

Maryland 4-H Animal Science Program Guidebook

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State 4-H Poultry and Egg Judging Contest Rules

Overview:

The State 4-H Poultry and Egg Judging Contest is held each year during the Maryland State Fair held in Timonium. The State Poultry and Egg Judging Superintendent is Angelique Livezey and her contact e-mail is angeliquelivezey@aol.com.

The following General Rules apply to all 4-H Judging Contests (Division U) held annually at the State Fair:

1. Only 4-H members may compete in this division (U), unless otherwise noted. 4-H members may only compete in one State 4-H Judging Contest held at the State Fair per year.
2. All contestants must comply with “General State Fair Rules & Regulations”, “General 4-H and FFA Rules & Regulations”, these “Division Rules & Regulations” and the applicable “Section Rules & Regulations”. Please note that additional State 4-H Judging Contest Guidelines & Procedures may apply.
3. Contestants will participate according to their 4-H Age (as of January 1 of the current year): Junior (ages 8-10); Intermediate (ages 11-13), Senior (ages 14-18) - unless noted.
4. Entries will be made by the 4-H Extension Educator, not the individual. Unless otherwise noted in section, a 4-H office may enter: A Team (consisting of 4 members) in each age division and 4 Individuals in each age division. All will participate in the contest.
 - a. Verification that each 4-H Member has participated in a 4-H educational program will be made by the 4-H Extension Educator.
 - b. Selection of contestants will be at discretion of the 4-H Extension Educator.
 - c. Substitutions/Alternates: Alternates are not allowed. If a Team Member is not present on the day of the contest, one of the pre-registered Individuals must be the substitute.
 - d. All Team Members must be enrolled in 4-H in the same county/city, exceptions are those 4-H Members that belong to a project club that crosses county/city lines (i.e., a tri-county livestock club). 4-H Members enrolled in such clubs may compete jointly as a team in that project area. The 4-H Extension Educator making the Joint Team entry must notify the State 4-H Office by July 31st.
 - e. Restrictions relative to college/vocational training for these contests are listed in the department.
 - f. There is a \$5.00 fee per participant for all judging contests. An additional \$8.00 lunch fee will be collected per participant in the Dairy & Livestock Judging contests. Checks should be made payable to the Maryland 4-H Foundation and are due at time of entry.

5. A 4-H member who has represented Maryland on a team in a National Contest is ineligible for the State Contest in the same project area. A 4-H member may not represent Maryland 4-H at an out-of-state competition as a member of more than one team in a given year.
6. Contestants will not be allowed to take books, notes or writing paper into the contest except cards as provided by the superintendent. **Cell phones and other portable electronic devices are not allowed.** While the contest is in progress there shall be no communication among the contestants or between a contestant and any one else, except as directed by the superintendent or his representative. Contestants will be under the direct supervision of the group leader at all times.
7. **Scoring:** Unless otherwise noted, the top three scores of designated team members will determine the team score in the respective age divisions. All ties will be broken by the Superintendent using prescribed procedures.
8. **Awards:** Unless otherwise noted, all contestants (both team members and individuals) share in the individual awards. Ribbons and premiums will be awarded to the 20 High Individuals in each age division for each contest. Premiums: 1st (\$20), 2nd–10th (\$15), 11th–20th (\$5). Awards will be presented to the Team members in each age division for each contest as well as special awards (see section).
9. All contests, except for the Goat Judging Contest and Purchase Power, will be held on the second Saturday of the Maryland State Fair.

Specific State 4-H Poultry and Egg Judging Rules and Regulations:

1. There is a \$5.00 participant fee required for this event.
2. The contest will begin at 8:30am in the Horse Sales Pavilion on the designated day during the State Fair.
3. The following areas will be included in the contest:
 - a. Production - 3 classes of 4 hens
 - b. Oral Reasons on 2 production classes.
 - c. Dressed Market - 2 classes of 10 ready-to-cook birds (1 broiler and 1 heavy fowl) and 1 class of parts identification (10 parts)
 - d. Egg Quality - 1 class of 20 eggs to be candled; 1 class of 10 broken out eggs; and 1 class of 20 eggs to be graded for exterior quality.
4. The Junior Contest will be a modified version of the Intermediate and Senior Contest. Oral Reasons on one class of production birds will be a part of the individual's total score. The Intermediate and Senior Contests will include all the areas listed above for the contest. The National Poultry Judging Manual, "**Poultry Judging**", will be used as the official guide for placement of classes.
5. The 4 High Senior Individuals will be eligible to represent Maryland 4-H at the national contest. Additional training in preparation for participation in the national contest will be provided. All team members are required to attend practices and a trip orientation.