



**RUTGERS UNIVERSITY**  
**Cooperative Extension**  
New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station

# **2026 NJ State 4-H Avian Bowl**

**Saturday, May 16, 2026**

**Senior Center in Flemington  
4 Gauntt Place, Flemington, NJ, 08822**



<b>Registration/Check-in</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>
<b>Introductions</b>	<b>10:30 am</b>
<b>Competition Begins</b>	<b>10:45 am</b>

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE: April 25, 2026**

Cooperating Agencies: Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Boards of County Commissioners. Rutgers Cooperative Extension, a unit of the Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, is an equal opportunity program provider and employer. Contact your local Extension Office for information regarding special needs or accommodations. Contact the State Extension Director's Office if you have concerns related to discrimination 848-932-3703.

# **New Jersey State 4-H Avian Bowl**

## ***Official Rules***

### **Objective**

1. To encourage youth to expand their knowledge of avian facts, and become proficient in poultry management, and related subjects.
2. To stimulate youth learning processes, interest, and enthusiasm.
3. To help youth with career guidance, and to promote the poultry industry, by stimulating their interest in poultry and other avian species.
4. To make learning fun!

*By: National 4-H Poultry and Egg Conference*

### **General Rules**

- 1) The NJ State 4-H Avian Bowl Rules are based on the [National Avian Bowl Rules](#)
- 2) All questions and answers for Junior and Senior participants will come from the [2025 Avian Bowl Study Packet](#), including the following material from the 2023/24 version:
  - Prologue to the Avian Bowl Manual
  - Raising waterfowl (Sources through Exhibiting Waterfowl) .... pages 26-33
  - Breeds, varieties, and strains (Breeds, Varieties, and Strains through Asiatic) .... pages 69-73
  - Eggyclopedia (Decorating Eggs through Marketing) ... pages 119-131
  - Biosecurity .... pages 179-180
  - Embryology (Introduction through Day 8) .... pages 191-197
  - Poultry Genetics (Economically Important Factors of Poultry Genetics through Terminology) .... pages 209-211
  - Contributions of individuals from industry, academia, and the government to the advancement of poultry science (1971 through 1974 inductees only) ... pages 218-220
- 3) All questions and answers for Cloverbud Participants will come from the 2024 avian bowl study packet:
  - Raising Your Home Chicken Flock (whole section)
  - Biosecurity (pages 179-180)
  - Eggyclopedia (following sections)
    - Air Cell & Albumen, page 104
    - Antibiotic Free Eggs & Avian Influenza, page 105
    - Beak Trimming & Blood Spots, page 106
    - Bloom, page 107
    - Buying, page 107 – 109
    - Calcium, page 109
    - Chalazae, page 110
    - Cleaning & Cold Storage, page 111
    - Color, page 112
    - Grading, page 129 - 130
    - Size, page 146
    - Yolk, page 151A

- 4) Teams are comprised of two, three, or four players, one of which is chosen as the team captain. Players of a team must fall within the grade range for the division they are competing in. Grade is determined as of, **September 2025**.
- Cloverbuds – grades K-3 (Not judged/positive feedback only)
  - Juniors – grades 4 – 8
  - Seniors – grades 9 – 13 (eligible for National Avian Bowl)\*

*\* As per National Avian Bowl regulations, senior contestants must be 14 years of age or older as of January 1, 2026 to be eligible to move on to the National level competition\**

- 5) Teams are made up of current NJ 4-H members in good standing and are from the same county **ONLY**. Should there be only one (1) participant from a county, then that member will be permitted to participate in another county's team.
- 6) The winning team of the NJ State Avian Bowl will have the chance to compete in the National Avian Bowl to be held in Kentucky on November 18-19, 2026 in Kentucky. Participants will be responsible for trip costs. Members may fundraise or ask for sponsorships to cover costs.

## Types of Questions

- Regular Questions
  - These questions are asked in the form of a fill in the blank (short answer), multiple choice, or spelling questions. In the case of a spelling question, the player may retrace what they have already said but cannot change their answer after it being spoken.
- Bonus Questions
  - These questions are awarded once a team gives four correct answers. At which point the bonus question will be asked only to the team that receives it. Bonus questions are longer questions that have several parts to their answer. Only one bonus question is asked per team per game.
- Tie Breaker Questions
  - In the case of a tied score, 5 additional questions will be prepared and asked to attempt to break the tie. In the case of a tied score again, 5 more questions will be selected.

## Point System

- Regular Questions, award 5 points.
- Incorrect Answers and Acknowledgement Penalties, deduct 5 points.
- Bonus Questions, award 10 points.
- Tie Breaker Questions, award 5 points each.

## Game Mechanics

- The order of teams is determined by picking numbers out of a hat, with one (1) being the first to go and the highest number being the last to go.
- In the event an odd number of teams register, a "bye" will be awarded, as necessary, in order to allow all teams to participate
- The game is played as a double elimination tournament style. A team that loses any two games is out. The game is over when there is only one team left with less than two games lost.

- When the question is called out, players must be quick to hit the buzzer when they have an answer. The moderator will then acknowledge the person who rang the buzzer first. Only after being acknowledged can the contestant answer the question. If the question is not answered within five seconds or is answered incorrectly, the other team can then hit the buzzer to answer the question (but are not required to). The question will not be repeated to the other team.
- In the case that no one hits the buzzer within ten seconds, the question is skipped.
- In the case that someone calls out the answer before getting acknowledged and/or is not the first person to hit the buzzer, that team will lose five points.
- In the case that someone hits the buzzer before the question is completely asked, the moderator will stop reading the question and will allow the person who hit the buzzer to answer. If the answer is wrong, the question will then be repeated to the other team.
- If the moderator does not feel that the answer provided is specific enough, they will ask for the person to be more specific. Only in cases where the buzzer is hit before the question is finished will the moderator not be able to ask the person to be more specific.
- **Bonus Questions:** When a team gets four correct answers, a bonus question will be asked to them. After the question is asked, the team has ten seconds to discuss the answer. After those ten seconds, the team captain has five seconds to start answering the question. Once started, the team captain has 30 seconds to complete the answer. In the case of the question having more than one part, for example a four-part answer, only the first four parts spoken are accepted and no others.
- Only answers found in the Avian Bowl Manual will be accepted.
- Each round will consist of 15 questions.

### **Important notes:**

- 1) The study list/manual can be found for purchase by visiting [National 4-H Avian Bowl Manual](#)
- 2) **Assistance with Set-Up is helpful:** All volunteers are asked to assist starting at 9:30am
- 3) **Show Questions?** Contact Show Superintendent Kathy Veith: [bkjrv22@gmail.com](mailto:bkjrv22@gmail.com) or 4-H Sr. Program Coordinator Amelia Minervini: [Amelia.Minervini@rutgers.edu](mailto:Amelia.Minervini@rutgers.edu)

2026 NJ STATE 4-H AVIAN BOWL

# Team Entry Form

**ENTRIES DUE BY April 25, 2026**

4-H County: \_\_\_\_\_

Teams are comprised of two, three, or four players. Should there be only one participant from a county, please sign up as a single player and the planning committee will assign a team to you.

Please Check Your Team Category:

Cloverbuds – grades K-3 *(Not judged/positive feedback only)*

Juniors – grades 4 – 8

Seniors – grades 9 – 13 *(Eligible for National Avian Bowl)*

Check off who is the Team Captain*	Name	Email Address	*Seniors only – please indicate age as of Jan 1 <sup>st</sup> 2026

*\*The team captain is responsible for answering bonus questions.*

**Save the completed document and upload it to the 4-H Drop Box**

<https://tinyurl.com/NJ4-HAvianBowl>

**Show Questions?** Contact Show Superintendent Kathy Veith: [bkjrv22@gmail.com](mailto:bkjrv22@gmail.com) or  
4-H Sr. Program Coordinator Amelia Minervini: [Amelia.Minervini@rutgers.edu](mailto:Amelia.Minervini@rutgers.edu)

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# COMPETITION CHECKLIST

ENTRIES DUE BY April 25, 2026

**STEP 1: Submit your team entry form and permission forms to the Drop Box**

<https://tinyurl.com/NJ4-HAvianBowl>

**STEP 2: Calculate and mail your payment.  
\$10 per participant**

Contestant #1	Total \$_____
Contestant #2	Total \$_____
Contestant #3	Total \$_____
Contestant #4	Total \$_____

**Total Due    \$\_\_\_\_\_**

Make checks/money orders payable to:  
“Ocean County 4-H Association” with the memo ‘2026 Avian Bowl’. Checks  
are to be mailed to:

**Kathy Veith: 22 Wertsville Rd. Ringoes NJ, 08551**