

Design Your Own Poultry Showmanship Bird

1. Only current junior fair poultry members may participate.
2. 4-H members must participate in their mandatory pre-fair livestock interview to enter this contest.
3. 4-H and FFA members with market broilers or market turkeys must be certified for quality assurance in 2015 to enter this contest.
4. Members must design their own bird, no purchased birds (such as stuffed animals) may be used.
5. No feathers from live birds may be used, sterile crafting feathers may be used.
6. Members should design a bird that they feel represents the type of live bird they would normally use for showmanship. "Birds" should be a similar size and weight to their live showmanship bird.
7. Members will use their birds to participate in a traditional showmanship class with a judge. Classes will be divided by age according to the showmanship classes in the fair book. Previous winners should enter the class they would normally be placed*.

200 Senior Showmanship - ages 14 - 18

201 Junior Showmanship - ages 8 - 13

202 Showman of Showmen Showmanship

*Winner of the junior showmanship class will move into the senior division the following year. Senior Showman may choose to participate in Showman of Showmen in the same year they win Senior Showmanship. Winner of the senior showmanship class must move into the Showman of Showmen class the following year.

8. The winners of these classes will not be added to the permanent showmanship winners list and winners will not move into different age divisions in 2016.
9. In addition to showmanship, there will also be judging for the following categories:
 - a. most creative
 - b. most colorful
 - c. most lifelike
 - d. best sound effects
10. Each participant will receive a \$5 premium.

Design Your Bird Entry Form - due to the Extension Office by July 1

Name _____

4-H Club/FFA Chapter _____ Age as of January 1 _____

Advisor Signature _____

Dear 4-H Poultry Members:

You are receiving this letter regarding 4-H project requirements and fair participation in 2015. As always, 4-H is a part of the fair and fair is a part of 4-H, but they are not one in the same. Fair participation is ***always optional*** for any 4-H project. An advisor's grade by July 1 is what designates project completion and gives a member credit for the 4-H year.

4-H members will still need to complete their project books, work with their projects and meet club requirements to receive their project grade. Advisors will evaluate project progress as they have in the past.

All 4-H poultry project members are ***highly encouraged*** to participate in their livestock interview on Thursday, July 23. This is an opportunity for you to share your project knowledge and experiences. If you plan to participate in the build your bird showmanship contest, your interview is mandatory.

All 4-H market poultry project members are ***highly encouraged*** to complete their quality assurance certification (if not already completed). If you plan to participate in the build your bird showmanship contest, QA certification is required.

While the current circumstances are beyond your control, you have the opportunity to complete your 4-H project and have a fun and educational 4-H year.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth M. Miller
Extension Educator, 4-H Youth Development
County Extension Director
Auglaize County, Top of Ohio EERA

Dear Junior Fair Poultry Exhibitors:

As you know the Ohio Department of Agriculture has imposed a ban on the exhibition of all poultry and waterfowl in the state for 2015. This is an unfortunate circumstance for 4-H and FFA poultry project members, but we must be responsible partners in real world agriculture.

Representatives from the Ag Society (Senior Fair Board), Junior Fair Board and Junior Fair Livestock Sale Committee met recently to discuss the best way to handle this ban on exhibition. After looking at several options, they made a recommendation which was approved by the Ag Society. The following plan will be implemented:

1. There will be no sale opportunity for market poultry project members, broilers or turkeys. Broiler possession date is not until June 30 so members have not been required to take possession of their animals before the ban.
2. There will be a design your own bird showmanship opportunity for poultry project members – rules are enclosed. Members are encouraged to participate in this opportunity.
3. 4-H and FFA members will need to work with their advisors to be sure that they fulfill their membership requirements. Members meeting these requirements will still receive a fair pass even though they may not have an official fair exhibition.

We understand that these circumstances have caused disappointment for our youth. We hope that you will still plan to participate in the fair. If you have any questions, please contact Ed Doenges at 419-629-3146 or Gerald Grevenkamp at 419-629-3443.

Sincerely,

Ed Doenges
President
Ag Society

Morgan Miller
President
Junior Fair Board

Gerald Grevenkamp
President
Livestock Sale Committee