

Script for pet rules on voicemail:

Pets are welcome at our fair under the following conditions:

Pet fee is \$7.00 per pet. Only one pet per owner admitted.

Only WELL BEHAVED pets will be admitted. No leash pullers, barkers/growlers or whiners.

Pets are limited to the following: dogs, cats, ferrets, birds, sugar gliders, guinea pigs, rats. Other animals need prior written clearance from festival staff.

All pets will be screened prior to entry. Owner will complete and return to festival staff a registration form agreeing to our rules, and proof of vaccinations. No form nor proof, no entry.

ALL PETS will wear an owner provided collar or id tag with owner id.

ALL DOGS will wear the following two collar arrangement: A belt, band collar for id & tags. A second collar consisting of either a chain or nylon choker or prong/pinch collar for leash control. Dog leads will be standard leads only, not exceeding 4 feet in length. NO retractable leads are allowed. This collar and lead arrangement is the accepted practice of all dog training professionals, from obedience, guide dogs, to law enforcement. THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS.

No muzzled dogs allowed. No females in heat allowed.

Owner will curb their pet, keep the pet from soiling our vendor wares and grounds. There will be 'pet walk' areas for pets to relieve themselves. Also water tanks for drinking. Owner will clean up after their pet and dispose of waste in containers provided.

Pets are a major disruption to our animal acts and attractions. Such as: animal rides, horses, petting zoo, any show with performing animals or birds. Pet owner will comply with rules as to 'off limits' areas for their pets.

Owner shall be responsible the behavior of their pets and for any damage their pet causes to our festival grounds or vendor wares.

NO PETS shall be locked in cars or tied outside cars on festival grounds.

More information is available at our website:

Patron pet policy:

We at the Faire welcome pets owned by responsible people.

To make the festival enjoyable for all the following rules are established.

Pets shall be admitted through the pet entrance.

Only ONE pet per owner will be admitted. NO PETS will be left in the parking lot; either tied to cars or left inside cars on warm days. They will be taken to the nearest humane society. Pet owner shall then be responsible for any fees in recovering their pet.

Only pets in good health, and displaying good behavior will be admitted. Pets are limited to the following: dogs, cats, guinea pigs, gerbils, rabbits, hamsters, rats, mice, birds and ferrets.

All pets will be registered with an owner signed liability waiver prior to entry to the festival grounds. Prior mail in registration is encouraged. Contact festival office for registration forms. Owners will provide the following: Name/address phone number of owner, proof of current vaccinations (rabies/distemper/Parvo/ feline leukemia and other state required vaccinations). Name, address and phone number of veterinarian.

All pet owners will pay a seven dollar non-refundable fee and will be issued a numbered pet tag (luggage tag) which will be worn on the pets' collar at all times. All pets will wear an owner provided I.D. on their collar. Pets without owner I.D. on their collar will not be admitted. All pets will be photographed at the entrance gate. Pet waste clean up items (plastic bag) will be issued at the registration gate.

For dogs: Leashes shall be no longer than 4 feet. All dogs will wear two collars, one with I.D. and a second choke (either chain or nylon) or prong collar for leash control (ID collar is in case leash slips off pet). All leashes shall have a secure loop hand strap. This collar and lead arrangement is the accepted practice of all dog training professionals, from guide dogs, to law enforcement. NO retractable leashes will be allowed. NO FEMALES IN HEAT will be allowed. ALL PETS WILL BE LEASHED AT ALL TIMES. No muzzled pets will be admitted. Dogs not wearing the above specified collar arrangement will NOT be admitted: NO EXCEPTIONS!!!!

Our festival has animal attractions and acts which are disrupted by the presence of unfamiliar animals. Pet owners will adhere to the requests of said animal acts/attractions to not bring their pets around and cause disruptions to our contracted animal acts and attractions. Example: animal rides, shows with performing animals, small livestock and poultry displays will panic to the point of injury at the presence of unfamiliar dogs. The large cat display is greatly disrupted by the presence of other animals.

Pet waste will be cleaned up by pet owner and disposed of in waste containers provided. Water for pets will be available at the bathroom areas (water tanks).

Pet owners, CURB YOUR PETS. Do not allow them to relieve themselves where others walk, be mindful of our vendors' merchandise and tents. Do not let your pet relieve themselves or spray on their tents or goods. Pet owners are responsible for any damage they pet may cause to our site or vendor wares. Owners will be required to control where their pets urinate and defecate, avoid pathways, tents, landscaping and props.

Pet injuries (scratches/bites) or damage shall be reported to First Aid or security, immediately. Owner and victim shall provide festival with incident report and owner information.

2/25/2003

6/21/05

Unruly, nervous, noisy, aggressive, or ill pets will not be admitted. Determination of suitability of shall be the sole discretion of the faire staff.

Failure to adhere to the above will have the pet and owner escorted to the gate without refund.

For participants.

The following has been compiled to allow the enjoyment for all at our festival:

All animals/birds/reptiles will be registered at the faire office. Participants will provide proof of vaccinations (rabies/distemper/Parvo/ feline distemper and other state required vaccinations). Also, owners name, address, phone number, veterinarians name, address and phone number. Animals that birth young during festival run shall have all worming and vaccinations required for their species. ALL animals will wear owner provided I.D. with the owner's name and phone number at all times. NO EXCEPTIONS!!!! ALL DOGS will wear a two collar arrangement. One band (belt) collar for tags and owner supplied I.D.. Second collar for leash control shall be either one of the following: A choker collar of either nylon or chain, or a prong/pinch collar. Dogs not wearing the aforementioned collar arrangement will not be admitted! This collar and lead arrangement is the accepted practice of all dog training professionals, from guide dogs, to law enforcement. THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS.

Noisy, unruly and aggressive animals will not be tolerated. If your pet is one of the aforementioned; *do not bring it to our festival.* Such determination shall be the sole discretion of the festival staff. All pets (including cats) will be leashed fenced or confined at ALL TIMES. If you are a cat or dog owner who allows their pet to free range, do not bring the pet to our festival. We have other animal acts and a petting zoo where there are horses, small animals and birds which would be stressed and or injured by a free ranging cat or dog. Free roaming pets are a danger and stressful to animal displays, contracted performing animals and native wildlife. How would you like a free ranging cat or dog to harass and kill your caged bunnies or doves you use in your magic act? This policy cannot be emphasized strongly enough. Animals found to be free-ranging , or off lead shall have the owner subject to a \$100.00 fine. A second incident shall have the offending animal ejected from the festival. Animals found free-ranging shall be taken to the local shelter. Owner shall be responsible for any fees in recovering their pet. The same animal shall not be re-admitted to festival property. Owner will have to find other accommodations for the offending animal off festival property (example: boarding).

Owners shall be responsible for any damage their pets may cause. Any damage, bites or injuries shall be reported immediately to first aid or the festival office. Owner and victim shall each complete an incidence report.

Any patron contact with your pet during festival hours is prohibited by our insurance provider. Unless you are a contract animal act or attraction (such as the petting zoo, animal rides or a stage act that features animals or birds). Pets are allowed at booths during festival hours. They are to be kept out of sight and QUIET. Noisy animals are a terrible distraction and shall be removed from the festival. Crating of your pet during festival hours is strongly recommended. If leashed, leashes shall not exceed 6 feet. ALL Pets will wear two collars, one with owners I.D. The second collar is for leash control. Make sure your pet has access to fresh water all times during festival hours. A hanging steel bucket will not spill and is easily cleaned.

CURB YOU PET!!! Do not allow your pet to relieve itself on others props. Have you pet relieve itself away from where people walk, be mindful of our vendors tents, merchandise and landscaping. Pet owners are required to clean up pet waste promptly and dispose of waste in containers provided. FEMALES IN HEAT will not be allowed in the festival during festival hours.

Be neat with your pet food. Do not leave pet food outside unattended. Clean up any pet food that has been spilled. Bring in dishes after pet has been fed. Do not leave pet food dishes out at night after your pet has been fed. Spilled, unattended pet food attracts vermin (rats, crows, skunks, gulls, raccoons, coyotes, etc). Lets prevent a vermin problem before it happens.

**Failure to adhere to the above rules shall have the pet ejected from the festival after one warning.
Websites: www.abcbirds.org (American Bird Conservancy). 'Cats Inside'.**

Participant/animal act Pet registration Form:

Complete one form for each animal/bird

Owner: _____ **Phone:** _____

Address: _____ **City:** _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Veterinarian: _____ **Phone:** _____

Address: _____ **City:** _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Pet name: _____

Species: _____ **Breed:** _____

Color: _____ **Size (height)** _____ **Weight** _____

Sex: (circle one) male/ female **Neutered/Spayed/Gelded:** (circle one) Yes No

Vaccination dates: Rabies _____ Parvo/Distemper _____

Feline Leukemia _____ **Other** _____

Other _____ **Last Coggins Test (equine)** _____

I have read and accept the attached rules set forward for bringing my animal to the

_____ **fair**

Signature _____

Date _____

Pet Admission for patrons. Pre Qualification Waiver

Application must be received in Festival Office 3 weeks prior to opening of faire.

Name of Pet Owner: _____ **Phone** _____

Address: _____ **City** _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Pet Information:

Pet Name: _____

Species _____ **Breed:** _____ **Color:** _____

Size/Weight _____ **Age:** _____

Male **Female** **Neutered/Spayed** **Yes** **No (circle one)**

Vaccinations and dates:

Rabies _____ **Distemper** _____ **Parvo** _____ **Other** _____

Veterinarians Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

Address: _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

Fee for pet admittance: \$7.00 for photo, ID tag and waste clean up supplies. ALL DOGS will wear a two collar arrangement. One band (belt) collar for tags and owner supplied I.D.. Second collar for leash control shall be either one of the following: A choker collar of either nylon or chain, or a prong/pinch collar. Leashes shall be a hand strap type lead not exceeding 4 feet in length. No retractable leads allowed. This collar and lead arrangement is the accepted practice of all dog training professionals, from guide dogs, to law enforcement. THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS. Dogs not wearing the aforementioned collar arrangement will not be admitted!

I am aware that during the course of my visit to the festival, certain inherent risks are involved, including but not limited to negligence on my part or another person's part. In consideration of this, I hereby declare that this pet has NOT been deemed to be a dangerous or potentially dangerous animal and I agree to that I will hold _____ and _____ county or any individual acting in an official or advisory capacity for the festival harmless and indemnify said festival and _____ county and their agents from any claims, liable for injury or personal loss suffered or caused by my own negligence, or the negligence of someone else.

If a bite, scratch or other injury or damage should occur, I agree to (1) report it to immediately to a Festival Safety Services, First Aid or Security representative and (2) hold my pet available until I have received instructions from the local authorities regarding the required procedure.

I have read the waiver and the pet rules. I understand and agree to full compliance for myself and my pet. I also certify that the information I have given is correct and current.

Signature of owner

Date

I.D. Tag number

Remember, nearly all liability insurance WILL NOT COVER animal incidents caused by the general public's animals. A major consideration when allowing customer pets into fairs.

For shows which do NOT allow pets, such as county fairs with livestock displays; to prevent pets from being locked in or tied to cars in the parking lot, several county fairs have placed prominent signage like this at the entrance and around the parking lot: NO PETS Allowed on fair grounds on in parking lot.

It is also recommend that a 'no pets allowed' statement be outlined on flyers, brochures, tickets, etc., along with other fair rules and policies. Guide animal owners are taught as to what situations their service animals can or cannot brought in (such as a small livestock display or poultry display where the presence of even the well trained dog causes panic and injury to the livestock).

Most states have laws which allow local police to break into vehicles which have a pet in distress inside, then take the pet to the local shelter. The pet owner is often in violation of animal welfare laws.

Pet Gate Procedure

It is recommended that the Screeners be sponsors or volunteers from professional dog training schools, local Humane Society, Obedience Clubs, or Breed Rescue Groups. The proceeds from the pet admission fee can be used as a fund raiser for these groups. On warm days, make sure owners are not leaving their pets locked in cars (illegal in most states on warm days), or tied outside their cars. Most states have laws which allow police to break into locked cars to rescue pets in distress and take them to the nearest shelter. An excellent example of pet rules is at the Minnesota Renaissance Festival: 800-966-8215x 6.

- 1. Only one pet per owner is admitted. NO EXCEPTIONS!!!!**
- 2. Only pets in good health and displaying good behavior will be admitted. The festival will not admit the following: sick, nervous, noisy, unruly (leash pullers or lungers, barking at passers by) growling, animals. Such determination shall be the sole discretion of festival staff. Make sure dogs are wearing the required two collars and are on standard 4 foot lead as specified in the pet rules. One chain or nylon choker collar or a prong/pinch collar for leash control. One banded/belt collar for i.d. and tags. Dogs not wearing the lead and two collar arrangement will not be admitted.**
- 3. Allowed pets are limited to the following: dogs, cats, guinea pigs, gerbils, birds, rabbits, hamsters, rats, mice, pot bellied pigs, ferrets, sugar gliders, hedgehogs.**
- 4. Animals not listed above will need prior clearance. No primates, raccoons, skunks, foxes, squirrels or other native mammalian wildlife will be admitted.**
- 5 All past registered pet owners will receive a PET Pre-Qualification and waiver form by mail.**
- 6 All pet owners will be directed through the pet gate and read and understand, and sign the Pet Rules.**
- 7 Every pet owner must provide proof of current rabies vaccination and other state required vaccinations, through a current rabies tag or vaccination certificate.**
- 8. Each pet will receive a numbered identification tag (numbered key or luggage tag). The owner's name and phone number will be recorded on the pet's tag.**
- 9. Each pet will be photographed. This photograph will have the number of the corresponding Pet I.D. tag.**
- 10. Pet owner will receive tools (plastic bag, and glove) for pet waste clean up. Additional supplies will be available at the Pet Waste Area (near the privies).**

The pet admission fee is \$7.00.

**Richmond Highland Games &
Celtic Festival Dog Rules**

Dog Tickets Required: \$7.00

(Portion of ticket price assists AARF, a local animal charity)

A reasonably priced ticket is helpful to encourage responsible dog owners. Sharing this ticket profit with a dog rescue group makes it very "friendly" and the dog group should help take the tickets and give you more staff to work with as they are the beneficiaries. Once ticket is purchased, give each dog a collar tag (luggage tag) that it must wear. The collar tags are a great sponsorship opportunity with the sponsors name on one side and the dogs name and address on the other.

ALSO, GIVE THEM A BAGGIE FOR CLEAN-UP

One Dog Per Person

An absolute must. One person cannot handle more than one dog.

No exceptions.

Proof of Current Rabies Vaccination

Current tag on collar or paper certificate. Without proof, NO ENTRY. Be sure to advertise this information with your event from the very beginning. A pet policy recording on your festival voice mail would also be helpful. Minnesota Renaissance festival has a voicemail stating the pet rules for customers who wish to bring their pets. (800-966-8215 x 6). (Allowing dog owner to call veterinarians office for confirmation of rabies inoculation at the gate is messy, time consuming and most vets close at noon on Saturdays. Have sign at ticket table stating all rules in writing and well displayed

Standard Leads Only - No Retractable Leashes

Contact a local pet store for sponsorship or cut rate in purchasing some standard leashes. Loan a standard leash to those with the retractable type. (Selling leashes doesn't work well) Keep the retractable leash and exchange when they leave.

Dogs Must Be Under Control at All Times

Your staff must know what the dog collar tags look like and be instructed to ask those without to get a ticket/tag or leave and follow up to be sure it happens!

Please Clean Up After Your Pet

This seems to work really well.

Most folks are so pleased to be able to bring their pets. Have a Parade of Dogs or some activity for them. When the animals are well behaved their people are too! Be aware that there are areas where greater control is necessary such as around other animal exhibits: Petting Zoo, Birds, Cows, Sheep and children -- especially small ones with food. Have good caution signs in primary areas of concern.

This has worked very well for our Festival and I'll be glad to answer any questions: mwetton@AREvents.com or 1-800-588-3247 ext. 221

Have a great event!

**Marilyn Wetton
State Fair of Virginia,
Atlantic Rural Expositions
P.O. Box 26805
Richmond, Virginia 23261-6805**