THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

Ohio State University Extension

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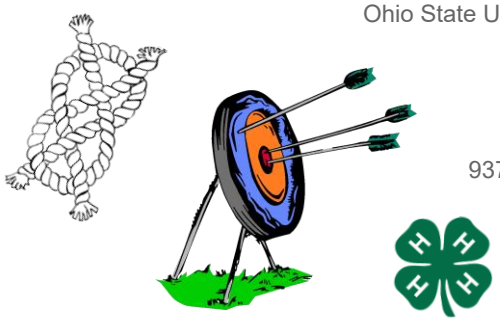

July 1, 2026

Re: Special Interest Judging – July 23rd 2026

Dear Special Interest Exhibitor,

We are emailing this letter as a reminder that **Shelby County Junior Fair Pre-Fair Special Interest Judging will be held Thursday, July 23rd beginning at 9 a.m. in the Youth Building on the Shelby County Fairgrounds.**

Judging guidelines, schedules and scoresheets specific to project areas can be viewed online and downloaded and printed from home by visiting **http://go.osu.edu/shelbyprefair**.

For each class, a judge will conduct a short interview, and Junior Fair Board members will see that the ribbons and premium vouchers are awarded. Be sure you pick up your ribbons and vouchers before you leave. Entries must receive an "A" ribbon and premium and be accompanied by a completed project record book to be eligible for consideration for Outstanding of the Day and Honorable Mention rosettes, other special awards or recognition, or to qualify to compete in the Ohio State Fair. During the week of fair, project displays should be placed in club booths in the booth building as directed by the advisors.

Each year we receive questions about what to bring to Special Interest Judging for any project. Members should bring something to share with the judge that represents what they have done with the project. It could be a poster, scrapbook, model or something else that would convey what has been learned. ***Note:*** *Youth aiming to qualify for Ohio State Fair should review their guidelines and be prepared to meet them in the event they are awarded Ohio State Fair Qualifier. Visit* ***http://go.osu.edu/ohiostatefair*** *for more information.*

Shooting Sports Exhibitors: No firearms are permitted on the fairgrounds. Do not bring bows and arrows or any type of gun or ammunition. Instead, bring a poster or display illustrating some aspect of the project work.

Self-Determined Exhibitors: Project must be accompanied by a completed four-page self-determined record book (365) and follow the exhibit guidelines to be considered for Ohio State Fair.

Small Animal Exhibitors (Dogs, Cats, Guinea Pigs, Small Animals, Pet Rabbits, etc.): You may bring your animal (in a cage or on a leash), plus a poster or other display item and a completed project record book. You and Your Dog exhibitors MUST bring proof of vaccinations. All animals must be kept under control by the exhibitor at all times.

If you have any questions or concerns, or need to scratch an entry, please contact the Shelby County OSU Extension Office at 937-498-7239. We look forward to seeing your entry.