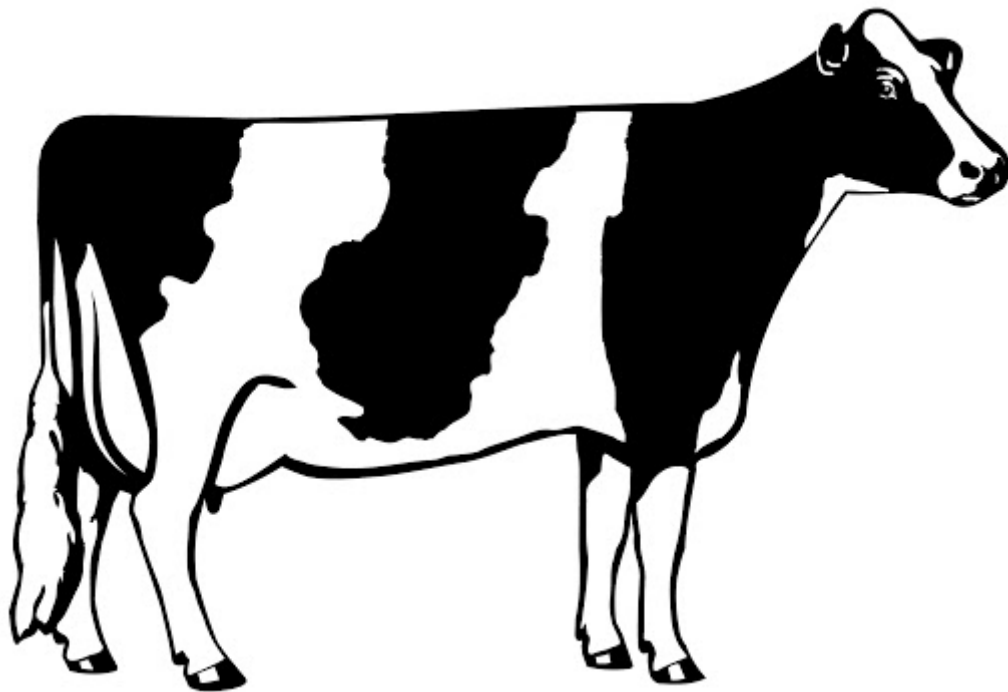


# 2026

## JUNIOR FAIR

### DAIRY FEMALE RULES



*Remember: You are responsible for your own entry!!*

**Entry Deadline is July 24, 2026**

**NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

**NO CHANGES permitted after the deadline of July 24<sup>th</sup>.**

**Please review Section III, Rule 3 for details on load in times.**

**ABSOLUTELY NO STALL CLEANING DURING LOAD-OUT**

**Website:** [www.starkcountyjrfair4h.com](http://www.starkcountyjrfair4h.com)

**Committee Facebook Page:** Stark County Jr. Fair Dairy Committee

## **2026-STARK COUNTY JUNIOR FAIR**

### **DAIRY COW & CALF PROJECT RULES**

#### **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  
jrffair@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](mailto:office@starkcountyfair.com))

## II. GENERAL DAIRY RULES & REQUIREMENTS:

1. Any boy or girl enrolled in a Stark County youth organization is eligible. They must abide by the rules and age limitations of said youth organization, (4-H, FFA, etc.) Any junior fair member (4H, FFA, etc.) showing in another county as a member of that county youth organization (4H, FFA, etc.) CANNOT compete in the Stark County Fair.
2. The Dairy Committee will be in charge of the Junior Fair exhibits/shows. The decisions of the committee will be final in accordance with Junior Fair guidelines.
3. See health requirements listed under Open Class, General and Dairy in the 2026 Stark County Fair Book.
4. 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. Livestock committee members may handle the animal during the normal course of their committee duties (i.e. loading, unloading, weigh-in, pictures, show, sale). Please refer to Stark County Junior Fair General Rule #17 for further clarification.
5. Each exhibitor is responsible for getting his/her animal in the correct class as announced.
6. Exhibitors should wear white shirts for both regular show and showmanship classes. Either black or white pants or shorts are acceptable.
7. Calves must be 100% one of the following breeds: Holstein, Jersey, Guernsey, Brown Swiss, Aryshire, or Milking Shorthorn.

8. After August 1<sup>st</sup>, project animals that are unable to come to the fair due to health reasons may be substituted at the discretion of the Junior Fair Dairy Committee.
9. All Junior Fair exhibitors will bring a copy of their registration papers/grade I. D. papers to the fair to be checked by a member of the Dairy Committee at **10:00 am on Tuesday, September 1, 2026**. Grade animals can be checked in with an ear tag.
10. All deadlines, dates, rules and regulations for the Junior Fair Dairy project will be strictly enforced by the Dairy Committee.
11. The use of drugs, tranquilizers, hormones, feed additives, grooming aids, etc. should be done with extreme caution and within local, state, and federal regulations. Any losses or condemnation at slaughter, etc., resulting from use or misuse of such products will be the sole responsibility of the Junior Fair exhibitor.
12. Veterinarians assigned to the fair on check-in day will decide all matters of health, certifications of health, presence of disease, stall release, etc.
13. The matter of insurance will be the sole responsibility of the exhibitor.
14. **All entries are due at the Jr. Fair Office no later than July 24, 2026.**
15. There must be a minimum of 3 animals in a breed before a trophy is awarded. In case of less than 3 animals, a rosette will be awarded.

### **III. MISCELLANEOUS EXHIBITION RULES:**

1. All members are responsible for the care of their animals from the official date of enrollment until release from the 2026 Stark County Fair. All displays **must** remain intact until 6:00 PM the last day of the fair. At that time all displays and decorations must be removed. BARN WILL BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC AT 3:00 PM FOR LOAD OUT OF MARKET ANIMALS.
2. Members must exhibit and care for their animals at the fair. Dairy must 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 **non-cinching neck tie** with lead rope.
3. Dairy Heifers /Heifer Calves must be in place by 10:00 am Tuesday. Dairy Cow Projects, that do not come in by Tuesday, need to move in from 5:00pm to 9:00 pm Thursday night. **To load in cows on Thursday, you may enter the NorthEast gate (by the hog barn) travel north along the fence and unload at the dairy barn, then exit the NorthWest gate and park in the out of county parking with your truck and trailer.** Cows that are Grand and Reserve Cheese Project must be present on Thursday for the Cheese Sale. A member's Dairy project exhibit must be stalled in the area assigned for his/her project(s), no other stall location will be permitted.
4. Kickboards at least 6" high must be behind the animals in assigned stall space for animals being exhibited at the fair. **Members must clean stalls and keep area neat and attractive at all times while exhibiting at the fair.**
5. All pens must be cleaned out at the conclusion of the fair. THERE WILL BE NO PEN CLEANING DURING LOAD-OUT UNTIL AFTER 10PM. ***If you do not clean out your pen, you will be assessed a \$10 per animal fee (deducted from your check) and may be unable to show at FAIR the following year.*** All pens must be cleaned out before September 8, 2026.

6. All animals and stalls must be cleaned by 10:00 a.m. DAILY. Each exhibitor is responsible for his/her animal. YOU MUST CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR ANIMAL WHEREVER THE ANIMAL HAS BEEN OR IS GOING (wash rack, aisles, milking parlor, show/sale arena, etc.) or you may be subject to a fine for each offense.
7. Skill-a-thon and project record books are mandatory for all dairy projects. Skill-a-thon must be completed on May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2026. Project books must be completed turned in by August 9, 2026. NO SHOWING OF THE ANIMAL IF SKILL-A-THON AND BOOKS ARE NOT COMPLETED BY THIS DATE.
8. Book Requirements - If you are enrolled in this project, you must take project book #126 that is purchased through the Extension office.
9. Anyone assisting with showing another exhibitor's animal must be enrolled as a Junior Fair member in Stark County in 2026.
10. 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, thefts, or loss of any kind.

#### **IV. DAIRY CATTLE SHOW:**

1. The judge will recognize every exhibitor. The judge's decision is final.
2. All Junior Fair project exhibitors are encouraged to participate in the grooming of their Junior Fair Dairy project.

#### **V. EXHIBIT CLASSES – ALL BREEDS (EACH BREED SHOWN SEPARATELY)**

Class 1	Spring Heifer Calf	March 1, 2026 – May 1, 2026 (over 4 months of age)
Class 2	Winter Heifer Calf	December 1, 2025 – February 28, 2026
Class 3	Fall Heifer Calf	September 1, 2025– November 30, 2025
Class 4	Summer Yearling Heifer	June 1, 2025 – August 31, 2025
Class 5	Spring Yearling Heifer	March 1, 2025– May 31, 2025
Class 6	Winter Yearling Heifer	December 1, 2024 – February 29, 2025
Class 7	Senior Yearling Heifer	September 1, 2024 –November 30, 2024
Class 8	Junior Pair*	One Calf and One Yearling Heifer
Class 9	Two-Year-Old Cow	September 1, 2023 – August 31, 2024
Class 10	Three-Year-Old Cow	September 1, 2022– August 31, 2023
Class 11	Four-Year-Old Cow	September 1, 2021 – August 31, 2022
Class 12	Aged Cow	Born before September 1, 2021
Class 13	Dry Cow	
Class 14	Dairy Herd*	Cow that has freshened at least once (in any stage of lactation), a Yearling Heifer and a Calf.

**\*Animals in Junior Pair and Dairy Herd must all be projects of one exhibitor.**

**(All breeds should be shown together.) NOTE: The Dairy Committee may split Classes 1, 2, & 3 in half according to age of exhibitors, based on the number of entries.**

## **VI. DAIRY CATTLE SHOWMANSHIP:**

1. All animals shown must be the project of the exhibitor in the contest.
2. Ribbons will be awarded in each division for the first five places.
3. All Dairy breeds are shown together.
4. Trophies will be awarded to the following class winners: Senior, Intermediate, Junior, First Year Division, Champion of Champions, and Reserve Champion of Champions.

**SHOWMANSHIP AGES:** All Dairy Projects – All Breeds – In order of show

(Ages are as of January 1 of the current year)

**Senior Division** 15 Years and up

**Intermediate Division** 12 – 14 Years

**Junior Division** 2<sup>nd</sup> Year or more Dairy member, 10 – 11 years (or 4<sup>th</sup> grade)

**First Year Division** 1<sup>st</sup> year Dairy members only, under 12 years

**Champion of Champion Dairy Showmanship**

## **VII. DAIRY CATTLE AWARDS**

First Year Dairy Showmanship

Intermediate Dairy Showmanship

Champion of Champion Dairy Showmanship

TLC Award- In Memory of Lowell Brenneman

Junior Dairy Showmanship

Senior Dairy Showmanship

Awards will be given in the following categories for breeds represented by three or more animals exhibited at the fair:

Junior Breed Champion

Senior Breed Champion

Grand Breed Champion

Champion Junior Dairy Pair

Reserve Junior Breed Champion

Reserve Senior Breed Champion

Reserve Breed Champion

Champion Dairy Herd

## 2026 Junior Fair Dairy Committee and Executive Committee

Aaron	Dickerhoof	Louisville	330.581.2971	<b>Chair</b>
Matthew	Wentling	Navarre	330.600.9068	<b>Vice-Chair</b>
Allison	Dawson	Louisville	330.806.9686	<b>Co-Vice-Chair</b>
Jennie	Schulz	Alliance	330.206.2509	<b>Secretary</b>
Kayla	Farnham	Louisville	330.605.4397	<b>Treasurer</b>
Deb	Dysle	East Canton	330.806.4280	
Emma	Ramsey	Louisville	234.360.9137	
Jacob	Dawson	Louisville	330.575.3939	
Paige	Smith	Minerva	330.615.0915	
Pamela	Parsons	N. Lawrence	330.844.3020	
Kara	Stuckey	Louisville	330.428.4377	