

CONTEST PACKET

Updated 2/26/26

2026 BELTED GALLOWAY JUNIOR NATIONALS

OFFICIAL CONTEST RULES/INFORMATION

JULY 1-5, 2026 MILLERSBURG OHIO



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GENERAL INFORMATION

All persons making entries in or attending the Belted Galloway Junior Nationals shall agree to abide by all rules and regulations as outlined and will not hold the Belted Galloway Society, Belted Galloway Foundation or National Junior Belted Galloway Association or the 2026 Junior National organizers or volunteers responsible for accident, loss or injury to any person, animal or article. In order to assure safe and productive educational programs and activities, the following has been put in place. ALL YOUTH AND ADULTS SHOULD ABIDE BY THE INTENT OF THIS CLAUSE. Any unsportsmanlike conduct or misrepresentation on the part of an BGS/NJBGA member will not be tolerated. All BGS/NJBGA members and family/guardians are always expected to be cooperative and courteous. It is the responsibility of all BGS/NJBGA members to provide proper and humane care and treatment to their animals during the event. Any BGS/NJBGA member or family/guardian not complying with this rule is subject to disqualification or any other steps deemed appropriate.

ENTRY INFORMATION

- Entry deadline is Friday May 1, 2026
- Late Entry deadline is Friday May 15, 2026 (entry fees double)
- No entries accepted after May 15, 2026

ELIGIBILITY

Participants must be current members in good standing with the Belted Galloway Society at the time of entries in order for them to be accepted. Participants must be between the ages of 8 and 21 as of January 1, 2026 in order to participate. Membership must be current and the 2026 annual fee must be paid before registering for Jr Nationals. No participant will be discriminated against as a result of physical, emotional or mental handicap. The only requirement is to specify on the entry form any accommodations that need to be made.

AGE DIVISIONS

Age divisions are determined on January 1 of the year of the show.

- Junior 8-13 years of age
- Intermediate 14-17 years of age
- Senior 18-21 years of age

You must have a birthdate AFTER JANUARY 1, 2004 to be eligible for the 2026 show.

How It Works

Participants in the 2026 Belted Galloway Junior Nationals will have the opportunity to compete in seven contests. These contests are Showmanship, Cattleman's Quiz, Public Speaking, Sales Talk, Judging, Team Fitting, and Photography. Any participant who exhibits cattle is required to do showmanship. Any participant who exhibits cattle is also required to do a minimum of three "educational" contests. These participants can choose from: Cattleman's Quiz, Public Speaking, Sales Talk, or Judging.

For each contest there will be prizes awarded for the top 5 in each age group (The exception to this is team fitting, in which only the top three teams in each age group will be awarded prizes). There will also be an "Overall Points" category. This category is designed to award contestants who compete in multiple contests. The "Overall Points" category combines points from the Showmanship, Cattleman's Quiz, Public Speaking, Sales Talk, Judging, and Photography contests. In each contest, the points are awarded as described in each category in this booklet.

An individual does not need to exhibit cattle to compete in the contests at Belted Galloway Junior Nationals, however they do still need to enter the contests on Showman.app by the entry deadline and they will also need to check in during exhibitor check in at the Junior Nationals.

The contests serve not only for friendly competition between exhibitors and members of the belted galloway breed, but also to allow exhibitors to make the most of their trip to Junior Nationals. These contests provide Belted Galloway youth to show off their skills in contests that pertain to important aspects of the beef industry, as well as helping them build on and improve these skills.

SHOWMANSHIP

Showmanship is considered a crowd favorite, and at the Belted Galloway Junior Nationals it will be no different. This is a required contest for anyone exhibiting cattle at Junior Nationals. Showmanship will be broken into the three aforementioned age groups. (Junior, Intermediate, Senior). Each age group may be further broken down into heats. Showmanship will count towards each individual's overall point total. The break down will be as followed: 10 Point for age champion, 9 points for reserve age champion, 8 points for 3rd overall age division, 7 points for 4th overall age division, 6 points for 5th overall age division, 3 points for anyone who makes it out of their heat but does not place in the top 5, and 1 point for all who participate but do not make it out of their heat. (Keep in mind, this is a required contest, so this should be a free point). There will be a Top 5 overall showmanship. This class will consist of top 5 winners from the three showmanship age divisions. There will only be a Champion and Reserve Champion Overall Showperson, however there are no points to be won for this and it will not contribute to the overall point total for the individuals. We also want to remind participants that do not have an animal for showmanship that they may apply for an exemption to borrow an animal to use in the show.

SHOWMANSHIP RULES

1. Showmanship is a required contest for any exhibitor showing cattle at the Belted Galloway Junior Nationals.
2. Showmanship will be non-fit. Adhesives and paints may not be used.
3. The same animal must be used for all phases of the competition. Each exhibitor must use his/her own animal, with an exemption applying to an exhibitor who enters/checks in only a bull over the age of 7 months.
4. Bulls over the age of 7 months may not be used in Showmanship. An exhibitor who enters and/or checks in ONLY a bull may apply for approval from the NJBGA directors to use another exhibitor's animal in Showmanship with the specified application.
5. Written application must be received by the Director of Breed Promotions before 7 pm on the day of check in.

6. Any exhibitor who checks in a heifer, cow/calf pair or steer is not eligible for this exemption.
7. Any exhibitor who checks in no cattle is eligible to apply for this exemption.
8. An animal may not be used by more than 2 exhibitors in Showmanship.
9. Approval or denial of the application will be communicated to the exhibitor within 24 hours of check in.
10. Exhibitors are required to wear the corresponding official NJBGA shirt in Showmanship and an exhibitor's harness.
11. Either the cow or calf from a cow/calf pair may be used for Showmanship. The other half of the pair must remain in the stalls during the competition.
12. Once the first animal has been put on the move, no further entries will be allowed to enter the ring. If an exhibitor misses his/her Showmanship heat, that exhibitor will not be allowed into a later heat and will effectively be disqualified from the contest. All exhibitors must participate in Showmanship to qualify to show in the cattle classes.
13. NJBGA directors reserve the right to adjust Showmanship heats after they have been posted.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

The public speaking competition puts your ability to share and present information to the test. The purpose of this competition is to assess your ability to articulate information about Belted Galloways, the beef industry, or both, to a group of people. Public Speaking will be broken into the three aforementioned age groups. (Junior, Intermediate, Senior). This competition does count for your overall point total, and is one of your options for the required three educational contests. Speeches must be written and presented as original work by the contestant. Contestants are allowed to have only 3x5 note cards to help give their speech, but no visual aids are allowed. Junior speeches are to be between 3-5 minutes, Intermediate speeches are to be between 4-6 minutes, and Senior speeches are to be between 5-7 minutes. Points will be deducted for going over/under the allotted time restraints. Each contestant will present to a panel of judges, and the panel may pose questions at the conclusion of each speech. The answering of questions will not count towards the allotted speech time. Each contestant is allowed to give their speech on anything pertaining to Belted Galloways and/or the beef industry. Contestants will be scored on: Presentation, Subject Knowledge, Response to Questions, Organization, and General Effectiveness. Expected Dress Is "Cattleman's Business Casual" (Nice jeans, khakis, dress pants, button-up shirts, sweaters, blazers, etc.). There will be a top 5 placing for each age division for the public speaking contest. The points breakdown for overall will be as follows: 10 Points for 1st place, 9 points for 2nd place, 8 points for 3rd place, 7 points for 4th place, 6 points for 5th place, 5 points for 6th place (Reminder, 6th place and below will not be given an award for this contest) 4 points for 7th place, 3 points for 8th place, 2 points for 9th place, 1 point for 10th place and beyond. Like all other contests, participants need to sign up for this contest at the time of registration.

**Accommodations can be made for contestants who have extenuating circumstances - please reach out to Executive Director Corinna Caron prior to registering for the event.

SALES TALK

The sales talk competition tests the contestants knowledge of and ability to sell their animal. This competition does count for your overall point total, and is one of your options for the required three educational contests. Sales talk will be broken into the three aforementioned age groups. (Junior, Intermediate, Senior). For this contest, the contestant will bring only their animal and an original registration paper to the contest area. There will be a panel of judges that the contestant will spend up to 8 minutes trying to sell their animal to, after which the judges will have time to ask the contestant any questions. The judges are also permitted to ask questions during the 8 minute time allotment. This will evaluate the contestant's marketing ability dictated by an environment/customer. Suggested information to include in the pitch may include performance information, phenotype, and breeding information. There is no required dress code but it is important to keep in mind that appearance is important when marketing yourself and your animals. Nice jeans, boots, and button-down shirts are suggested. There will be a top 5 placing for each age division for the sales talk contest. The points breakdown for overall will be as follows: 10 Points for 1st place, 9 points for 2nd place, 8 points for 3rd place, 7 points for 4th place, 6 points for 5th place, 5 points for 6th place (Reminder, 6th place and below will not be given an award for this contest) 4 points for 7th place, 3 points for 8th place, 2 points for 9th place, 1 point for 10th place and beyond. Like all other contests, participants need to sign up for this contest at the time of registration.

JUDGING CONTEST

The judging contest evaluates the contestant's ability to evaluate cattle in a show-type setting. This competition does count for your overall point total, and is one of your options for the required three educational contests. Judging will be broken into the three aforementioned age groups. (Junior, Intermediate, Senior). Contestants will be expected to evaluate and place 4 classes of cattle. Senior contestants will be given one of the four classes to give oral reasons on, two of the four classes will be "questions" classes, and one class of just placings.. Intermediate contestants will be given one of four classes to give oral reasons on, one questions class, and two classes of just placings.. Junior contestants will be given two questions classes and two classes of just placings. In the event of a tie within the lightweight division, those who are tied will have to give oral reasons on a class as a tiebreaker. For the Senior and Intermediate contestants the oral reasons will be conducted at the conclusion of the contest. Each contestant will give reasons on the same class to a panel of 1-3 judges. There will be a time limit of 8 minutes per contestant to present oral reasons. For the questions classes, the contestants will be asked between 4-8 questions regarding the animals in the previous class. This will be done after they have moved on from the class so they will not be able to see the animals that are the subject of the questions. Questions are at the judges discretion and can include anything from what color ear tag a specific animal had to which animal was the biggest middled, etc. There will be no talking allowed between contestants. Contestants are not allowed to wear any farm or college branded apparel during the reasons portion of the contest. Any unmarked or double marked classes will be counted as a zero score. Any contestant who receives help or assistance during the contest will be disqualified. Contestants are allowed to bring a notepad to take any notes. Each class is worth 50 total points, including any questions or reasons. Expected dress is "Cattleman's Business Casual" (Nice jeans, khakis, dress pants, button-up shirts, sweaters, blazers, etc.). There will be a top 5 placing for each age division for the judging contest. The points breakdown for overall will be as follows: 10 points for 1st place, 9 points for 2nd place, 8 points for 3rd place, 7 points for 4th place, 6 points for 5th place, 5 points for 6th place (Reminder, 6th place and below will not be given an award for this contest) 4 points for 7th place, 3 points for 8th place, 2 points for 9th place, 1 point for 10th place and beyond. Like all other contests, participants need to sign up for this contest at the time of registration.

TEAM FITTING

The team fitting contest evaluates the contestant's ability to present cattle as a group in a show setting. This competition does **NOT** count for your overall point total, and is **NOT** one of your options for the required three educational contests. The groups will be made up of three contestants with all efforts to have a contestant from each age division. Contestants will be randomly grouped in teams if they have indicated they would like to participate when signing up for Junior Nationals. Teams will be announced at check-in. Participants will be judged by a panel of judges based on the overall presentation of their animal, particularly the fitting and clipping. Contestants will be given 45 minutes to complete all fitting. The animal, chute, and all equipment or supplies are considered the team's responsibility, and power may or may not be provided so it is recommended to bring a generator. Animals may be clipped out prior to the contests however no adhesive, paint, or other show day products may be put into the animal prior to the start of the competition. The placings will be completed by a panel of judges evaluating teamwork, method, and final product. Each team's entry will be shown to the judges by a designated team member who will be required to wear an exhibitor harness with the assigned team number. No outside help or assistance will be allowed. There will be a top 3 placing. Again, this contest does not count towards the contestants overall point total.

CATTLEMEN'S QUIZ

The Cattleman's Quiz will consist of questions designed to evaluate the contestants knowledge of beef cattle, Belted Galloway Cattle, and the Beef Industry. This competition does count for your overall point total, and is one of your options for the required three educational contests. Judging will be broken into the three aforementioned age groups. (Junior, Intermediate, Senior). Contestants will be given a 35 question quiz. The last 5 questions will be used solely for tiebreaker purposes. Contestants will have 1 hour to complete the quiz and will be reminded of remaining time periodically. In the event that there is a tie after the 30 questions and 5 tiebreaker questions, the winner will be decided based on the order of completion.. Quiz sheets, answer sheets, and pencils will be provided. Highlighters are permitted, but not provided. Contestants cannot bring any notes, books, or other reference materials. There will be a top 5 placing for each age division for the cattleman's quiz contest. The points breakdown for overall will be as follows: 10 points for 1st place, 9 points for 2nd place, 8 points for 3rd place, 7 points for 4th place, 6 points for 5th place, 5 points for 6th place (Reminder, 6th place and below will not be given an award for this contest) 4 points for 7th place, 3 points for 8th place, 2 points for 9th place, 1 point for 10th place and beyond. Like all other contests, participants need to sign up for this contest at the time of registration.

PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

The photography contest will evaluate the photographic abilities of juniors. While this does not count for one of the required educational contests, it does count for the contestants overall point total. For this contest contestants will be able to enter only one photograph, but it can be in either category. The first category is "Belted Galloway Cattle". Pictures in this category should highlight Belties on the ranch, farm or event, and the cattle should be the dominant focus of the picture. The second category option is "Belted Galloway People". Pictures in this category should show people. A Beltie junior, or family, friends, fellow juniors, etc. either involved in activities on the farm, ranch or event. The contestants should declare what subject category the photo is to be judged, as the photo is representative of the contestant's interpretation of the category. All work must be that of the contestant, and all photos must be taken within the last year. Photoshop is not allowed and photos should not be altered past the use of cropping, color, or exposure alteration. A panel of qualified judges will critique the entries. The bases of the critique will depend on the following: 60% Composition of photo, uniqueness of photo, creative look and overall communicative power, 40% Sharpness, color, exposure, cropping and overall technique quality. Photos become the property of the Belted Galloway Society and can be used for publication or promotional materials. A 300 dpi or higher resolution photo must be uploaded to the electronic contest entry form (coming soon). **All photography contest entries must be submitted digitally by June 1st.** If you have difficulties uploading your photo to the form or have any further questions, reach out to Corinna Caron via email at: beltieoutreach@gmail.com. There will be a top 5 placing for each age division for the photography contest. The points breakdown for overall will be as follows: 10 Points for 1st place, 9 points for 2nd place, 8 points for 3rd place, 7 points for 4th place, 6 points for 5th place, 5 points for 6th place (Reminder, 6th place and below will not be given an award for this contest) 4 points for 7th place, 3 points for 8th place, 2 points for 9th place, 1 point for 10th place and beyond. Like all other contests, participants need to sign up for this contest at the time of registration.

CONTEST INFORMATION

A reminder that exhibitors must sign up and participate in at least 3 educational contests in order to be eligible to show cattle. ALL exhibitors must participate in the Sales Talk contest or Public Speaking and will have that count towards the 3 contests. Exhibitors are allowed to sign up for as many contests as they would like after the required 3 so long as the entries and fees are turned in by deadlines.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

TUESDAY JUNE 30

2 p.m. - Cattle Can Begin Arriving on the Grounds

WEDNESDAY JULY 1

7 a.m. - Arrival Continues

8 a.m. - 2 p.m. - Exhibitor Check In

10 a.m. - 2 p.m. - Official Cattle Check In

1 p.m. - All Participating Animals Must Be On Fairgrounds

3 p.m. - Exhibitor Meeting & Ice Cream Social

4 p.m. - Reproduction education session

THURSDAY JULY 2

9 a.m. Public Speaking

11 a.m. - Cattlemen's Quiz

1 p.m. - Welcome & Opening Ceremonies

2 p.m. - Candy Carnaval

3 p.m. Sales Talk

6 p.m. Judging Contest

FRIDAY JULY 3

8 a.m. - Showmanship

1 hour after Showmanship Bred & Owned Shows

(Order: Cow/Calf, Bulls, Heifers, Steers)

After Bred & Owned Show: OHIO Beef Council Educational Session

6 p.m. - Team Fitting Contest

*****OPEN SHOW CHECK-IN - Open show cattle must be in barns by 5 PM*****

SATURDAY JULY 4

10 a.m. Owned Show (Order: Cows, Heifers [purebred,mismarked], steers [purebred, percentage], percentage heifer

3 pm - Jr Meeting, Games & Activities

4:30 - Round Table Discussion

6 p.m. - Awards Banquet

Animals and juniors not staying for Breeder's Cup can be released

SUNDAY JULY 5

8 a.m. Breeder's Cup Show Day*

Show Order: Purebred heifers, mismark heifers, cow/calf, bulls, purebred steers, group classes, percentage steers, percentage heifers.

***Animals will be released when ALL Breeder's Cup shows are complete.**

Stall Decorating Contest

🌀 Candytown Stall Decorating Contest Rules 🎉

Get ready to turn the barns into Candytown! We can't wait to see your sweet creativity on display!

Eligibility

- **Open to all Junior members and Breeders Cup participants.**
- **Each stall space will be judged individually, unless otherwise specified at check-in.**
- **Participants must acknowledge their intent to participate at check-in to be included in judging.**

Theme

- **Decorations must reflect the "Candytown" theme.**
- **Creativity is encouraged – think colorful, fun, and family-friendly!**

Safety & Guidelines

To ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone (especially the cattle):

- **Decorations must be age appropriate.**
- **Decorations must not block alleyways, walkways, or create obstacles of any kind.**
- **No items that could cause harm, including: excessive flashing or strobe lights, loud noises or sound effects, decorations that may distress livestock**
- **Decorations must be securely fastened and safely installed.**

Compliance

The NJBGA Board reserves the right to remove any decorations that are not in compliance with these rules.

