

Division D – Jr. Fair Sheep

Goat and Sheep Livestock Committee Members:

Janel Becker-Chair

Heather Guthrie

Kendra Long

Annette Rinesmith

Olivia Rinesmith

Dates

Market Lamb Possession	May 1, 2026
Market Lamb Scrapies Deadline	May 9, 2026
Breeding Sheep ID Cards turn in	May 9, 2026
Sheep move in and check in	July 10, 2026, 5-7 PM
Showmanship Show	July 14, 2026, 2 PM
Breeding and Market Show	July 14, 2026, following showmanship
All non-selling sheep released	July 18, 2026, 6-9 PM

Divisions

Showmanship

401 Sheep Showmanship

Breeding Classes

404 Yearling Ewe – 1 year of age but not yet 2 years old

405 Ewe Lamb – Must be born after September 1, 2025

Market Classes

406 Market Lamb – born after January 1, 2026

407 Born and Raised

*Dorothy Murry Memorial Trophy is presented to the Sheep Showman of Showmen.

*Jim Tewksbury Memorial rotating Trophy is presented to the Outstanding Breeding Sheep Exhibitor. To be considered for this award the exhibitor is required to submit an application to the Extension Office

**Breeds: All Other Breeds, Crossbreds

NOTE: No ram lambs will be shown

Jr. Fair Sheep General Rules and Regulations

1. All market lambs and breeding sheep must be owned and in the possession of the exhibitor by May 1.
 - a. Market Lambs must submit their pictures and scrapie tag information by the specified date in May, as well as be enrolled through 4-H or FFA. A family with more than one exhibitor showing market lambs may submit six (6) sheep per exhibitor in the family name.
 - a. Breeding sheep must be owned and in the exhibitor's possession and continual care by May 1st and are required to turn in Identification Cards with ear tag numbers, by the date specified above in May.
2. Market lamb exhibitors may submit up to 6 market lambs, then choose up to 2 lambs to show at time of check-in.
3. All market lambs must weigh a minimum of 95 pounds and be born after January 1 of the current year. Lambs weighing less than 95 pounds will not participate in the Premium Livestock Sale, they can be sold at market rate only if the exhibitor wishes.
4. All sheep must meet health requirements set by the Senior Fair Board. Please refer to the open class requirements.
5. All breeding and market sheep must be properly cleaned and fitted to be presented to the judge.
6. All market lambs must be properly/completely castrated to be eligible to exhibit and/or sell at the fair. All animals will be examined during check-in. Any animal not abiding by the above rule will be sent home.
7. Sheep pens must be cleaned by 9 a.m. daily.
8. All market and breeding sheep must also be properly identified with a USDA Scrapie tag prior to unloading on check-in day.
9. Market lambs will be shipped to market late Saturday or early Sunday morning. Exhibitors are responsible for the care and feeding of their animals from the sale until they are loaded for market. This means they must have bedding, food and water.
10. All exhibitors must vacate the barn Saturday by 9pm and may return after all animals are loaded and off the grounds. No kids will be allowed to help load animals, only livestock committee members or Senior Fairboard members will be permitted to help load the animals.
11. All lambs that are not selling in the Livestock sale must be removed from the fairgrounds on Saturday after 6 PM the week of the fair. This includes breeding and market lambs.
12. After the lambs are loaded, the pens must be cleaned out. Every exhibitor must check with a Junior or Senior livestock team member to make sure the cleanliness of their pen is acceptable. The final cleaning must occur after the lambs have been loaded. If pens are not cleaned out, the exhibitor may forfeit the right to exhibit the following year.
13. No sheep shearing in any show arenas. Shearing must be done in the barn area.

14. Any broken rules or regulations could forfeit the exhibitor from participation the following year.

Sheep Showmanship and Market

1. Every sheep exhibitor must participate in showmanship in order to sell in the Premium Livestock Sale. If an exhibitor has both a market and breeding project, the exhibitor can choose which one to show for showmanship.
2. Market classes will be determined by weight, show management, and show entries.
3. One exhibitor may not show more than 2 market sheep. A current junior fair exhibitor must show the second animal if both were to end up in the same weight class.
4. One Grand Champion and one Reserve Champion will be selected, and both must be sold in the Premium Livestock Sale.
5. The winner of the Sheep Showman of Showmen contest will participate in the Grand Showman of Showmen contest.

Sheep Born and Raised Show

1. In order to show in the born and raised class, the animals must be born and raised in Madison County based on their scrapie tag identification. We reserve the right to verify any and all farm identification.
2. This class will be conducted as a market class and the classes will be determined by weight, show management and show entries.
3. The animals used for this class must be a current project, no additional animals may be brought in for this show.
4. One exhibitor may not show more than two animals in this class. A current junior fair exhibitor must show the second animal if both were to end up in the same weight class.
5. There must be at least three exhibitors to make up a class.

Sheep Breeding

1. In order to show in a breeding class, animals must have had both parents of the same breed.
2. All exhibitors showing purebred breeding sheep must present registration papers at the time of check in with the appropriate ownership of exhibitor. Registered animals without papers will show in the crossbred division.
3. Breeding sheep division and classes will be determined from the previous year breed participation.

4. If a particular breed has less than 3 animals in a class, the breed will be shown in the AOB (All Other Breeds) class for that particular age class.
5. One exhibitor may not show more than two animals per class except for the champion classes, in which case, a current Junior Fair exhibitor must handle the second animal.
6. Breeding sheep classes will be determined for the following year's fair based off the breeds that were represented in the current year's Breeding Sheep Show. If a breed isn't represented in the current year that means that the previous year had less than 3 sheep represented. Therefore, that breed was moved to the All Other Breeds division.
7. Junior Fair sheep breeding exhibitors will have the option to bring their breeding animals in for the day of the show only. However, if you wish to pen your breeding animal(s) on the fairgrounds, they must arrive during check in on the Friday before the fair and will not be released until Saturday the week of the fair.