JUNIOR FAIR BEEF BREEDING GUIDELINES
January 31, 2026

BEEF BREEDING COMMITTEE
Jim Black: 330-429-3961, Darla Ball: 216-533-4655
Patty Myers: 330-565-5767, Kyle Blaine: 330-831-2444

Saturday, September 5, 12:00 p.m. - South Cattle Complex
CLASS NUMBERS: Hereford - 21, Maine Anjou- 22, Beef Shorthorn -23,
Aberdeen Angus - 24, Simmental - 25, Limousin – 26, AOB - All Other Beef Breeds
(Shown by Breed & Age)

MEMBERSHIP: Open to any Mahoning County Youth ages 8 and in the third grade, or 9 years of age to 18 years old inclusive on January 1 of the current year. Member must be enrolled in a local 4-H club, FFA chapter, Farm Bureau Youth, or a current member of the Mahoning Junior Fair program. To exhibit in the Junior Fair, members must have enrolled in a Beef Breeding project with the committee by the mandatory enrollment date.

1. Requirements for project work and fair exhibitors shall be set by the number of years of membership in the Beef Breeding Project as follows:
   A. First Year Member – **ONLY 1 Calf** - born after January 1, 2026
   B. Second Year Member - 2 animals (Calf and/or Heifer - NO COW)
   C. Third Year Member & Up - Exhibit 5 animals total: Calves, Heifers, and/or cows
2. Only one animal is to be exhibited in the same breed class per exhibitor. Members must complete a Beef Breeding online registration by April 7, 2026.
3. A list of meetings will be passed out at the first meeting and will be available on the Junior Fair website. **ALL YOUTH PLANNING TO EXHIBIT BEEF BREEDING CATTLE AT THE MAHONING COUNTY JUNIOR FAIR MUST HAVE ATTENDED AT LEAST ONE BEEF BREEDING CLINIC AND TWO BEEF BREEDING GENERAL MEETINGS. Members (ALONG WITH ONE PARENT/GUARDIAN) must complete one of the Mahoning County Quality Assurance Program or ONE OF THE COUNTY'S OPTIONAL APPROVED programs FOR QUALITY ASSURANCE.** Quality assurance will not count toward the meeting requirements.
4. To **exhibit in the Junior Fair, member must complete and submit the Junior Fair Online Entry Form by August 1. If a Junior Fair Entry Form is not submitted, then the youth will NOT be permitted to exhibit their animal in the Junior Fair Show.** Notification must be made to a committee member and Junior Fair Management no less than one week prior to fair entry day if an animal is not going to be exhibited at the fair. If no notification is given, Junior Fair participation with this project can be denied the next year.
5. If an exhibitor has a back-up animal, they must submit their final selection of animal showing and which class they are showing in on the Junior Fair Entry form due by August 1. A back-up animal may be entered, with the above requirements, in case of health issues or an emergency.
6. All registered beef breeding animals must have a copy of the registration paper(s) to prove animals are purebred. Member's animals must be registered to the child or direct family member in the household at the time of Junior Fair Entry by August 1. The exhibitor must provide a paper copy of the registration papers at Junior Fair Check – In.
7. Crossbred beef must be tagged. A picture ID form for all calves and heifers and cows which are to be considered for showing as a crossbred in the Junior Fair Show must be submitted online with Junior Fair Entry by August 1. All registered livestock will show in their class according to breed guidelines.
8. **Beef Feeder/Beef Heifer Feeders WILL NOT BE SHOWN in the Beef Breeding Show.**
9. All animals **will be shown by the individual member carrying the project**, except for Champion classes at which time the animal must be shown by another member of a cattle project. Members must show their own animal, including in showmanship.
10. **Prospect Steer Class:**
    - Steer must be offspring of an exhibitor's current breeding project.
    - All breeds will participate in one class.
11. All grooming that involves the use of water (washing, rinsing, or "soaping down") must be performed exclusively in the designated wash rack. Washing cattle in the stalls, aisles, or any non-designated area is strictly prohibited. Failure to comply will result in a $25 fine. If caught a second time, the exhibitor will not be permitted to show the following year. Fine must be paid to the Beef Breeding Committee by December 31 of the current year. If the fine is not paid, the exhibitor will not be able to participate in the Beef Breeding program.
12. All show rules are final once the show begins. Any participant or spectator seeking clarification or wishing to protest or question a rule must do so in writing at the show office. Committee members and volunteers are not authorized to alter rules during the Junior Fair Show.
13. This show is a youth/family event. Unsportsmanlike conduct, including, but not limited to: verbal abuse, use of profanity, or intentional disregard for show protocols, will not be tolerated. The committee reserves the right to remove any individual not following this rule from the premises. A 'no-show" status will be given to any animal owned by an individual who has been removed for conduct violations. Also, refer to the Exhibitor Only Guideline in the General Junior Fair Rules.
14. Youth exhibiting Beef Breeding must also follow the General Junior Fair Guidelines.

REGISTERED PUREBRED & CROSS BRED BEEF BREEDING CLASS LIST

Registered means registration papers must be shown on entry day. All registered livestock will be shown in the class per breed guidelines.

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1. Junior Heifer Calf, calved on or after Jan. 1, 2026
2. Winter Heifer Calf, calved between Nov. 1 and Dec. 31, 2025
3. Senior Heifer Calf, calved between September 1 and October 31, 2025

Champion and Reserve Champion Calf

4. Late Summer Yearling Heifer, calved between July 1 2025 thru August 31, 2025
5. Early Summer Yearling Heifer, calved between May 1 and June 30, 2025
6. Spring Yearling Heifer, calved between March 1 and April 30, 2025

Junior Champion and Reserve Champion Female

7. Junior Yearling Heifer, calved between January 1, 2025 thru February 28, 2025
8. Senior Yearling Heifer, calved between September 1, 2024 and December 31, 2024

Senior Champion and Reserve Champion Female

SUPREME CHAMPION & RESERVE SUPREME CHAMPION

9. Aged Heifer/Cow – Born Prior to September 1, 2024 (Must be a calf/heifer shown in prior years.)
10. Cow & Calf (bull calves older than 4 months must be castrated. No testicular tissue should be remaining.)
11. Pair of Heifers
12. Produce of Dam - 2 animals from the same dam
13. Pair of Yearlings -pair of juniors, spring, summer yearling heifer – owned and registered by exhibitor or directly to a household member
14. Pair of Calves - pair of seniors, winter, or junior calves - owned and registered by exhibitor or directly to a household member
15. Prospect Steer Class – Includes All Breeds

BEEF FITTING & SHOWMANSHIP

1. Open to all Beef Breeding project members.
2. A show halter is recommended to be used for showing the animal.
3. Fitting for the Beef Breeding Show will consist of "Blow & Go" only and must be handled according to the Exhibitor Only Policy. Animals must be washed the day of the show. Members may use conditioner. Use of adhesive, paint, or any additional fitting is prohibited. No hair building or powder will be permitted. A member proceeding with these measures of fitting will be disqualified. The committee has the right to check the animals while entering the ring.
4. Judge's decisions will be final and based on condition, quality, amount finished, cleanliness, and appearance of exhibitor, equipment to show the animal, and ability to handle the animal. A show stick and leather show halter are recommended.
5. Youth will be judged according to the following divisions:
6.

Showmanship Classes
Junior Division: 8 - 11 as of January 1
Intermediate Division: 12 - 14 as of January 1
Senior Division: 15 -18 as of January 1

SHOW ATTIRE: All exhibitors are required to wear appropriate dress for both handling and showing of animals. For safety reasons, all youth must wear closed toe shoes/boots and jeans (no bell bottoms). As we are in the public view, dress code while working with animals should be reflective of the agricultural industry. During the show exhibitors are expected to dress in their best jeans/show pants, clean shirt or collared shirt, or nice button show shirt; closed toe, leather shoes/boots. No casual footwear such as sneakers, sandals, flip-flops, or rubber barn boots may be worn in the show ring. Low cut shirts, tank tops, torn clothing, novelty t-shirts, cut-offs, low cut jeans and like style clothing will not be tolerated and will not be considered appropriate show attire. Exhibitors dressed in such clothing shall not be permitted to enter the show/sale ring. PLEASE DRESS ACCORDINGLY!!!

Neither the Mahoning County Agricultural Society, nor any other youth organization involved in Junior Fair, nor their volunteers assume responsibility for exhibits/projects, including livestock, any article lost or stolen, or any injury during the fair, or any damage of person or possessions on the grounds, or the neglect of any exhibitor, patron, or employee, nor provide liability insurance to cover the exhibitor and/or livestock.

ANY OF THESE GUIDELINES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE COMMITTEE.
February 2026