Intermediate title, but are not ready to perform off leash.
  - Intermediate courses will contain a minimum of 3 advanced signs.
  - All ages compete together unless the number of entries warrants splitting age divisions.
  - Owner/Handler

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- Open
  - Advanced
    - Off lead
    - Courses will have a minimum of 3 advanced level stations plus 1 required jump per class.
    - Signs 1-118 from the AKC Rally Regulations may be used.
    - All ages compete together unless the number of entries warrants splitting age divisions.
  - Owner/Handler
  - Open
- Excellent
  - Off lead
  - Courses will have a minimum of 3 advanced level stations plus 2 required jumps per class.
  - Unlike in the Rally Novice and Advanced classes, in Rally Excellent, handlers are not allowed to pat their legs or clap their hands to encourage the dog. Verbal encouragement, multiple commands, and/or inaudible signals using one or both arms and hands are allowed; the handler's arms need not be maintained in any particular position at any time. Handlers may not touch their dog or make any physical corrections
  - All ages compete together unless the number of entries warrants splitting age divisions.
  - Owner/Handler
  - Open

**JUMP HEIGHTS FOR ADVANCED AND EXCELLENT** The dog's jump height shall be given on the entry form. Entries will be arranged according to the jump height of the dogs, from either high to low or low to high. The judge may allow handlers to run out of order to allow for conflicts at their discretion.

<u>Height of dog at withers</u>	<u>Height to be jumped.</u>
11 inches and under	4 inches
12 inches to 15 inches	8 inches
15 inches to 18 inches	12 inches
18 inches to 22 inches 16 inches over 22 inches	20 inches

Broad jump is to be set at twice the height the dog jumps

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## SECTION 5 – Poster Contest

### **CLASSES:**

#### **01. All Entries**

- All ages compete together unless the number of entries warrants splitting age divisions.
- Posters must not exceed 22" x 14" in size and can depict any topic related to dogs: Example: care, history, training, psychology, breeds, careers, or Skillathon topics of health.

## SECTION 6 – Agility

**ALL DOGS MUST HAVE A HEIGHT CARD AND BRING IT TO CHECK-IN, OR THEY MUST BE MEASURED BY A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FLORIDA STATE FAIR YOUTH DOG COMMITTEE TO PARTICIPATE IN AGILITY.**

**Equipment provided at the show will be based on AKC standards as modified by the Osceola County Fair Youth Dog Committee.**

**12' – A-Frame**

**12' – Dog Walk**

**8' – Teeter**

**For handlers and dogs with agility training, the only acceptable collar is a flat buckle collar. NO TAGS OR ATTACHMENTS ARE ALLOWED. Off-lead dogs may also run with no collar. No contact familiarization before each class. Dogs capable of off-lead work should not enter in on-lead classes.**

**Dogs WITHOUT FORMAL AGILITY TRAINING or dogs unfamiliar with obstacles SHOULD NOT BE ENTERED. Dogs entered in Agility must be at least 15 months of age as of the day of the show. In the on-lead agility classes, a loose leash must be maintained at all times. Judges will deduct points each time the leash is tightened, and a major deduction will be taken for a constant tight leash.**

**PLEASE NOTE: IN AGILITY, A DOG WILL BE ALLOWED THREE REFUSALS. Points will be taken for each refusal, after three refusals the maximum points off will be taken and the exhibitor will be instructed to "move on" to the next obstacle.**

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**Jump Heights** (measured from the ground to the dog's withers.)

4" Dogs measuring 11" and under

8" Dogs measuring 14" and under

12" Dogs measuring 18" and under

16" Dogs measuring 22" and under

20" Dogs measuring 22" and over

**NOTE: ABOVE CHART IS ALREADY ADJUSTED DOWN ONE LEVEL FROM AKC RULES!** Our goal with the youth program is to promote the safety and wellbeing of all animals, and therefore, the standard AKC jump heights have been reduced. However, if you wish to participate at a lower jump height you may do so as a fun run with no points, placement, prize, etc.

## **CLASSES**

**01. Basic - On Lead: For beginner handlers and beginning dogs in their first year of showing.** Simple course may include any of the following: A-Frame (apex at 4'11"), Dog Walk, Pipe Tunnel, 8" Table for 8", 12", 16" for 16" and above (Sit OR Down position at judge's discretion for 5 cumulative seconds), approximately Six Hurdles. Course time will be used only to break ties.

- Owner/Handler
- Open

**02. Sub-Novice A - On Lead: For experienced handlers with beginning dogs or beginning handlers with experienced dogs. (If a team has scored 200 points in State Dog Show or if they have two or more years of showing, they must move to SubNovice B.)** Simple course may include any of the following: A-Frame (apex at 4'11"), Dog Walk, Pipe Tunnel, 8" Table for 8", 12", 16" for 16" and above (Sit or Down position at judge's discretion for 5 cumulative seconds), approximately Six Hurdles. Course time will be used only to break ties.

- Owner/Handler
- Open

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**03. Sub-Novice B - On Lead: For experienced handler (two or more years of showing) who has won first place in the Sub-Novice A Agility class in the previous year OR who has achieved a score of 200 at a previous State Dog Show.** Simple course may include any of the following: A-Frame (apex at 4'11), Dog Walk, Pipe Tunnel, 8" Table for 8", 12" and 16" Table for 16" and above (Sit or Down at judge's discretion for 5 cumulative seconds), approximately six hurdles. Course time will be used only to break ties. If the dog has any qualifying agility legs, it must be shown in Novice or higher.

- Owner/Handler
- Open

**04. Novice-Off Lead:** Simple course may include any of the following: A-Frame (apex at 4'11"), Dog Walk, Pipe Tunnel, 8" Table for 8", 12", 16" for 16" and above (Sit OR Down position at judge's discretion for 5 cumulative seconds), approximately Six Hurdles. Course time will be used only to break ties.

- Owner/Handler
- Open

**05. Advanced-Off Lead: Dogs that show off lead agility in outside venues (i.e., AKC, UKC, NADAC, etc.) must show in Advanced Class.**

- Owner/Handler
- Open

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## SECTION 7 – Costume Contest

### **CLASSES:**

#### **01. All Entries**

- Dogs will NOT be dressed and judged at the show.
- All entries will be submitted as a photo with a description. Extra points will be given for exhibitors to dress up as well.
- Photo entries are to be in color and a 5x7 plain picture, no frame or mount.
- Costumes must be family friendly and without gore.
- All ages compete together unless the number of entries warrants splitting age division.
- Dogs must be shown in at least one of the classes above in order to be shown in the costume contest and can only be shown by the registered exhibitor.
  - 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Place in each class

### **Awards:**

All 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> place winners will receive ribbons

- Cloverbuds will receive a ribbon for all classes competed.

High in Trial Rosettes will be awarded for each age Level

- Junior
  - Owner/Handler
  - Open
- Intermediate
  - Owner/Handler
  - Open
- Senior
  - Owner/Handler
  - Open

# ***Osceola County 4H/FFA Open Dog Show***

## ***Dog Show Champion of Champions***

**This award is for Owner/Handler Teams Only.**

The following classes will be used to tabulate this award:

- Showmanship
- Skillathon
- Informational Poster
- Rally Obedience
- Obedience
- **Agility**

Showmanship is mandatory for consideration in this award. Each section gets a point value; all points will be added together with the highest score receiving:

- ***Champion of Champions- Rosette, \$25***