

Berrien County Youth Fair

INCLUSIVE DOG COSTUME EVENT JUDGING PROGRAM, PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES



Updated 05/14/2025/lsc

Berrien County Youth Fair - Dog Department; Divisions 1 and 2

Dog Costume Judging Program, Procedures and Guidelines

Index:

Dog Costume Event Introduction	page 1
Dog Costume Event Purpose	page 1
Major Event	page 1
TR (Traditional) and NTR (Non-Traditional) Exhibitor Definition	page 1
Berrien County Youth Fair Premiums	page 1
Dog Costume Event Divisions 1 (TR) and 2 (NTR)	page 1
Dog Costume General Rules	page 1
Dog Costume Card	page 2
NTR Team Instructors	page 2
BCYF Back Tag Identification	page 2
Costume Judging Guidelines	page 2
Ideas for Costumes	page 2
Awards	page 3
Best Costume Grand Champion for TR and NTR Divisions	page 3
Review of the Berrien County Youth Fair's Dog Costume Program, Procedures, and Judging Guidelines	page 3
Judge's Worksheets	
Exhibitor's Costume Card	

Berrien County Youth Fair – Dog Department
Dog Costume Judging Program, Procedures and Guidelines
For Divisions 1 (TR) and 2 (NTR)
Updated 05/14/2025/lsc

Dog Costume Event Introduction

The BCYF Dog Costume Event demonstrates the exhibitor's team's theatrical costume skills.

Dog Costume Event Purpose

To have fun!

Is Dog Costume a Major Event?

Dog Costume Event is not a major event.

TR (Traditional) and NTR (Non-Traditional) Exhibitor Definition

1. **TR** is the abbreviation for a traditional exhibitor (*Refer to Exhibitor's Definitions, Abbreviations & Age of Dept. 22; Dogs in the Exhibitor Handbook*).
2. **NTR** is the abbreviation for a non-traditional exhibitor (*Refer to Exhibitor's Definitions, Abbreviations & Age of Dept. 22; Dogs in the Exhibitor Handbook*).

Berrien County Youth Fair Premiums

BCYF premiums will not be given for the Dog Costume Event.

Dog Costume Event Divisions 1 (TR) and 2 (NTR)

There are two Dog Costume Event divisions with three classes in each division.

1. **Division 1: Traditional Dog Costume** – The classes for Division 1 are:
 - COS TR Juniors (age 5-9)
 - COS TR Intermediates (age 10-13)
 - COS TR Seniors (age 14-20)
2. **Division 2: Non-Traditional Dog Costume** – The classes for Division 2 are:
 - COS NTR Juniors (age 5-12)
 - COS NTR Intermediate (age 13-19)
 - COS NTR Seniors (age 20-26)

Dog Costume Event General Rules

1. TR and NTR exhibitors must have registered for the Dog Costume Event on or before July 1st.
2. The exhibitor may enter only one (1) dog in Costume Event.
3. The exhibitor shall have an active part in the preparation of the team's costumes.
4. The costume can be homemade or store bought.
5. The dog will remain on leash while in and/or outside of the costume ring.

Berrien County Youth Fair – Dog Department
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Updated 05/14/2025/lsc

6. Dog Costume Card –

- a. On the day of the costume event, the exhibitor must prepare and return a completed **Dog Costume Card** to the Dog Registration Desk no later than one (1) hour prior to judging.
- b. Dog costume card will be used by the Costume Ring Master for announcing the exhibitor team's costume theme as the team parades in front of the judges.

7. NTR Team Instructors - NTR Team Instructors may not dress up in costume but may walk with and assist the exhibitor with his or her dog.

8. BCYF Back Tag Identification - BCYF back tag identification shall be worn on the outermost back of the exhibitor's costume.

Costume Judging Guidelines

1. JUDGE'S DECISIONS ARE FINAL.

2. The exhibitor and dog will be judged as one (1) unit.
3. The exhibitor's team may show only once in the class he or she has registered in.
4. Judges will base his or her decisions upon the
 - a. Theme of the costumes.
 - b. Originality of the costumes.
 - c. Quality of the costumes.
5. Judges may ask questions of the exhibitor on
 - a. What inspired the exhibitor to choose his or her theme of costume?
 - b. How the costume was made?
 - c. What materials were used?

Ideas for Costumes

Themes to think about that may assist the exhibitor in choosing a dog costume ...

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. An Historical Moment in Time | 13. My Favorite Heroine |
| 2. An Outdoor Adventure | 14. Nature's Finest |
| 3. Best Movie Characters | 15. Old MacDonald |
| 4. Best TV Show Characters | 16. Our Imagination Gone Wild |
| 5. Dreams Do Come True | 17. Out of This World |
| 6. Ghost Busters | 18. Sailing the Seven Seas |
| 7. Haunted Images | 19. The Fairytale Come Alive |
| 8. Magical Me | 20. The Flashiest |
| 9. Most Authentic Pair | 21. The Great Beyond |
| 10. Most Famous Pair | 22. The Most Angelic |
| 11. Most Patriotic | 23. The Most Bookish Character |
| 12. My Favorite Hero | 24. The Most Famous Expedition |

Berrien County Youth Fair – Dog Department
Dog Costume Judging Program, Procedures and Guidelines
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Awards

1. Class Placement Awards -

- a. **Division 1 (TR) Class Placement** – Class rosettes for 1st through 6th place will be offered.
- b. **Division 2 (NTR) Class Placement** – Class rosettes for 1st through 6th place will be offered.

2. Best Costume Grand Champion for TR and NTR Divisions

a. Best Costume Grand Champion for Division 1 (TR)

1. Judges will review the first-place winner from each TR class and choose the one team he or she thinks deserves the award of Best TR Costume Grand Champion.
2. Only one exhibitor from Division 1 will be recognized as the Best Costume Grand Champion.

b. Best Costume Grand Champion for Division 2 (NTR)

1. Judges will review the first-place winners from each NTR class and choose the one team he or she thinks deserves the award of Best NTR Costume Grand Champion.
2. Only one exhibitor from Division 2 will be recognized as the Best Costume Grand Champion.

REVIEW OF THE BERRIEN COUNTY YOUTH FAIR'S DOG COSTUME PROGRAM, PROCEDURES AND JUDGING GUIDELINES

A review of the Berrien County Youth Fair's Dog Costume Judging Program, Procedures and Guidelines may be done on a yearly basis per the updates and changes in the Berrien County Youth Fair Rules and Regulations.

Dog Costume Judging Worksheet for _____

Class: TR Juniors (age 5-9)

Class Placement:	Exhibitor #:	Name:	Dog's Name:
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
	2nd Place Winner	1st Place Winner	
	3rd Place Winner		
	4th Place Winner		
	6th Place Winner		

Class: TR Intermediates (age 10-13)

Class Placement:	Exhibitor #:	Name:	Dog's Name:
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
	2nd Place Winner	1st Place Winner	
	3rd Place Winner		
	4th Place Winner		
	6th Place Winner		

Class: TR Senior (age 14-20)

Class Placement:	Exhibitor #:	Name:	Dog's Name:
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
	2nd Place Winner	1st Place Winner	
	3rd Place Winner		
	4th Place Winner		
	6th Place Winner		

BEST COSTUME TR GRAND CHAMPION IS....

BCYF ID:	Name:

NTR Dog Costume Judging Worksheet for _____

Class: NTR Juniors (age 5-9)

Class Placement:	Exhibitor #:	Name:	Dog's Name:
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
2nd Place Winner			
3rd Place Winner			
4th Place Winner			
6th Place Winner			

1st Place Winner

Class: NTR Intermediates (age 10-13)

Class Placement:	Exhibitor #:	Name:	Dog's Name:
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
2nd Place Winner			
3rd Place Winner			
4th Place Winner			
6th Place Winner			

1st Place Winner

Class: NTR Senior (age 14-20)

Class Placement:	Exhibitor #:	Name:	Dog's Name:
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
2nd Place Winner			
3rd Place Winner			
4th Place Winner			
6th Place Winner			

1st Place Winner

BEST COSTUME NTR GRAND CHAMPION IS ...

BCYF ID:	Name:



Berrien County Youth Fair - Dog Department; Divisions 1 & 2
DOG COSTUME EVENT

Exhibitor's BCYF ID#: _____

DIVISION 1: COS TR CLASS ENTERED:

- ☐ 841. COS TR Juniors (age 5-9)
☐ 842. COS TR Intermediates (age 10-13)
☐ 843. COS TR Seniors (age 14-20)

DIVISION 2: COS NTR CLASS ENTERED:

- ☐ COS NTR Juniors (age 5-12)
☐ COS NTR Intermediate (age 13-19)
☐ COS NTR Seniors (age 20-26)

Exhibitor's Name: _____

Canine's Name: _____

Description of your team's costumes: _____



Berrien County Youth Fair - Dog Department; Divisions 1 & 2
DOG COSTUME EVENT

Exhibitor's BCYF ID#: _____

DIVISION 1: COS TR CLASS ENTERED:

- ☐ 841. COS TR Juniors (age 5-9)
☐ 842. COS TR Intermediates (age 10-13)
☐ 843. COS TR Seniors (age 14-20)

DIVISION 2: COS NTR CLASS ENTERED:

- ☐ COS NTR Juniors (age 5-12)
☐ COS NTR Intermediate (age 13-19)
☐ COS NTR Seniors (age 20-26)

Exhibitor's Name: _____

Canine's Name: _____ Breed: _____

Description of your team's costumes: _____
