

Dog Project Committee Meeting
Minutes
September 13, 2011

Attending: Kandia Cross, Kallee Cross, Kellie Eldridge, Mandy Foster

I Fair De-Brief

- A. Fair seemed to go off better this year because all of the clerk stuff was available that morning
- B. Reaza's organizing of the armbands and class lists for each participant was fantastic – made it much smoother and easier to understand
- C. The judges were very good and we would like to have them back – they gave the kids constructive criticism and encouragement and were friendly
- D. For set-up we really need a map of how the rings go and it should be included in the clerk box? Or somehow given to the set-up crew so we know every year how it all fits
- E. It definitely helped having Todd there for set-up because we had to move chairs and trucks and other items before we could put down our mats
- F. We would like to find a better balance of taking down when we still have kids showing – maybe have the superintendents give clear instructions about what can come down and at what point so as not to disturb or disrespect that last show handlers and their dogs
- G. The last two years has had a much better turn out of end-of-show helpers with clean-up and chair setting – that is very much appreciated!

II Dog Fair & Dog Program New Ideas

- A. Kandia brought up a great point about possibly moving the Dog Fair to a different day (Saturday before Fair opens)
- B. We would still LOVE to be in the Expo Center and that is our first consideration – but with a Saturday we think it might be a better turnout for visitors, parents, even kids participating who can't get there during the week and we would not have kids and parents trying to juggle weigh-in and dogs
- C. Also, there is the thought that we could make Dog Fair more of an Expo if we had the Saturday open and have an agility set-up (maybe outside, maybe as a fundraiser), Canine CGC course or some demos going on that might draw more people to come watch, might pique more interest in the dog program and give the kids more to do in between their classes????
- D. Mandy Foster brought some good ideas about also including some hound field trials – she will also keep us posted of any local trials that our dog members might want to watch as a club activity or individually
- E. We also discussed sharing among the dog 4-H clubs to better pool our resources, particularly for training meetings and club activities

II High Point Award

- A. Both Kandia and Kellie are still unsure as to how the dog members can compete with other small animal members
- B. We understand there is an average taken from all the different awards that a member may get, so in theory it should not matter how many events a member is in, but dogs just don't seem to have the opportunity that other small animals do because there is a limit, not only of available dog events in the area, but of the number of classes and number of dogs a member can have – dogs just can't enter that many classes at Fair, versus a rabbit or chicken member who can have more animals and has more classes to enter each animal in at Fair
- C. Is there a possibility of a Dog High Point award like Horse? Or do we still not understand this Small Animal High Point award correctly?