

2026 Junior Fair Sheep Rules

Show Date: Tuesday, July 14, 2026 at 1:00 pm in the Sale Ring.

General Rules

1. To participate as a Junior Fair exhibitor, a youth must comply with all Junior Fair membership policies. "Exhibitor means any person who shows, displays, or exhibits livestock at an exhibition.
2. The exhibitor must show all animals. If the exhibitor has two animals in the same class, another Trumbull County Junior Fair exhibitor can help show the second animal.
3. All market sheep projects must be in the possession of the exhibitors on day of weigh in. **Weigh in will be the fourth Saturday in April from 10 am - 12 p.m.(noon).**
4. Exhibitors will be limited to bringing a maximum of eight head of sheep to the fair,
 5. All tack, feed, and grooming stands must be kept in tack pens or in the West end of sheep barn. Grooming of sheep must be done at the West end of the sheep barn. Pedestrian isle must be cleared by 11AM show day.
 6. Exhibitors are expected to dress in a clean, neat and orderly fashion when showing and selling. No farm or commercial advertising is allowed on dress attire during the Junior Fair shows and Livestock Sale. Exhibitors are to wear work boots or sturdy shoes only. No sandals, or open toe shoes allowed. Club t-shirts are allowed, Club shirts are expected to be tucked in with a belt. Full length pants – no shorts.
 7. There will be a 15-minute break in between showmanship and market lamb classes.
 8. Exhibitors have the option of declaring five (5) market lambs at the initial weigh-in and are limited to bringing two (2) market lambs and two (2) carcass lambs to the Fair. **Each family may declare one 'family lamb' as a replacement animal at April weigh in.**
 9. Exhibitors are permitted to show two market lambs and two carcass lambs but are limited to selling four animals in the Livestock Sale.
10. Grand and Reserve Champions must sell in the Livestock Sale.
 - a. Disqualification of Grand or Reserve Champion for any reason will result in forfeit of awards and money.
 - b. If any exhibitor wishes to pull their lamb from the sale order, this must be done within one hour after carcass results by notifying the advisor. The exhibitor must pay the pull out fee to the Livestock Sale Committee immediately.
11. The Livestock Sale Committee will determine all sale fees for market and carcass lambs.
12. Ohio Revised Code will be used in the case of a missing animal.
13. Scrapie tags will be used as fair identification.

a. All lamb projects (breeding or market) must have a “scrapie tag” present in their ear (prior to county weigh-in identifying their flock of origin. Contact USDA for information on scrapie tags at (614) 469-5602. Animals without official scrapie identification are ineligible to exhibit, compete and/or sell at the Trumbull County Fair.

b. All tags and identification must remain on animals at all times. According to the USDA official Scrapie tags cannot be removed. If a tag is lost, it must be reported to the Extension Office, an adult 4-H/Junior Fair Sheep Committee Member and/or Livestock Sale Committee, immediately. Animals not having tags or identification (or evidence of them) are ineligible to exhibit at the fair.

c. There are no health certificates or tests required for breeding or market lambs for the fair. However, they must be free from disease including sore mouth, foot rot, club lamb fungus, etc. and adhere to any ODA guidelines and/or tests. Drenching of livestock at an exhibition is prohibited except as permitted under paragraph Q of rule 901-19-12 of Administrative Code: Drenching livestock for a medical condition at an exhibition when diagnosed by a licensed veterinarian.

All animals are subject to a vet inspection at the fair.

Please note: animals that are transported across state lines and/or comingled with those from other sources are subject to additional health assessments. Please contact your veterinarian for advice on specific circumstances. Any animals not meeting vet approval will be dismissed and are ineligible for exhibit.

d. According to ODA guidelines, members must keep all production, market and treatment records for at least five (5) years.

14. All families exhibiting sheep at the fair must contribute a \$25.00 sheep building maintenance fee to acting club treasurer by June 1st If not used carry over to next year, records will be kept by acting treasure.

15. Grooming of all Trumbull County Sheep must follow Ohio’s Livestock Tampering Exhibition Rules that can be found online and in the Trumbull County Fair Book.
<https://codes.ohio.gov/ohio-administrative-code/rule-901-19-31>

16. Any drenching will be done by licensed vet, under the guidance of the Trumbull County Fair Vet.

Market Lambs

1. Market lambs must be either ewes or wethers born after December 1st of the prior year of fair.

2. All wether lambs must be castrated or banded by April weigh-in.

3. All tails must be docked by April weigh-in as per breed standards.

4. All market lambs must be in good health and soundness. Any unfit, unthrifty animals will be sent home from the Fair. The 4-H Educator, a Senior Fair Director, and the Fair Veterinarian will make this decision.

5. All market and carcass lambs shall be brought to the Trumbull County fairgrounds on the fourth Saturday in April from 10 am – 12 p.m.(noon) for weigh-in and health check.

6. Any market lamb must weigh 86 pounds and over to compete in the market show. If a lamb fails to weigh 86 pounds, it is **not** eligible to compete in the market show. However, this lamb can be shown in a showmanship class if it is the exhibitor's only lamb registered/entered in the show. The exhibitor must take the lamb home at the conclusion of the fair only if it is used as showmanship project, otherwise the lamb is to be removed from the fairgrounds after weigh-ins. There will be a re-weigh option if the lamb does not make weight at fair weigh in. Only lambs not weighing 86 pounds can be re-weighed following steer weigh in. There are no early weighs.

7. Market lambs that have any trace of testicular tissue will be disqualified.

8. First place in each class will receive a rosette and/or item; second place will receive a rosette.

9. Exhibitors are responsible for their animals according to the Ohio Revised Code. This includes feeding, watering, and keeping the animals and stalls clean. Exhibitors or representative will be in the barns at 6 p.m. the last day of the fair to help load their animals to the buyer hauler trailer and clean pens.

10. Drenching of livestock at an exhibition is prohibited except as permitted under paragraph Q of rule 901-19-12 of Administrative Code: Drenching livestock for a medical condition at an exhibition when diagnosed by a licensed veterinarian.

11. All animals once brought to the fair are to remain in the sheep barn and are not to be taken to any other areas of the fairground except to the show ring during designated practice time (to be determined) and the day of the show.

12. Leasing MARKET animals for youth exhibition projects are NOT permitted under any circumstances.

13. Classes will be divided by weight, with a minimum of four lambs per class.

14. There will be a Trumbull County Born class following market show.

1. The lamb is to be designated as a Trumbull County Born prior to weigh-in in April. Please mark on appropriate lamb registration.

2. The exhibitor must turn in proper documentation from the breeder at weigh-in in April to be eligible. No exceptions.

3. Each exhibitor may only show one lamb in the Trumbull County Born class

15. There will be a specific award, awarded to club member(s) that successfully born and breed their lambs in Trumbull County

a. The Ewe and Ram must owned by the 4H exhibitor the time of breeding.

Carcass Lambs

1. Carcass lambs do not need to be designated at weigh-in. However, exhibitors shall inform advisors of intentions to participate in carcass class at weigh-in.

2. Exhibitors may sell two carcass lambs.

3. All carcass lambs must weigh 86 pounds (live weight) or more over at final weigh-in

to be eligible to participate in carcass competition.

4. Carcass lambs will be broken between the twelfth and the thirteenth rib for objective placing.
5. Carcass lambs that have any trace of testicular tissue will be disqualified.
6. All carcasses that meet the criteria will be eligible for sale at the Trumbull County Junior Fair Livestock Sale.
7. Grand and Reserve Carcass lambs will receive a banner, rosette and an award item.
8. Exhibitors will be responsible for carcass and all processing costs if the animal does not sell at the sale.
9. Judging will follow Junior Fair Carcass Guidelines.
10. **Drenching of livestock at an exhibition is prohibited except as permitted under paragraph Q of rule 901-19-12 of Administrative Code: Drenching livestock for a medical condition at an exhibition when diagnosed by a licensed veterinarian.**
11. **Carcass weigh-in date will be determined by the Livestock Sale Committee.**

Sale Order:

Sale Order will be in the following order: 1. Grand Champion, 2. Reserve Champion, 3. 3rd Overall, 4. 4th Overall, 5. 5th Overall, 6. County Born, 7. Senior Master Shepard, 8. Intermediate Master Shepard, 9. Junior Master Shepard, 10. Novice Master Shepard, 11. Order of placing in each class, beginning with the next class after the class the Grand Champion was awarded in throughout the classes, a round robin concept.

Breeding Project

1. Ewe lambs shown as market lambs cannot be shown in breeding classes.
2. Exhibitors can show a maximum of two in each class.
3. Categories are:
 - (1) Registered and (2) Commercial Sheep. Classes for each category are Yearling Ram, Ram Lamb, Yearling Ewe, Ewe Lamb.
4. Commercial sheep are defined as crossbred ewes that are ineligible for registration papers. If there are two or more animals in any registered breed, that breed will be judged by itself.
5. If there is only one exhibitor, those breeds will be shown in All Other Breeds. (Note: This does not include Commercial Sheep.)
6. Registration papers should be made available. Papers can be in individual, farm, or family name.
7. All sheep must be properly cared for – water, feed, and bedding – during entire stay at fair.

8. All breeding sheep will be checked for general health and soundness. Any unfit, unthrifty animals will be sent home from the fair. The 4-H Educator, a Senior Fair Director, and the Fair Veterinarian will make this decision.

9. **Drenching of livestock at an exhibition is prohibited except as permitted under paragraph Q of rule 901-19-12 of Administrative Code: Drenching livestock for a medical condition at an exhibition when diagnosed by a licensed veterinarian.**

10. **Leasing of breeding animals must follow the Ohio 4-H /FFA Guidelines. The lessee is responsible to complete the lease contract and submit to the County 4-H Educator by April 1st (ORC 901-19-39).**

11. Breeding animals purchased at an accredited sale after the April 1st registration deadline can register as long as ownership is within 60 days of the exhibition date (in alignment with Ohio State Fair Rules). Please declare intent of breeding exhibition on registration form. Updated registration information and bill of sale are to be turned in to the OSUE Office and reviewed by the Sheep Committee within 60 days of exhibition (July 14th).

Quality Assurance

1. All members must complete Quality Assurance either by test out date (TBD) or attendance of QA seminar **designated date in April** to be eligible to show/sell at the fair.

Project Judging

1. Will be held Tuesday, **June 2, 2026**, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at the Trumbull County Fair Grounds. Make-up date is TBD. The make-up date is for emergency purposes only. **Project judging must be completed to compete at the Trumbull County Fair.**
2. Each exhibitor is expected to participate.
3. Project judging includes review of project books and sections from the skillathon.

Showmanship

1. Emphasis will be given in the following areas: • Ability to move animal as directed by the judge. • Setting up the lamb. • Appearance of handler and the lamb. • Demonstration of knowledge by answering questions the judge may ask in the show ring.
2. If a member wins their age group in showmanship, they will remain in their age division the following year.
3. There will be rosettes given to each participant in each class. Winners are encouraged to compete in Super Showmanship.
4. Classes are:

- Novice: **any first year member (ages 8-11)**; *Any first-year member aged 12-18 would have the option to show in one division down their first year only.
- Junior: **9 - 11** years old as of January 1
- Intermediate: **12 - 15** years old as of January 1
- Senior: **16 - 18** years old as of January 1

Pee Wee Leadline class open to any Trumbull County 4-H Cloverbud (ages 5-8).

****Must pre-register by July 1st with Extension Office**.** This is a fun class for learning purposes only and exhibitors will receive a small prize. Participants will use a 4-H exhibitor's lamb.

Each first-place showmanship winner will receive a rosette and an award item.

Showman of Showman (1st place of each class compete for a special prize)

Master Shepherd [Divisions: Novice, Junior, Intermediate & Senior] • Awarded at Fair and noted in Sale Catalog • Based on a point system including Project Judging, Showmanship, placing of animal project. • Master Shepherd awardees will sell after **Top 5 lambs are placed.**

Master Shepherd Point Breakdown (out of 300 possible points):

- **Project Judging** (base score)- Out of 100 pts
- **Market Class Placing**- Out of 100 pts
 - 1st place- 100 pts
 - 2nd place- 90 pts
 - 3rd place- 80 pts
 - 4th place- 70 pts
 - 5th place- 60 pts
- **Showmanship Placing**- Out of 100 pts
 - 1st place- 100 pts
 - 2nd place- 90 pts
 - 3rd place- 80 pts
 - 4th place- 70 pts
 - 5th Place- 60 pts

*If a youth member has entries in both live and carcass competitions, the highest placing lamb will be used for scoring purposes. It is one or the other, not both.

**If a tie breaker is needed, the member will be interviewed by a 4-H Educator and asked lamb and/or 4-H related questions to break the tie. In the event, there is still a tie, both will be awarded.

Lamb Committee

A lamb committee will be selected at the beginning of the year. **The 2026 Lamb Committee is: Ted Ramsey, Avery Rice, Isabella Bailey, Zane Lehmann, , Tanya Kibler, Micah Nolan, Addison Kellar.**

This committee will be responsible for:

- a. • Knowledge of rules and guidelines of both sheep and Livestock Sale.
- b. • To give direction and assistance to the Junior Fair Board concerning the Junior Fair Sheep Show (includes set up – sound system, tables, chairs, number of ribbons/rosettes needed)

Revised: November 2, 2025

