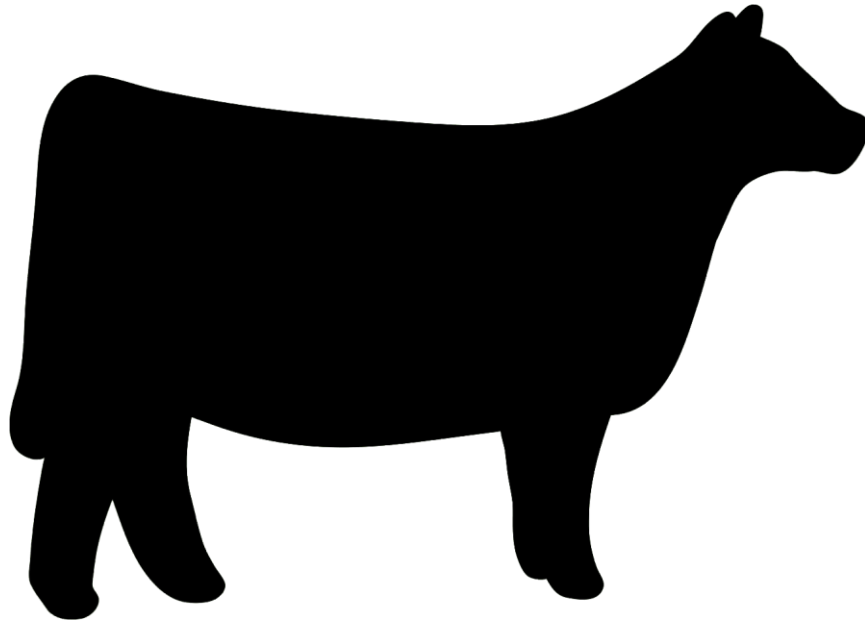


2026

Stark County Junior Fair Beef Breeding Rules



YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR OWN ENTRY
THROUGH THE ONLINE FAIR ENTRY PROGRAM!!

DEADLINE IS JULY 24th 2026

NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED

Web Page: www.starkcountyjrfair4h.com

Facebook: [Stark County Jr. Fair Steer Committee](#)

Stark County Junior Fair – OVERALL General Rules for ALL Species

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 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. 4H eligibility begins at age 5 (and in kindergarten as of January 1) and ends December 31st of the year in which they attain the age of 19.
2. Exhibitors in 4H classes must be enrolled in 4H club work 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. Health papers must be shown, if requested, to the proper person before an animal is assigned a stall.
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 Fair Veterinarian, Junior Fair Coordinator and/or Barn Superintendent. Any animal removed without proper permission will be subject to 1-year suspension for the exhibitor.
7. Members are required to clean stalls or pens daily and maintain a neat and presentable area. Failure to keep the area clean or properly feed and water livestock may result in the committee withholding payment.
8. Anyone assisting with showing another exhibitor's animal must be enrolled as a current 4H or FFA or other youth organization member in Stark County.
9. All animals must remain on exhibit at the fair until 4:00 p.m. on Monday, the last day of the fair.
10. All animals sold remain the property of the member and in the member's care until Fair release time, 4:00 p.m., Monday, the last day of the fair. *Please be advised, some market animals may be released to contracted Livestock Brokers prior to the 4pm release time.*

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 in the calendar year. All Grand and Reserve Grand Champion market animals are terminal**. **Does NOT apply to the Dairy Beef Feeder project**
12. Exhibitors are responsible for their own veterinary bill.
13. Veterinarians assigned to the Fair for check-in will decide all matters of health, presence of disease and stall release.
14. The Fair Board will provide ribbons and/or appropriate awards. If the budget is exceeded, the Fair Board reserves the right to prorate cash premiums.
15. Eligible youth may participate in both 4-H (clubs) and Vocational Agriculture (FFA) or be members of either organization. However, those involved in both must carry separate and distinct projects, including different animals and/or products, for each organization. Examples of distinct projects include Sheep Breeding, Market Lambs, Pullets, and Broilers. The same or similar animals or products cannot be exhibited in both organizations, even if classified under different projects or programs. Additionally, an animal or product may not be shown in more than one county in 4-H 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 at midnight By or July 24th - NO EXCEPTIONS - No Changes will be permitted after entry deadline.
19. *A junior livestock show exhibitor shall be responsible for the continuous care, grooming, and preparation of the livestock entered in the junior livestock show. An exhibitor may receive assistance in the care, grooming, and preparation of the livestock entered in the junior livestock show, provided that the assistance shall be limited to explanation or demonstration provided by the following: Family members (as identified in OAC Rule 901-19-31; "Family" includes, but is not limited to, the exhibitor's parent, step-parent, foster parent, grandparent, step-grandparent, foster grandparent, aunt, uncle, sibling, step-sibling, half-sibling, son, daughter, step-child, or guardian; Household members; Advisors or adult volunteers of 4-H or FFA in the exhibitor's club or county; Agricultural education instructors; County extension agents; Department representatives; Veterinarians; Members of the exhibitor's 4-H club, FFA chapter, or other youth organizations; and Guest speakers of the 4-H, FFA, or other youth organizations. Any person not specified in paragraph (B) of this rule who provides assistance to a junior livestock show exhibitor shall register in writing with the sponsor. The responsibility to register rests with the exhibitor. An assistant may register for more than one exhibitor. Failure to register constitutes grounds for disciplinary action against the*

exhibitor. Assistance shall be limited to explanation and minimal demonstration.

20. No one may handle a Junior Fair exhibitor's animal(s) without the exhibitor's permission, except in an emergency. Committee members are permitted to handle animals as part of their regular duties, including during the show, sale, weigh-in, photos, loading, and unloading.
21. Judges' Decisions are Final.
22. Any Medical/School excuses must be submitted in writing to Committee Chair and Junior Fair Coordinator.
23. ALL Junior Fair Exhibitors are REQUIRED to attend a QUALITY ASSURANCE (QA) CLINIC by JUNE 1 before the fair. Exhibitors who do not complete this requirement will be ineligible to show at the fair or bring a carcass.
24. Exhibitors must complete an online DRUG USE NOTIFICATION FORM (DUNF) for all market and lactating animals before the show. Failure to comply WILL result in disqualification from showing. This requirement is mandated by the Ohio Department of Agriculture under Ohio Revised Code 901-19-06 and 901-19-07. All Junior Fair livestock must be free of drug residues on the first day of the fair unless otherwise noted on the DUNF. Exhibitors are responsible for the care of their market animals until the fair concludes, the drug withdrawal period ends, or if the animal is placed under quarantine.

Junior Fair Coordinator: Julie Pinter, jrfair@starkcountyfair.com, 330.455.7856

Junior Fair Livestock Barn Superintendents (Subject to Change)

Beef	Amber Shoemaker	Danny Schmucker/Sarah Yungen/Justin Durkin
Dairy	Justin Durkin	Dan Farnham/Ashley Royer/Sarah Yungen
Goat	Jill McNeil	Mikayla Durkin/Dave Stock/Jill Sterling
Horse	Mikayla Durkin	Dan McCracken/Justin Durkin
Poultry	Julie Nicholas	Justin Durkin/Ashley Royer
Sheep	Dave Stock	Jill McNeil/Drew Kissel
Swine	Mikayla Durkin	Sarah Yungen/Julie Nicholas
Rabbit/Cavy	Jill Sterling	Drew Kissel/Mikayla Durkin

(Please refer to the Fair Book for contact information or leave a message at office@starkcountyfair.com)

BEEF BREEDING RULES

1. Exhibitors must be enrolled in a Beef Breeding and/or Beef Feeder Calf project.
2. The Junior Fair exhibitor must have an animal which is either a purebred beef animal or a crossbred (having a beef sire) animal.
3. All Beef Breeding/Feeder Calf animals will be housed and displayed within their club's designated area during the week at the Stark County Fair.
4. **Horns must be blunt cut, but are discouraged.**
5. The exhibitor must wear clean clothes. Clean jeans and a button up shirt or blouses are recommended. Tee shirts, slogan shirts, ball caps or clothes with advertising on them are NOT permitted. NO TENNIS SHOES. BOOTS ARE RECOMMENDED. Advertising apparel **IS NOT** permitted to be worn in the judging ring.
6. The Junior Fair Beef Committee reserves the right to remove any animal from the show if that animal is unruly and a threat to the safety of other animals or people.
7. The Junior fair Beef Committee will make the determination of any grievances and class disputes.
8. **All beef feeder calves will be weighed during the designated Market Beef check-in time August 31, 2026 5:00-8:00PM.**
9. Beef Breeding projects are to be double restrained in the barn at the fair. One restraint is to be a halter; the second restraint is to be a collar or a necktie. Cross-Tie is recommended.
10. All grooming chutes and awnings must be at least twelve (12) feet from the Dairy Barn and the Goat/Sheep barn.
11. All grooming chutes must be removed from the fairgrounds by 10AM, Sunday after the shows.
12. All fans must be placed at the sides or at the heads of the animals. **One fan per post and must face North.** ABSOLUTELY NO BUTT FANS WILL BE PERMITTED.
13. Veterinarians assigned to the fair for check-in will decide all matters of health, presence of disease and stall release.
14. **A junior livestock show exhibitor shall be responsible for the continuous care, grooming, and preparation of the livestock entered in the junior livestock show. An exhibitor may receive assistance in the care, grooming, and preparation of the livestock entered in the junior livestock show, provided that the assistance shall be limited to explanation or demonstration provided by the following: Family members (as identified in OAC Rule 901-**

19-31; "Family" includes, but is not limited to, the exhibitor's parent, step-parent, foster parent, grandparent, step-grandparent, foster grandparent, aunt, uncle, sibling, step-sibling, half-sibling, son, daughter, step-child, or guardian; *Household members; Advisors or adult volunteers of 4-H or FFA in the exhibitor's club or county; Agricultural education instructors; County extension agents; Department representatives; Veterinarians; Members of the exhibitor's 4-H club, FFA chapter, or other youth organizations; and Guest speakers of the 4-H, FFA, or other youth organizations.* Any person not specified in paragraph (B) of this rule who provides assistance to a junior livestock show exhibitor shall register in writing with the sponsor. The responsibility to register rests with the exhibitor. An assistant may register for more than one exhibitor. Failure to register constitutes grounds for disciplinary action against the exhibitor. Assistance shall be limited to explanation and minimal demonstration. This includes all projects enrolled in the Stark County Fair from September 1 - September 7, 2026.

I. PURCHASING / POSSESSION

1. The beef breeding animal(s) must be in the exhibitor's care by June 1, 2026.

II. SKILL-A-THON

1. SKILL-A-THON IS MANDATORY TO SHOW
2. An All-Species Skill-A-Thon will take place May 16th, 2026. 9am- 2pm at the Exhibition Hall at the fairgrounds.
3. Make-Up will be TBA and **by appointment only**

III. HAUL IN/CHECK-IN

1. All beef breeding animals will be Checked-In and/or Weighed-In for the Stark County Fair on Monday, August 31, 2026 from 5:00PM-8:00PM in the Beef Barn.
2. Barn will be open to arrivals all day

VI. BEEF BREEDING SHOW

Beef breeding animals will show in classes by breed and age. Whether a championship is awarded or not, is entirely at the discretion of the judge. First place class winners will compete for Grand Champion and Reserve Champion breed honors.

Classes:

1. Class 1 - Females born between January 1 – May 1 of the current year.
2. Class 2 - Females born between September 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025
3. Class 3 - Females born between May 1, 2025– August 31, 2025

4. Class 4 - Females born between January 1, 2025 – April 30, 2024
5. Class 5 - Females born between September 1, 2024– December 31, 2024.
 - a. If the animal has freshened, the calf must be exhibited.
6. Class 6 - Cow with natural born Calf - Calf born after January 1, 2026
7. Class 7 - Junior Bull Calf – born after January 1, 2026

V. BEEF FEEDER CALF

1. All beef feeder calves will be weighed during the designated Market Beef check-in time August 31, 2026 5:00-8:00PM.
2. All feeder calves must be born on or between January 1 and June 1, of the current year.
3. Feeder calves will be shown by weight.
4. Beef feeders must be steers.
5. Feeder Calf steers must be castrated by August 1st.

VI. BEEF BREEDING AND FEEDER CALF SHOWMANSHIP

(Age as of January 1, current year) **SHOWMANSHIP IS MANDATORY.**

1. Class order (all ages as of January 1, current year)
 - SENIOR SHOWMANSHIP (16-18 YEARS OLD)**
 - INTERMEDIATE SHOWMANSHIP (13-15 YEARS OLD)**
 - JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP (9-12 YEARS)**
 - FIRST-YEAR BEEF BREEDING SHOWMANSHIP (1ST YEAR IN ANY BEEF/DAIRY PROJECT NOT JUST BEEF BREEDING)**
2. Exhibitors must use their own beef breeding project.
3. Exhibitors must show an entry enrolled in Stark County Junior Fair
4. Champion Beef Breeding Showman will be selected from the above listed age divisions and will represent the Beef Breeding in the Showman of Showman competition.
5. Showmanship on Tuesday following the beef breeding and feeder calf show.
6. SHOWMANSHIP CLASSES CAN BE CHANGED AT THE DISCRETION OF THE BEEF COMMITTEE.

VII. Beef Breeding Breeds & Requirements

Angus	AOB
Cross	Hereford
Maine	Simmental
Shorthorn	

Registered heifers that do not have their own breed division offered will show in the AOB division, providing they meet their breed's minimum percentage to be eligible to show at their respective breed's national junior shows. ALL AOB heifers will show in one division.

Registered cattle that do NOT meet the breed percentage requirement for their respective breed's national junior eligibility requirement will show in the Crossbred division, not as an AOB.

VIII. BEEF BREEDING & BEEF FEEDER CALF AWARDS

1. Grand Champion Beef Breeding
2. Reserve Grand Champion Beef Breeding
3. Grand Champion Beef Breeding Showmanship
4. Reserve Grand Champion Beef Breeding Showmanship
5. Grand Champion Beef Feeder Calf
6. Reserve Grand Champion Beef Feeder Calf
7. Grand Champion Beef Breeding Bull
8. Reserve Grand Champion Beef Breeding Bull

IV. LOAD OUT

1. Breeding animals are released TBD.
2. All stall decorations are to remain in place until 4:00PM.

BEEF COMMITTEE CONTACT INFORMATION

Dustin Adams (330) 495-5023

Rick Christie (330) 388 3314

Suzy Dawson (330) 933-8172

Rachel Estock (330) 904-6844

Mitch Evans (330) 447-2109

Jay Gainey (330) 284-7990 - President

Rick Horner (330) 705-5139 - Treasurer

Bill Kegley (330) 409-3109

Abby Kiplinger (330) 231-8407

Krista Kiplinger (419) 490-6578 - Assistant Secretary

Lexi Maurer (330) 581-0070 - Assistant Treasurer

Aaron Miller (330) 465-1122 - Vice President

Brian Miller (330) 465-0626

Andrew Motts (330) 842-0401

Marla Rohr (330) 705-9234 - Secretary

Steve Seifert (330) 458-9507

Stan Soehnlén (330) 312-1147

Taylor Ward (330) 685-0814

Support Members: Dean Pugh, Trisha Gainey, Richard Domer, Richard Linder, Dean Pugh, Tom Seifert, Richard Wheeler

JR Fair Members: Audrey Motts