

Swine Orientation for Exhibitors

Aisles-The aisles are often dirty. Everyone needs to help keep them clean. Often this is left to the youngest of the exhibitors as they are willing to do it and have parents there telling them to do it. I would like to see the older exhibitors helping more with this. It takes a young exhibitor 4 times as long to clean an aisle as a teenage exhibitor. You are bigger and stronger, please help keep the aisles and the wash racks clean.

Breed Show Exhibitors- **YOU MUST CHECK IN WHEN PRIOR TO THE SHOW, PRESENTING YOUR BREED REGISTRATION PAPERS AND TO LET ME KNOW YOU ARE ON THE GROUND AND PARTICIPATING IN THE SHOW.** Please use the same pens for the Breed and Market Show. You must check your papers in before the show. You need to be in place by 8:30 AM. The Show starts at 10:00

Breed association papers for market show – Copies of your breed papers were due on July 26th. If I don't have them your animal will be moved to the crossbred portion of the market show. Please mail copies to Vicki Wagner 3600 Hampstead Mexico Rd. Hampstead Md. 21074

Bleachers-(If we have them this year) Everyone enjoys the show and the food. Please put your trash in the trash cans provided. Often, I end up cleaning up the left behind trash after the shows. I would appreciate everyone's help with this. We have new bleachers provided by the Maryland State Fair this year please keep them looking nice.

Buyers Letter- **Write letters to potential buyers. Send them to anyone you may think would be interested in purchasing your pig. Writing a Buyers Letter is a must. After the sale, write a Thank You letter to your Buyer, and maybe take them a plate of homemade cookies or some other small 'thank you' gift. They will remember if you do.**

Cleaning pens- Pens should be cleaned every morning- if you are too busy, make arrangements with another 4-Her to clean your pen. Shavings are available on the grounds.

Clean Up – Saturday and Sunday - **PLEASE COME BACK AND HELP WITH THE FAIR CLEAN UP. WE KNOW EVERYONE IS TIRED BUT THE HELP IS NEEDED AND APPRECIATED.**

Dress Code- The Judges are informed that we follow the 4-H Dress Code, Tan or Green pants, white shirt with sleeves and a collar, (female exhibitors may have sleeveless with a collar, no spaghetti straps, belly shirts, etc.), a neck piece and proper footwear. If you are FFA, please follow that dress code. You may not mix 4-H and FFA attire; it may be unique, but not acceptable. If you are signed up 4-H, you must wear 4-H attire, same with FFA.

Ear Tags- All market hogs are identified by the ear tag number. When making the entries, use the 4-H ear tag number only for entering market swine. Tags must be clean. We must be able to read them at the scale on Monday evening for weigh in and we must be able to read them for the show. If your hogs ear tags are not readable we will skip you in the weigh in. Your animal will be weighed last after the tags are readable.

Fitting and showing – is a **mandatory requirement** if you wish to sell your hog in the livestock sale. We start with seniors and work our way backwards to the novice.

Grading-The judge will be grading the hogs as they are being shown. If you have a hog that doesn't make grade, I will notify you privately. Don't worry, it is rare that hogs do not grade, it's only happened a few times over the many years I've been on the committee.

Health Papers- The Maryland Animal Health Department is requiring that exhibitors have health papers and be able to produce them on demand to the State Veterinarian. Make sure you have completed the Self Certification portion of the health paper and have checked your animals' health before bringing you animals to the fair ground.

Herdsmanship award- We are watching – could it be you, remember clean pens and isles, helping others and a great attitude will help you win this trophy.

HURDLES- Remember to bring your hurdles to the fair; we are always short on hurdles. We thank you in advance for allowing the swine committee to use them as needed. Sometimes we just need to grab and go. Make sure your name is on everything.

Manure/Bedding Waste- DO NOT MIX ANY TRASH OR BALE TWINE/STRINGS IN TO THE MANURE/BEDDING WASTE. The Carroll County Landfill will not take any manure waste this year. The Fair had to hire a private company to take the waste. It is imperative that regular trash waste not be mixed into the manure/bedding.

Pen Assignments- I will be hanging pens assignments on Saturday afternoon, July 24th. It is a good idea to send a child down to locate your pen before you unload the hogs so you know where you are taking them.

Online Entries- ONLINE ENTRIES ARE DUE BY MIDNIGHT, JUNE 10TH. The online entry system will be open in early May. We strongly advise exhibitors **not to** wait until June 9 or 10 to do their entries. Do your entries early! Make sure you enter a correct email address. Make sure you create only one account, and write down the user name and password. Make sure you **PRINT OUT YOUR ENTRY CONFIRMATION AND KEEP IT WITH YOUR PAPERS.** You will have less chance of technical glitches if you do your entries from a desk top or lap top computer, rather than a phone or tablet. The fair's email address, which is where online entries are made is www.carrollcountyfair.com

Organization- I strongly suggest you print out department rules, general fair rules, the fair schedule, and this orientation and keep it in a binder along with your weigh in papers, health papers, breed association papers. Having unit completion papers in your binder is also helpful, so you can fill them out as you move along in the project and you don't have to search for information later.

Over Heating Hogs- You need to check your hogs several times a day, every day around from 2PM to 5PM. (The hottest part of the day.) Hogs can die from overheating. It has happened at the Fair before. You must check on your animals to make sure they are comfortable. If they look like they are overheating get them to the wash rack and cool them down.

Sale- Be at your pen, be at your pen, be at your pen! You must be at your pen plenty in advance of the sale of your hog. We run the hogs through the sale in less than a hog a minute. You must be at your pen or you will be skipped. ALSO, DO NOT FEED YOUR SALE HOG ON FRIDAY AFTERNOON. We lure the hogs into the pictures with feed. If they are not hungry it will be difficult to get a picture. If the hog is too uncooperative we will just have to skip the picture.

Sale day- Please be available on Friday to help with the buyer's picnic and set up of the sale ring. We can not give you exact times when things will happen; just being available and willing to help when need is great. The Livestock Sale Committee will inform families of what they are to bring for the Buyers Picnic.

Sale nomination- Each exhibitor must personally nominate the hog they want to sell after it has been shown on Wednesday night. Listen for sale nominations to open. It will be announced during the show. Parents may not nominate without the child present. I will be located at the food tables behind the bleachers once nominations open. Novice parents, please let your child do the talking, they'll do a fine job.

Sale requirements- Hogs must meet weight and rate of gain requirements to be eligible for sale. The exhibitor must have completed project unit completions on last year's project, participate in fitting and showing and junior exhibitors must have attended a species workshop to be eligible to sell an animal in the livestock sale.

Scholarship Hogs- Eddie Harrison Memorial Scholarship and the Brenda Barber Memorial

Scholarship Hog Eddy and Brenda's family and friends are sponsoring the Scholarship Hogs again this year. The exhibitor will be guaranteed \$600.00 Two exhibitor names is drawn from a hat to be the 'winners'

of the Scholarship Hogs. Please see me if you need a full explanation of how the Scholarship Hog drawing works. The winning name will be drawn on Thursday morning.

Show day- Exhibitor and their hogs are gathered and placed in holding pens to wait for their class to enter the show ring. You need to be at your pen waiting to be called to the show ring holding pens. Once a class is in the show ring, no late entries will be made. Please make sure you do not miss your class being called. Parents, please allow your child to do this on their own by waiting in the designated area. If you have two hogs in a class, you may ask a 4-Her, in the Swine Project, your age or younger to show 1 hog for you.

Tack area- There should be some tack area available in the swine area. DO NOT PLACE ANY TACK IN THE RED OUTLINED BOXES ON THE FLOOR BY THE FIRE ALARMS. Pens for tack will be marked and are to be shared. Please purchase a small Rubbermaid tote with lid (label with your name) to keep your supplies in. Please make sure you bring a shovel, wheel barrel, broom and hog boards (hurdles).

Thank you letters- All trophies have an address label attached to the bottom of the trophy, please make sure you write a thank you to the trophy donor. This helps us get future trophy donations.

Release time- Your animals are released at the conclusion of the market show. You must take animals home that are not in the sale. They need to be removed from the fairgrounds by Thursday afternoon. Make sure you do not remove the sale animal from the fair ground. If you take it home you cannot bring it back and it will be removed from the sale. Your pen must be cleaned and checked by one of the superintendents before you leave. Remember to take all of your supplies home. Numerous items are left behind each year. Release is following the completion of the Market Swine Show. You may not load hogs during the market show.

Wash rack – We have 135 exhibitors needing the wash rack – do not feed in the wash rack. Wash your hogs before fitting and showing and keep your pens clean. Clean up you stuff when you are finished at the wash rack. You will be able to take your hogs to the wash rack after it has been shown in the market show and it is hot, but not before going in the show ring.

Water- Make sure your hogs have water- *no withholding water.*

Weigh In At The Fair –Weigh in will be on Monday, August 2nd in the evening as you arrive at the fair, directly off the trailer. If you are participating in a conflicting event and cannot accompany your hogs to the scale, please inform the superintendent in advance. Your family member can see the weighing in and taking to the assigned pen.

Vicki Wagner morningchoicefarm@comcast.net
Jim Weishaar
Brad Thomas
Tom Rasche
Bob McAndrew
Derek Wagner
Alec Schapiro
Derek Weishaar
Ryan Weishaar
Ben Rasche
Jon Riecke
Paul Hester
Scott Knatz
Megan Whitson
Devon Bosley
Maura McAndrew
Dr. Wm. Graves