**Things to Remember When Showing Your Dog**

**Be on Time** – Arrive at least ½ hour before judging begins. When you arrive, find out where to check in and get your armband. Allow yourself time to set up your area (crate, chairs, etc.)

**Showing is 90% Preparation & 10% Participation** – Shows are not a time to train, they are a time to display what you have accomplished. The amount of time practicing at home, improving your skills and learning to communicate with your dog, will be obvious at a show.

**Plan your Presentation** – You and your dog should be neat and clean. Your dog should be groomed and looking his/her best. Your clothing should be clean and appropriate when in the ring. You may want to bring clothes to change from one class to another, and don’t forget grooming tools to freshen up your dog as well.

**Bring what you Need** – Pack a chair for yourself (and your family if they are coming along), a crate or blanket for your dog to relax on when not showing. You spend more time sitting and waiting at a dog show than you do actually showing. Bring water for your dog and something for yourself as well. You may want something to eat for both of you as well. Some shows are outdoors, so you may need to bring something to provide shade as well. You will need to clean up after yourself and your dog, so be sure to bring bags, etc. to clean up any messes that your dog might make.

**Pay Attention** – Listen for your armband number, and be ready to go into the ring when they call you. Don’t hesitate to ask the ring steward when they think you’ll be going into the ring.

**In the Ring** – Don’t begin any exercise or movement without an order from the judge. The exception to this is in showmanship, where you will enter the ring and stack your dog without being asked to. Watch the exhibitors in the classes before you so you can get an idea of what to do in the ring when you get there.

**Don’t be Afraid** – If you have any questions, don’t hesitate to ask… you can ask the stewards, or the judge if you don’t understand or have any questions!