

## **2024 SMALL ANIMAL GUIDELINES**

### **Consists of:**

#### **General Rules**

**Pre-Fair Judging- Tuesday, July 17, 2024**

**Cats, Guinea Pigs, Gerbils, Mice, Rats, Reptiles and Amphibians, Pet Rabbit, Pet Pals, etc. – New Building, Fairgrounds**

**Rabbits – Wednesday, July 24, 2024**

**Poultry – Monday, July 22, 2024**

**Small Animal Poster Contest – Deadline- 5:00 p.m., Saturday, July 20, 2024**

### **Fair Dress Code:**

**Pants or Capri's; long- sleeved shirt and/or lab coat (shirts must be collared and buttoned appropriately); closed toe shoes.**

### **Pre-Fair Dress Code:**

**Long pants (jeans or dress pants), skirt or dress, and collared shirts, buttoned appropriately.**

**5 points will be deducted if dress code is not met.**

## **Rules & Regulations Small Animal Division**

This division consists of the following projects:  
Pet Rabbits, Cats, Guinea Pigs, Hamsters, Pocket Pets (gerbils, mice, rats), Poultry, Rabbits, and Self-determined Small Animals.

### **General Rules:**

- A. Feeding time in the Small Animal Barn shall be 7:00 a.m. through 10:00 p.m.
- B. The small animal barn closes at 10:00 p.m. daily.
- C. Each exhibitor shall provide his own food. Cages shall be cleaned by exhibitor daily.
- D. Any member's animal not taken care of will be asked to be removed upon the recommendation of Junior Fair Board, Adult Advisor and notification of parents. Member will not be permitted to exhibit small animal next year.
- E. Any Junior Fair Board member or Barn Superintendent must have an entry in the Small Animal department.
- F. Dismissal will be Saturday after 5:00 p.m.
- G. Any participant with ANY Small Animal remaining after 5:00 p.m. on the Saturday check-out date, without prior arrangements, will not be permitted to participate the following year in the Butler County Fair with any Small Animal project.

### 1. Livestock Sale

Rabbits and poultry will be put in sale rotation with **ALL** pens of poultry and all pens of rabbits being auctioned. Turkeys will be sold in auction this year **ALL** will sell. Grand/Reserve Champions will sell in the Sale of Champions at 9:00 a.m. at the Livestock Sale.

### 2. All entries must be in by the deadline of:

**June 8<sup>th</sup> – Rabbits and Poultry are to be sent to the Butler County Fairgrounds**

No late entries or late arrivals will be accepted. If vacations or other circumstances conflict, advisors and members must make an agreement to secure all details about getting animal to the fairgrounds. Members must show their own animal unless they have another Junior Fair Show, at which time, the member must notify a Junior Fair Board member in the Small Animal department and secure another Junior Fair member to show their animal.

### 3. Sick/Dead Animals

The Junior Fair Board members, Advisors and Fair Superintendents are not liable for dead or injured animals. It is up to the Senior Fair Board member's discretion whether or not an animal is suitable for show or display. If Junior Fair Board members and Adult Advisors find sick animals, they will contact the Senior Fair Board members in charge of the small animals dept. to have a veterinarian check the animal. If it is found to be unfit for show or display, the owner will be asked to remove the animal from the building. The Junior Fair Board members or Adult Advisors, in consultation with the Senior Fair Board, also have a right to turn away any animal that is found unfit the day they are brought to the fairgrounds. In case the animal would die, the owner must be notified first. If the owner cannot be notified, the advisor will be notified, and the animal will be removed from display. Any animal not taken care of by the owner (food, water, clean bedding at least once a day) will be asked to take the animal home. **No Locks Permitted on Cages.** This interferes with the superintendent's access to the animals for watering or emergencies.

#### 4. Animal Replacement

All specifications for project requirements must be set before the animal would be allowed to compete in the show, (i.e., Pen-of-Three Meat or Poultry must consist of three animals). Animal ownership: replacement of animal for competition will not be permitted after May 1 of current year unless specified.

#### 5. Showmanship Guidelines

1. The showmanship contest will be open to any Junior Fair exhibitor in Rabbits or Poultry.
2. Rabbit/Poultry Showmanship will be an oral interview with the judge, and participants must have their animal present during judging. Rabbit showmanship judging will be on Sunday after Open Class show. Poultry showmanship judging will be held on Monday, after the Poultry Show.
3. Winner of Age Class will compete for Showman of Showmen.
4. Each year, Showman of Showmen judging will alternate between the rabbit judge and poultry judge. Therefore, judging will be held on either Monday or Wednesday of the fair.
5. Contestants show the animal they exhibited. Except for the Small Animals showman of showman.
6. An exhibitor can only win a showmanship class once. If a younger member wins the class this year, he/she will compete in the next age class next year, unless he/she is a Showman of Showmen winner. An exhibitor can only win Rabbit or Poultry Showman of Showmen once, then will continue to compete in Small Animals Showman of Showmen until won.
7. An exhibitor can only win Small Animal Showman of Showmen once.
8. A Premier Exhibitor will be awarded for both poultry and rabbits.
9. Pre-Judging-The Judges Score Sheet enclosed is to be used at the pre-judging of Small Animals will enable members to prepare according to the judge's expectations and understand the scoring.
10. State Fair competitors are selected by the highest score regardless of Junior or Senior level. Please review State Fair Packet before attending State Fair judging
11. In case of a tie, selection for State Fair is determined by the Judge.

12. \* Indicates State Fair Categories

## Cats

### Judging, Tuesday, July 16, 2024

Awards will be on Sunday, July 21, 2024 at the Awards ceremony located in the Multipurpose Building

#### Cats (9 years and older)

#216 Cat 1 – Purrfect Pals – beginning level

#217 Cat 2 – Climbing Up – intermediate levels

#218 Cat 3 – Leaping Forward – advanced

#214R – Small Animal Record Book – Please order this book to keep records of your cat project.

#### **Description**

Learn about the history of cats, feeding, watering, and caring for an animal. Make a carrying case, scratching post or some other toy for your pet.

#### **Exhibitor's Requirements for Cats**

1. All exhibitors must be enrolled in the 4-H Cat Project.
2. Cats must show at the pre-judging unless they are in season. Cats will not be on display at the fair.
3. Cats must have certification of rabies and distemper inoculation.
4. Exhibitors must make something to go along with their cat project or a poster and exhibit this item in the Small Animal Building in a booth during the fair. Bring project book and be able to answer questions about the project.
5. Cats must be on a harness or collar and leash or in a cage at all times on the Fairgrounds.

**Judge's Score Sheet**  
**Small Animal Division**

**Junior** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Senior** \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Club \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ ZipCode \_\_\_\_\_ Phone# \_\_\_\_\_ Project \_\_\_\_\_

**Judge's Criteria**

- |   |         |       |
|---|---------|-------|
| 1. Knowledge and understanding of project | 25 pts. | _____ |
| 2. Skills Learned                         | 25 pts. | _____ |
| 3. Completed Project (Quality & Neatness) | 25 pts. | _____ |
| 4. Project Animals                        | 25 pts. | _____ |
- (General care, health, grooming (cats) as indicated by animal's appearance at time of judging)

Dress code followed – Yes or NO (-5 point) \_\_\_\_\_

Total Points 100pts. \_\_\_\_\_

Best feature about project/member:

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Suggestions for improvement:

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## Small Animal Judging at the Fairgrounds

Hamsters, Guinea Pigs, Pocket Pets (mouse, rat, gerbils, pet rabbit), Reptiles and Amphibians

**Show: Tuesday July 16, 2024, starting at 9:00 a.m. in the Multipurpose Building**

**Members will bring their project in for judging and leave only the exhibit item for display during the week of the fair.**

### **Guidelines:**

1. All animals must be owned by May 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year.
2. All exhibitors are responsible for their animals at the judging and must be prepared to present their animals to the judge on the table.
3. Members must exhibit a poster about their project to leave on display in the Youth Exhibit Building
4. Awards will be given on Sunday, July 21, 2024, at the Award Ceremony in the Multipurpose Building

### **#215 – Guinea Pig I (9 years and older)**

#### Description

Start with one animal. Learn to feed, care, and manage guinea pigs. Raise one litter if possible. Complete member project guide. Bring an exhibit or poster from one area.

#### Requirements

Bring one or two guinea pigs to judging; exhibit fair poster.

### **#220 – Pocket Pals Project Book**

Complete member project guide. Bring an exhibit or poster from one area.  
(gerbils, hamsters, mice, rats, chinchillas, ferrets, hedgehogs)

### **#228 Pet Rabbit**

Members will participate in judging on Tuesday July 16, 2024, one week prior to the fair at the Small Animal-judging contest. Participants must bring a rabbit(s) and a poster to judging. Pet rabbits must be healthy and show no signs of aggression. Pet rabbits are not exhibited at the fair.

Small Animal Record Book (214R) and Small Animal Resource Book (220R) recommended.

#### Requirements

Bring small animal to judging; exhibit a poster during fair week.

### **#230 Pet Pals**

For judging, members can bring in your pet (must be on a leash or in a cage). Please bring in your PetPals activities and accomplishments records along with a poster or a scrapbook.

## Small Animal Judging at the Fair

### Rabbits

#### Show: Wednesday of Fair Week

#### Showmanship: Sunday following Open Class Rabbit Judging on Sunday of Fair

#### #225 Breeding Rabbit Project and Record Book

Complete the member project guide listed in project book.

#### #226 Market Rabbit Project and Record Book

Complete the member project guide listed in project book.

#### Guidelines for Breeding and Market Rabbits

1. Each participant may enter a maximum of 3 projects regardless whether or not they are 4-H or FFA. One pen of three and two single pens or three single pens. Members may only enter one meat pen.

2. Classes shown for the breeds are as follows:

##### 6 - Class (Commercial)

1. – Senior Buck
2. – Senior Doe
3. – 6-8 Buck (except small fancy breeds)
4. – 6-8 Doe (except small fancy breeds)
5. – Junior Buck
6. – Junior Doe
7. – Pen of Three Rabbits

##### 4 - Class (Fancy)

1. Senior Buck
2. Senior Doe
3. Junior Buck
4. Junior Doe

SHOWS WILL CONSIST OF AGE, SEX AND BREED AND NOT BY VARIETY.

3. Each cage should be cleaned each day and bedding replaced.

4. Animals should be fed and watered at least once a day by the owner.

5. Rabbit owners whose rabbits are not taken care of will be told to take their animal's home by a Junior Fair Board member or Junior Fair Board adult advisor for small animals, along with Sr. Fair Board.

6. All exhibitors must have their rabbits in their possession by May 1<sup>st</sup>, with the exception of the meat pen rabbits. At that time the correct breed, color, sex, and tattoo number shall be put on the entry form. At check-in, the Saturday before fair, the rabbit entered must be the one described on the entry form or it will be disqualified. Exceptions will be made for the sex of junior rabbits provided that all other information on the form is correct. Entries are due to Sr. Fair Board on June 8, 2024.

7. Pen of three rabbits must be 8-10 weeks old during the fair. All meat pens will be sold at the livestock sale if they make weight. They must have a minimum weight of 10.5 lbs. and a maximum weight of 16.5 lbs. and must be a commercial breed. Each rabbit should weight a minimum of 3.5 lbs. They must be the same breed and variety.

8. The Rabbits tattooed must be legibly. **Place Tattoo in Left Ear.**
9. Double pens will only be permitted for larger breeds, or what the Junior Fair Board deems necessary and space permits.
10. All meat pen rabbits will be weighed on July 20<sup>th</sup> between 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. in the Small Animal Building. These are the ONLY weigh in times.
11. Rabbit entries will be accepted on Saturday July 20th from 8:00 am till 5:00 pm.
12. During Wednesday Show, Rabbits projects must be taken to the show table by the project owner or someone in his or her club. Their advisor will be in charge of making sure they rabbit is brought to the show table.
13. The name of the “Project Owner” of the rabbit will be, called twice. LAST call is the second call.

### **Trophies**

A Best of Breed and Best Opposite trophy will only be given for 5 or more in a breed. Breeds with less than 5 will receive a best of breed and best opposite rosette. The Small Animal Trophy Chairman must purchase all trophies and awards. Rosettes may also be awarded.

**Premier Exhibitor Award will be awarded to those eligible.**



**Small Animal Judging at the Fair**  
**Poultry**  
**Show: Monday of Fair Week - 9:00 a.m.**  
**Poultry**

**#151 Raising Pullets**

In this unit, you'll learn how to feed, water and care for chickens. This project will help you learn about poultry production and management through experience. It may be taken more than one year. Complete member project guidelines.

**#152 Raising Broilers**

You'll discover how to feed, water, care and market broilers in this project. You may take it more than one year. Complete member project guidelines.

**#153 Raising Fancy Poultry**

You will discover the many different types of poultry from around the world. Complete member project guidelines.

**#166 Turkeys**

Buy, brood and raise a turkey flock. The poults should be raised with adequate equipment and in complete isolation from a chicken flock. Complete member project guidelines.

**#168 Ducks or Geese**

Raise and manage a flock of at least five ducks and/or geese in this project. You'll also learn the best known flock management methods. Complete member project guidelines.

**Rules and Regulations – Poultry**

1. Each participant may enter a maximum of three pens of chickens, fowl, or other poultry regardless whether or not they are in 4-H or FFA. However, you may only enter one meat pen.
2. All meat pens must be hatched and owned by June 1 of current year.
3. Members are responsible for cleaning cages daily and providing feed and water at least once a day.
4. Any poultry animal not properly taken care of must be removed and the responsible exhibitor will not show Junior Poultry the following year.
5. The **ALL** chicken meat pens will be sold at the Junior Fair Livestock Sale. **ALL** Market Turkey Class will sell at the livestock sale.
6. No unhealthy birds permitted and all diseased and lousy birds will be removed by the Senior Fair Board.
7. **Each poultry exhibitor must have their chickens pullorum tested before the fair or must have official proof either from the hatchery or the tester. Papers must be presented at the time of check-in on Saturday.**
8. Turkeys must be blood tested by a veterinarian and tests sent to Dept. of Agriculture in Reynoldsburg (unless purchased at a hatchery). This must be completed 4 weeks prior to fair.
9. Every exhibitor will be responsible for showing his/her animals at the fair on Monday of Fair week unless he/she has more than one per class or attending another show on Fairgrounds. In this case the other project must be shown by another Butler County 4-H member.
10. All poultry will be weighed between 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Saturday July 20th at the Small Animal building.
11. The weight of the chicken meat pen must be between 15-24 lbs. Market Turkey (tom or hem) must meet minimum weight of 20lbs.
12. Poultry entries will be accepted on Saturday July 20<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 am till 5:00 pm.

13. Poultry project must be taken to show ring by owner or someone in his or her club. Their advisor will be in charge of getting project to show ring.
14. The name of the “Project Owner” will be called twice. LAST Call is the second call.
15. Members must have attended a Quality Assurance Program in order to show and sell at the Junior Fair Livestock Sale.

Poultry

Chickens – pen of 2 same breed

- A) Standard – male and female
- B) Bantam – male and female
- C) Egg Production – 2 females
- D) Meat Pen (pen of 3) – commercial chickens, same breed and variety

Geese-Pen of 2 – male and female

Ducks-Pen of 2 – male and female

Turkeys- Market Tom or Hen- Pen of 2 – male and female

Pigeons and Other-Pen of 2 – male and female

### Small Animal Poster Contest

Educational Poster About a Small Animal

- The contest is open to all Butler County 4-H members who are exhibiting at the fair in the Small Animal Division.
- There will be two age groups:
  - Ages 8-13 as of January 1 of current year
  - Ages 14-19 as of January 1 of current year
- Poster may be done in any medium the member desires, i.e., markers, crayons, pen and ink, pencils, paint, etc. They will be judged on creativity, originality, and effort.
- Posters must be no smaller than 11” X 14” and no larger than 22” X 28”.
- Posters must be made the contest & may not be used in any other projects.

**Member’s name, age, telephone number and club name must be printed on the back of the poster. No identifying information should appear on the front.**

Posters will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. on Saturday prior to the fair opening, in the Small Animal Building. **No posters will be accepted after this time.** A designated barn superintendent will be in charge.

All posters will be on display in the Small Animal Building until Saturday at 5:00 p.m. the last day of the fair. Posters not picked up will be put in the dumpster. Winners will be announced on Wednesday during the awards program.

Awarded Eight place ribbons.