

State 4-H Dog Development Committee Meeting
Casper, WY
September 13, 2008

Agenda

1. Review State Fair
2. How did changes we make have effect?
3. Dog Quiz Bowl- report
4. Where are we on the guide line books- ID form
5. New items and concerns
6. Level 5 & 6 agility courses
7. Address the parking lot concerns from last meeting

Chair Goellen Stretesky called the meeting to order 10:12 am

Introductions: Terry Stretesky, Vicki Smith, Goellen Stretesky, John Iske, Carrie Jo Calvert, Johnathan Despain.

Carrie Jo moved to approve the minutes. Terry seconded. Motion approved.

1. Review State Fair

Took turns sharing feedback received and own thoughts:

- Check in process was awesome. Much more positive and smooth.
- Armbands were wonderful!!!
- Flow of classes seemed to be smooth.
- Rally judge reported as not being child friendly.
- Doing long sits and downs is great to keep things moving smoother.
- Noted inconsistency when about a child touching dog in agility level 1 (is allowed) lost 5 points?
- No clean run ribbons were given out to youth in agility.
- Counties still need to work in helping youth be prepared for state fair (multiple rings).
- Disappointed that Fly-Ball demo wasn't there.
- Agility equipment wasn't the correct height (A-frame, etc.)
- Prior to SF, web site wasn't working. Must be working in order to find resources.
- Now that rally has been tested, official Wyoming rules need to be created and published to public for future.
- Concern noted that had same judges two years in a row. (State Fair rules allow for multiple years with same judges.)
- Parking, shade, traffic continue to be concerns.
- Check in: scratches. (Suggested having check-in from 8:00 – 8:45 am. At that point, put “dot stickers” on remaining armbands and then have dots put by same names on each of a “master” call sheet for each event/ring.)
- Suggestion to have a meeting with judges prior to start of the show to explain expectation of the program, shows, placings, etc. that are unique to our educational program.

- Inconsistency in judging in agility. Do height cards need to be checked? Level 1 letting dogs run off-leash (Hanging on/releasing of tabs). Number of weave poles matching rules. Hand signals need to be used to keep scribing correctly. “Wing” jumps caused problems with tabs.
- Marker poles on the broad jump weren’t cut shorter in height- we cut them off all the other jumps.
- Observed there is no way to give feedback from parents, youth, participants, from the visitors to give feedback. (Suggestion: Bottom ½ of armband is a comment card with place of drop-off box- door prizes from respondents.)
- Reinforce that kids need to clean up after themselves. (Need more pooper scoopers and garbage sacks and cans available. Signs stating as such and announced to remind people.)
- Confusion with rings being numbered instead of title of event. (Suggestion: Make new signs that state Obedience, Rally, Agility, Conformation, etc.)
- Participation Numbers: Showmanship- 35, Conformation- 71, Obedience- 51, 37 youth entered that did not show.

2. Dog Quiz Bowl

Dog quiz bowl, held at the inaugural Showcase Showdown in Riverton in June, was a success. Intentions are for it to occur again. Feedback- Dog breed pictures need to be updated and with “size” reference background. Possible have separate age jeopardy events to allow parents others to attend. . (Need for explanation on the specifics of the contest plan- jeopardy and a written skill-a-thon, and/or judge two classes.) Committee agrees to help in any way needed to ensure success. **Note: 2009 Showcase showdown will be June 26-27.**

3. Guide Line-Books

Still needs to occur. Laramie County has an orientation “guide” that can be a starting point. John Iske will send us a copy of the guide. Carrie Jo suggested some references from Purdue University. Johnathan suggested that the guide be a competitive guide for Wyoming 4-H. The committee agreed and suggested it be called the *Wyoming 4-H Dog Competition Guide*. Johnathan offered Adobe Connect computer access to the committee to target each of the draft sections for developing a starting point of a draft to have ready for state leader’s conference (Cheyenne, February 13-15, 2009). Johnathan will have ready the basic rules for each section as a starting discussion document. Verbiage will need to be same to help us move forward. Two weeks prior to the Adobe Connect, Johnathan email out to everyone the link to the information being considered. Johnathan will email all volunteers and educators about the Adobe calls below:

Rally- October 2, 7:00 - 9:00 pm
Obedience- October 23, 7:00 – 9:00 pm
Agility- November 13, 7:00 – 9:00 pm
Conformation- December 4, 7:00 – 9:00 pm
Showmanship- December 18, 7:00 – 9:00 pm

The product is expected to be in place and in effect for the 2009 State 4-H Dog Show.

A *Wyoming 4-H Dog Participant Guide* needs to be developed that includes information like dress, vaccination, parental information, basics, etc.

4. Dog ID Form

What purpose does the Dog ID Form have? The current one has problems relating to the lease, ownership, etc. Current form does not track the progress of the dog. Committee recommended that the committee address Dog ID Form in future, after competitive guide is created.

5. New Items and Concerns

Discussion ensued about creating age appropriate levels with experience with dogs- similar to static exhibits. Is possible to have in Rally, 1st year and 2nd + years within age categories of 8-10, 11-13, and 14-18 year olds? After much discussion, Vicki moved to categorize the 3 levels (Novice, Advanced, Excellence) for each age group (Jr. Im. Sr.). John seconded. It passed to discuss as part of our Adobe Connect on Rally in October.

Novice	Junior	1st Year (A)
		2+ Years (B)
	Intermediate	1st Year
		2+ Years
	Senior	1st Year
		2+ Years
Advanced	Junior	1st Year (A)
		2+ Years (B)
	Intermediate	1st Year
		2+ Years
	Senior	1st Year
		2+ Years
Excellent	Junior	1st Year (A)
		2+ Years (B)
	Intermediate	1st Year
		2+ Years
	Senior	1st Year
		2+ Years

6. Level 5 & 6 agility added

Carrie moved to table the discussion until the Adobe Connect relating to Agility. Vicki seconded. Motion approved.

7. "Parking Lot" Items

Nothing was finished, but progress was made. Follow up will be made on all items at future meeting.

Goellen thanked everyone for their time and effort and noted that we are making progress, even if slowly. Group agreed this is for the kids and efforts made to create the opportunity for youth to succeed. Vicki moved that our next meeting will be the October conference call and the next on-site meeting will be at State Leader's Conference in February. Carrie seconded. Motion passed.

Vicki moved to adjourn. John seconded. Meeting adjourned at 2:35 pm.

Action Items:
SF- Clean run ribbons need to be given out in agility.
SF- See if SF has a portable sound system that could be used on the road focused on the youth and parents and away from the show rings.
SF- Hole cut in pipe fence so access from “hill” to show rings.
SF- Big fan available for moving of air under a “cool” tent
SF- Judge’s packet have to be sent to each judge with a 4-H explanation, maps, OUR rules, score sheets,
SF- New signs for Rings noting event and hung in a way that is stable and near entrance to ring- help youth go to correct locations.
SF- Check in- use dots at 8:45 am on “unclaimed” armbands and on corresponding master call sheets for each discipline. At show start, give sheets to associated rings for scratches/inclusion.
SF- Need large garbage cans available for trash/feces. Provide sacks for youth to pick up after their dogs- sacks, scoopers, etc. Signs made and reminding youth to clean up after dogs.
SF- Address noted Agility issues related to jump height, safety, numbers, etc.
Quiz Bowl- Contest basic description to help Educators and Volunteers – Jeopardy, skill-a-thon, etc.?
State Competitive Guide- Adobe Connect calls will be set up and facilitated by Johnathan. See minutes above for dates, times, and topics.
Level 5 and Level 6 developed for agility to create more opportunities for youth with dogs in a developmentally appropriate way. Will be addressed via the Adobe Connect Call on that topic.
<i>NOTE: Next face-to-face meeting will be in conjunction with the State 4-H Volunteer Leader’s Conference in February in Cheyenne.</i>