

To: State 4-H Leaders and Specialist Committee

From: Dr. Ken Koelkebeck, phone: (217) 244-0195, fax: (217) 333-5044,
kkoelkeb@illinois.edu

Date: June 2025

Re: 2025 National 4-H Poultry and Egg Conference

The 2025 National 4-H Poultry and Egg Conference will be held at the Kentucky Fair and Exposition Center in Louisville, KY, **November 19-20. Please note that a block of rooms has been reserved at the Crowne Plaza Louisville Airport.** You can make room reservations by calling the hotel directly at **866-888-0620** and mention that you are making room reservations for the National 4-H poultry and egg conference. You can also make reservations on-line by clicking the link here: <https://book.passkey.com/event/51100808/owner/2812/home>
Information on the Conference and general rules are found at the conference website. All non-contestants including State Specialists and contestants need to be registered prior to the conference.

State 4-H leader must sign off on participants from each state. The form will be emailed directly to 4-H state leaders for each state that has participants attending

The registration information for all attendees is on-line. Please go to the conference website at <https://national4hpoultry.ca.uky.edu/> for registration information and link to registration (only available in August 2025). Once on the conference website, click on the Conference Information tab, then click on Conference Registration. This will take you to a page that will show you the link to register. Once you click on that registration link, you can fill in your information and submit your registrations. **Please note that an additional registration form is needed for the Egg Chef Challenge Contest.** You may pay the registration fee by credit card, debit card, or send in a personal check. **You must submit an online registration for each person attending,** contestant or non-contestant, although new this year you only have to pay once for everyone if you are using a credit or debit card (preferred method).

A total of three 4-Hers *who have attended the conference in the past and competed in any event in the last five years*, can serve as Ambassadors to the Specialist Committee. Therefore, there is registration information on the on-line site and each state is allowed to nominate an individual of which a total of three individuals will be selected to serve as Ambassadors to the Specialist Committee. In the nomination, indicate which contests the contestant has previously participated in.

If a contestant, coach, or family member from your state has a disability and desire any assistance, devices, services, or other accommodations such as special dietary restrictions or needs, please contact Dr. Ken Koelkebeck by October 21 at (217) 244-0195; kkoelkeb@illinois.edu during the business hours of 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. central time to discuss accommodations.

Everyone coming to the contest (contestant and non-contestant) must fill in their registration information. Complete instructions are found on the conference registration link on the website.

The Web page for this conference includes the general rules of each contest as well as other general conference information, such as the: Competition History, Schedule of Events, Maps to the Contest, Career Workshop, and the entry information link.

As in previous years, there will be a Poultry Career Opportunities Workshop that will be held at the Crowne Plaza Louisville Airport on **Wednesday, November 19, from 8:00 am to 10:30 a.m., with speakers from the 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. hour.** Please take note of the workshop program on page 10 in the information packet and plan on attending this program on Wednesday morning.. There are two tours of the Louisville area on Wednesday. Please plan on going on one of the tours. Tour 1 is for people who don't attend the career workshop and Tour 2 is for those who do attend the career workshop.

Other activities will include a Get Acquainted Party on Wednesday evening and the Awards Banquet on Thursday. Please see the Schedule of Events on pages 11-13 of the information packet for all scheduled activities.

For the Get Acquainted Party and the Banquet, dietary considerations are the responsibility of the participant. If special meals are required, please indicate so at the time of registration.

Please remember that the **registration deadline** for the contests is **October 12 at 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time** and for the Crowne Plaza Louisville Airport is **October 19**. We have a block of rooms reserved so it is important to secure the rooms early and prior to the deadline. When you call in your room reservations, mention that you are with the National 4-H Poultry and Egg Conference. [If you plan to arrive after 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 18, you will need to provide your credit card number to hold for late arrival.]

IMPORTANT - there is an activities fee for each person registered for the conference, which includes all contestants and non-contestants.

\$50 for each contestant (regardless of number of contests participating in)

\$50 for each non-contestant adult

\$25 for each non-contestant youth (ages 0-12)

\$10 for anyone including non-contestant youth (ages 0-12) participating in a tour. (A tour may not be added after the registration deadline). This is because of logistics.

\$18 for anyone wanting to purchase a T-shirt. When ready, the design for the T-shirt will be on the Facebook page, which is: "National 4-H poultry and egg conference".

Please submit your credit card or debit card information at the time of registration. All registrations must be submitted online no later than October 14 at 11:59 PM Eastern Time. **No late registration will be accepted.**

Online registration will be through the NAILE website (<https://naileec.fairwire.com/>). On the landing page, **DO NOT SAY YOU ARE A TEAM. SO, LEAVE THAT AS THE DEFAULT NO.** You are registering as individuals and not as a 'team'. If you say yes to team, you will have re-enter all your information because no actual contestants have been registered. This is for other 4-H events being held at NAILE and registering at the same time. Click on 'Registration' on the timeline and create an account. This is our first time using the NAILE website for registration for the National 4-H Poultry and Egg Conference. So, select 'I am a new exhibitor or have yet to register this year' even if you attended the Poultry and Egg Conference last year. If you need to register multiple individuals, select the Quick Group link in the blue box labeled tip.

Registration

Tip:

Are you a family or group with multiple exhibitors? Sign in as a [Quick Group](#) to submit entries for multiple family members or a group of exhibitors and check out all in the same cart.

☐ NO I am not a Team or Company

First Name

First Name is required

Last Name

Last Name is required

or sign in using ShoWorks Passport

It's free and lets you securely keep your information and entries **year-to-year** and reuse across different fairs and shows. Get instant notifications when it's time to show or entries have been judged and see your awards. Sign up now and begin keeping track of your own entries!

[Tell me more about ShoWorks Passport...](#)

☒ I am a new exhibitor or have yet to register this year ☐ I have previously registered this year

Continue →

Important - in order to plan for the number of people attending the poultry careers workshop, tours 1 or 2, get acquainted party and awards banquet, please indicate those activities when you complete your on-line registration. If you do NOT plan on attending, please do NOT select it so that no food is wasted.

Important Special Note: [The National Poultry Judging Manual - 2022 Revised Edition](#)

This is the only version of the stand-alone Poultry Judging Manual. There is no printed version for sale, although if you have the Avian Bowl manual, it is included as a separate chapter.

THE 2025 AVIAN BOWL STUDY PACKET

All questions and answers will come from the following material in the 2023 version of the Avian Bowl Manual:

- Prologue to the Avian Bowl Manual
- Poultry judging (Examining hens for pigment loss through Comparing a good a bad layer only) 10d-10g
- Avian Systems (Respiratory and Digestive systems plus the Feather) 41-43
- Breeds, Varieties, and Strains (English, Mediterranean and Continental only) 73-77
- Eggyclopedia (Nutrient-enhanced eggs through Zeaxanthin only) 136-151b
- Biosecurity 179-180
- Avian Influenza 185-186
- Poultry Genetics (Poultry Genetics through Toe Number Genetics only) 203-208
- Contributions of Individuals from Industry, Academia, and the Government to the Advancement of Poultry Science (1965 through 1968 inductees only) 217-218

✓ CORRECTIONS FOUND IN LAST VERSION:

- ✓ Page 208 - Shank and Skin Color Genetics:
 - Line 5 at the end of the sentence= "In the dermis, you will find the Id gene."
 - Line 9= "If the chicken has the W+ allele then the chicken will have a white epidermis. If the chicken has the w allele..."
 - Line 10= "A white epidermis is dominant over yellow..." Toe Number Genetics

has 2 typos:

- Line 2= "It comes from the Greek word..."
- Line 5= change ASOB to AOSB

- ✓ Page 206 Figure 81 - Under the rr, within the parenthesis, change rose to single.
- ✓ Page 180 - Mortalities Disposal paragraph; Line 3= change authroities to authorities
- ✓ Page 78:
 - Orientals; Malays
 - Characteristics Paragraph: Change spelling of the first word in the paragraph from Maylays to Malays
 - The title OLD ENGLISH should be indented to line up with the word Varieties underneath it. Same with pg. 79 for Naked Necks and Araucanas.
- ✓ Page 24 - Duck Breeds:
 - At the top of the table in the second sentence it still says Table 5 when it is actually Table 6.
 - On the line for Muscovy, in the column for Variety/Color, put a comma between Blue and Chocolate.
 - On the line for Call, again under the column for Variety/Color, Snow should be changed to Snowy; remove the "and" between Snowy and White; put a comma between Snowy and White and also another comma after White so that there is a comma between White and Buff.

Note: The above study material came from the National 4-H Avian Bowl Manual revised in 2023.

If you wish to purchase a printed copy of the revised avian bowl manual, you may do so through Clemson University at \$9 per copy plus shipping costs: - 4-H Manual 161

To order the printed copy, the link is [National 4-H Avian Bowl Manual](#)

An ADA-complaint downloadable version (pdf) is available for \$20. The link is https://secure.touchnet.net/C20569_ustores/web/product_detail.jsp?PRODUCTID=6607

They do not accept checks.

For any questions contact Christini Leard (Christi) at ccampb3@clemson.edu

If anyone previously purchased manuals early on and has blurry pages in the poultry judging section, you can contact Dawn Anticole at Clemson (dawnw@clemson.edu) and she will send you replacement pages free of charge.

I am looking forward to another excellent Conference. Please let me know if there are any specific questions or if the committee can help in any way.

"Educational programs of the National 4-H Poultry and Egg Conference serve all people regardless of race, color, age, sex, religion, disability, or national origin."