DOG PROJECT NOTEBOOK REQUIREMENTS

A notebook is required in order to show the project animal in performance events at the fair. (Except 5 to 8 year olds who do not need to complete a notebook.) Each year a project record sheet must be included and it will have a photograph of the project animal and current shot records. The notebook should be neat and legible with dividers between years and the most recent year being on top. Creative covers are not required, but do enhance the overall appearance of the notebook. Judging is based on contents of notebook.

1st Year
1. Current year project record sheet.
2. Major parts of the dog labeled.
3. List the seven groups (recognized by A.K.C.) and give a brief description of each group. Name one breed in each group. Include a picture of each of the seven breeds.
4. List responsibilities of dog ownership.
5. Written description of the breed type used as a project animal. In the case of a mixed breed, use the breed the dog most closely represents.
6. List basic (novice) obedience commands.
7. List equipment needed for care and showing of the dog to include three different collars and leads.

2nd Year
1. Current year project record sheet.
2. Detailed parts of the dog labeled.
3. Description of how to select the right dog.
4. List things to do to socialize a young dog.
5. Information of the history of dogs.
6. Preventative health care listed and described.
7. Records of participation in 4-H and/or open dog events. May include score sheets, ribbons, flyers, certificates.

3rd Year
1. Current year project record sheet.
2. Grooming described. To include equipment used and details on techniques used to prepare the dog for the showmanship ring.
3. Compare feed labels of at least three major dog food brands. List protein levels and differences in major ingredients.
4. List and write short description of five different uses of dogs. How do dogs help man?
5. List internal and external parasites common to dogs and write description of one internal and one external.
7. In-depth description of one breed of dog. Include history of the breed, number of registrations of individuals per year, list disqualifications. Include copy of the standard of perfection from either A.K.C. or U.K.C.
8. Records of participation in 4-H and/or open dog events, including showmanship, obedience and agility.
DOG PROJECT NOTEBOOK REQUIREMENTS

4th Year

1. Current year project record sheet.
2. List signs of a healthy dog including temperature, heart rate etc.
3. Describe sound breeding practices including selecting breeding stock, screening for heritable diseases, and care and condition of bitch during whelping. Care of puppies.
4. Diagram a suitable kennel and/or dog house.
5. Describe proper winter care of dogs.
6. Do in-depth description of three breeds of dogs (see item number 7 in 3rd year) from three different groups.
7. Visit one dog related business and write a report on it. Examples include vet office, pet store, animal shelter etc.
8. Records of participation in 4-H and/or open dog events including showmanship, obedience and agility.

5th Year

1. Current year project record sheet.
2. Describe the components of the Canine Good Citizenship Test.
3. Describe and diagram the life cycle of one internal parasite of dogs.
4. Describe and diagram the life cycle of one external parasite of dogs.
5. Diagram (and label) the digestive system of the dog.
6. Interview one person who works in a dog related industry and report on it.
7. List the conformation classes held at an A.K.C. show.
8. List the exercises for the open obedience class and tell what jump heights your dog would have.
9. Record of participation as in previous years.

6th Year

1. Current year project record sheet.
2. Describe how a dog completes A.K.C. championship and include the point system for your breed of dog in the Michigan region.
3. Select either of OFA or CERF and tell what they are and how they benefit dogs.
4. Attend a dog event outside of 4-H and write a report on it.
5. Select one disease of dogs and describe symptoms, diagnosis and treatment.
6. List the exercises for the utility class and give the jump heights your dog would do.
7. Select one dog sport (outside of conformation, obedience or agility) and report on what it is and how it works. Examples include: field trials, coon hunts, lure coursing, weight pulls, sledge races, flyball & herding.
8. Describe two different methods of teaching the retrieve.
9. Records of participation as above.

7th Year

1. Current year project record sheet.
2. Report on breed rescue groups and how they operate.
3. Report on either OFA or CERF (whichever one you didn't do in year 6 number 3 in 6th year).
4. Select one dog disease not previously reported on and describe symptoms, diagnosis and treatment.
5. Describe how a dog becomes an Obedience Trail Champion and list the point schedule for it.
6. Report on either Leader Dog training or Service Dog training and their programs for puppy placement.
7. Explain how the "clicker" method of training dogs works.
8. Do a service project relating to dogs and report on it.
9. Records of participation as above.

8th Year and beyond
Current year project record sheet. Independent individualized study that should be an essay in members own words, a minimum of three pages. 4-H member will propose what they will concentrate their notebook on and what it will contain. This will be carried out with approval of the 4-H dog committee. It is expected that the 4-H member will actively participate in a leadership capacity in the dog 4-H program.

Revised September, 22, 2005
Approved December 17, 1996
Ottawa County 4-H Dog Committee