

4-H Pet Show | General Rules and Guidelines

The 4-H Pet Show is designed to enable youth with a passion for companion animals to show case their skills and knowledge about pet care, as well as show off their pets to an audience. The Pet Show consists of a display and presentation on a skill or technique specific to their pet, as well as the opportunity to talk to the public about their companion animal.

General Rules and Regulations

1. The 4-H Pet Show is open to all youth ages 8 – 18 as of September 1st of the current 4-H year.
2. Youth must be enrolled in 4-H and in an active club if they are going to be competing as a 4-H member. Contact your local county extension office for more information on becoming a 4-H member.
3. Live animals are not required for participation. A plush or toy animal is appropriate and will not be penalized.
4. All pets must be entered into the correct class (see below) and entry forms and fees turned into the county office before pets can be unloaded or brought inside.
5. Only pets within their class will be permitted inside (i.e. no dogs during Small Pet presentations)
6. All live pets must have a hard sided carrier, kennel, aquarium, or bowl that is appropriate for transporting their pet. Pets without a carrier will be excused for their own safety.
7. All exhibitors are responsible for their own pets
8. Any female exhibiting signs of heat will NOT be allowed on the grounds
9. Exhibitors may enter one pet per class, but must have a new poster/display per class
 - A. Dogs
 - B. Cats
 - C. Pocket Pets
 - D. Reptiles & Aquatics
 - E. Other 2022 update: Live poultry will not be allowed because of a highly contagious Avian Flu that has been present this year at the advice of the state veterinarians.

Pet Classes

A. Dogs

All breeds, sizes, and classifications of dogs are welcome to participate, but wolf, coyote, or hybrids will not be allowed. Dogs must have proof of vaccinations submitted with registration or they will not be allowed on the grounds. Furthermore, puppies must be a minimum of 6 months with all required vaccinations completed. Exhibitors bringing a dog should have a properly fitted collar or harness, leash, and a hard sided kennel as a “safe place” for the dog if needed. Dogs that are acting overly anxious or stressed will be excused. Female dogs exhibiting signs of heat will not be allowed on the grounds.

B. Cats

All breeds and sizes of cats are welcome! Cats should be used to traveling and be comfortable on a harness and leash. Cats should come in a hard sided carrier or kennel for their safety and as a “safe place” as needed. Cats and kittens must be 4 months old and should have all required vaccinations at the time of the show, and proof of vaccinations should be included with registration.

C. Pocket Pets

The largest category includes almost any pet that is not a dog or cat, but still has fur. Chinchillas, guinea pigs, sugar gliders, rabbits, domestic mice and rats, and ferrets would fall into this category. This is not an exhaustive list, use your best judgement when registering in this class. All Pocket Pets must come with a hard sided carrier or kennel, and may wear a harness and leash. Pets should be used to traveling and being handled.

D. Reptiles, Amphibians, & Aquatics

All reptiles and aquatics should come in an aquarium or other hard sided carrier. All necessary equipment such as heat lamps, heating pads, etc. are the responsibility of the exhibitor. Pets should be accustomed to traveling and being handled, but it is not required. Youth are encouraged to bring hand sanitizer and help educate the public about importance of proper hand-washing when handling these pets.

E. Other

Any other companion animal that does not fit into the categories above may be exhibited in the “other” category. Any animal listed as “other” is subject to approval however, so do not delay in getting your entries in. Examples of “other” pets would be pygmy goats, birds, arachnids, and more. The same rules apply. Pets should come with a carrier and be accustomed to traveling.

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Health Requirements

The show committee reserves the right to excuse any animal that appears to be overly stressed or in condition that indicates a health problem. Any signs of pink eye, fungus, mites, open sores, or any other signs of contagious or infectious conditions will result in dismissal (with no refund).

Additionally, dogs and cats must have the following proofs of vaccinations (by a licensed veterinarian). Copies of the vaccination record should be mailed with the entry form.

Dogs: Rabies, Distemper, Hepatitis, Bordetella, Parainfluenza, Parvovirus

Cats: Rabies, Distemper

Pet Show Procedure

The 4-H Pet Show consists of a presentation and a public walk-through. All youth will be assigned a time slot based on their pet class. Pets from different classes are not allowed in the show area!

Youth will be assigned a table to set up their display and stand with their pet. A rug, mat, or pad, should be used if their pet is going to be on the table. Participants will be interviewed by a judge and then asked to present on their display. After judging is complete, the public could walk through and talk to the youth about their pets. Once the youth's assigned time/judging is over they will leave with their pet, this year there will not be a time set aside for public walk through.

Interview: each youth will be asked simple questions about their project (breed, age, something unique, how long they have been in 4-H, etc.,) and will be judged on their confidence and public speaking skills (see rubric). During this time, the youth should introduce themselves and their pet.

Display and Presentation: youth will pick a topic to demonstrate their knowledge and skill in companion animal care. Youth should be sure to introduce themselves, their pet, and their topic if they did not do so during the interview phase. The topic is up to the exhibitor but should be something that takes 5 - 8 minutes to complete. Some examples are dental care, proper nail trimming for a rabbit, how to fit a harness on a cat, common diseases, first aid, bringing their pet home, or anything that relates to their project. Presentation topics should be educational, age appropriate, and show case the youth's growth with their project. During the presentation, props and models are appropriate and a stuffed animal may be used. The display can range from a slide show on a computer to labeled models. Some other examples are posters, scrap books, computer generated slides, or a video. Youth will be judged on their knowledge and the quality of their presentation (see rubric).

SLCo 4-H PET SHOW SCORE SHEET

Name _____ Age (as of Sept. 1) _____

Years in Project (include 2022) _____ County _____

Presentation Title _____

Class (Circle): A: DOGS | B: CATS | C: POCKET PETS | D: REPTILES & AQUATICS | E: OTHER

Areas of Evaluation	Comments	Points
<p>A. Participant and Interview – 15 points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General appearance and grooming (2) • Poise and confidence (2) • Voice strong, clear, convincing (2) • Proper grammar used (2) • Shows interest in project (2) • Has good attitude and sportsmanship (2) • Shows ability to communicate project knowledge (3) 		
<p>B. Display and Presentation – 35 points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age appropriate subject matter (5) • Must be from current project year, show some knowledgeable phase of project work, presented to educate. Youth must include visuals showing interaction with pet such as handling, feeding, grooming, cleaning habitat, etc. A stuffed animal for demonstration is appropriate (10) • Information given in logical manner (5) • Visuals large enough to be useful (5) • Equipment used with ease and skill (5) • Questions answered satisfactorily (5) <p><small>Examples of displays: Poster, scrapbook, computer-generated slides, video, etc. You may use your computer or notebook for exhibit presentation. There is not a wireless Internet connection available; therefore, make sure your presentation is downloaded to your computer and does not need Internet connectivity to open.</small></p>		
	Total Score: (out of 50 points)	

Procedure for tie-breaking will be determined before judging begins. Ties will be broken by: The Display and Presentation Portion, or by the judge.

Judge's Comments – Strengths:

Area(s) for Additional Study:

Utah 4-H Pet Advocate Project - Pet Show Entry Form

Exhibitor should list only the animals they are going to present and are limited to ONE pet per category. **Entry form and any proof of vaccination forms should be submitted to the show committee by August 16th, 2022.** Late entries will not be accepted. Once registration has closed you will be sent a confirmation and additional show details. (Show: Discovery Days at Wheeler Farm, 11 am, Saturday, August 20th) **Questions email Sage Allen: sage.allen@usu.edu**

Name of show being entered Salt Lake County Discovery Days Pet Show Total number of animals you plan to bring to this show (all species) _____
 Exhibitors' Name _____ 4-H Club _____
 Street Address _____ City, State, Zip Code _____
 Grade as of Sept. 1, 2021 _____ Age as of Sept 1, 2021 _____ Phone _____ Email Address _____

Exhibitor must be 8 years old as of Sept 1st of the current 4-H year. Exhibitor can only show through summer of high school graduation, but not past their 19th birthday.

Parent or Guardian Name _____
 Cell Phone _____ Email Address _____

Pet Category	Pet Species and Breed	Date of Vaccinations (dog and cat only)	Poster or Demonstration Title (please specify if you will be bringing a poster or not)
Example: A	Dog / Mixed	2/15/20	How to Clean Your Dog's Teeth

Pet Category:
 A: Dogs B: Cats C: Pocket Pets (rabbits, hamsters, gerbils, etc.)
 D: Reptiles & Aquatics E: Other (subject to approval)

Proof of vaccinations administered by a licensed veterinarian for dogs and cats must be included with this form .
Dogs: Rabies, Distemper, Hepatities, Bordetella, Parinfluenza, and Parvoviurs
Cats: Rabies and Distemper

I certify that, to the best of my knowledge the above information is correct and valid, and that the animals listed are eligible, as is the exhibitor, for entry in this pet show according to tagging and club or chapter membership requirements. I agree to abide by all rules and regulation of the Utah 4-H Pet Advocate Project and the show in which I seek entry. I understand that such rules and regulation are incorporated with and become part of this agreement.

Exhibitor's Signature _____ Parent's Signature _____

I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the above information is correct and that the exhibitor and project are eligible entries in this show.