

Maryland 4-H Animal Science Program Guidebook

UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND
EXTENSION



State 4-H Dog Skillathon Contest General Rules

Objectives:

The primary objective of the Maryland 4-H Dog Skillathon Contest is to provide an opportunity for youth enrolled in 4-H to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of animal science and management related to dogs in a competitive setting where attitudes of friendliness and fairness prevail. The Skillathon offers age-appropriate quizzes and stations that are designed to test youth knowledge of dogs; youth move from station to station. Some stations may include visual diagrams or equipment, or hands on activities to demonstrate a dog related technique. The contest's coordinators strive to provide an educational experience for participants and spectators.

General:

- 1) Contest date and time: **Sunday, February 10, 2019, Registration: 12:00 p.m. Contest Begins: 12:30 p.m.** Contest location: **University of Maryland Animal Sciences Building, College Park, MD.**
- 2) **This is a contest in which individuals compete. There will be NO team entries.** There will be a \$5.00 entry fee for each contestant. Please complete the payment information on the **Registration Form** and return to the Maryland 4-H Center.
- 3) There is no limit to the number of individuals that each UME unit may enter in this contest. All participants must be youth who are actively enrolled in the Maryland 4-H Program by February 1, 2019. The Registration Form for the Dog Skillathon Contest must be submitted by the county/city 4-H Educator by Friday, February 1, 2019. There will be a \$5.00 entry fee for each contestant. Counties will be invoiced for entry fees based on the total number of participants from their programs.
- 4) Statewide competition will be governed by the prescribed procedures and regulations. Additional rules may be added for specific purposes. Contestants not complying with the rules will be disqualified. Coaches and/or spectators not complying with the applicable Procedures and Regulations will be dismissed from the contest area. **All challenges to the contest, including stations, official's decisions and results, must be submitted in writing to the State 4-H Animal Specialist within 24 hours of the contest.**
- 5) Each participating county is requested to provide contest helpers as follows:
 - a. an adult to help score the contest,
 - b. an adult to serve as a station monitor or group leader.

Contestants and Eligibility:

- 1) Contestants must be bonafide 4-H club members approved by the 4-H Extension Educator of their respective UME unit.
- 2) Maryland 4-H members must be between the ages of 8 - 18 as of January 1 of the current year. Juniors are ages 8 - 10; Intermediates are ages 11 - 13; and Seniors are ages 14 - 18.
- 3) Senior contestants receiving college or vocational training beyond high school (university, college, junior college or technical school) in areas specific to dogs are not eligible to compete in the Maryland 4-H Dog Skillathon Contest.
- 4) Attire: Clothing that identifies the contestant's 4-H county/city may not be worn.
- 5) All electronic devices (cell phones, tablets, calculators, etc.) are prohibited. Contestants are advised to leave these devices either in their car or with their parents or coaches prior to the start of the contest. If a contestant's phone should ring, or if they are discovered using such electronic devices during the contest, the contestant will be disqualified.
- 6) Contestants requesting special accommodations must indicate the need on the contest registration form.

Judges:

Official judges shall place/answer the classes/stations. They will make the official placing/answers, and file the official placing/answer card with the Contest Superintendents.

Contest Phases:

- 1) Quiz phase of the contest may include questions about the dog industry.
 - a. Juniors – 10 questions
 - b. Intermediates – 20 questions
 - c. Seniors – 25 questions
- 2) Stations phase of the contest will consist of a series of stations or tables where contestants will respond to the requirements of the station. Examples of stations which may be used include, but are not limited to:
 - a. Breed Identification
 - b. Care and Behavior
 - c. Equipment Identification - includes care, grooming, handling, showing and dog sports, and training.
 - d. Nutrition and Feeds Identification
 - e. Health and Diseases
 - f. Insects and Parasites
 - g. Anatomy and Physiology - includes external parts, skeletal, internal organs, parts of gastrointestinal tract, male/female reproductive organs.

Scoring:

- 1) The maximum score for the quiz is 100 points.
- 2) The maximum score for each station of the contest is 50 points.
- 3) Ties in the overall contest will be broken in the following order:
 - a) Highest score in the Quiz Phase; if still tied then,

- b) Highest total score in the Station Phase; if still tied then,
 - c) If still tied, the scores at each station, in order, may be used.
- 4) Ties within any phase of the contest are to be broken using the overall score first and then the same sequence as above.
 - 5) Contest score cards/answer cards/judging cards will not be returned to participants following the contest. Contest stations will be available for viewing for a limited time following the contest and official keys will be displayed at each station.

Awards:

- 1) A trophy will be awarded to the highest placing individual overall in each age division.
- 2) The top ten (10) individuals overall in each age division will be awarded ribbons.
- 3) A ribbon will be awarded to the highest placing individual for the Quiz and Stations phases in each age division.

Dog Skillathon References:

Junior Division

- *Dog Resource Handbook* (Ohio State University), **2016 edition**
- *MD 4-H Dog Bowl Reference Sheet*
- *The American Kennel Club's Meet the Breeds: Dog Breeds from A-Z by American Kennel Club, 4th edition, March 2014*
- *AKC Obedience Regulations* – Page 1 through Novice Chapter and Rally Novice
- Ohio 4-H Dog Learning Lab Kit

Intermediate Division

- *Dog Resource Handbook* (Ohio State University), **2016 edition**
- *MD 4-H Dog Bowl Reference Sheet*
- *The American Kennel Club's Meet the Breeds: Dog Breeds from A-Z by American Kennel Club, 4th edition, March 2014*
- *AKC Obedience Regulations* – Page 1 through Open Class and Rally Advanced
- Ohio 4-H Dog Learning Lab Kit
- New AKC breeds and changed Group designations, as found on the AKC Website on their Complete List of AKC Recognized Breeds and Miscellaneous Class Breeds List at <http://www.akc.org/dog-breeds/>. Only responsible for information about the Group and from the General Appearance section for **NEW** AKC breeds as of December 15, 2018.

Senior Division

- *Dog Resource Handbook* (Ohio State University), **2016 edition**.
- *MD 4-H Dog Bowl Reference Sheet*
- *AKC Obedience Regulations* – Page 1 through Novice Chapter and Rally Novice
- *AKC Obedience Regulations* – Page 1 through Open Class, Rally Advanced and Rally Excellent
- Ohio 4-H Dog Learning Lab Kit
- *Dog Owners Home Vet Handbook* –4th Edition - 2007
- *AKC Complete Dog Book, 20th Edition* - Pages 1-6 ; Pages 13 – End
- New AKC breeds and changed Group designations, as found on the AKC Website on their Complete List of AKC Recognized Breeds and Miscellaneous Class Breeds List at <http://www.akc.org/dog-breeds/>. Only responsible for information about the Group and from the General Appearance section for **NEW** AKC breeds as of December 15, 2018.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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