**2025**

**Stark County Junior Fair**

**Market Lamb & Breeding**

**Sheep Rules**



Stark County Junior Fair Entry Form is to be Submitted ELECTRONICALLY.

YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR OWN ENTRY!!

\*\* DEADLINE IS July 25, 2025 \*\*

No Late Entries will be accepted

Web Page: <https://starkcountyjrfair4h.com/>

Facebook Page: Stark County Sheep Committee

**SHEEP RULES 2025**

*JUNIOR FAIR GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS*

The Stark County Junior Fair operates under the authority of and in conjunction with the Stark County Senior Fair Board. The Junior Fair Board is a department of the Stark County Fair with its own objectives. These objectives, in many instances, require rules or guidelines that differ significantly from those of other Stark County Fair Departments.

 Any boy or girl enrolled in a Stark County Youth organization is eligible to participate in the Stark County Junior Fair. They must abide by the rules/regulations and age limitations of said youth organization (4H, FFA, Grange, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, etc.).

1. To participate in 4H activities, youth must comply with the State 4H membership policy. The 4H eligibility begins at age 5 (and in kindergarten as of January 1) and ends December 31 of the year in which they attain the age of 19.
2. Exhibitors in 4H classes must be enrolled in a 4H club in Stark County. Exhibits must be from 4H projects approved by the State or Local Extension Office.
3. All members are encouraged to show in open class events.
4. Health rules for the livestock exhibits are the same as those governing all open class exhibits.
5. The Board of Directors of the Stark County Agricultural Society will, to the best of their ability, safeguard persons, livestock and articles on the grounds, but will not be responsible for injury, damage, disease, theft or loss of any kind.
6. Animals released due to illness or injury must have a signed release from the Veterinarian, Junior Fair Coordinator and/or barn superintendent. Anyone who removes an animal without permission will be subject to a one (1) year suspension.
7. Members must clean stalls or pens by 10:00 a.m. daily and keep the area neat and attractive. The committee reserves the right to withhold payment if any exhibitor does not keep his/her area clean and/or feed and water livestock.
8. Anyone assisting with showing another exhibitors animal must be enrolled as a current 4H, FFA or another youth organization member in Stark County.
9. All animals must remain on exhibit at the fair until 6:00p.m. on Monday, September 1, 2025 EXCEPT market animals. Market animals are released at 4:00p.m. or at the discretion of the marketing committee. No cleaning of pens until all animals are released from barn. Check species rules.
10. All animals sold remain the property of the member and in the member’s care until fair release time, at the discretion of the marketing committee or 4:00 p.m. on Monday, September 1, 2025, the last day of the fair.
11. Animals sold are not eligible to be shown again by that exhibitor or any other 4H or FFA member in any Junior Show in the county or state or independent fair. All Grand Overall and Reserve Grand Overall Champion market animals are terminal.
12. Exhibitors are responsible for their own veterinary bill.
13. Veterinarians assigned to the fair will decide all matters of health, presence of disease and stall release.
14. Ribbons and suitable awards will be provided by the Fair Board. It is the privilege of the Fair Board to prorate cash premiums if the budget is exceeded.
15. Eligible youth may be members of both 4H (clubs) and vocational agriculture (FFA) or of either group. In all cases, separate and different projects (also different animals and/or products) must be carried in 4H and in vocational agriculture by a member belonging in both organizations. Examples of different and separate projects are sheep breeding, market lambs, pullets, broiler. The same or similar animals or products cannot be shown in both organizations even though they may be carried under different projects or programs, an animal or product may not be shown in more than one county in 4H or FFA classes.
16. Stark County youth programs and the Junior Fair Board will not condone the use of alcohol or drugs by any of its members, volunteers or anyone else associated with the Junior Fair. The Junior Fair Coordinator, Junior Fair Board advisors, FFA advisors, Extension Office and the Senior Fair Board will contact parents or legal authorities to handle individuals caught using or under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
17. In the event that a project animal dies after the designated possession date, members will not be permitted to replace the animal for the purpose of exhibition or sale in any Junior Fair event.
18. **ALL ENTRIES ARE DUE BY MIDNIGHT ON JULY 25, 2025, BY ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION. NO EXCEPTIONS!**
19. For all market animals that will be shown, grooming must be done by the Stark County Junior Fair exhibitor or the exhibitors immediate family (reference Ohio Administrative Code: chapter 90119(P)) [“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]. A current Stark County Junior Fair exhibitor may also assist. This includes all projects entered in the Stark County Junior Fair show during the Stark County Fair August 26, 2025 to September 1, 2025. Consequence of rule violation is no sale of animal.
20. No one is to handle a Junior Fair member’s animal(s) without the permission of the Junior Fair exhibitor unless there is an emergency. Committee members may handle animals during the normal course of their duties (i.e., show, sale, weigh-in, pictures, loading, unloading, etc.).
21. Judges’ decisions are final in accordance with other published committee rules.
22. Medical/School excuses must be submitted in writing to the Committee Chair and Junior Fair Coordinator
23. **It is MANDATORY for ALL Junior Fair exhibitors to attend a QUALITY ASSURANCE (QA) CLINIC by June 1, 2025 and complete a DRUG USE NOTIFICATION FORM (DUNF) for all market animals and lactating dairy animals prior to the fair. Any Junior Fair exhibitor who does not attend a QUALITY ASSURANCE (QA) CLINIC by June 1, 2025 will not be able to show at the fair or bring a carcass project.**
24. **Exhibitors must complete a DRUG USE NOTIFICATION FORM (DUNF) prior to show. Those who do not comply WILL NOT be allowed to show. Mandated by the Ohio Department of Agriculture Ohio Revised Code 901-1906 and 901-19-07. All members will be responsible for the care of their market animals until 4:00 p.m. the last day of the Stark County Fair, or until the drug withdrawal period elapses, or if quarantined.**

***SHEEP BARN RULES***

1. All displays must remain intact until 5:00 p.m. the last day of the fair. At that time, all displays and decorations must be removed. Barn will be closed to the public at 4:00 p.m. or any designated time (per the Jr. Fair Coordinator/Auction Chair) for load out.
2. No pen cleaning during load out of the animals.
3. Absolutely **NO STAPLES** will be permitted to be used on the walls in decorating the sheep barn—poster boards or appropriate material may be hung from the wiring provided. If you do not clean out your pens or remove all of your decorations, you will not receive your check and you may be unable to show at the fair the following year. The sheep committee will clean out your pens for a fee of $50 that will be assessed from your check.
4. All pens must be cleaned out before September 18, 2025.
5. All lambs will be housed in the assigned designated areas for the duration of the fair. No lambs may be taken out of the sheep barn between the hours of 11:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. No one will be allowed in the barn between 11:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m. unless accompanied by a committee member or in the case of an emergency.
6. No one is to handle a Junior Fair member’s animal(s) without permission of the Junior Fair exhibitor unless there is an emergency. Committee members may handle animals during the normal course of their duties.
7. No fans will be permitted in the barn except for fans that are provided by the Fair Board. \*
8. Clean water must be available to sheep at all times. \*
9. Sheep must be bedded with mulch, shavings, sawdust, or straw—but if using straw, you must have an absorbing agent underneath such as mulch, shavings, or sawdust. The only exception will be for wool sheep—if using straw there must be an adequate enough amount (i.e., no concrete showing). No carpets will be permitted. \*
10. A sheep committee member will be inspecting all pens throughout the day. Pens must be kept clean and neat daily. \*
11. The restraint of a lamb on a continual basis or unsupervised restraint of an animal in the pen is not permitted. Once a lamb is placed in the pen, the halter must be removed and not permitted to remain on the lamb unsupervised. \*
12. All market project lambs must be in their pens by 10:00 a.m. on show day. Breeding sheep must be in pens by 8:00 a.m. on show day. \*
13. All lambs must be kept in the immediate show area before and during the show. \*
14. You are responsible for keeping pens clean and water buckets (with water) in pens by 10:00 a.m. daily. Failure to do so will result in your pen being tagged by the committee. In order to have the tag removed, you will need to see a committee member. On your second offense, you may be sent home OR the committee will clean out the pen and charge the exhibitor a FEE of $50 per cleaning and that amount will be deducted from your sale check.
	1. If you would like someone to be contacted to address any issues, **please provide preferred contact information on entry form** in the appropriate location.
15. All commercial advertising and/or sponsorships are at the discretion of the Senior Fair Board. No advertising and/or sponsorships will be allowed in the barn. Thank you to previous buyers are appropriate.
16. No tack space will be provided for show boxes. The only tack space you will have will be above your pen.

**SHEEP PROJECT RULES** **\*Market project book**

1. Any exhibitor taking a beginner market lamb project (first year) may secure and feed up to 4 lambs for the June 7, 2025 Tag-in, but may only exhibit 2 lambs at the fair. You may choose from any of the following categories: Market, Born & Raised, or Bred & Fed. (\*if exhibitor meets the qualifications) to the fair with no more than one lamb in any of the listed categories. NOTE: 1 of the 4 lambs tagged on June 7, 2025, not used to exhibit at the fair, may be used for the carcass class.
2. Any exhibitor taking an Intermediate or Advanced market lamb project and having completed the beginner market lamb project may secure and feed up to 6 lambs for the June 7, 2025 Tag-in but may only exhibit 3 lambs at the fair. You may choose from any of the following categories: Market, Born & Raised, or Bred & Fed (\*if the exhibitor meets the qualifications) to the fair with no more than 2 lambs in any of the listed categories. NOTE: one of the 6 lambs tagged on June 7, 2025, not used to exhibit, may be used for the carcass class.
3. Any recognized sheep breed, including crossbreeds, may be used as a project animal.
4. ALL SHEEP MUST BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE USDA SCRAPIE TAG REGULATIONS! All sheep must have a scrapie tag at the June 7, 2025 Tag-in. All market ram lambs must be castrated before the June 7, 2025 Tag-in. there must be NO evidence of testicular tissue noticeable by Haul-in. Due to possible continued growth of testicular tissue, clamping (pinching) will not be allowed. Banding or surgical removal will be the only options of castration permitted.
5. The use of drugs, tranquilizers, hormones, feed additives, etc. should be done with extreme caution and within local, state, and federal regulations. All losses, condemnation at slaughter, etc. resulting from the use or misuse of such products will be the sole responsibility of the exhibitor.
6. No lambs will be permitted to show in market or breeding class that have been subject to unethical treatment, such as but not limited to, dehydration, icing, cold compresses, injections, or other muscle enhancing techniques. All state and federal rules will be enforced.
7. Any use of a mechanical device such as a drench gun, bottle, tubing, etc. or administering of medication to a lamb during fair will be cause for disqualification, unless approved/prescribed by the fair veterinarian and with notification to the sheep committee by the veterinarian.
8. All market lambs, including carcass, born & raised, and bred & fed must be under one year of age.

**Born and Raised \*Market Project Book**

1. Bred ewes must be in the possession and on the premises of the junior fair member by November 30, 2024 and remain until the lamb is weaned. No exceptions. The lamb must be in the possession of the junior fair member from birth through the 2025 Stark County Fair.
2. A list of bred ewes and scrapie tag numbers must be turned into the Sheep Committee at StarkSheepCommittee@gmail.com by December 1, 2024 in order to be eligible for the born and raised class. \*\*please have ewes in close proximity, as much as possible, to each other to expedite the farm visit process.\*\*
3. A committee member will contact you for a date and time for a farm visit to verify the scrapie tag numbers of the ewes previously submitted. The deadline for verification of the ewe scrapie tag numbers is December 31, 2024.
4. The lamb must be born on the Junior Fair member’s place of residence or residence owned by immediate family reference Ohio Administrative Code: chapter 90119(P)) [“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]. Any exceptions to “place of residence” part of this rule will be made at the discretion of the sheep committee based upon applications, which will be due December 1, 2024. \*\*if an exhibitor is found to be ineligible for the born and raised category, the exhibitor can use the lamb in the bred and fed class (\*if the exhibitor meets the qualifications) or market category.
5. A picture must be provided of the ewe, lamb, and member at your place of residence on day of birth to Lyssa Darrah (330-361-9488), Ed Walker (330-417-8998) or Sherry McCracken (330-206-2042) via text or to be emailed to the StarkSheepCommittee@gmail.com.
6. Junior Fair members need to contact **Lyssa Darrah (330-361-9488)**, **Ed Walker (330-417-8998) or Sherry McCracken (330-206-2042)** as soon as your lamb is born, or at the completion of your lambing, to schedule your farm visit. Lambs must be scrapie tagged prior to the farm visit. There will be a $5.00 charge per head at the farm check when the born and raised animals are tagged. The deadline for lambs to be tagged for the born and raised class is April 30, 2025.
7. There is no limit to the number of lambs to be tagged for Born & Raised **at the farm**. (Please refer to Rule 1 and 2 under the Sheep Project Rules section for the total number of lambs permitted for the fair for Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced projects.)
8. All other market class exhibition rules apply including Sheep Project Rules, Tag-In, Weigh-in, Rate of Gain, Market Sale, etc.
9. Lambs shown in the born & raised market class cannot be shown in the bred & fed class or a regular market class or vice versa.
10. Lambs will need to be declared Market, bred & fed, or born & raised at Haul-in (August 25, 2025). A sheep committee member will remove any extra tags at this time if necessary.
11. Champion and Reserve champions will be chosen in the born & raised category. Champion and reserve champion born and raised animals are NOT terminal UNLESS they win the Overall Grand Champion and/or Overall Reserve Grand Champion – at which point the lamb will be deemed terminal. If an exhibitor chooses to enter the final drive, their lamb will sell at their appropriate placement of the top 15 lambs of the final drive The top 5 Born & Raised lambs can opt out of the overall final drive the exhibitor chooses to not participate in the overall final drive if the lamb is a ewe lamb, at which point, the lamb will sell at the bottom of the top 15.

 **Bred & Fed Rules \*Market Project book**

1. Bred & fed lambs are to be designated at Tag-in.
2. Lambs must be born in Stark County. The breeder must sign an Affidavit stating the animal was born on their property and must list the Scrapie Tag number. This form is to be turned in at the June 7, 2025 Tag-in (or alternate Tag-in on June 5, 2025). You can find this form attached at the end of the rules. Please print the Verification Form for your breeder to complete. PLEASE NOTE: you must have a different form for each animal you are entering in the Bred & Fed class.
3. If a lamb was previously tagged at the exhibitor’s farm as a potential “Born & Raised” lamb and is being exhibited by the family that owns the lamb, a Breeder Affidavit form is NOT necessary if the exhibitor chooses to use the lamb in the Bred & Fed category.
4. The breeder/scrapie tag number will be verified as a Stark County breeder through the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. If the breeder/scrapie tag number is unable to be verified as a Stark County breeder, the lamb will be disqualified from the Bred & Fed category.
5. All other market class exhibition rules apply.
6. Lambs shown in the Bred & Fed class cannot be shown in the Born & Raised or regular market class.
7. Market lambs, Bred & Fed lambs, and Born & Raised lambs will be declared at Haul-in. A sheep committee member will remove any extra tags at this time if necessary.
8. Champion and Reserve Champions will be chosen in the Bred & Fed category. Champion and Reserve champion Bred & Fed animals are NOT terminal UNLESS they win Overall Grand Champion and/or Overall Reserve Grand Champion – at which point the lamb will be deemed terminal. Bred & Fed lambs will sell at their appropriate placement of the top 15 lambs of the final drive after the Champions and Reserve Champions. (i.e. exhibitor enters final drive for Overall Grand/Reserve Champion and places 5th in the overall final drive. The lamb would NOT be considered terminal and that exhibitor’s lamb will sell after the champions with the remaining 3rd-15th place final drive lambs.)

**Purchase/possession**

1. All animals must be procured and in the possession of the members by June 1, 2025

**Breeding Sheep Rules \*Breeding project book**

1. Your first year you may only take BEGINNER projects (refer to show classes).
2. Your second year you may take beginner projects as well as INTERMEDIATE projects (refer to show classes).
3. You third year you may take beginner, intermediate, and ADVANCED projects (refer to show classes).
4. You MUST take a Beginner project prior to taking an Intermediate project. You must take an Intermediate project prior to taking an Advanced project.
5. You are permitted to bring more than one (1) project per breed of sheep; HOWEVER, you may only have ONE ENTRY PER CLASS, except for Pair Classes.
	1. (For example, as a Beginner, you may bring a Suffolk ewe lamb and a Shetland ewe lamb because one would be in the “meat ewe lamb” class and one would be in the “wool ewe lamb” class. You may NOT bring a Suffolk ewe lamb and an oxford ewe lamb because they would both be in the “meat ewe lamb” class.)
6. In the Advanced projects, you are permitted to show the same animals that are entered in the Advanced project classes into beginner and intermediate projects as well (example, ewe and offspring sheep can be entered in the yearling ewe class and ewe/ram lamb classes as well).
7. Ewe and Offspring--The offspring must not be older than 1 year of age. The offspring may be a ram or ewe. The ewe may be aged.
8. Any exhibitor in need of assistance with a breeding sheep project may request assistance from another registered Stark County Fair sheep exhibitor. The exhibitor who owns the sheep must be the main person showing at the head of the animal. This rule does NOT apply to breeding showmanship—the exhibitor must show alone in their showmanship class.

**Wool \*Breeding project book**

1. Fleeces must be from a sheep owned by the Junior Fair member or parent/guardian. The sheep whose fleece you will be showing must be on the Junior Fair member’s place of residence but does not need to be from an exhibited animal.
2. Lamb fleeces are permitted and should be at least 2 ½ inches long. Remember, you are marketing your wool for hand spinners.
3. Each exhibitor may enter up to three (3) fleeces (including your first year). The fleece may be in the Fine, Medium, or Long categories, with no more than two of the same types of fleeces in each category. (i.e. you may have one Fine, one Medium, and one Long, or you may have two Fine, and one Medium— either for a total of three (3) fleeces. Fleeces should be placed in a clear, plastic bag, with **NAME, TYPE OF FLEECE/CATEGORY, AND CLUB NAME** attached to the bag. The wool will store better if stored in a cool dry place until fair time.
4. There will be three wool fleece classes--Fine, Medium, & Long Wool. Judge will make final decision on which class the fleece will be placed. Wool Show will take place in the Grange Building barn on Thursday, August 28, 2025 at noon.
5. All wool fleeces must be skirted. Fleeces that are not skirted to an acceptable standard may be disqualified at the judge’s discretion. Disqualified fleeces will not be sold
6. Champion fleeces will be assessed 8% of the sale price and Reserve Champion Fleece will be assessed 5.5% of the sale price. All other fleeces will be assessed a $12.50 charge, as well as the buyer’s photo fee for all, if necessary. All assessments are used for marketing, capital improvements to our sheep barn, clinics, programs, etc. for our exhibitors.
7. It is the exhibitor’s responsibility to get pictures taken for their wool project. The date, time, and place for pictures will be announced closer to fair.

1. All wool project exhibitors must bring at least one breeding sheep project from their appropriate beginner, intermediate or advanced project level to fair.

**Wool Breed Examples:**

*Fine wool breeds:* Rambouillet, Cormo, Dabouillet, Targhee

*Medium Wool Breeds:* Cheviot, Columbia, Corriedale, Dorset, Hampshire Montadale, North Country, Finn, oxford, Polypay, Romney, Shropshire, Southdown, Suffolk, baby doll, California reds, Jacob, Shetland

*Medium to Long wool breeds*: Lincoln, Teeswater, Wensleydale, Border Leicester, Blue Face, Coopsworth, Cotswold, Gotland.

**Tag-in at Fairgrounds**

1. All market lambs will be identified, ear tagged, and weighted by the Sheep Committee on Saturday June 7, 2025 from 8:00-10:00a.m. at the Stark County Fairgrounds. There will be a $5.00 charge per animal at the Tag-In. (See Sheep Project Rules Number 1 and 2 for total number of lambs.) Your carcass animal must come from these tagged animals. Lambs must be scrapie tagged on entry to the fairgrounds.
2. If any animal loses an ear tag, a Sheep Committee member must be notified within 72 hours so the tag can be replaced. There must be evidence of a fresh tear or the animal will not be re-tagged.
3. ALL SHEEP MUST BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE USDA SCRAPIE TAG REGULATIONS! All sheep must have a scrapie tag at the June 7, 2025 Tag-in and weigh-in. All market ram lambs must be castrated before the June 7, 2025 tag in and weigh in. There must be no evidence of testicular tissue noticeable by Haul-in. Due to possible continued growth of testicular tissue, clamping (pinching) will not be allowed. Banding or surgical removal will be the only options of castration permitted.
4. All ear tags must be legible and clean at fair Tag-In. Stark County Fair tags and USDA scrapie tags are the only tags that are to be in the animal’s ear. All other tags will be removed.
5. An alternate Tag-in date of Thursday, June 5, 2025 from 6-7p.m. will be provided to those exhibitors that have a verifiable sheep related educational/exhibition function only on June 7, 2025. You must contact a Sheep Committee member to be scheduled for the alternate Tag-in date.

**Carcass \*Market project book**

*Weight-in: Monday August 18, 2025 @ 5-7:30 p.m.*

*Evaluation: Wednesday, August 20, 2025 @ 5p.m.*

*Above to be conducted at Don’s Custom Meats, 7400 June Rd. Waynesburg, Ohio 44688*

1. All members entered in this class must be enrolled in a market lamb project. In order to receive awards, exhibitors must complete market animal project requirements (including a market project book).
2. Champion and reserve champion and the next 3 carcass animals will sell through the junior fair auction in their respective placement (based on live weight). To receive a junior fair carcass premium, members must make and display a *poster above their pens* in the sheep barn during the fair. This poster should be no larger than 18x24, contain a carcass theme, and at least 3 relative carcass facts. *Posters must be brought to the fair during Haul in.*
3. Members will be permitted to exhibit one (1) animal in the carcass contest. Each exhibitor will sell carcass as freezer meat. It will be the sole responsibility of each exhibitor to find a buyer, negotiate a price, collect payment, and make sure that the buyers contact the processor with directions for packing. Completed cut sheets will be due at carcass drop off!
4. Champions will be assessed 8% of the sale price and Reserve Champions 5.5% of the sale price. In addition, lambs will be assessed according to the mandated lamb check-off when applicable. The third, fourth and fifth place carcass will be assessed $15.00, as well as the buyer’s photo fee for all, if necessary, from the sale price. The commission fee will be deducted from the proceeds of the auction. All assessments are used for marketing, capital improvements to our sheep barn, clinics, programs, etc. for our exhibitors.
5. Processing charges must be paid upon pick up at the processor’s plant. The buyer pays these charges. Exhibitors of the Champion carcasses are responsible for the delivery of processed meat to the buyers.
6. All lambs entered and weighed must be slaughtered. (Any animal unloaded must be slaughtered within 12 hours.)
7. Carcass evaluation for lambs will be held at the processor’s plant (Don’s Custom Meats) on Wednesday, August 20, 2025 @ 5:00p.m.
8. It is the exhibitor’s responsibility to get pictures taken for their carcass project if they place in the top 5 and will be selling their project at the stark county fair. IF YOU DO NOT GET YOUR PICTURE TAKEN, YOU DO NOT SELL YOUR PROJECT.
9. There are no weight limits for carcass lambs.

**Skillathon**

1. All members exhibiting at the fair must participate in the sheep clinic/skillathon. Skillathon will be held on August 17, 2025 from 1-3pm at the fairgrounds. Estimated time of completion for skillathon is 1 hour.
2. If you do not participate in the skillathon, you will be UNABLE to show or sell your animal.
3. If you cannot attend the skillathon, it is your responsibility to notify the sheep committee and coordinate arrangements for a make-up. If the exhibitor cannot attend the skillathon, they will be ineligible for any skillathon related prizes.( age group winner or over all skillathon winner)
4. Your up-to-date COMPLETED project book will be due at skillathon and is a part of your overall skillathon grade.
5. If any assistance with completion of the sheep project books is needed, our mentoring program committee members are available for assistance. Please contact a sheep committee member if you are in need of assistance. \*\*Please note: if the project book is not up-to-date at skillathon or it is found that a previous year’s project book is submitted, the exhibitor will be ineligible for any skillathon related prizes.

**HAUL-IN/CHECK-IN \*\*9AM-1PM & 4PM-9PM\*\***

1. All ear tags must be legible and clean at fair check-in. Stark County Fair tags and USDA scrapie tags are the only tags that are to be in the animal’s ear.
2. All DUNF forms must be submitted electronically before Monday, August 25, 2025 as directed by the sheep committee or the Stark County Jr. Fair coordinator before your animal will be checked in. water must be placed in the pen before you place your animal in the pen.
3. No animal may enter the barn without first being checked in by a sheep committee member. PLEASE COMPLETELY REMOVE ALL BLANKETS PRIOR TO CHECK IN.
4. All market lambs must be uniformly slick shorn before check-in. All lambs will be inspected at check-in. A committee member/fair veterinarian will inform you if your lamb doesn’t meet the standard. Breeding sheep do NOT need to be slick shorn.
5. Exhibitor must declare which lambs will be entered into the Market class, Born & Raised class, and Bred & Fed class at check-in. A Sheep Committee member will remove any extra tag at this time if necessary.
6. It is the *exhibitor’s responsibility* to be present to take pictures of your animals. Mandatory pictures will be Tuesday, August 26, 2025 at 5:00p.m. and the place for pictures will be announced closer to fair. IF YOU DO NOT GET YOUR PICTURES TAKEN, YOU WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE TO SELL AT THE AUCTION.
7. Lambs weighing over 160 pounds or under 90 pounds at check-in/weigh-in on Monday, August 25, 2025 will be permitted to remain at the fairgrounds but, **WILL NOT** be eligible to place in the champion classes.
8. Champion Rate of Gain will be assessed 8% of the sale price and Reserve Champion Rate of Gain will be assessed 5.5% of the sale price, as well as the buyer’s photo fee, if necessary, from the sale price.

**SHOW DAY**

1. The Sheep Committee recommends collared shirts & hard shoes when showing. Appropriate attire must be worn in show ring. Sheep Committee reserves the right to approve attire.
2. All animals exhibited must be shown for grading.
3. No Market lamb project may be shown in Breeding class and no Breeding project may be shown in Market class. You must show your own animal **unless approved by the Sheep Committee**.
4. Unless special assistance is needed, anyone assisting another exhibitor in showing his or her animal must be enrolled as a 4H member or FFA member, and/or be a current Junior Fair sheep exhibitor in Stark County.
5. Judge’s decision is final. Final drive (Championship drive) format will be up to the discretion of the Judge.
6. All Market lambs, Born & Raised lambs, and Bred & Fed lambs must be in their pens by 10:00 a.m. on show day. Breeding sheep must be in pens by 8:00 a.m. on show day.

*The show order will go as follows:*

Breeding Show

Breeding Showmanship

Market Showmanship

Born & Raised Classes

Bred & Fed Classes

Market Lamb Classes

SHEEP BREEDING CLASSES

Beginner Sheep Breeding Projects (First year and beyond)

1. Ewe Lamb (Meat or Wool, born after September 1, 2024)
2. Ram Lamb (Meat or Wool, born after September 1, 2024)
3. Yearling Ewe (Meat or Wool, over 1 year/under 2 years of age)

Intermediate Sheep Breeding Projects (After completing a Beginner project)

1. Yearling Ram (Meat or Wool, over 1 year/under 2 years of age)
2. Pair of sheep (yearling ewes, yearling rams, ewe lambs, ram lambs)
3. Meat/wool Aged sheep (2 years of age or older but exhibitor must enter a wool project at fair)

Advanced Sheep Breeding Projects (After completing a Beginner and Intermediate project)

1. Ewe and her offspring (Meat or Wool, offspring must be born after 9/1/24, Ewe may be aged)
2. Breeder’s Flock (Meat or Wool, a yearling ewe, ewe lamb, and ram--yearling or lamb. Must be same breed)

*\*All of the above projects will be split into Meat and Wool breeds for the show.*

Champion Sheep Breeding

 Champion & Reserve Meat Ram and Champion & Reserve Meat Ewe

 Champion & Reserve Wool Ram and Champion & Reserve Wool Ewe

Showmanship

\*\*Classes will be based on the age of the exhibitor as of 1/1/2025 (exhibitor’s 4H registration age)

Senior 16 and up

 Intermediate 13-15

 Junior 10-12

 Beginner 12 and under, first year enrolled in project

Champion of Champions Breeding/Market Lamb Showmanship--to compete the exhibitor must have won their respective showmanship class. If the exhibitor has won any of these classes in the past and have not moved up to the next age class, they will automatically be placed in this class. Once they move into the next class, they will no longer be in the Champion of Champion class, and they will have to win their respective class to qualify.

Market Lamb Classes

Born & Raised Classes

Born & Raised Champions

Bred & Fed Classes

Bred & Fed Champions

Market Classes

Market Champions

Overall Grand and Reserve Champion

The final drive will consist of the top 5 lambs from the Born & Raised, Bred & Fed and Market classes. The Overall Grand and Reserve champion lambs WILL BE TERMINAL. The top 5 Born & Raised lambs ONLY will still have the option to withdraw from the Overall market competition if they choose to prevent their lamb from becoming terminal (ewe lambs only), but no movement beyond 5th place will be made into the overall drive. If withdrawn from the overall drive, they will be placed in the bottom of the sale order in the 3rd through 15th place lambs.

**MARKET SALE**

1. All market animals exhibited must be sold through the auction.
2. Breeding stock will not be permitted to be sold at the auction.
3. The Sheep Committee will establish market lamb sale orders.

If no lambs withdraw, the sale order will be as follows:

Grand Champion Overall Market Lamb

Reserve Champion Overall Market Lamb

Champion Market Lamb

Reserve Champion Market Lamb

Champion Born & Raised Lamb

Reserved Champion Born & Raised Lamb

Champion Bred & Fed Lamb

Reserve Champion Bred & Fed Lamb

Champion Carcass Lamb

Reserve Champion Carcass Lamb

Champion Rate of Gain

Reserve Champion Rate of Gain

\*3rd through 15th place from the Overall Market Lamb final drive

3rd through 5th place from Carcass

All 1sts in class (in random order)

All 2nds in class (in random order)…

1. A charge of $15.00 per head, as well as the buyer’s photo fee for all, if necessary, for market lambs will be assessed. The Sheep Committee and Marketing committee will use the monies to cover promotion, advertising, and operative expenses. Champions will be assessed 8% of the sale price and Reserve Champions 5.5% of the sale price. In addition, all lambs will be assessed accordingly to the mandated lamb check-off (when applicable). All assessments are used for marketing, capital improvements to our sheep barn, clinics, programs, etc. for our exhibitors.
2. Animals purchased may not be removed from the pens until checked out by the committee member in charge. Each exhibitor is responsible for the feeding and care of his or her animal until the fair is completed.
3. No personal speeches will be permitted during the market lamb sale unless approved by the sheep committee or it is the exhibitor’s last year.
4. Market lamb sale will be held on Saturday, August 30, 2025
5. All exhibitors must be in pens by noon or as directed by the sheep committee
6. Mandatory thank you notes for buyers must be turned into the committee by Sunday, August 31, 2025 at noon. If you have multiple buyers, you must fill out a thank you note for EACH BUYER. Make sure to include buyer’s address, your return address, and postage. NO THANK YOU CARD=NO CHECK!

**LOAD OUT**

1. Load out will take place on Monday, September 1, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. or at the discretion of the Junior Fair Committee. Animals must be cared for until that time. This includes feeding on load out day prior to 4:00 p.m. No tear down until animals are gone. Of note, animals will be marked for load out on the evening of Sunday August 31, 2025. If you wish to say any departing words to your animal, this would be the best time as processors may take animals as early as midnight.
2. All displays must remain intact until 5:00 p.m. the last day of the fair. At that time, all displays and decorations must be removed. Barn will be closed to the public at 4:00 p.m. for load out.

**2024 Junior Fair**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Overall Grand Champion Lamb | Elliot Walters |
| Overall Reserve Champion Lamb | Aria Diehl |
| Champion Market Lamb | Elliot Walters |
| Reserve Champion Market Lamb | Lillian Klebaum |
| Champion Born & Raised Lamb | Elise Rohrer |
| Reserve Champion Born & Raised Lamb | Cora Miller |
| Champion Bred & Fed Lamb | Elliot Walters |
| Reserve Champion Bred & Fed Lamb | Lillian Klebaum |
| Champion Wool | Logan Burnett |
| Reserve Champion Wool | Ashleigh Milosevich |
| Champion Rate of Gain | Cora Wines |
| Reserve Champion Rate of Gain | Laura Seward Wyatt Speakman |
| Sheep Ambassador | Ashleigh Milosevich |
| Junior Sheep Ambassador | Abbigale Camp- Catrell |

**Sheep Committee Members**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Co Chairman | Kelly Ranker | 330-323-5155 |  | Linda Walker | 330-639-8291 |
| Co Chairman | Liz Evans | 330-575-4261 |  | Ed Walker | 330-417-8998 |
| Vice Chairman | Chris Goegan | 330-206-2555 |  | Lyssa Darrah | 330-361-9488 |
| Secretary | Taylor Darrah | 330-361-9998 |  | Jeff Darrah | 234-237-6243 |
| Treasurer | Marci Shaw | 330-268-3831 |  | Kelly Rohrer | 330-806-1393 |
|  | Marlene Estock | 330-418-3474 |  | Herb Klebaum | 330-353-0306 |
|  | Sherry McCracken | 330-206-2042 |  |  |  |

*Junior Committee Members:* Gavin Milosevich, Ella Davis, Cora Wines, Ashleigh Milosevich, Elise Rohrer

**2025 Sheep Project Calendar**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| March 15 | 4-H Project Entry Deadline |  |
| June 1 | All QUALITY ASSURANCE must be completed |  |
| June 5 | Alternate Tag in Day 6-7pm *(\*Tag in section rule #5)* | Fairgrounds-Sheep barn |
| June 7 | TAG IN & WEIGH IN 8am-10am Project animal must be in your possession | Fairground-Sheep barn |
| July 15 | Ruth Ann Dickerhoof Memorial Sheep Contest Essays due |  |
| July 25 | ENTRY DEADLINE-electronically submitted |  |
| August 17 | SKILLATHON 1pm-3pm& Ambassador Interviews | Fairgrounds |
| August 18 | Carcass drop off from 5pm-7:30pm  | Fairground-Goat barn |
| August 20 | Carcass Cooler Evaluation 5 pm  | Don’s Custom MeatsWaynesburg, OH |
| August 25 | Haul-in/Check in 9am-1pm & 4pm-9pm (DUNF, picture release forms, lambs need to be slickshorn) | Fairgrounds-Sheep barn |
| August 26-September 1 | **STARK COUNTY FAIR Y’ALL** | **😊**  |
| Tuesday, August 26 | Pictures 5pm (alternate time TBD)  | Coliseum (across from sheep barn or new backdrop by North fence) |
| Wednesday, August 27 | Sheep show @ 8:30am | Sheep/Swine arena |
| Thursday, August 28 | Wool show @ 12:00pm | Grange Building |
| Friday, August 29 | Pee-Wee and Mutton Bustin sheep shows @ 6:00pm  | Bellstore’s Arena |
| Saturday, August 30 | Sheep Auction @ 12:30 (GOATS, WOOL, LAMBS) | Bellstore’s Arena |
| Sunday, August 31 | Thank you cards due by noon | Turn in at Sheep Barn |
| Monday, September 1 | Animal release 4pm market, 6pm breeding animals |  |
| September 18 | Deadline to cleanout stalls |  |