

# 2025 Holmes County Jr. Fair Poultry Project Guidelines

## *Project Checklist*

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- ☐ Check the 4-H calendar for the most up-to-date information regarding our program
  - ☐ **Enroll in 4-H** through 4-HOnline ([oh.4honline.com](https://oh.4honline.com)) by April 1. Individual clubs may set an earlier date.
  - ☐ **Attend Quality Assurance Training** - Check the 4-H calendar for up-to-date information. Per ODA rules, exhibitors must complete QA 45 days prior to the exhibition.
  - ☐ **Project Record Book:** Purchase, complete, and bring to a Skillathon interview to be graded.
  - ☐ **Possession & Hatch Dates:**
    - Broilers: Recommended hatch date 6-8 weeks prior to fair, June 11-26, 2024
    - Turkeys: Recommended 4 months prior to fair, April 21-16, 2024
    - Ducks: ***must*** be hatched between June 17-25, 2024
  - ☐ **Tag:** All poultry will be tagged and checked for external parasites or ill health at the fair weigh-in Sunday, August 3, 2024. See Holmes County Fair book for more details.
  - ☐ **Junior Fair Book:** Obtain and read a Holmes County Junior Fair Book for rules and regulations for our county fair. Read and follow all rules pertaining to your project.
  - ☐ **Project Completion:** Attend and participate in Holmes County 4-H Skillathon Interviews on either July 17 or July 21, 2025.
  - ☐ **Fair Entries** due by 11:59 pm on June 1: Make ALL fair entries online at <https://holmesjrfair.fairentry.com> for your animal(s).
  - ☐ **DUNF:** All market broilers, turkeys, and ducks must complete an electronic DUNF at check-in at the fair. See the Holmes County 4-H program newsletter for more information.
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## *Important Notes for Poultry Projects*

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- **Poultry tag-in:** Exhibitors may only bring three (3) Market Broilers to the official weigh-in as their Pen of Three (3); two (2) Market Ducks for their Pen of Two Market Ducks; and one (1) Market White Tom Turkey to weigh in as their Turkey project exhibit.
- **Poultry Weight Limits:** Turkeys should weigh between 18-45 pounds, turkeys less than 18lbs will be sent home and over 45lbs will be shown as overweight; Pen of Broilers must weigh between 12-24 pounds TOTAL with the goal to have birds equal in size, uniformity, and conformation; Market Duck exhibit must weigh a minimum of 8 pounds and not more than 16 pounds. All underweight ducks will be sent home. All overweight ducks will be shown in the overweight class.
- **NPIP Paperwork:** It is recommended that you buy your chicks from an approved National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) hatchery; or that your supplier buys from an approved NPIP hatchery. Be sure to request a dated proof of purchase to be turned in when fair entry is made. This dated document must be uploaded into your 4-H online animal ID by August 1st.
- **Pullorum Testing:** According to the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA), the chickens or turkeys that need to be blood tested for participation at the Holmes County Fair are those that have been on premises with other chickens, turkeys, guineas, peacocks, or other non-waterfowl that do not have a NPIP Hatchery certificate from this year. The poultry that needs to be tested within 30 days prior to the fair are the following: fancy chickens that were from last year; broilers that have fancy chickens or other non-waterfowl on the same premises and those fancy chickens/non-waterfowl that do not have NPIP certificates from this year; turkeys that have other non-waterfowl on the premises and the other non-waterfowl do not have NPIP certificates. The ODA's guidelines are subject to change. At this time, ducks do not have to be blood tested. *Dr. Shaver will offer pullorum testing of turkeys and chickens date and times to be announced through OSU Extension Office.*
- **Cleanliness:** Exhibitors must keep their poultry pens clean and have clean water accessible. If an exhibitor's pen is found to be unacceptable, a notification will be placed on the pen with the date and time. The exhibitor will have four (4) hours to become compliant. The first warning will be the warning. A second warning will result in not being able to sell. The third warning will result in a one-year suspension from exhibiting the project in question at the Holmes County Fair.
- **Sale Photograph:** Champions will be the only animals to enter the sale ring. Our goal is to display a clean and professional photo of every exhibitor with their animal during the time each exhibitor is selling. Please see the dress code and submit your photo in *landscape orientation* by July 31<sup>st</sup> to [hclivestockphotos@gmail.com](mailto:hclivestockphotos@gmail.com)
- **Awards:** All exhibitors who receive a trophy, plaque, or other award sponsored by a donor are expected to send a Thank You note to the sponsor(s). Thank you, cards will be provided with your award. Please turn in your unsealed thank you card to the Jr. Fair Office by the end of the fair. The name and address of the sponsor can be found on the award. Contact the Jr. Fair secretary's office if you cannot find it.
- **Outstanding Market Livestock Award:** The Holmes County Jr. Fair Outstanding Exhibitor Awards program was developed to recognize youth who go above and beyond in their species both in and out of the show ring. Exhibitors who wish to participate must enroll in the project in FairEntry, complete the skillathon/project record book judging (no make-up judging), and showmanship. Awards will be presented Saturday at the 4-H Awards Ceremony in the Large Arena during the Holmes County Fair.