



2026 HANCOCK COUNTY FAIR JUNIOR FAIR POULTRY

DIRECTOR IN CHARGE

John Livingston

SUPERINTENDENTS

Toni Altvater 419-306-1873

Chris Allen 419-348-8569

POULTRY CHECK-IN

Monday, August 31st

9:00 AM to 8:00 PM

Poultry Barn

MARKET BIRD WEIGH-IN

Monday, August 31st

12:00 PM to 6:00 PM

NWO Arena-NO EXCEPTIONS!

MARKET /BREED SHOW

Tuesday, September 1st

12:00 PM

SHOW ORDER

Meat Class Birds

NWO Arena

Meat Duck

Meat Geese

Meat Chickens

Meat Turkey

NON-Flight Risk Birds

NWO Arena

Fancy Duck – Bantam

Fancy Duck – Light

Fancy Duck – Medium

Fancy Duck – Heavy

Hybrid Production Hen

Hybrid Production Pullet

Non-Standard Chicken

Cock – Standard

Cock – Bantam,

Cockerel – Standard

Cockerel – Bantam

Hen – Standard

Hen – Bantam

Pullet – Standard

Pullet – Bantam

Trio – Standard

Trio – Bantam

Flight Risk Fowl Birds

Poultry Barn Cage

Fancy Turkey

Fancy Goose – Light

Fancy Goose – Medium

Fancy Goose – Heavy

Guinea

Egg Class

Poultry Barn

Market Eggs

CLASS DESCRIPTION

MARKET

01 Meat Chickens (Pen of 2)

02 Meat Turkey

03 Meat Duck (Pen of 2)

04 Meat Geese (Pen of 2)

05 Egg (13 eggs)

ALL OTHER POULTRY

06 Fancy Turkey

07 Cock – Standard

08 Cock – Bantam

09 Cockerel – Standard

10 Cockerel – Bantam

11 Hen – Standard (Pen of 2)

12 Hens – Bantam (Pen of 2)

13 Pullets – Standard
(Pen of 2)

14 Pullets – Bantam (Pen of 2)

15 Trio – Standard
(1 Male, 2 Females)

16 Trio – Bantam
(1 Male, 2 Females)

17 Guinea

18 Non-Standard Chicken

19 Hybrid Production – Hen
(Pen of 2 in production)

20 Hybrid Production – Pullet
(Pen of 2 in production)

21 Fancy Duck – Bantam

22 Fancy Duck – Light

23 Fancy Duck – Medium

24 Fancy Duck – Heavy

25 Fancy Goose – Light

26 Fancy Goose-Medium

27 Fancy Goose-Heavy

SPORTSMANSHIP

CONTRACT

A Parent/Guardian and Jr. Fair Exhibitor agree and understand it is their personal responsibility to adhere to the following sportsmanship policy when entering an exhibit in the Poultry Dept:

Verbal abuse, physical abuse or harassment towards directors, judges, ring stewards, superintendents, employees, OSU Extension Staff, Junior Fair members, club advisors or volunteers of the Hancock County Fair will not be tolerated. You may be escorted from the Junior Fair event, premiums forfeited and upon Hancock County Agricultural Society committee decision, the family members may not be able to exhibit at the Hancock County Fair for a period indicated by the committee based on the severity of the situation.

HEALTH CERTIFICATE RULES

Per Health Regulations from the State of Ohio Administrative Code – [Rule 901:1-18-05 Poultry and Fowl](#): Each poultry exhibitor must comply with one of the following:

(A) All turkeys, chickens and gamebirds exhibited in Ohio must either:

- (1) Originate directly from a flock or hatchery which is a participant in the National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) for the eradication of disease and be



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accompanied by documentary evidence that they meet the requirement of this paragraph; NPIP status is only valid for one year.

(2) Originate directly from a flock which has had a negative test for Pullorum/Fowl Typhoid disease within twelve months preceding the opening date of exhibition and be accompanied by documentary evidence that they meet the requirement of this paragraph;

(3) Have had a negative test for Pullorum/Fowl Typhoid disease, within ninety days, preceding the opening date of the exhibition and be accompanied by documentary evidence that they meet the requirement of this paragraph;

(B) Any co-mingling of birds voids NPIP status from the original flock or hatchery.

(C) The rapid whole blood test shall not be used to test turkeys for compliance with the requirements of paragraphs (A)(2) and (A)(3) of this rule.

(D) Waterfowl, doves, and pigeons are exempt from this rule.

ALL CLASSES

GENERAL

1. Exhibitors must abide by all Junior Fair Rules and Regulations.
2. All Birds and/or eggs must be selected from birds in exhibitor's project.

PRIOR TO FAIR

1. Exhibitors are **REQUIRED** to submit online a properly completed **Hancock County Junior Fair Poultry Guideline Form** for the current year to the Poultry Superintendent by **July 31st**. Violation of this rule prohibits the exhibitor from exhibiting poultry projects at the fair unless the Poultry Superintendent has approved a late submission.
2. Per the Ohio Department of Agriculture, a valid health certificate is **REQUIRED** for each chicken, turkey, and guinea to be exhibited. Refer to **Health Certificate Rules** section.
3. If the bird is less than 1 year old, the hatchery invoice with the NPIP participant stamp/information serves as the health certificate.
4. If a chicken or guinea is greater than 1 year old, each bird must be Pullorum tested by a certified Pullorum tester within 90 days before the first day of the fair. Contact the Blanchard Valley Poultry Association or a Poultry Superintendent for scheduled Pullorum testing events or Pullorum tester contact information.
5. If a turkey is greater than 1 year old, each turkey must be NPIP tested by a certified NPIP tester within a year of the first day of the fair. Contact the Blanchard

Valley Poultry Association or a Poultry Superintendent for NPIP tester information.

6. Health certificates for each poultry project are **REQUIRED** to be submitted online to the Poultry Superintendent by **July 31st**. Paper copies of health certificates will NOT be accepted. Violation of this rule prohibits the exhibitor from exhibiting poultry projects at the fair unless the Poultry Superintendent has approved a late submission.
7. Submitted health certificates are **REQUIRED** to display purchase location, purchase date and NPIP participant stamp/information.
8. This is a partial terminal sale for all species of market birds. All market birds will be sold to the base bidder unless the exhibitor notifies the Poultry Superintendent by July 31st that a specific exhibit is a take-home project. One market poultry project must be sold to the base bidder, or the exhibitor will receive an Exhibitor Buy Back fee of \$1, deducted from the exhibitor's final livestock sale check.

FAIR CHECK-IN / WEIGH-IN

1. All birds are **REQUIRED** to enter the fairgrounds through the McCleary Gate



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and be subject to veterinarian inspection.

2. For fancy birds, the poultry barn will be open for check-in on Monday prior to the fair from 9:00 AM until 8:00 PM.
3. For market birds, the birds will be banded and weighed on Monday prior to the fair from 12:00 NOON until 6:00 PM. Market birds cannot check into the poultry barn without a completed weigh slip.
4. All entries must be in place before 8:00 PM on Monday before the fair. If poultry exhibits arrive after 8:00 PM, the birds must be removed from the fairgrounds unless prior Poultry Superintendent approval has been received.
5. All exhibitors must check in before entering the barn with their birds and/or eggs. Violation of this rule will result in the exhibitor removing all poultry exhibits from the fairgrounds.
6. Market animals are **REQUIRED** to be weighed with exhibitor present. If an exhibitor **CANNOT** be present for weigh-in of their animals, the Poultry Superintendent must be notified prior to weigh-in day. If this rule is violated, the Poultry Superintendent and Poultry Director have the final decision on whether the exhibitor's

birds can be weighed and exhibited.

7. Birds are **REQUIRED** to have dry feathers and body for check-in and weigh-in. Violation of this rule will prohibit the exhibitor from checking-in and/or weighing wet birds for exhibition.
8. No sorting, swapping or substitution of birds will be allowed once checked in at the Fair. Once a bird is checked-in, the bird **CANNOT** be replaced with a different bird.
EXCEPTION - If a market bird expires or is damaged after weigh-in, the exhibitor must obtain approval from the Poultry Superintendent and Poultry Director to weigh a replacement bird **PRIOR** to the end of the posted weigh-in time.

FAIR MARKET-BREED SHOW / SHOWMANSHIP / LIVESTOCK SALE RING

1. Exhibitor is **REQUIRED** to dress in black/dark blue jeans, long-sleeved white shirt or lab coat and closed toe boots or shoes covering the foot to the ankle to participate in the Market/ Breed Show, Showmanship, or Livestock Sale. Exhibitor is **PROHIBITED** from participating in the Market/ Breed Show, Showmanship or Livestock Sale if not dressed in proper show attire. Replacement Junior Fair exhibitors are

REQUIRED to follow the proper show attire.

2. Exhibitor **MUST BE PRESENT** at time of show. No premiums will be awarded if exhibitor does not participate in the show. If exhibitor cannot be present at time of judging, the exhibitor is **REQUIRED** to complete a ***Junior Fair Poultry Show Replacement Form*** for each class and personally submit the form to a Poultry Superintendent prior to 11 AM on the first day of the fair. The exhibitor must state on the form who is permitted to show and move their bird(s). An exhibitor forfeits the right to have their bird(s) compete in a class upon failure to complete or properly submit the *Junior Fair Poultry Show Replacement Form*. The final decision is at the discretion of the Poultry Superintendent and Poultry Director. Refer to **Junior Fair - Rules and Regulations**.
 3. Birds are **REQUIRED** to have dry feathers and body for market/breed show, showmanship, or sale in the Junior Fair Livestock Sale. Exhibitors forfeit the ability to exhibit or sell their animals with wet feathers and/or bodies.
- ### **FAIR RESIDENCY**
1. Exhibitor is **REQUIRED** to provide their own food, bedding, and dishes.



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2. All exhibitors are required to provide proper care. This includes cleaning their own exhibits and providing fresh bedding **twice a day**, providing fresh food **at least once a day**, providing fresh water **as needed throughout the day**. Each pen will have a care card, and exhibits will be inspected at 9 AM and 9 PM daily. If an issue is discovered, a date and time stamped sticker will be placed on the care card. The exhibitor must resolve the issue and notify the Poultry Superintendent within 24 hours. If an exhibitor fails to provide proper care in a timely manner:

- **FIRST OFFENSE**

The exhibitor will receive a written warning.

- **SECOND OFFENSE**

The exhibitor will be required to meet with the Poultry Director and Poultry Superintendent.

- **THIRD OFFENSE OR FAILURE TO MEET WITH BARN OFFICIALS**

The Poultry Director and Poultry Superintendent have the right to withhold premiums, remove exhibitor from the Livestock Sale, or impose participation limitations on next year's fair.

3. Securing cage doors with a locking device is prohibited. The Poultry

Superintendent and/or Poultry Director reserve the right to cut locking devices from cages. Zip-ties are recommended to secure cage doors.

4. Personal supplies are **REQUIRED** to be stored in barn/tent beneath cage supports or within personal vehicle. Supplies cannot be in aiseways (fully or partially), next to cages or outside of barn/tent.

FAIR RELEASE

1. Birds **CANNOT** be removed prior to release date and dismissal time without approval of the Poultry Superintendent, Poultry Director, and Veterinarian. Contact the Poultry Superintendent or Poultry Director to obtain approval and the proper release form.
2. Eggs **CANNOT** be removed from the barn once checked in. They ARE NOT a take-home project and will be disposed of by either the Poultry Director or a Poultry Superintendent.
3. Exhibitor is responsible for cleaning pen and surrounding area once birds are released.

ALL MARKET BIRDS:

MEAT CHICKENS / TURKEY / DUCKS / GEESE

1. Weigh-in will be held on Monday prior to the fair and market animals must be weighed during the posted weigh-in time.

NO EXCEPTIONS!

2. Market animals **not** weighed during the posted weigh-in time **CANNOT** be sold in the Junior Fair Livestock Sale. If non-weighed market birds are caged/penned, they will receive an alternate ID band and will go base bid.
3. A Drug Use Notification Form (DUNF) form is required for each turkey or pen of meat chickens/meat ducks/meat geese.
No form – No banding – No weigh-in.
4. Birds with wet feathers and/or bodies will not be banded, weighed, exhibited, or sold.
5. Market birds will be banded prior to weigh-in. If a bird is not banded, it **will not** be weighed, **will not exhibit**, and must leave the fairgrounds.
6. Weigh slips must be filled out completely or market animal will go base bid.
7. Market animals must be weighed with exhibitor present before being penned. If an exhibitor **CANNOT** be present for weigh-in of their animals, the Poultry Superintendent



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must be notified prior to weigh-in day.

8. Market animals will only be weighed once.
9. All market animals weighed will be caged for an exhibit and cannot go home without the approval of the Poultry Superintendent and Poultry Director.
10. No sorting, swapping or substitution of birds will be allowed once checked in at the fair. Once a bird is checked-in, the bird **CANNOT** be replaced with a different bird.
EXCEPTION - If a market bird expires or is damaged after weigh-in, the exhibitor must obtain approval from the Poultry Superintendent and Poultry Director to weigh replacement bird PRIOR to the end of the posted weigh-in time.
11. Exhibitors will select if the project is the single overall market project that will participate in the Monday Premium Sale, and for each project, if the project will sell to the market buyer or to take the project home at the conclusion of the fair (as notified to the Poultry Superintendent prior to July 31st). The first market poultry project will either be sold to the market buyer or receive an Exhibitor Buy Back (EBB) fee of \$1, deducted from the exhibitor's final livestock sale check. Exhibitor may

opt to take additional market poultry projects home without the Exhibitor Buy Back fee, providing the exhibitor has two (2) or more market poultry entries in the current year. No adjustments permitted after the animal has completed the weigh-in process.

All Grand & Reserve Champions are required to participate in the Monday Premium Sale, regardless of the exhibitor's selection at weigh-in. (Refer to Livestock Sale Rules for more details)

12. Each exhibitor is **REQUIRED** to provide their own pen/cage to sell their market birds in the Junior Fair Livestock Sale.

MEAT CHICKENS

1. Meat Chickens must be hatched and in exhibitor's possession five (5) to seven (7) weeks prior to the first day of the fair of the current year.
2. Exhibitor allowed one (1) entry in class.
3. A pen of meat chickens contains two (2) commercial chickens of same breed, variety, age, and sex. The birds can be de-beaked, de-toed, dubbed, or subjected to any practice generally accepted in the commercial production of meat type poultry.

4. Pens will be placed in a weight class for judging. The weight class is determined by the combined weight of all two (2) meat chickens:

- **Fryer** – Minimum of 7 pounds and a maximum less than 9 pounds.
- **Broiler** – Minimum of 9 pounds and a maximum of 14 pounds.
- **Overweight** – Over 14 pounds.

5. Pens weighing less than 7 pounds will not be caged, will not be exhibited, and must leave the fairgrounds.
6. Pens must be judged in the Broiler weight class to be eligible for banners and to be sold in the Junior Fair Livestock Sale.
7. Refer to **All Market Birds: Meat Chickens / Turkey / Ducks / Geese** section for additional guidelines.
8. Banners: Grand Champion Meat Chickens and Reserve Champion Meat Chickens

MEAT TURKEYS

1. Meat Turkeys must be hatched no earlier than April 15th of current year.
2. Meat Turkeys must be in exhibitor's possession no later than June 1st of current year.
3. Exhibitor allowed one (1) entry in class.
4. Meat Turkeys are **REQUIRED** to be a hen.



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5. Meat Turkeys will be placed in a weight class for judging. The weight classes are:

- **Fryer** – Minimum 14 pounds and a maximum of less than 18 pounds
- **Young Turkey** – Minimum of 18 pounds and a maximum of 30 pounds.
- **Overweight** – Over 30 pounds.

6. Pens weighing less than 14 pounds will not be caged, will not exhibit, and must leave the fairgrounds.
7. Meat Turkeys must be in the Young Turkey weight class to be eligible for banners.
8. Meat Turkeys must be in the Young Turkey weight class to be sold in the Junior Fair Livestock Sale.
9. Refer to **All Market Birds: Meat Chickens / Turkey / Ducks / Geese** section for additional guidelines.
10. Banners: Grand Champion Meat Turkey and Reserve Champion Meat Turkey.

MEAT DUCKS/GEESE

1. Meat Ducks/Geese must be hatched no earlier than October 1st of previous year.
2. Meat Ducks must be in exhibitor's possession eight (8) weeks prior to the first day of the fair of the current year.
3. Meat Geese must be in exhibitor's possession sixteen (16) weeks prior to

the first day of the fair of the current year.

4. Exhibitor allowed one (1) entry in Meat Duck class and one (1) entry in Meat Geese class.
5. A pen of meat ducks/geese contains two (2) birds of same breed, variety, age, and sex.
6. Meat Duck breed is **REQUIRED** to be Rouen or Pekin.
7. Refer to **All Market Birds: Meat Chickens / Turkey / Ducks / Geese** section for additional guidelines.
8. Grand Champion Meat Waterfowl & Reserve Champion Meat Waterfowl selected from combined Meat Duck and Meat Geese classes.
9. Banners: Grand Champion Meat Waterfowl and Reserve Champion Meat Waterfowl.

MARKET EGGS

1. Limited to exhibitors in either the **Hybrid Production Hen** or **Hybrid Production Pullet** class.
2. Exhibitor allowed one (1) entry in class.
3. Must provide thirteen (13) eggs produced by hens/pullets entered in the **Hybrid Production Hen** or **Hybrid Production Pullet** class.
4. NO store-bought eggs permitted.
5. Eggs will be judged on uniformity, size, shape, color, sheen and

freshness, and shell texture.

6. One (1) egg will be broken to judge interior quality.
7. The Poultry Director or Poultry Superintendents will dispose of Market Eggs. They **are not** a take home project, **are not** sold in sale ring or go base bid.
8. Monetary Award: Best of Show – Market Eggs.

FANCY TURKEYS

1. Per Health Regulations from the State of Ohio Administrative Code – [Rule 901:1-18-05 Poultry and Fowl](#), the rapid whole blood test shall not be used to test turkeys. Refer to **Health Certificate Rules** section.
2. Refer to **All Other Poultry** section for additional guidelines.

NON-STANDARD CHICKEN

1. All birds must be hatched no later than April 1st and in the exhibitor's possession no later than June 1st of current year.
2. Exhibitor allowed one (1) entry in each class.
3. An entry in the **Non-Standard Chicken** class is a single bird, either male or female and of any age.
4. Birds will be judged on appearance, feather quality, health, weight, and other characteristics for a healthy bird.
5. Birds entered in the **Non-Standard Chicken** class



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cannot be entered or shown in any additional class.

6. Chicken breed must be hybrid or crossbred. Breed **CANNOT** be listed as an [Amer. Poultry Assoc. Accepted Breed](#).
7. Banners: Grand Champion Non-Standard Chicken and Reserve Champion Non-Standard Chicken

HYBRID PROD. HEN / HYBRID PROD. PULLET

1. All birds must be hatched no later than April 1st and in the exhibitor's possession no later than June 1st of current year.
2. Exhibitor allowed one (1) entry in class.
3. Pen requires two (2) female birds of same breed, variety and similar in age.
4. Birds entered in the **Hybrid Production Hen** or **Hybrid Production Pullet** class cannot be entered or shown in any additional classes (Hen, Pullet or Trio).
5. Bird breed must be hybrid or crossbred. Breed **CANNOT** be listed as an [Amer. Poultry Assoc. Accepted Breed](#).
6. Banners: Multiple
7. Monetary Award: Best of Show – Production.

TRIO – STANDARD / TRIO – BANTAM

1. Birds entered in the **Trio - Standard** or **Trio - Bantam** class cannot be entered or shown in any additional classes (Cock, Cockerel,

Hen, Pullet or Hybrid Production).

2. Refer to **All Other Poultry** section for additional guidelines.

ALL OTHER POULTRY

1. All birds must be hatched no later than April 1st and in the exhibitor's possession no later than June 1st of current year.
2. Exhibitor allowed one (1) entry in each class.
3. Age definition:
 - **Cock** – Male hatched prior to September 1st of previous year.
 - **Cockerel** – Male hatched after September 1st of previous year.
 - **Hen** – Female hatched prior to September 1st of previous year.
 - **Pullet** – Female hatched after September 1st of previous year.
4. The following classes require two (2) female birds of same breed, variety and similar in age. Trio class requires the male bird to be same breed and variety as females.
 - Hen – Standard (Pen of 2)
 - Hen – Bantam (Pen of 2)
 - Pullet – Standard (Pen of 2)
 - Pullet – Bantam (Pen of 2)
 - Trio – Standard (1 Male, 2 Females)
 - Trio – Bantam (1 Male, 2 Females)

5. The breed is **REQUIRED** to be listed as an [Amer. Poultry Assoc. Accepted Breed](#).
6. Banners: Multiple
7. Monetary Award: Best of Show – Fancy

SHOWMANSHIP

Wednesday, September 2nd
1:00 PM
NWO Arena

JUNIOR FAIR SHOWMANSHIP CLASSES

- Turkey – Senior (14 years and older)
- Turkey – Junior (8 years to 13 years)
- Waterfowl – Senior (14 years and older)
- Waterfowl – Junior (8 years to 13 years)
- Chicken – Senior (14 years and older)
- Chicken – Intermediate (11 years to 13 years)
- Chicken – Junior (8 years to 10 years)
- Super (Current and Previous Year Winners)

OPEN SHOWMANSHIP CLASSES

PARTICIPATORY ONLY

- Pee Wee (7 years and under)
- Youth (8 years to 17 years)
- Adult (18 years and older)



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SHOWMANSHIP ORDER

Turkey – Senior
Waterfowl – Senior
Chicken – Senior
Turkey – Junior
Waterfowl – Junior
Chicken – Intermediate
Chicken – Junior
Super
Open – Pee Wee
Open – Youth
Open – Adult

SHOWMANSHIP GENERAL RULES

1. Participation in any showmanship class is determined by Exhibitor's age on January 1st of the current year.

JUNIOR FAIR SHOWMANSHIP RULES

1. Exhibitors are permitted to participate in the showmanship class for any species the exhibitor showed in the Junior Fair Market/Breed judging contest of the current year.
2. Exhibitor is **REQUIRED** to dress in black/dark blue jeans, long-sleeved white shirt or lab coat and closed toe boots or shoes covering the foot to the ankle to participate in Showmanship.
3. Exhibitors are required to show their own bird(s). No borrowing or swapping of birds.
4. Only exhibitors present during showmanship class judging are eligible for award placement.

5. Super Showmanship includes current and previous year showmanship winners for all poultry species (chicken, waterfowl, turkey) of any age specification.
6. Showmanship class winners cannot compete in the same species and age class the following year but may compete in Super Showmanship. An exhibitor may resume competition upon completion of one (1) year absent.

EXCEPTION - If an exhibitor moves to the next showmanship age class for a species the following year, the exhibitor can compete without completion of one (1) year absent.

7. Winners of the following showmanship classes compete in the Small Animal Showman of Showmen contest:

- Chicken Showmanship – Senior
- Waterfowl Showmanship – Senior
- Turkey Showmanship – Senior

EXCEPTION - Exhibitors are prohibited from competing in the Small Animal Showman of Showmen contest two (2) years consecutively for the same species.

8. If an exhibitor is a previous winner of the Small Animal Showman of Showmen, they cannot participate in

the contest a second time and participation will be given to the second-place winner of their respective class.

9. Awards: All Junior Fair Showmanship Classes.