

DEPARTMENTS H-4 AND I-1 JUNIOR AND OPEN POULTRY EXHIBITION POULTRY SHOWS

Check in: Friday June 5, 2026 from 1 to 8 PM

or Saturday June 6, 2026 from 6 to 8:45 AM

Judging: Saturday June 6, 2026 at 9:00 AM

Junior show will be judged first with Open show following

Superintendent: Joshua Flees

Show Location: AG Expo Building

Entry Fee: \$4 per animal

Entries close: May 29th, 2026

Make Checks Payable to:
Macon County Fair Assoc.

Mail Entries to:
Macon County Fair, P.O. Box 3305
Decatur, IL 62524-3305

This show pertains to the Macon Country Fair Fancy/Exhibition Poultry Show. It is open to juniors and adults wishing to show exhibition quality poultry including large fowl chickens, bantam chickens, domesticated ducks, domesticated geese, domesticated turkeys, and guinea fowl. At this time, the show is not accepting entries for other poultry such as pigeons, doves, quail, pheasants, peafowl, or other types of birds.

In this show, birds are going to be judged upon their breed and color variety standards according to the Standard of Perfections of accepted breeds and varieties by the American Poultry Association and American Bantam Association. While this show is not sanctioned by the APA or ABA, rules regarding shows detailed by both organizations will be followed as close as possible but may be subject to adjustment via the discretion of the Superintendent.

Junior Exhibitors wishing to show birds based upon their production qualities such as meat birds, layers, or hatchery birds are encouraged, but not required, to enter in the Macon County Fair Market Poultry Show. Production birds and hatchery birds are welcome to be exhibited in this show, but will not be judged based on their production qualities and thus may not place well against animals with stronger breed or color characteristics.

Show Rules:

1. The Junior show is open to individuals from 5 – 18 years of age.
2. The Open show is open to any individual over the age of 18 years of age.
 - a. At this time, juniors will be asked to only show in the Junior show.
3. Entry deadline is Friday May 29, 2026. Entries cannot be added after the deadline whether they be faxed, mailed, or emailed due to show staff needing final counts for show set-up. Please contact the show superintendent if an extension is needed.
4. Entry fee is \$4.00 per bird. Currently, this show is not accepting entries for pairs or trios.
 - a. While these are jackpot-style shows, there is no guarantee on winning money awards depending on how large the classes may be or the competition that is entered.
5. All birds are recommended, but not required, to be at least 4 months of age.
6. Animals will be accepted onto the fairgrounds on Friday June 5, 2026, from 1:00 – 8:00 PM or on Saturday June 6, 2026 from 6:00 – 8:45 AM. All exhibitors must check in with the Superintendent prior to unloading any animals into the show barn to ensure all health documentation is checked and follows the Illinois Department of Agriculture Poultry guidelines.
7. Judging will begin with the Junior show starting promptly at 9:00 AM on Saturday June 6, 2026. The Open show will be judged immediately following the Junior show by the same judge. An additional judge may be hired if entry numbers are large. Preference to judges with an APA or ABA license or experience with show poultry will be given.
8. The Macon County Fair Association, the venue, nor the show staff will be responsible for loss in case of fire, theft, or accident. All precautions will be taken for a safe show. All entries are entered and shown at the risk of the owners and while the Macon County Fair Association and show staff are expected to exercise all reasonable care in the handling and protection of the exhibits, such associations will in no case be liable.

9. Exhibitors will be allowed to coop-out of the show on Saturday June 6, 2026 at 5:00 PM. This rule is to ensure that exhibitors are not trying to coop-out and leave while judging is being conducted. ***Exhibitors cooping-out early without consent of the Superintendent will forfeit all winnings.***
10. Cages will be provided by the show. Only 1 bird will be allowed per hole and will be labeled by show staff with an entry tag.
 - a. Double cages can be requested for Large Fowl male chickens only and must be indicated on the entry form to ensure the show staff have cages ready. Show staff reserve the right to decline double coop requests in the event of space restrictions. Please only ask for double coops for birds that truly need it.
11. Geese and Turkey cages are limited and will be accepted on a first come basis. Geese will get individual cages, but if more geese are entered into the show, then the exhibitors will pair up their geese entries (not to be paired with geese that do not belong to them).
12. Birds must be owned by the exhibitor for at least 30 days prior to the show and have all the necessary health paperwork required by the Illinois Department of Agriculture.
13. Birds are recommended, but not required, to be banded for identification purposes.
14. There will be no sale or exchange of animals on the fairgrounds. What the exhibitor brings to the show is what the exhibitor should coop-out and take off the grounds.
15. Exhibitors will need to transport their own animals in personal cages to and from the show. The show will not provide cages for bird transportation. All personal cages should be cleaned before and after the show.
16. Drinking water hydrants are on the fairgrounds and shaving will be provided by the show for all cages. The show may have cups and feed available on a limited basis, but exhibitors are encouraged to bring their own.
17. While on the grounds, exhibitors will be required to care for their animals during their stay at the show.
18. Advertising on cages will not be allowed until judging is completed. No sale signs are allowed on cages.
19. Exhibitors have the right to zip-tie or lock cages while birds are at the show if they choose too. However, all locks and ties must be removed prior to and during judging.
20. All birds should be in good condition in terms of cleanliness and feather quality. Exhibitors should wash their animals prior to coming to the show and treat them for external parasites such as lice and mites.

Poultry Health Rules:

1. All exhibitors are required to send in a ***copy*** of all health forms required by the Illinois Department of Agriculture. Entry forms without a copy of health papers will not be accepted until health forms are provided to the Superintendent prior to the entry deadline. Copies are kept by the show staff for records and to supply to the Illinois Department of Agriculture if needed. Copies of health paperwork will not be returned, so please ensure copies are provided and not original documents.
2. All exhibitors should have copies of their health forms with them as well, just in case.
3. All exhibitors are required to check-in with the Superintendent prior to unloading to ensure all health paperwork match the entries being shown at the fair. Everyone is expected to comply with any fair veterinarian or Illinois Department of Agriculture agent that may be on-site during the fair.
 - a. All exhibitors are reminded that this process is to ensure that all birds are kept safe and health requirements are being followed according to the Illinois Department of Agriculture guidelines.
4. Any birds showing signs of illness, by the discretion of the Superintendent, will be kindly asked to leave the show to ensure the safety and health of other birds at the show.
5. Any birds showing signs of having external parasites such as lice, mites, ticks, etc. will be kindly asked to leave the grounds to ensure the safety of the other birds present at the show.

The following rules are taken from the Illinois Department of Agriculture's 2024 Exhibition Livestock Health Rules document and will be enforced:

- All entries (except waterfowl, i.e., domesticated fowl that normally swim, such as ducks and geese) in a show or exhibition shall have originated from a U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean or equivalent hatchery or flock OR have a negative pullorum-typhoid test within 90 days prior to exhibition. Exhibitor shall show proper information as to name and address of owner or exhibitor, name and address of the authorized testing agent, date of the testing and the number, breed, and species of those tested.

- Prior to being used to transport poultry to a show, all crates, boxes, containers and vehicles shall be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected.
- Any poultry vaccinations must be performed at least 4 weeks prior to delivery to the show.
- Upon admission to a show, all entries shall be examined by the official fair veterinarian or qualified state personnel who shall also receive and examine all certificates necessary for admission of birds to a show. Birds not in show condition will be excused from exhibition and removed from the premises. Any fowl showing signs of illness during the fair will be removed from the exhibition grounds.
- All out-of-state turkeys must originate from flocks that are officially classified as U.S. *Mycoplasma gallisepticum* Clean in accordance with the provisions of the National Poultry Improvement Plan or be negative to a test for *Mycoplasma gallisepticum* within 30 days prior to entry.
- A permit is also required for out-of-state poultry. Entry permit numbers are available online at <https://entrypermit.agr.illinois.gov/Login.aspx>.

Poultry Judging:

1. Junior and Open exhibitors will not be required to be present for the judging, nor will they be required to handle the birds, nor bring them at an area for judging. Judging will be conducted similar to APA and ABA private poultry shows where the judge will independently handle the birds and go class by class in a cage-show style fashion.
 - a. Exhibitors will be allowed to be near the judge when judging is being conducted in order to understand how the judge is assessing the birds in the class and their placing decisions.
 - b. For the sake of time, exhibitors and parents are asked to keep questions specific to the placing and assessment of the class the judge is currently working on. All other questions should be saved until the judging is completed.
2. Superintendent reserves the right to combine classes based on number of birds entered in each class.
3. Within each class, each animal entered within a lot (Cock, Hen, Cockerel, Pullet, etc.) will be judged within the lot regardless of breed or variety and placed on either a 1-7 scale for Junior show or 1-5 scale for Open Show
 - a. For example, all the Class 1 American Cock birds will be judged together and placed on a 1 – 7 or 1 – 5 scale (based on the show they are entered). The same with happen with the Hens, Cockerels, and Pullets. All birds receiving a 1st in their lot are eligible for Class Champion and Reserve Class Champion. All large fowl chicken Class Champions are eligible for Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion Large Fowl. All bantam chicken Class Champions are eligible for Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion Bantam Chicken. All duck and geese Class Champions will be eligible for Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion Waterfowl. Turkey and Guinea Fowl class champions are eligible for Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion Turkey & Guinea Fowl. The Grand Champions are then eligible for Best in Show and Reserve in Show.
4. Below is a list of definitions to assist with Poultry classes and age/sex identification. Please call the Superintendent with any questions:

Chickens and Guinea Fowl	Cock – Male bird older than 1 year Hen – Female bird older than 1 year Cockerel – Male bird younger than 1 year Pullet – Female bird younger than 1 year
Ducks	Old drake – Male duck older than 1 year Old duck – Female duck older than 1 year Young drake – Male duck younger than 1 year Young duck – Female duck younger than 1 year
Geese	Old gander – Male goose older than 1 year Old goose – Female goose older than 1 year Young gander – Male goose younger than 1 year Young goose – Female goose younger than 1 year
Turkeys	Tom – Old male turkey older than 1 year Hen – Old female turkey older than 1 year Jake – Young male turkey younger than 1 year Jenny – Young female turkey younger than 1 year

Poultry Classes:

1. All classes below are based off the most recent American Poultry Association and American Bantam Association listed classes for accepted breeds and varieties within each organization's Standard of Perfection. All recognized breeds and varieties should be entered in their correct classes. If there are any questions, please contact the Superintendent prior to entry deadline.
2. Show quality or exhibition breeds not recognized by the APA and ABA are welcome to be entered and shown. Unrecognized large fowl chickens should be entered in the Any Other Standard Breed Class. Unrecognized Bantams should be entered in the class that meets their description of comb type or leg feather status. Unrecognized waterfowl should be entered in the class that best represents their weight. Exhibitors showing unrecognized breeds should understand that birds can place in their classes but may not be awarded a Class Champion award.

Large Fowl Chicken Classes

Class 1: American

- 1 - Cock
- 2 - Hen
- 3 - Cockerel
- 4 - Pullet

Class 2: Asiatic

- 1 - Cock
- 2 - Hen
- 3 - Cockerel
- 4 - Pullet

Class 3: English

- 1 - Cock
- 2 - Hen
- 3 - Cockerel
- 4 - Pullet

Class 4: Mediterranean

- 1 - Cock
- 2 - Hen
- 3 - Cockerel
- 4 - Pullet

Class 5: Continental

- 1 - Cock
- 2 - Hen
- 3 - Cockerel
- 4 - Pullet

Class 6: Any Other Standard Breed

- 1 - Cock
 - 2 - Hen
 - 3 - Cockerel
 - 4 - Pullet
-

Bantam Chicken Classes

Class 7: Game birds**(Moderns, Old English, American Game)**

- 1 - Cock
- 2 - Hen
- 3 - Cockerel
- 4 - Pullet

Class 8: Single comb clean legged (SCCL)

- 1 - Cock
- 2 - Hen
- 3 - Cockerel
- 4 - Pullet

Class 9: Rose comb clean legged (RCCL)

- 1 - Cock
- 2 - Hen
- 3 - Cockerel
- 4 - Pullet

Class 10: All other comb clean legged (AOCCL)

- 1 - Cock
- 2 - Hen
- 3 - Cockerel
- 4 - Pullet

Class 11: Feather legged

- 1 - Cock
 - 2 - Hen
 - 3 - Cockerel
 - 4 - Pullet
-

Waterfowl Classes

Class 12: Heavy duck

- 1 - Old drake
- 2 - Old duck
- 3 - Young drake
- 4 - Young duck

Class 13: Medium duck

- 1 - Old drake
- 2 - Old duck
- 3 - Young drake
- 4 - Young duck

Class 14: Light duck

- 1 - Old drake
- 2 - Old duck
- 3 - Young drake
- 4 - Young duck

Class 15: Bantam duck

- 1 - Old drake
- 2 - Old duck
- 3 - Young drake
- 4 - Young duck

Class 16: Heavy geese

- 1 - Old gander
- 2 - Old goose
- 3 - Young gander
- 4 - Young goose

Class 17: Medium geese

- 1 - Old gander
- 2 - Old goose
- 3 - Young gander
- 4 - Young goose

Class 18: Light geese

- 1 - Old gander
 - 2 - Old goose
 - 3 - Young gander
 - 4 - Young goose
-

Other Poultry Classes

Class 19: Turkey

- 1 - Tom
- 2 - Hen
- 3 - Jake
- 4 - Jenny

Class 20: Guinea fowl

- 1 - Cock
 - 2 - Hen
 - 3 - Cockerel
 - 4 - Pullet
-

Junior Placings	
Placing	Award
1	Ribbon + \$5
2	Ribbon + \$4
3	Ribbon + \$3
4	Ribbon + \$2
5	Ribbon + \$1
6	Ribbon
7	Ribbon

Junior Show	Number of Awards	Award	Money Value per Award
Reserve Class Champions	20	Rosette	\$5
Class Champions	20	Rosette	\$10
Reserve Grand Champion Large fowl	1	Rosette	\$25
Grand Champion Large fowl	1	Rosette	\$50
Reserve Grand Champion Bantam	1	Rosette	\$25
Grand Champion Bantam	1	Rosette	\$50
Reserve Grand Champion Waterfowl	1	Rosette	\$25
Grand Champion Waterfowl	1	Rosette	\$50
Reserve Grand Champion Turkey & Guinea	1	Rosette	\$25
Grand Champion Turkey & Guinea	1	Rosette	\$50
Reserve in Show	1	Rosette	\$100
Best in Show	1	Rosette	\$200
Total Awards: \$900			

Open Show	Number of Awards	Money Value per Award
Reserve Class Champions	20	\$5
Class Champions	20	\$10
Reserve Grand Champion Large fowl	1	\$25
Grand Champion Large fowl	1	\$50
Reserve Grand Champion Bantam	1	\$25
Grand Champion Bantam	1	\$50
Reserve Grand Champion Waterfowl	1	\$25
Grand Champion Waterfowl	1	\$50
Reserve Grand Champion Turkey & Guinea	1	\$25
Grand Champion Turkey & Guinea	1	\$50
Reserve in Show	1	\$100
Best in Show	1	\$200
Total Awards: \$900		