

## Jr Fair Poultry Exhibitors and Parents Important Fair Information

Greetings,

We are excited for the 2024 Darke County Junior Fair Poultry Show!

As you prepare to exhibit junior fair poultry at the Darke County Fair, the Jr Fair Poultry Committee wanted to take this opportunity to remind you of some important poultry project details.

**Please obtain a Fair Book and be familiar with the rules for the Junior and Open Poultry shows.**

To help our Poultry Fair run smoothly we ask **that** if you signed up to exhibit poultry at the fair, and do not plan to bring any poultry to the fair, please contact Dena Wuebker at 937-423-2369, Cindy Mayo at 937-417-2296, Amy Addis at 937-216-2107 or Tyler Greer at 937-467-3489. If you do not contact us, we will be looking for you on Thursday night after the mandatory meeting.

### BEFORE THE FAIR

- **Skillathon** - The Poultry Skillathon is a mandatory activity to be eligible to show and/or sell. All members with poultry projects must participate in the Poultry Skillathon. The poultry Skillathon is scheduled for July 20<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and July 23<sup>rd</sup> from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Both activities will take place at the Swine Barn on the Darke County Fairgrounds. To receive a study guide packet and the scoresheets that will be used please visit the NEW Darke County Jr Fair website at [dcjrfair.com](http://dcjrfair.com). The information about the skillathon is posted under the poultry tab. Just a reminder, record books must be brought to the skillathon and will be scored. NEW prize money will be awarded to the top scorers in the skillathon. If you do not participate in the skillathon you have the option of writing a 500-word essay that is Due August 1<sup>st</sup> to the Senior Fairboard Secretary's Office. The topic for this year is the production and consumption of poultry meat products. Please note that if you write the essay you are not eligible for outstanding exhibitor.
- **Poultry Scholarship** - The poultry barn will be offering two scholarships to 2024 graduates for \$1000.00 each. You must be a 2024 junior fair poultry exhibitor. The applications are due August 1<sup>st</sup> and can be accessed at the NEW Darke County Jr Fair website at [dcjrfair.com](http://dcjrfair.com). The scholarship is posted under the poultry tab.
- **Poultry T-Shirt Contest** - Help design the t-shirt that will be passed out in the Poultry Barn in 2024. Designs are due by July 20<sup>th</sup> to the Sr Fairboard office /Darke County Poultry Committee or can be dropped off at one of the Poultry Skillathon days. The design needs to incorporate the words 2024 Darke County Junior Fair Poultry Department and reflect all the poultry projects. The winning design will receive \$50.00. The t-shirt design rules are posted on the NEW Darke County Jr Fair website at [dcjrfair.com](http://dcjrfair.com).
- **Entries:** All entries for the Jr Fair are only and will be due August 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - No bird may be shown in more than 1 class. (With the exception of showmanship.)
  - All fancy birds will be shown as singles with a maximum of 4 per class.
    - Example; Bantam Breeding Hens; 1 hen per pen, maximum of 4 pens per class.
- **Pullorum Testing/Hatch Papers**
  - **Pullorum Testing:** Please review Pullorum testing rules in the fair book. The dates for testing are June 19<sup>th</sup> and July 26<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in the **Horseshoe building** on Darke County Fairgrounds. The pullorum test papers are to be turned in to the Senior Fairboard Office in an envelope with the name/family name by August 1<sup>st</sup>. If

you have any questions, please contact Cindy Mayo at 937-417-2296. This is required for all birds older than 90 days or birds without hatch papers. All birds except ducks, geese, and pigeons that will be shown must be pullorum tested.

- All turkeys without hatch papers for the current year MUST be tested by a veterinarian.
- **Hatch Papers** - (Hatch papers MUST be for the current year, if no test papers, they MUST be tested again).
  - Turned in by AUGUST 1<sup>ST</sup> to the Senior Fairboard Secretaries Office in an envelope with exhibitor/family name on the envelope.
  - Hatch Papers for all Market/Commercial projects (Laying hens and pullets, broilers, roasters, turkeys, and meat ducks)
- **New Poultry Rules** - Each market exhibitor may show only two (2) pens per class. A pen means two (2) birds with the exception of meat turkeys, in which a pen is one (1) bird. Only authorized persons are permitted in the show and judging areas while the show is in progress. The show arena will be closed during judging. All poultry exhibitors are required to wear a collared shirt, or a t-shirt which is provided by the 4-H, FFA, Scouts, or similar youth organizations, jeans or khakis (no holes in pants will be permitted). By not following the correct dress code, exhibitors may be dismissed. For poultry showmanship; exhibitors must wear white button dress shirts or white show coats, jeans or khakis, and closed-toed shoes (no holes in pants will be permitted). All paperwork related to Thursday's weigh-in must be turned in by 9:30 p.m.
- **New Sale Information**-Online sales will exist this year, the only 2 poultry projects that will be selling at the Celebration of Achievement on Wednesday, August 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:00 p.m. in a live auction are Poultry Champion Market Entry and Reserve Champion Market entry. After the Celebration of Achievements, the ONLINE SALE will begin. The website is [www.bwfinaldrive.com](http://www.bwfinaldrive.com). The online sale will be open on Thursday, August 22, and close on Thursday, August 29<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. All bids will be paper invoiced and mailed once the sale closes. In addition, the poultry baskets will be sold in a new way this year. The baskets will be on display throughout the fair in the poultry barn and will also be at the Celebration of Achievement and will be sold in a silent auction style. Payment for these baskets will be due immediately following the closing of the sale by cash only.
- **Individual Sale Information:** Just a reminder that if you are exhibiting a market poultry project such as meat turkeys, meat ducks, broilers, roasters, and production egg layers/pullets you have the opportunity to sell your animals online through the fair auction. You must declare at the weigh-in on August 15<sup>th</sup> if you are selling poultry. Remember, you are only allowed to sell one project (exemption is with champions-please see fair rules). If you exhibit the overall grand/reserve grand champion meat entry, you will be required to sell it at the Celebration of Achievement on Wednesday, August 21<sup>st</sup>. Please see the sample letter at the end of this packet for reference to writing your sale letter.
- **Poultry Barn Set-Up:** On August 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. the poultry barn will be open to bring in tack boxes/fair supplies. Otherwise, the poultry barn will be locked. Pens will be assigned this year by the club/organization.

- **Poultry Barn Set-Up/Cleaning:** If any Jr Fair Poultry Exhibitors and their parents would like to assist with helping clean and set up portions of the Poultry Barn in preparation for the 2024 Darke County Fair, the Jr Fair Poultry Committee invites you to assist with clean-up/set-up session on Sunday, **August 10<sup>th</sup>** at 6:00 p.m. at Jr Fair Poultry Barn.

**FAIR TIME:**

- **Fair Arrival times**
  - **Poultry Barn Arrival of Animals: Poultry projects are allowed to be brought in on Thursday, August 15<sup>th</sup> starting at noon.**
  - All meat and commercial poultry projects must be on the grounds by 9:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 15<sup>th</sup>.
  - Fancy poultry projects must be on the grounds by 11:00 PM on Thursday August 15<sup>th</sup>.
- **Mandatory Poultry Meeting** - The **mandatory** poultry meeting is for all poultry exhibitors including market and fancy projects. The meeting will start promptly at **6:00 pm on THURSDAY, August 15<sup>th</sup>**. Each exhibitor and parent/legal guardian must attend and sign in. Failure to not attend this meeting can result in the junior fair exhibitor not being able to show/sell. This is an important meeting for parents to be in attendance as parents will need to sign paperwork. If you or your family member cannot attend the meeting, please see a Jr. Fair Board member or Poultry Committee member **BEFORE** the meeting.
- **Shavings**-Provided for your use.
- **Feed/Water** - Exhibitors need to provide their own feed, feed/water cups, and bowls. Water is located at the front and back of the building.
- **Pen Cleaning - All of us are responsible for ensuring the birds are treated the best at the Great Darke County Fair and we must remember they are on display for the public to view all day, every day of the fair.**
  - All pens must be cleaned, and all birds must be watered and fed each day.
  - Poultry Committee Members will be around during the day to check on the birds.
  - Failure to make sure your birds are provided fresh water and food and their pens are kept clean throughout the day will result in:
    - The 1<sup>st</sup> offense- Warning. A Poultry Committee member will talk to the exhibitor and family to see if there is any miscommunication and if there is anything they can do to help.
    - The 2<sup>nd</sup> offense - Exhibitors will lose premiums, and not be eligible to participate in the livestock auction, therefore, forfeiting potential auction proceeds.
  - Please remember it is your responsibility to keep the pens clean and to make sure your birds have clean fresh water and feed throughout the day.
- **Wash Building** - If you need to wash a bird, please do so in the building located behind the Poultry Barn
- **Outstanding Exhibitor (ages are of Jan. 1st of current year)**
  - -The poultry barn will have outstanding exhibitor awards and prizes for the top 3 in the junior division ages 8 to 11, intermediate division 12 to 14, and senior division 15 and up in both market and fancy. Outstanding exhibitors will be determined from their

Skillathon scores, showmanship placing, and the highest Jr Fair class placing. The top 3 outstanding exhibitors, in no specific order for each age division within fancy and market, will be announced at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 21<sup>st</sup>. During the celebration of achievement at 5:00 p.m. The poultry committee will announce the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> of each age division with fancy and market and the overall outstanding market and fancy exhibitor.

### **Junior Fair Poultry Show Schedule**

- **Thursday, August 15<sup>th</sup>**
  - Mandatory Poultry Meeting & Poultry Posters/Photos Due at 6:00 p.m.,
  - Weigh in 6:00 p.m-9:30 p.m
  - 9:00 p.m. all market projects must be on the fairgrounds.
  - 9:30 p.m all weigh-in sheets must be completed and turned in.
  - 11:00 p.m. all fancy projects must be on the fairgrounds.
  - All required weight/sale paperwork must be turned in by 9:30 p.m.
  - **Friday, August 16<sup>th</sup>**
  - Announcement of Jr Fair Poultry Royalty/Photo Contest Winners/ Photography Contest and Informative Poultry Presentation by the Poultry Junior Fair Board Members, 5:00 p.m. Jr Fair Poultry Barn
  - **Saturday, August 17<sup>th</sup>-All Fancy/Breeding Classes:**
  - Large Fowl, Bantam, Ducks, Geese, Pigeons, Guineas, Show Starts at 9:00 a.m.
  - **Sunday, August 18<sup>th</sup> All Market Classes:**
  - Commercial Hens and Pullets, Broilers, Roasters, Market Ducks, and Market Turkeys, the show starts at Noon
  - **Monday, August 19<sup>th</sup>- Showmanship**
  - (does not include Pee Wee Showmanship) starts at 9:00 a.m.
  - **Wednesday, August 21<sup>st</sup> at 3:00 pm-Announcements of the skillathon winners, Coop Decorating Contest, Poultry Herdsman Award, Top 3 Announcement of Fancy and Market Exhibitors for each age division.**
  - **Wednesday, August 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:00 p.m.-Celebration of Achievement-**Announcement of Poultry Scholarship Winner, Recognition of the Poultry Barn Showman of Showman Showmanship Winner, Announcement of 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place of Market and Fancy Outstanding Poultry Exhibitor, Announcement of Overall Fancy and Market Exhibitor and the live auction that will feature the Champion Overall Meat Entry & Reserve Champion Overall Meat Entry.
- **Classes and heats will be posted.** Please look over them and make sure what class and heat you are in so you can be ready. Also, make sure you are listed in the class you entered. If you are not showing in a class, make sure to scratch that class with a Junior Fair Board Member BEFORE the start of the show. The sheets should be reviewed ASAP so the exhibitor can find out if there are any discrepancies and take care of them ASAP.

- **Class Scratches- Any scratches from a class or classes (you will not be showing in any class) those scratches MUST be initiated by a Junior Fair Board member and the exhibitor.**
- **Fancy/Breeding Projects** - After the mandatory poultry meeting there are no further forms or tagging that must be done. If you have any scratches, please see a Junior Fairboard Member to make sure those scratches are noted in the book. This eliminates us holding the show calling your name for classes.
- **Weigh-In-** Weigh-in will start on Thursday, August 15<sup>th</sup> in the poultry barn immediately following the mandatory barn meeting and will end at 9:30 p.m.
  - **Commercial birds (laying hens and pullets)** are not weighed but will be leg banded at their cages (please wait at your pens)
  - **Birds over or below weight ranges will not be allowed to show or sell.**
  - **Chicken Broilers & Roasters** are weighed, and leg banded. You are allowed to weigh 12 birds and can re-weigh one time.
  - **Broilers 4 lbs. to less than 6 lbs. Either sex may be shown**
  - **Roasters 6 lbs. to 8 lbs. Either sex may be shown**
  - **Ducks** are weighed and leg-banded. **7 lbs. to 9.00 lbs. Either sex may be shown.**
  - **Turkeys** are leg-banded only at their pen. After the Mandatory Barn Meeting, you will need to fill out your forms and then stand by your turkey pen to wait for the banders to band your turkeys.
- **Forms - All Market/Commercial Animals** need a Drug Use form and need to be listed on the Weight, Leg Band, and Sale Information form.
  - Drug Use Forms will be ELECTRONIC, with more information to be coming from ODA.
  - ALL Market Animals must have a Drug Use Form
  - Weight, Leg Band, and Sale Information Form
  - Needs to be filled out for all Poultry Market Birds (Commercial, Broilers, Roasters, Turkeys and Ducks).
- **Table Stations/In Line-** Lines will be alphabetical by your last name.
  - **Table 1** Forms needed to be completed and turned in by the end of weigh-in. Complete these BEFORE getting in line.
  - **Table 2** Form checking station - Your forms will be checked here, if they are not completed you will need to make corrections and then return to the line.
  - **Table 3 & 4 Weigh** scales and leg bands for chickens and ducks. Junior Fairboard members will be weighing your birds, they have the right to turn away dirty birds. Re-Weighs do not have to go back to table 2, just return to the same line as you weighed the first time. When done weighing in proceed to Table 5
  - **Table 5 Forms/Scratches** - Form turn-in for chickens and ducks only and mark Class Scratches
  - **Table 6** Turkey paperwork and class scratches
- **Extra Activities/Contests During the Fair: -**

- **Poultry Royalty Contest-** The results will be announced on FRIDAY, August 16th at 5:00 p.m. in the Poultry Barn. An interview will be given by the Junior Fair Royalty on July 23<sup>rd</sup>. Contestants will be contacted to set up their interview time. Applications are due July 15<sup>th</sup> for the poultry royalty to the Senior Fairboard office and can be found on the new junior fairboard website at Prince and Princess must be ages 9-13. King and Queen must be ages 14 and up as of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024. Contestants must own and exhibit a poultry project at the 2024 Darke County Junior Fair Poultry Show. Royalty will be asked to pass out ribbons, trophies, etc. on show days. King & Prince sashes, Queen and Princess crowns, and tiaras are donated by the Poultry Committee.
  - **Poultry Photography Contest and Educational Poultry Poster Contest-** These are open to all Jr Fair Poultry Barn Exhibitors to compete in and are classified as Poultry Jr Fair Fun activities. Related Photos and educational posters are due at the poultry barn meeting on Thursday, August 15<sup>th</sup>. The photos must be black and white or color, 8X10 in size, and poultry-related photos. The Educational Poultry Contest Posters should not exceed 4 ft by 3.5 ft, computer graphics can be used and be the original design and creation of the Jr. Fair Poultry exhibitor. Please see the attached flyer for additional information on both opportunities open to all Jr Fair Poultry Barn Exhibitors
  - **NEW Poultry Coop Decorating Contest-** The poultry committee will be sponsoring a Poultry Coop Decorating Contest. Each entry needs to be signed up by Thursday, August 15<sup>th</sup> at the barn meeting. The contestant is to decorate the coop(s) of a bird(s) that they are exhibiting to show. The coop can be decorated on the top or sides. Please consider the safety of your birds. The coop must be completed and decorated by the contestant by noon on Saturday, August 17<sup>th</sup>. Prizes will be awarded for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> in each age division of ages 8-11, 12-14, and 15-18. Winners will be announced at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 21<sup>st</sup>.
  - **NEW Poultry Herderman's Award-**The Darke County Junior Fair Poultry Committee has established a new award to recognize poultry exhibitors who are doing an outstanding job keeping their own birds fed and watered but also helping keep the entire barn clean and volunteering for different events to help prepare for and tear down after events in the poultry barn. These 5 individuals will be selected by the committee and will be awarded prize money in the amount of \$50.
- **Poultry Release Times-**
    - All junior fair poultry projects will be released on Thursday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
    - **Reminder, you need to clean your cages and remove cups, ties, and signs.**
    - **You must clean your pens out and have them checked by a poultry committee person or barn secretary at the time of release with both parents signing off.**
    - **If pens are not cleaned and checked, you will forfeit your sale premiums.**
    - **NEW; ALL POULTRY MUST BE REMOVED THURSDAY AUGUST 22nd by 11:00 PM.**
  - **Processing** - It is each member's individual responsibility to handle their processing appointments, no individual company will come to the fair to pick up the birds. Processing

options include: King and Sons in Gettysburg, please call 937-448-2448 and J & M Poultry in Cambridge City, Indiana at 765-489-2147.

This is not a complete set of rules and guidelines. If you have any questions, please contact any of the Poultry Committee Members, we are here to help. Cindy Mayo 937-417-2296, Dena Wuebker 937-423-2369, Tyler Greer 937-467-3489, Amy Addis 937-216-2107

We Look forward to seeing and talking with all of you at the Fair!

**Together we can make the 2024 Great Darke County Fair Poultry Show the Best EVER!!**

Sample buyer letter.

Hello, my name is Jacob Smith and I am eleven years old and the son of Jeff and Pam Smith of North Star. I am a third year 4-H member and a member of the Clover 4-H Club. For my third year in 4-H, I am showing a market turkey at the 2024 Darke County Fair. This year through my project I have expanded my knowledge in animal care and animal nutrition. If you would like to come watch me, I will show my turkey on Sunday, August 18<sup>th</sup> at Noon.

I would like to take this opportunity to invite you to the Celebration of Achievements on Wednesday, August 21<sup>st</sup> at 5pm in the cattle show arena. At the Celebration of Achievements we will be recognizing showman of showmen representatives from each department, scholarship winners, outstanding exhibitors along with a sale of champions.

My project profile will be online at [bwfinaldrive.com](http://bwfinaldrive.com) starting Thursday, August 22nd at 8 am until August 29th, at 5 pm. You will be able to set up an account there and place bids on my animal or even contribute to the bump up funds. (Exhibitor - Consider adding your QR code from your personal profile on BW Final Drive)

If you have any questions on how the sale process works, contact the sale committee at [darke.livestocksale@gmail.com](mailto:darke.livestocksale@gmail.com) or my parents at (937)-123-4567. Thank you for all your support and I look forward to seeing you at the Darke County Fair.

Sincerely,  
Jacob Smith  
Clover 4-H