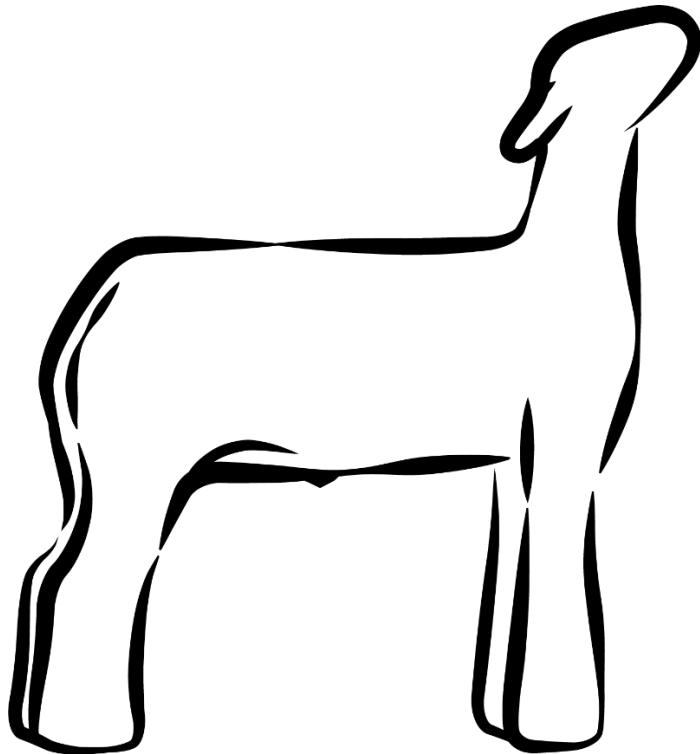


**2026**  
**Stark County Junior Fair**  
**Market Lamb & Breeding**  
**Sheep Rules**



Stark County Junior Fair Entry Form is to be Submitted ELECTRONICALLY.  
YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR OWN ENTRY!!  
\*\* DEADLINE IS **Friday, July 24, 2026** \*\*  
No Late Entries will be accepted

Web Page: <https://starkcountyjrfair4h.com/>  
Facebook Page: Stark County Sheep Committee

## **SHEEP RULES 2026**

### **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. 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.
23. 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)

## **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, 2026**
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.
  - a. 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 6, 2026** 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 6, 2026**, 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 6, 2026** 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 6, 2026**, 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 6, 2026** Tag-in. All market ram lambs must be castrated before the **June 6, 2026** 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 15, 2025** 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 **2026** Stark County Fair.
2. A list of bred ewes and scrapie tag numbers must be turned into the Sheep Committee at [StarkSheepCommittee@gmail.com](mailto:StarkSheepCommittee@gmail.com) by **November 15, 2025** 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, 2025**.

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, 2023. \*\*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) via text or to be emailed to the [StarkSheepCommittee@gmail.com](mailto:StarkSheepCommittee@gmail.com).
6. Junior Fair members need to contact **Lyssa Darrah (330-361-9488)** 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, 2026**.
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 31, 2026**). 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 if 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 6, 2026** Tag-in (or alternate Tag-in on **June 4, 2026**). 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 5<sup>th</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> place final drive lambs.)

## **Purchase/possession**

1. All animals must be procured and in the possession of the members by **June 6, 2026**

## **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.
  - a. (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.

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 two (2) fleeces (including your first year). The fleece may be in the Fine, Medium, or Long categories. 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, September 3, 2026** 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.
8. 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 6, 2026 from 8:00-am 1 pm** 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 6, 2026** Tag-in and weigh-in. All market ram lambs must be castrated before the **June 6, 2026** 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 4, 2026** from 6-7p.m. will be provided to those exhibitors that have a verifiable sheep related educational/exhibition function only on **June 6, 2026**. You must contact a Sheep Committee member to be scheduled for the alternate Tag-in date.
6. If you are unable to make any of the tag in dates, it is your responsibility to contact a committee member prior to tag in June 6, 2026. A \$50 farm visit charge will be charged for a committee member to come to your farm to tag animals.

## Carcass

\*Market project book

Weight-in: **Monday August 24, 2026** @ 5-7:30 p.m.

Evaluation: **Wednesday, August 26, 2026** @ 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 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 placed above pen with club decorations.
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 26, 2026** @ 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.
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 **May 16, 2026** at the fairgrounds (More Information to Follow). 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 overall 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 31, 2026** 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, September 1, 2026** 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. Market lambs less than 90 pounds or over 160 pounds and animals gaining less than .25 pounds per day from June 6, 2026 to the fair check-in/weigh-in on **Monday, August 31, 2026** will not be eligible to place in the champion classes (Total=21.5lbs). **(NOTE: If you checked in on the alternate Tag-In day of June 4, 2026, you will need to add an additional .25 pounds to make up for the**

additional day, making your total=21.75lbs or you will not be eligible to place in the champion classes.)

8. Market lambs weighing less than 90 pounds at check-in/weigh-in on Monday, August 31, 2026 will be evaluated by the committee for condition, health/ wellbeing. If the lamb is cleared by the committee or fair vet the lamb will be permitted to remain but will not be eligible for champion.
9. Lambs weighing over 160 pounds will be permitted to remain at the fairgrounds but, **WILL NOT** be eligible to place in the champion classes.
10. 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, 2026**)
2. Ram Lamb (Meat or Wool, born after **September 1, 2026**)
3. Yearling Ewe (Meat or Wool, over 1 year/under 2 years of age)

#### Intermediate Sheep Breeding Projects (After completing a Beginner project)

4. Yearling Ram (Meat or Wool, over 1 year/under 2 years of age)
5. Pair of sheep (yearling ewes, yearling rams, ewe lambs, ram lambs)
6. 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)

7. Ewe and her offspring (Meat or Wool, offspring must be born after 9/1/22, Ewe may be aged)
8. 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.*

**Awards:**

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 **1/1/2026** (exhibitor's 4H registration age)

Senior	16 and up
Intermediate	13-15
Junior	9-12
Beginner	12 years old and under, and first year enroll 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.

### SHOWMAN OF SHOWMEN SHOWMANSHIP

The winners from the Market lamb and Breeding sheep champion of champion showmanship classes. (Both the Market Lamb and Breeding Showmanship Champion will participate in the Showman of Showman unless changed by the Jr. Fair Board.)

### 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 5<sup>th</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> through 15<sup>th</sup> 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 2nds in class (in random order) ...

4. 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.
5. 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.
6. 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.
7. Market lamb sale will be held on **Saturday, September 5, 2026**
8. All exhibitors must be in pens by noon or as directed by the sheep committee
9. Mandatory thank you notes for buyers must be turned into the committee by Sunday, September 1, 2024 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!
10. Grand Overall and Reserve Grand Overall Champion market animals are terminal and must go to an approved processor.

## LOAD OUT

1. Load out will take place on Monday, **September 7, 2026** 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 September 6, 2026. If you wish to say any departing words to your animal, this would be the 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.

## 2025 Junior Fair

Overall Grand Champion Lamb	Elise Rohrer
Overall Reserve Champion Lamb	Cora Miller
Champion Market Lamb	Cora Miller
Reserve Champion Market Lamb	Tate Brosey
Champion Born & Raised Lamb	Elise Rohrer
Reserve Champion Born & Raised Lamb	Jalyn Troyer
Champion Bred & Fed Lamb	Ellis Birtch
Reserve Champion Bred & Fed Lamb	Elise Rohrer
Champion Wool	Logan Burnett
Reserve Champion Wool	Evelyn Bryan
Champion Carcass Lamb	Jalyn Troyer
Reserve Champion Carcass Lamb	Ann Rohrer
Grand Champion Rate of Gain	Ava Ranker
Reserve Champion Rate of Gain	Beau Ranker
Sheep Ambassador	Ann Rohrer
Junior Sheep Ambassador	Isabella Camp- Catrell

## Sheep Committee Members

Chairman	Liz Evans	330-575-4261	Jeff Darrah	330-237-6243
Vice Chairman	Kelly Ranker	330-323-5155	Ed Walker	330-417-8998
Secretary	Taylor Galloway	330-361-9998	Linda Walker	330-639-8291
Treasurer	Marci Shaw	330-268-3831	Tori Riggle	
	Marlene Estock	330-418-3474	Jamie Stewart	
	Sherry McCracken	330-206-2042	Eilidh Hatherill	
	Kelly Rohrer	330-206-2042	Aaron Rohrer	
	Lyssa Darrah	330-361-9488		

*Supportive Committee Members: Chris Goegan, Herbie Klebaum, Abby Stewart, Cora Wines  
Jr Committee Members: Elise Rohrer, Gavin Milosevich, Ella Davis*

## 2026 Sheep Project Calendar

March 15	4-H Project Entry Deadline	
June 1	All QUALITY ASSURANCE must be completed	
June 4	Alternate Tag in Day 6-7pm (* <i>Tag in section rule #5</i> )	Fairgrounds-Sheep barn
June 6	TAG IN & WEIGH IN 8am-1pm 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 16	SKILLATHON 1pm-3pm & Ambassador Interviews	Fairgrounds
August 24	Carcass drop off from 5pm-7:30pm	Fairground-Goat barn
August 26	Carcass Cooler Evaluation 5 pm	Don's Custom Meats Waynesburg, OH
August 31	Haul-in/Check in 9am-1pm & 4pm-9pm (DUNF, picture release forms, lambs need to be slickshorn)	Fairgrounds-Sheep barn
<b>August 31-September 7</b>	<b>STARK COUNTY FAIR Y'ALL</b>	😊
<b>Tuesday, September 1</b>	Pictures 5pm	Coliseum (across from sheep barn) or back drop by north fence
<b>Wednesday, September 2</b>	Sheep show @ 8:30am	Sheep/Swine arena
<b>Thursday, September 3</b>	Wool show @ 12:00pm	Grange Building
<b>Friday, September 4</b>	Pee-Wee, Old Timer's and Family throwdown sheep shows @ 6:00pm	Bellstore's Arena
<b>Saturday, September</b>	Sheep Auction @ 12:30 (wool, lambs, then goats)	Bellstore's Arena
<b>Sunday, September 6</b>	Thank you cards due by noon	Turn in at Sheep Barn
<b>Monday, September 7</b>	Animal release 4pm market, 6pm breeding animals	
September 18	Deadline to cleanout stalls	