

Dear 4-H Poultry Members & Advisors:

We recently notified you of the cancellation of the poultry show at the Franklin County Fair due to the national outbreak of Avian Influenza. Since then, many of you have had questions about your poultry projects and some new developments have been made in regard to fair participation. Please read this entire email of questions for answers to everything you need to know.

Is the ban on poultry at the fair just for chickens and turkeys?

No, ALL birds, including water fowl (ducks & geese) have been banned at the fair. There will not be any birds at the fair this year.

Can I switch projects since I can't take my bird to the fair?

No, 4-H enrollment deadlines and fair possession deadlines have passed. A note from Ohio 4-H: *Agricultural and food animal production involves both rewards and risks. Weather and diseases are factors that can and do negatively impact production. Avian influenza is one such disease. Part of the overall 4-H youth development experience is providing positive and supportive environments and experiences in which youth learn from the thrill of successes. Equally important, youth members also learn to cope with the sting of disappointments. The negative impacts of avian influenza are certainly a tremendous disappointment. At the same time, it is also an opportunity to learn important life lessons in effectively coping with and responding to challenging situations. Youth will benefit from adult support to help them develop effective knowledge, skills, and strategies to do so. Yes, they won't be showing the live animal they originally had intended to show, but they will be learning how a disease can affect an animal and an industry.*

How can I complete my project?

Continue to raise your bird. Fill out your project record book. Participate in livestock project evaluations on Wednesday, July 15, at the fairgrounds.

What can I do at the fair?

We still want you to participate in the fair. As a replacement to the poultry show, the Franklin County Fair Board will be holding an **Avian Bowl** on Tuesday, July 21, at 9:00am in the Jr. Fair Activities Tent. All poultry members who enrolled in a 4-H poultry, duck, or goose project are eligible to participate.

What is an Avian Bowl?

This is a contest that tests youth on their knowledge of avian facts and poultry production and management. (Similar to Jeopardy – only you don't answer in the form of a question.) Participants “buzz” in to answer questions. Some bowls use teams but for our purpose of replacing showmanship, we will not have teams. There will be three divisions – Junior, Intermediate, and Senior. More details about rules and how it will work will be coming in the next couple of weeks.



Do I need to make a fair entry by the June 20 deadline?

Yes, please make a fair entry for your poultry evaluation. By making a fair entry you are assured a fair pass for the week. Check the fair book for your specific entry in Department 57, Section 101, Classes 1-7. NO FAIR ENTRY IS NEEDED FOR THE AVIAN BOWL.

What about the livestock sale?

While market poultry members cannot sell in the livestock auction, the Sale Committee has decided to contribute \$50 to each poultry market exhibitor at the Livestock Sale who completes their project by going through evaluation. Poultry market exhibitors will be invited into the sale ring and have it announced. If buyers want to add on, then they have that opportunity.

Can I still do a fair entry for Outstanding Market Exhibitor?

Yes, by participating in the required parts of the contest and the Livestock Evaluations and the Avian Bowl, you can still compete in the Outstanding Market Exhibitor contest if you make a fair entry for it.

What about the Showman of Showman contest?

The winner of the senior division in the Avian Bowl will go on to represent poultry in the Showman of Showman Contest. The poultry part of the contest will utilize toy stuffed hens that are simply adorable!

How else can I “exhibit” my bird project at the fair?

Members are asked to bring to evaluations on July 15 a sheet of paper (8 ½” x 11”) that has a picture of their bird, the exhibitor’s name, club name, and the breed of the bird. These will be laminated prior to the fair and posted in the barn.

When is the Pre-Fair Packet coming out?

The Pre-Fair Packet will be released very soon but first, the 4-H Educators have to get back from 4-H Camp!

There isn’t a resource book for poultry yet. How do I study for the Avian Bowl and Project Evaluations?

We’re glad you asked. Here are some great resources for you to study from...

- Youth Exhibition Poultry Association:
http://youthexhibitionpoultry.org/educational_material.htm.
- *Storey Guides to Raising Poultry/Chickens/Ducks*
- *How to Raise Chickens – Everything You Need to Know* by Christine Heinrichs – Revised and Updated
- The University of Wisconsin has a pdf on raising broilers:
<http://dodge.uwex.edu/files/2010/06/Raising-Roasters-and-Broilers.pdf>.
- Texas A & M has a pdf on broilers: <http://posc.tamu.edu/files/2012/08/L-5537-Getting-Stared-With-Show-Broilers-2012.pdf>.

- The University of Arkansas also has a pdf on broilers:
<http://www.uaex.edu/publications/pdf/FSA-8004.pdf>.
- University of Kentucky: <http://afspoultry.ca.uky.edu/extension/4H-poultry>.
- Poultry Show Central: <http://www.poultryshowcentral.com/Kentucky.html>.

I have more questions. Who do I contact?

- 4-H Educator, Beth Boomershine – boomershine.10@osu.edu

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