

2026 Junior Fair Changes/Updates as of 3/1/26

Royalty Contest

The 2026 Preble County Royalty Contest is scheduled for **Saturday, June 6, 2026**, in the Expo Expansion. Applications are available on the Preble County Fair website or can be picked up at the fair office. Applications are due at the fair office on or before **Friday, May 1, 2026**.

Sheep and Goat RFID Tags

All breeding and market livestock shown at the fair must be identified with an RFID tag. Please note that the RFID tags for sheep and goats will be different from those used in past years. The new tags are smaller and better suited for these animals while still providing full RFID functionality.

Junior Fair Armbands will be available at the fair office after July 1, 2026. The fair office can pull each club's list from Fair Entry.

Community Service Projects

Any 4-H Club or FFA chapter looking for community service projects this spring or summer can call or email the fair office. There are several opportunities. (937-456-3748) or karen@preblecountyfair.com.

2026 Preble County Fair Sponsorship Packets

The fair office has released the 2026 Preble County Fair Sponsorship Packet. Sponsorship opportunities can be found and downloaded on the Preble County Fair website under the fair tab or printed copies are available at the fair office.

2026 Junior Fair Changes as of 2/1/26

Important Update for 2026 Preble County Junior Fair Participants

The Preble County Extension Office will assume responsibility for the Skillathon Contest, while the Fair Office will continue to distribute winnings and plaques for placings in each livestock species. Additional details on the event date and time will be announced later

Mandatory Junior Fair MARKET Goat and Sheep Tag-In/Weigh-In – Sunday, May 3, 2026 - Expo

Junior Fair Royalty Contest – Saturday, June 6, 2026 – Expo Expansion

Preble County Junior Fair Advisors and Junior Fair Exhibitor Families - Would you like to be added to the junior fair office email list to receive Preble County Junior Fair updates? If so, go to preblecountyfair.com and select the red "join our junior fair contact list" button under the contact tab.

2026 Junior Fair Changes as of 1/1/26

Junior Fair Livestock Sale

The Preble County Junior Fair will not include feeder calf projects in the Junior Fair Sale for 2026.

EID tags and DNA for PC Junior Fair Exhibitors

The Preble County Junior Fair Sale Committee has committed to covering the cost of EID tags and DNA tubes for the following market projects in 2026:

- Market Beef
- Market Hogs

- Market Sheep
- Market Goats

2026 Junior Fair Changes as of 12/1/25

Schedule change

- Cloverbud share day has moved from the last Saturday of the fair to the Friday of the Fair. Time – TBD
- Style Review Practice has moved from 9:30 am on the last Saturday of the fair to 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm, with the Style Review still starting at 2 pm on the last Saturday of the fair.

2026 Junior Fair Horse and Pony Show changes

- Saturday: Enforce 3-minute time limit on all trail classes & Advisors to propose a trail pattern to judge.
- Monday: Add Western Dressage Percentage Class
- Tuesday: Split Ranch showmanship as follows: 8-10, 11-12, 13-15, 16-18; Horse For showman of showman, all exhibitors will stand tail to the rail at the North end of the arena with no practicing before showing of the pattern. Exhibitors will be called in order.
- Wednesday: move the trot barrels and poles to the beginning of the gymkhana schedule.
- Thursday: move walk, trot division of the ranch classes before lunch break; split the ranch canter division on the day of the show and run two splits.
- All days: add championship classes back into the schedule.

Preble County Junior Fair Beef Exhibitors:

Schedule clarification for the Preble County Bred and Owned classes:

- Preble County Bred and Owned Market Beef will be shown on Monday evening. (County Bred and Owned Market Beef exhibitors must choose to be in the regular market beef class or the County Bred and Owned - not both. At the December weigh-in, exhibitors will declare which class they want to show in.) The Preble County Bred and Owned Champion and Reserve Champion Market Animal will compete in the Final Drive.
- The Wednesday Preble County Bred and Owned show will be for the feeder calves and breeding classes- The start time of this show will be announced at a later time.

Why are we keeping the Market Beef on Monday?

If the Market beef Bred and Owned show were moved to Wednesday, those same animals would need to show twice that day—once in Bred and Owned and again in the Carcass Class. In the bred and owned market beef show animals can be fitted but are not permitted to be fit for the Carcass show. Keeping Market Beef Born and Raised on Monday avoids the fitting conflict.

Clarification:

This is a Preble County Bred and Owned show; it is no longer a "Born and Raised" show. With that being said, Embryo calves are not included in this show. We would like to promote the breeders in our county with this show, so when you are declaring for the market show which class you would like to be in, and when you are

signing up for the feeder and heifer show please keep that in mind. Thank you for your understanding. If you have any questions regarding this, please reach out to one of the Beef Committee members.

2026 Junior Fair Changes as of 11/1/25

General Rule for all junior fair livestock shows

Following the posting of junior fair livestock show classes, any requested changes must be submitted no later than 6:00 PM on the day preceding the scheduled show. These changes should be submitted to the junior fair assistant or the fair office.

Goat Showmanship Guidelines

- Separate Showmanship Contests:
Distinct showmanship contests will continue to be held for Dairy/Exotic Goats and Market Goats.
- Exhibitor Participation:
Exhibitors who are showing in both Dairy/Exotic and Market Goat categories must choose one showmanship contest in which to participate: either the Dairy/Exotic Goat Showmanship or the Market Goat Showmanship.
- Market Dairy Wether Showmanship:
Exhibitors participating in Market Dairy Wether Showmanship will compete during the Sunday morning showmanship event, held in conjunction with the Dairy and Exotic Goat Showmanship.

Poultry

The maximum weight for Market Turkeys has been adjusted to 40 lbs to meet the packer's requirement.

All breeding poultry exhibitors are required to complete the Poultry Verification Form in accordance with the guidelines provided on the form. The completed form, along with any applicable blood test results, must be submitted by the entry deadline date of June 15, 2026.

A minimum of six birds of the same variety must be entered in FairEntry for that breed and variety combination to be eligible for exhibition. Varieties that do not meet this requirement will be grouped into a breed class designated for all other recognized varieties.

The Poultry Costume Class has been removed from the showbill and will no longer be part of the show.

Rabbit Check-In and Market Division Information – 2026

Mandatory Check-In Dates:

- Breeding Rabbits
Wednesday, June 17, 2026
6:30 PM – 8:30 PM
- Market Rabbits
Wednesday, July 1, 2026
7:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Market Rabbit Weight Divisions have been added. They are as follows

- Lightweight Division: 10.5 to 12.5 lbs

- Middleweight Division: 12.75 to 14.5 lbs
- Heavyweight Division: 14.75 to 16.5 lbs

4-H Dog Show

Please note that Saturday's Dog Show will begin at 9:00 AM, rather than the noon start time.

Beef

~~The Born and Raised Beef Show will move from Monday to Wednesday of fair week. (This change allows the event to be held as an independent show, separate from the Monday Beef Show.)~~

The Wednesday Preble County Bred and Owned show will be for the feeder calves and breeding classes- The start time of this show will be announced at a later time.

Preble County Bred and Owned Market Beef will be shown on Monday evening