Clinton County Sweepstakes Showmanship Contest

2026

COMMITTEE: Jim Wilson-Chair, Sherri Collett, Mike Cook, Chelsea Cummings, Ashley Cunningham, Mandy Curry, Jeff Hartman, Debbie Pratt, Stephanie Reveal, Brooke Stingley, and Jessica Zimmerman

General Sweepstakes Showmanship Contest Guidelines

1. This contest will be divided into two divisions: Large Animal Contest and Small Animal Contest.
2. The Senior Showmanship winners for the following will compete in the Large Animal Contest: beef, dairy, goat, horse, sheep, and swine.
3. The Senior Showmanship winners of the following will compete in the Small Animal Contest: market poultry, market turkey, breeding poultry, market rabbit, breeding rabbit, and pygmy goat.
4. Members must be 14 years of age or older on Jan. 1, current year and a current junior fair exhibitor.
5. Current year senior division showmanship class winners in beef, dairy, goats, horse, sheep, and swine are eligible to compete.
6. Past senior showmanship specie winners may compete again in sweepstakes showmanship if they are current year winners.
7. The first species a junior fair exhibitor qualifies in is the species they will represent in the Clinton County Sweepstakes Showmanship competition.
8. If the Senior Showmanship winner is ineligible to compete or unable to compete in Showmanship Contest the second-place winner will be next in line to compete representing that specie (then followed by the third, fourth, …)
9. Departments are responsible for notifying contestants of their eligibility to participate in the Showmanship Contest.
10. Animals used in each specie class will not be the exhibitor's project, but animals selected by each respective department.
11. Appropriate showmanship attire is required.
12. Previous Sweepstakes winners are ineligible to compete.
13. Any participant may only win the showman of showman contest one time in their respective careers; however, they may participate in multiple years so long as they are not the overall winner.
14. The Sweepstakes winner and first runner up will be announced at the conclusion of the contest.
15. An exhibitor may participate in both contests.
16. Overall Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion projects will be used for the small animal or the large animal sweepstakes contests.

    If an Overall Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion exhibitor cannot adhere to these guidelines set forth, they will forfeit their Grand Champion and/or Reserve Grand Champion title, and the next highest placing exhibitor will move into the position. The exhibitor will not be eligible for the Jr Fair Premium Sale for the current year.
17. All of Jr Fair Guidelines must be followed as stated in the Jr Fair Requirements Book and on county enrollment and entry forms.

Large Animal Sweepstakes Showmanship Contest
Friday, July 17, 4:00 p.m., Livestock Exposition Center

1. Members will compete together in an actual showmanship experience by showing all six species of livestock. Large Animal Contest: beef, dairy, goat, horse, sheep, and swine.
2. There is a 10 minute/class time limit.
3. The member receiving the lowest score as determined by the combined sum of the six showmanship judges will be declared the winner.

Small Animal Sweepstakes Showmanship Contest
Saturday, July 18, 9:00 a.m., Livestock Exposition Center

1. The event will be round robin style with each turn lasting 10 minutes.
2. Participants will be judged individually on appearance, handling of the animal, and project/showmanship knowledge.
3. Each participant will be given a total score by each judge. The highest combined total score will be the overall winner.