



Hosting a Lawmaker at your Event

Just like any great event - start with a plan!

The keys to a great plan:

Point of Contact



Select a very involved club member that is confident speaking about the event, breeding, and dog ownership in a clear and simple manner. Keep in mind, most contact will be done with the lawmaker's scheduler or another staffer.

Scheduling



Be cognizant of the time. Select a time that will really showcase what your event and club do for the fancy and the community. Pick a meeting place that is easy to find. Most lawmakers aren't going to know what a "club table" is.

Getting to the Show



Provide clear directions and instructions on parking beforehand. Consider providing a parking pass and space, if possible. Make sure parking attendants are informed a lawmaker is coming!

Tour



Remember - this is likely their first time at a dog event, so keep things simple and clear. Start by having members at the club table with their breeds. Have them briefly share about their breed, breeding history, and perhaps an interesting fact about their dog (therapy work, etc.). Then showcase the event: watch juniors, group judging, agility course, or obedience class. Expand on the training and preparation it took for the dog and handler to be here. If coordinated beforehand have them present an award. Showcase the economic impact that your show has by touring the vendors and share the number of exhibitors attending the event. Finally, make sure to have fun!

This is an amazing opportunity to showcase purebred dogs, educate on the event, and highlight the good things your club does in your community.

More Helpful Tips!

Be clear and concise in your language, description, and overview- This is likely their first time at a dog event!

- Start with American Kennel Club then use AKC
- "Female" or "male" to describe sex of dog
- Explain the difference between a class dog and a champion dog
- Highlight the goal of the event- explain how someone earns the top reward

Research local legislation

- Learn about any legislation that this lawmaker could impact
- Prepare talking points-GR can help!

Create an Informational Packet

- Flyer with club information - including specific community activities and donations
- Economic Impact in your state
- Copy of event program
- Talking points on specific legislation, if applicable
- Include contact information so your club can be a resource
- For a club flyer template and additional handouts about AKC and canine policy visit the AKC Legislative Action Center on our website!