



2026-27 BEST SEASON UPDATES

SHOWMAN APP WILL BE THE NEW ENTRY SOFTWARE

BEST is moving to the Showman App for the 2026-27 season! The previous BEST software will no longer be used. All BEST nominations, show entries and payments will now be completed through Showman. BEST points, show catalogs and live show placings will also be available directly through the Showman App, giving exhibitors and families one place to access information throughout the season. More information and instructions will be shared before the start of the season.

BEST REPRESENTATIVE PROGRAM HAS BEEN REVAMPED TO A MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

BEST is excited to introduce a new mentorship program for first-year BEST members! BEST representatives will help first-year BEST members and families navigate their first season in the program. Each new member will be paired with a Junior BEST Rep who will serve as a familiar point of contact throughout the season to answer questions and help them get connected. Participants will also receive helpful resources and contacts throughout the season covering topics such as feeding and nutrition, skin and hair care, showmanship and more.

BEST SCHEDULE UPDATE

Please note that the 2026-27 BEST sanctioned show schedule has been updated from previously shared dates. As you begin making plans for the upcoming season, exhibitors and families are encouraged to review the current schedule and confirm that the events they plan to attend are officially sanctioned BEST shows. Only shows included on the official BEST schedule will count toward BEST points and participation requirements. Full schedule can be found on ohiocattle.org

EXHIBITORS CAN ENTER SHOWMANSHIP LATE FOR A FEE

Miss the showmanship entry deadline? New this season, exhibitors may still enter showmanship after the deadline with a \$25 late fee. Late entries will be accepted until final showmanship classes are posted. Once classes are posted, no additional entries will be accepted.

MULTIPLE OWNERS CAN BE LISTED ON REGISTRATION PAPERS

New for the 2026-27 season, multiple owners may be listed on an animal's breed registration papers, when permitted by the respective breed association. The exhibitor earning BEST points with the animal must be listed as a current owner on the registration papers. Once an exhibitor begins accumulating BEST points with an animal, that exhibitor will be the only individual eligible to earn points with that animal for the remainder of the season. If ownership changes during the season, a proper transfer of ownership must be completed through the BEST program before a new exhibitor may begin earning points with the animal.

BVD TEST REQUIRED BY YOUR FIRST BEST SHOW

To help protect the health and well-being of cattle in the BEST program, all animals must have a negative BVD PI test before their first BEST show of the season.

Testing is \$30/head and includes the BVD test, lab submission and 840 EID tag.

OCA has partnered with select shows and county associations to offer pre-season testing at a reduced cost.

Upcoming Testing Opportunities:

Black Swamp Preview
Oct 17 | 7-9 a.m.
Wood County Fairgrounds | Bowling Green

Croton Nationals
Oct 31 | 7-8 a.m.
Hartford Independent Fairgrounds

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND UPDATES ON THE 2026-27 BEST SEASON CHECK WWW.OHIOCATTLE.ORG AND THE OCA BEST PROGRAM FACEBOOK PAGE.