

Tailwaggers Dog Project By-Laws

Revised February 7, 2006

Article I – Name

The name of this project shall be the Tailwaggers 4-H project. It shall be the only county sanctioned dog project for Brown County 4-H and members must follow the by-laws and rules established by the Tailwaggers Dog Project.

Article II – Purpose

Section 1: To plan, promote, and implement educational activities and social activities in the areas of dog and veterinary science for Brown County youth and adult leaders.

Section 2: To assist in the development of educational activities in dog training and care that will enhance the growth and development of youth.

Section 3: To stimulate interest in and promote youth programs with dogs.

Section 4: To assist other clubs that have members enrolled in the county dog project plan and implement projects that involve education of youth in dog training and care.

Article III – Membership

Section 1: Membership in the Tailwaggers dog project is open to all persons without regard to race, color, ethnic background, disability, ancestry, sexual orientation, pregnancy, marital or parental status, or economic circumstances and the project does not operate on a segregated basis. All training facilities will be handicap accessible.

Section 2: All adults and youth enrolled in the Tailwaggers or dog project in any other club are members and constitute the voting body.

Section 3: All adult and youth members must pay for insurance (\$1.00 in 2006), either through the county clubs membership (dues are paid to the club's general leader) or if enrolled only in the Tailwaggers dog project, the dues are paid to that general leader during the April enrollment.

Section 4: An enrollment and training fee will be collected at the enrollment meeting in April. The amount is to cover costs of general project needs including exhibition of pictures at the Brown County Fair. The amount is to be determined by the leader's board and project officers (if elected)

Section 5: Members in the project shall be 9 on January 1 of the year in which enrollment is taking place. This is a mandate from the 4-H organization regarding members that are working with live animals in their projects.

Section 6: Junior leaders will be trained to work with the classes by the trainers and must be 13 years of age or in grade 8 at the beginning of the training session.

Article IV – Officers and their duties/ Adult leadership roles

Section 1: When/if officers of the project are elected; they will consist of president, recorder/historian, and treasurer. The president will be elected by the committee and trainers will not be eligible (optional).

Section 2: A treasurer will be selected from the adult membership to act in that position and to assist the youth member, if such is elected. Their responsibility will be to handle all funds of the group and to submit an annual report to the Brown County Leader's Association Executive Board in December of each calendar year. All funds, both project and county, need to be requested through the treasurer.

Section 3: Training facility contracts will be arranged by the leader's board in January to assure the procurement of the facility for training purposes. The leader's board will also arrange for reservation of rooms at the Extension Office for meetings before April enrollment. Officers may assist with this.

Section 4: The general leader will select a head trainer who will work with the other trainers to organize rules and procedures for training which will be shared with the leader's board. Any problems with training situations will be addressed by the class trainer, then the head trainer who will bring unresolved issues to the general leader and/or leader's board.

Article V – Meetings and Events

Section 1: There shall be at least two monthly meetings for educational and social activities. These meetings will be scheduled between January 1 and mid April or as time allows.

Section 2: Project enrollment will be held on a specified date (Tuesdays in 2006) in April. Dues and dog health forms and stool sample results are due at the registration date. Negative stool sample results must be taken within 30 days of the project enrollment meeting or time frame to be determined by the leader's board. Vaccinations must be administered by a licensed veterinarians and the signed form from a veterinary clinic is the only form acceptable for the enrollment meeting. Dogs that have not had their medical shots and tests may not enter the training ring until those forms have been provided.

Section 3: Training meetings: A minimum of 13 training meetings will be held between April and August, one of those meetings to be the graduation and judging of the dogs. To participate in the graduation, members or their designees must have attended 8 of the training meetings. Members who have not attended the required number of Tailwagger training meetings due to excused absences may graduate for participation ribbons only, but may move up a training level if performance in the graduation warrants.

Section 4: All members are encouraged to participate in fund raising activities for the dog project (i.e. Clean-up detail at the Packerland Kennel Club show, raffle booth). Funds are used to maintain and purchase new equipment on an as need basis, to be determined by project leader.

Section 5: Training facility clean-up. All members will participate in the clean-up of the training facility on a rotating basis.

Section 6: Graduation will be organized by the leader's board and the officers (if any). Determination of trophies, organization of premium list, awards, and selecting judges will be done by the leader's board or their designees.

Section 7: State dog show registration will be signed by the general leader of the dog project, the county agent, and be submitted to the state in the required "same envelope".

Section 8: Vicious dogs will not be tolerated in the training sessions and will be excused by the trainer. The trainer's judgment will be the final say. The 4-H member may attend the training sessions to gain the knowledge and may work with a leader's or other member's dog, but the vicious dog will not be returned to the ring for that year's training session.

Section 9: Upon Dissolution of the Tailwaggers Dog Project, any assets must be turned over to a recognized 4-H club or group, with the approval of the 4-H Leaders Association and the Brown County 4-H Youth Development Staff.

Section 10: The 4-H Annual Charter Renewal Packet that includes critical communication, legal, financial and educational accountability requirements will be completed and submitted to the Brown County UW- Extension office by December 1st, of that calendar year.