



Jackson County 4-H Dog Obedience Project 2025-26 General Information & Expectations

**Superintendent: Betsy Powers
Phone Number: 517-937-0106
Email: powers.betsy0208@gmail.com**

Mark Your Calendar:

May 1st - Possession date for animals

June xx (tbd) – Entry Forms due to Fair Office – See Fair Book.

July 25th – Deadline to turn in items for the dog basket.

July 26th – Barn set up/ pre-fair clean up at noon. This is mandatory for all small animal participants.

TBA - We will schedule a day before the fair to make Thank-you cards. Everyone participating in the project will be required to attend and they will need to be signed the day of the Auction to receive proceeds.

August 1st – Project book/poster due

August 1st – Email vet records to powers.betsy0208@gmail.com. **Vet records need to be up to date and valid for the day of the show (current rabies, distemper virus, parvovirus, and adenovirus (hepatitis) shots).**

August 9th – Show Day! 5:00pm (after the sheep show) under the covered arena. There is a \$5.00 fee that must be paid prior to participating in the show.

August 14th – Small Animal Sweepstakes

August 15th – Small Animal Auction

Showing Attire:

- No pincher collars and no muzzles, if these items are required, the dog cannot show.
- 6-foot leash and collar for obedience.
- Show lead for showmanship.
- Black pants, white shirt and black shoes are show attire. Girls can wear dress or skirt.

Day of Show:

- If you are showing other species that day and are unable to go home to get your dog, we will make arrangements for the dog to be on the fairground but in a secure location. You will need to let the dog superintendent know ahead of time (not the morning of show) so the arrangements can be made.
- ALL dogs will be required to be on leash at all times when on the fairgrounds, except during the show if you are off leash. Dogs will need to be kept in the show area, and not walking around the fair.
- Dogs will NOT be able to be walked around the fairgrounds, including inside the barns. They are to be brought in for the show and stay in that area and be removed after the show.
- It is the exhibitor's responsibility to make sure that their dog has fresh water if needed. • It is the exhibitor's responsibility to clean up after their dog - bring poop bags! • When signing up for fair make sure you fill out the Livestock Pass form.

Dog Basket:

- Items to be dropped off at the MSU Extension Office 1715 Lansing Ave, Ste 257, Jackson • Items must have an index card attached to it with a 4-H member's name on it. If you get a donation from a business, please include business info as well.
- This is your project, and the basket is where you make your money from the auction. • If you do not donate to the basket, then you will not receive proceeds from the auction. • You will be required to attend the Small Animal Auction on Saturday to get Proceeds from the auction.

Project Book/Display Boards: Project books/display boards will need to be completed in order to show. Project book and instructions will be emailed out at a later date. No late project books will be accepted!

Clinic/Workshop/Learning Opportunities: I will be holding a couple opportunities a month to either work with our dogs or to learn from the “learning lab”. Location will be flexible depending on available locations and schedules. There is no expectation for attendance but I certainly hope you take advantage of as many as possible in preparation for our show at the Jackson County Fair. Notification will be through Facebook group page, email, messenger and possibly text message.

PLEASE SEE SMALL ANIMAL 2026 BYLAWS FOR PROJECT GUIDELINES, SMALL ANIMAL BYLAWS & 2026 FAIR BOOK FOR FAIR RULES.

Resources:

4-H Dog Showmanship Manual (Updated October 1, 2015)

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/resources/michigan-4-h-dog-showmanship-manual>