

JUNIOR FAIR RULES

1. Entries in the Fayette County Junior Fair are open to any boy or girl who is a member of FFA or FCCLA, 4-H, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, or Farm Bureau.
2. Exhibits shown at the Fayette County Junior Fair are not eligible to be exhibited at any other county junior fair.
3. Exhibitors are responsible for submitting entry forms for all livestock projects to be exhibited at the fair on or before June 5, 2026: (Market & Beef Breeding, Market & Breeding Sheep, Market & Breeding Swine, Dairy Cattle, Dairy & Market Goats, Horses, Rabbits, Poultry, & Dogs). Entries submitted after June 5 must include a \$25 late fee for each exhibitor. No entries will be accepted after June 10.
4. All exhibits EXCEPT LIVESTOCK must be in place by Saturday, July 18 by noon in the Junior Fair Youth Building. They must be removed by Saturday, July 25 from 12 PM - 2 PM or the projects become the property of Junior Fair.
5. Junior Fair exhibitors will be permitted to show in open class provided that entries are filed the day of the show.
6. Duplications of projects in any Junior Fair organization are not permitted. Anyone found in violation of this rule will be required to forfeit all awards.
7. 4-H and FFA exhibitors must complete project as determined by the 4-H advisor or vocational agriculture instructor prior to fair to be eligible for fair participation.
8. Distribution of awards will be determined by the Junior Fair Board in consultation with the Fayette County Agricultural Society.
9. To qualify for a premium, an exhibitor must exhibit the breeding project at the Fair.
10. Premium checks will be distributed within 30 days after the fair.

LIVESTOCK, HORSES, & DOGS

JUNIOR FAIR LIVESTOCK RULES

- Events/times are subject to change.
- All market livestock to be exhibited at the Fayette County Fair must be owned by the specified dates within their species department pages. All breeding animals must be owned by May 15.
- All pen assignments are assigned by Senior Fair Board directors and are final. Animals must be in assigned pens and cannot be moved unless approved by Senior Fair Board.
- All market livestock must be properly identified. Tampering with the identification will result in disqualification for fair participation.
- Family tagging will be allowed, however, each animal must be claimed by an individual at tag-in. If a family member does not complete the project, then that individual's identified animals will not be eligible for other family members to exhibit at the Fair.
- All Junior Fair livestock is subject to all health regulations as outlined by the Fayette County Agricultural Society.
- The same animal cannot be used for more than one project per project year (for example, a single animal cannot be shown as both a market and a breeding project in one year).
- Each exhibitor must show and sell his or her own animal. If the exhibitor is ill, disabled, has another Junior Fair responsibility, or has more than one entry in class, another Fayette County Junior Fair Exhibitor may show and sell for the owner.
- Junior Fair exhibitors are eligible to receive minimal assistance with care and show preparation with his/her project from fellow Fayette County Junior Fair exhibitors, advisor(s) of exhibitor's club, immediate family, and household members. Family means the immediate family of an exhibitor, including but not limited to the exhibitor's parent, step-parent, foster parent, grandparent, step-grandparent, foster grandparent, brother, sister, step-brother, step-sister, half-brother, half-sister, son, daughter, step-son, step-daughter, or guardian. Household means the permanent residence address of the exhibitor.
- All entries for breeding classes must be eligible for registry in their respective breed associations except for commercial classes.
- **NOTE: All tags must be removed from the animal, except the EID tag. EID tags must remain on the animals as it is a federal offense if removed.**
- **Each animal is to be drug free at the fair when they cross the scale.**
- **Feeders, Dairy Goats, Meat Goats, in addition to all previously tested Champions and Reserve Champions, will be drug tested at the 2026 Fayette County Fair.**
- Overall Grand and Reserve Champions in all species must be sold through the Junior Fair Livestock Sales and slaughtered, with the exception of feeders.
- Only exhibitors, ring stewards, and show officials are permitted in the show ring during livestock shows.

- All species will recognize top five placings in market shows (Grand Champion, Reserve Grand Champion, 3rd overall, 4th overall, and 5th overall. Animals will sell in this order (if 3-5 overall choose to sell in the Jr. Fair Sale).
- Only Junior Fair Board personnel are permitted to sleep overnight in the livestock barns.
- All livestock exhibitors are encouraged to participate in the showmanship contest. Exhibitors participating in showmanship must use their own project for these classes and have ownership of the animal by May 15 for market animals and May 15 for breeding animals. Showmanship order for all species will run from oldest to youngest, with novice after the youngest age group, if applicable.
- The Showman of Showmen contest will be held in the Sales Arena and Swine Pavilion. The show begins at 4 PM on Saturday, July 25. Animals to be shown will include all species with the exception of dogs. The contest will be open to the Overall Showmanship winner in each species. The overall showmanship winner is selected from the age division winners in each species. Each showman will show all species in their division including the one they are representing and will be scored on a total point basis. The showman with the most total points will be named the Showman of Showmen. In case of a tie, the showman with the most wins in various species will be the winner. Previous winners of the Showman of Showmen contest are not eligible. In the case that a previous winner wins overall showmanship in a particular species, the reserve showman in that species will be the representative for said species. Judges will be selected by the committee. Judges and committee decisions are final.

Showmanship includes:

- a. Appearance of animal and equipment used in showing
 - b. Ability to properly pose animal
 - c. Ability to move animal as directed by judge
 - d. May include ability to show other animals in showing
 - e. Answer questions posed by the judge.
- Junior Fair exhibitors are to furnish suitable equipment to feed and water livestock. They must care for livestock regularly throughout fair week, keeping pens clean, properly bedded and aisle clean at all times.
 - Junior Fair exhibitors failing to abide by department rules, cleanliness of pens and aisles and the neglect of livestock while on exhibit are subject to having a percent of the sale price removed.
 - There will be no re-weighing of livestock projects unless stipulated by the Senior Fair Board and Senior Superintendents.
 - All market project exhibitors must declare destination of their animal (either home or on the trailer) at the Junior Fair weigh-in. This destination cannot be changed unless the exhibitor has a Grand Champion or Reserve Grand Champion project.
 - Sale means "I want to enter my animal into the auction." Truck means "I have an extra animal that I need to get rid of because my project is over." Home means "I want to take my animal home because I want to compete elsewhere or I plan on using for a breeding animal."
 - All livestock will be treated humanely and show no signs of inhumane treatment.
 - All livestock are to be exhibited in total compliance with chapter 901:19 (Ohio's Livestock Tampering Exhibition Rules). In addition, sections 901.70 -901.99, the Livestock Show Reform Act, apply to the exhibition of all livestock.
 - Dress code for Junior Fair Exhibitors for pictures, in the show ring, and in the sale ring is: **NO** tube tops, tops with spaghetti straps with bra straps showing, no low cut tops, no jeans with large holes, no sandals, no apparel with tobacco, alcohol, bars, or offensive language or pictures, no cut-off t-shirts. Junior Fair Members are representatives of their youth organizations and should set a good example. The Junior Fair Advisors have the right to ask an exhibitor to change clothing or to tell the exhibitor they may be ineligible to sell.
 - All livestock exhibits, with the exception of Dairy, Breeding Beef, and Gilts, must remain until the completion of the final sale on Friday night. If an exhibitor removes their project without permission from the Sr. Fair Board, they will not be able to exhibit a livestock project the following year.
 - Any participant that loses their project animal prior to fair is eligible to show another animal of their own in a showmanship class. These animals must be taken home following the Fair and are not eligible to show in a production class or sell in the Junior Fair Sale. If the participant does not have another animal of their own then they may choose from a pool of animals selected by the Junior Fair Board and Senior Superintendents.
 - Any project animal not meeting the weight limits for their species may show in an over- or under-weight class. These animals are not permitted to show for Grand or Reserve Champion and may not sell in the Junior Fair Sale. These animals are eligible to show in showmanship.

- Market animals choosing to participate in their respective shows are required to complete the show, if you are selected to participate in the Champion Drive you must participate. Failure to complete the show may result in forfeiture of awards and participation in the Junior Livestock Sale.
- Exhibitors are permitted to have multiple animals in the Champion drive. However, if one is chosen for Grand Champion, the second must be pulled from the ring and is not eligible for Reserve Champion. The exception is Breeding Animals; an exhibitor is permitted to have Grand and Reserve Champion.
- Any Junior Fair member exhibiting a market hog, sheep, beef, feeder, goat, dairy, meat pen of rabbits, or meat pen of poultry project must complete the Fayette County Quality Assurance program or another approved Quality Assurance program to be eligible to show and/or sell at the county fair or the Ohio State Junior Fair. The FFA advisors will conduct training during their regular programming. There will be no Fayette County make-up Quality Assurance Training programs conducted.
- Junior Fair Members who exhibit livestock projects must participate in a livestock skillathon on project knowledge on June 24, 25, 29, 30, and July 1 or a scheduled make-up on June 17 (which must be scheduled by June 11). Exhibitors not receiving a score of 95% or above in their age division on the skillathon are required to complete a skillathon for that species. Skillathons will be scheduled through the Extension Office, exhibitors will be notified in May. All make-up skillathons must be scheduled by appointment through the Extension Office. There will be no skillathons or "book checks" after the July 1 date, unless due to a family emergency. The exhibitor must be present for the "book check" and be able to answer questions related to their project in order to receive credit.
- All Junior Fair market exhibitors must complete an Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) Drug Use Notification Form to be eligible to exhibit and/or sell at the Fayette County Junior Fair for each market livestock project. Completed Drug Use Notification Forms must be turned in when the exhibitor's market animal is weighed at the Junior Fair weigh-in.
- All animals must have the identification tag or tattoo in or on the animal before arriving at the fair to be eligible to weigh or show. Animals that have lost identification must be reported to the 4-H advisor, Jr. Fair Coordinator, and/or Sr. Fair Board Director in charge of the department at the time the identification is lost. All animals losing identification must be reported immediately.
- Junior Fair livestock participants must complete a Junior Fair Animal Housing Form if the animal is being housed somewhere other than the address given on the exhibitor's 4-H enrollment form and submit it to the Mahan Building by May 15. Market Swine exhibitors are also required to submit an ear notch card to the Mahan Building by May 15. Failure to submit the form and/or misrepresentation of their project animal's location will result in the disqualification of the project animal(s).