

SWINE**4-H PROJECT REQUIREMENTS**

To complete a project in 4-H, member must annually:

- Enroll in 4H Club by March 1
- Sign up for the project in 4Honline by April 1
- Be 4-H member in "Good Standing" by completing county and club requirements
- Complete Project Book or Livestock Record Book
- Attend Quality Assurance Training
- Complete Livestock Skillathon
- Market Livestock project must be in member's possession by May 1.
Breeding Swine must be in member's possession by June 1.

*NOTE: 4-H Members may also choose to exhibit their livestock at the Ross County Junior Fair. Members are NOT required to exhibit at the fair to complete a project in 4-H.

1. PROJECT BOOK & LIVESTOCK RECORDS

- **PROJECT BOOKS:** First-year members will receive a **Market Hog Project/Record Book (#139)** and a **Swine Resource Handbook (#134R)**. Members must retain these books for use in future years. The Resource Handbook is given one per family and must be retained for future family members.
- **LIVESTOCK RECORD:** Each member will receive a **Livestock Record** annually. **Members are required to bring their completed Livestock Record to the Animal Project Skillathon** with all information completed up to the date of the Skillathon.

2. QUALITY ASSURANCE (mandatory for Market Hogs; not required for Breeding Swine):

- Exhibitors of Market and Dairy Projects must attend Quality Assurance training annually in order to show, exhibit and/or sell their animal at the county or state fair. This training is mandated by the Ohio Dept. of Agriculture for any producer that contributes to the food industry and must be completed 45 days prior to the opening date of the exhibition. Deadlines: June 18, 2024 for Ross County Fair and June 1 for State Fair.
- **QA OPTIONS:**
 - **Ross County** dates/times go to ross.osu.edu
 - **QA Sessions (all ages):** Pre-register by **March 1** at go.osu.edu/rcqualityassurance
 - **Test-Out (ages 15-18 on January 1):** Youth will complete QA for the current year and will then take a test. Youth scoring 70% - 100% will "test out" of QA for next three years.
 - **Other In-Person (all ages):** Exhibitors may attend approved QA programs or clinics. To get credit, it is the member's responsibility to submit proof of completion to the Extension office.
 - **YQCA Online (ages 14-18):** <http://yqcaprogram.org> (\$12/person). Must use 4-H online log-in. To get credit, it is the member's responsibility to send a copy of the completion document to the Extension office.

3. SKILLATHON

- All Ross County Jr. Fair Animal Project Exhibitors must complete an Animal Project Skillathon to exhibit, show and/or their animal(s). Exhibitors may complete either the Ross County Skillathon OR the Ohio State Fair Skillathon (if offered) for their species. It is the exhibitor's responsibility to submit proof of completion to the Extension office, if attending the OSF Skillathon.
- **Skillathon Dates:**
 - Location: Fairgrounds
 - July 9, 5:00pm-7:00pm
 - July 20, 9:00am-11:00am
- **Age Categories:** Members complete Skillathon according to their age (as of January 1).
 - Junior (8-11 years)
 - Intermediate (12 – 14 years)
 - Senior (15 – 18 years)
- **PREMIER SKILLATHON** (all ages): An optional contest held during the Animal Project Skillathon. Participants will compete in a Premier Skillathon station in each specie area. Details will be in the *May Family Hotline* and *Ross County Fair Book*.

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JR. FAIR INFORMATION

→ ***This is not a complete list of all Jr. Fair rules. Refer to Ross County Fair Book for all rules.***

To exhibit, show and/or sell an animal at the Ross County Junior Fair, exhibitors must:

- Enroll in 4-H Club and/or FFA Chapter
- Sign up for the project by March 1
 - 4-H members sign up through 4Honline
 - FFA members sign up with Ag Teacher
- Be 4-H/FFA members in “Good Standing” by completing county and club/chapter requirements
- Complete Project Book or Livestock Record Book
- Attend Quality Assurance Training
- Complete Livestock Skillathon
- Tag and/or weigh in animal(s) at Spring Tag-in
- Submit online “Jr Fair Livestock Entry Form” by July 15
 - One form includes Market, Breeding, and Showmanship entries
- Submit online DUNF form

*NOTE: Members are NOT required to exhibit at the fair to complete a project through 4-H or FFA.

2024 IMPORTANT DATES

- **Market Hog SPRING Tagging Dates:**
 - Saturday, May 4 8:00am - 11:00am Ross County Fairgrounds
 - Monday, May 6 6:00pm - 7:00pm Ross County Fairgrounds
- **DUNF Form:** Date TBA
- **Fair Move-in and Rolling Weigh-in:** first Saturday of fair, 7:00am – 12:00noon
- **Jr. Fair Market Hog Show:** Tuesday of fair, 8:00am
- **County Bred, Born & Raised Hog Show (CBBR):** Tuesday of fair, 2:30pm
- **Swine Showmanship:** Wednesday of fair, 8:00am
- **Market Hog Sale:** Thursday of fair, 6:00pm

BEFORE THE FAIR:

1. **POSSESSION.** All market hog projects must be in member’s possession by May 1, current year.
2. **NUMBER OF ANIMALS.**
 - A. Exhibitors may take up to two (2) market species to the Ross County Junior Fair. Exhibitors must follow the guidelines of the number of animals per species and abide by the specific rules for each species.
 - B. Exhibitors may take two (2) market hog animals to the Ross County Junior Fair. The two market hogs can be a combination of two barrows, two gilts, or a barrow and a gilt.
3. **SPRING Tagging:** ALL market hogs must be tagged at a Spring Tagging to be exhibited at the fair. **NO HOME TAGGING**
 - A. Dates listed above
 - B. Pigs should **weigh 50 - 70 lbs.** by the tagging date.
 - C. Each exhibitor may tag two market hogs. Families with 2 or more members taking market hogs may tag-in and designate 1 family market hog. A family with one exhibitor can tag three (3) market animals.
4. **JR FAIR LIVESTOCK ENTRY FORMS due July 15**
 - A. Exhibitors must submit an online Jr Fair Livestock Entry form July 15 to be eligible to exhibit at the Ross County Junior Fair.
 - B. Animals brought to the fair must match the entry form to be eligible.
5. **ONLINE DUNF forms**
 - A. All DUNF forms must be submitted online by Date TBA
 - B. Market Hogs - A separate DUNF must be submitted for each animal.
 - C. DUNF form must be correctly submitted, or exhibitor will not be allowed to weigh-in their animal(s).

AT THE FAIR (read all rules in the Fair Book!)

1. **FAIR WEIGH-IN.**
 - A. **Fair Move-in and Rolling Weigh-in:** first Saturday of fair, 7:00am – 12:00noon
 - B. Market hogs must weigh **between 220 lbs. – 290 lbs.** at the fair weigh-in to be eligible for the market show, the Champion Drive, and the Junior Fair Swine Sale.
2. **DRENCHING.** Drenching of livestock is **prohibited** at an exhibition, unless it is for a medical condition diagnosed by a licensed veterinarian. (ODA, 2016)
3. **MEDICATIONS.** If a prescription is written that requires medication/treatment, a superintendent must be present each time the medicine/treatment is administered to ensure compliance with the guidance in the prescription. The superintendent must be present before any medicine/treatment is mixed through delivery.
4. **Hog Hair Length: Each hog must have at least ½ inch minimum of measurable hair to be eligible for the show and sale.** Hair must be checked before the animal permitted to go across the scale at the fair move-in/weigh-in. Body clipping/shaving of hogs is NOT a recommended practice. Clippers/scissors are not allowed in the barns and clipping of hogs is not allowed during the fair. Clipping of the hog's **EARS AND TAIL ONLY** is allowed but **MUST** be done prior to the animal coming to the fair.
An approved ½ inch hair-line ruling tool will be used to determine hair length by a paid Hair Judge. The Hair Judge's ruling is final and cannot be petitioned. Any violation of this rule will result in dismissal from the fair swine market show and sale; however, the exhibitor will be allowed to show their hog in showmanship.
Any hog rejected due to an infraction of this rule will remain the owner's responsibility for care (feeding, watering, pen cleanliness, etc.). The animal will be sent to the processing plant designated by the Jr. Fair Sale Committee with the other "keep" animals and the owner will be responsible for all fees and processing costs incurred for this animal. The owner will also be responsible for picking up the processed meat. The member will not receive a packer bid or any compensation for the animal.
5. **Jr. Fair Market Hog Sale:**
 - A. The Jr. Fair Market Hog Show is a terminal show.
 - B. Refer to *Ross County Fair Book* for Sale procedure/rules.
6. **JR FAIR EXHIBITOR DRESS CODE:** Exhibitors **must** adhere to the following dress requirements at all shows and sales at the fair: must wear nice jeans or slacks (no low-rise, no holes or tears); a shirt, blouse or polo with a collar and sleeves AND without slogans or advertisements (4-H club/member name is acceptable); no cleavage showing; no undergarments showing. Shoes must be closed-toe (no sandals or flip flops).

SWINE BREEDING PROJECTS:

1. Breeding animals must be in the member's possession by June 1 of the current year.
2. Each 4-H member must have a **Swine Resource Handbook (#134R)** and the **Swine Breeding Project and Record Book (#140)**.

SWINE BREEDING FAIR CLASSES:

1. Breeding gilts will not be shown at the Ross County Fair.
2. Hogs will be graded at member's home for a project grade by the club advisor.
3. A maximum of two gilts per age group may be utilized.
Breeding Gilt: farrowed prior to January 1 of current year
Breeding Gilt: farrowed between January 1 and April 1 of current year

JR FAIR HOG SHOWMANSHIP

Refer to current Ross County Fair Book for complete rules (age divisions, fitting/showing rules, show order, etc.)

Showmanship Sign-ups

- a. **July 15** –Showmanship sign-ups (Beginner, Junior, Intermediate & Senior) are included in the online Jr Fair Livestock Entry form due July 15.
- b. Peewee Showmanship sign-up sheets will be posted in each species' barn. Participants can sign up until the start of the Pee Wee Show.

COUNTY BRED, BORN, & RAISED SWINE SHOW (CBBR):

- **→ NEW in 2024** - The CBBR Swine show will be an independent show (separate from the Jr. Fair Market Swine Show). Every CBBR hog is eligible to participate (if exhibitor chooses).
 - Refer to *Ross County Fair Book* for complete rules
1. **EXHIBITORS:**
 - A. Must own a hog that has been bred, born, and raised within Ross County
 - B. From May 4 – May 15 – Submit an online CBBR form (link go.osu.edu/swinecbb including the animal's Jr. Fair tag number, the CBBR button tag number, and the breeder's name)
 2. **BREEDERS:**
 - A. By April 15 – Submit an online CBBR Breeder form (link TBA) including the exhibitor family name, the animal's ear notch, and CBBR button tag number)