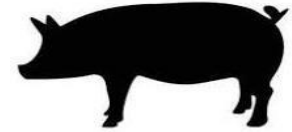




# 2023 SWINE PROJECT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES



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IMPORTANT DATES		IMPORTANT INFO	
Registration	February 6, 2023	Minimum Weight @ Fair	225 lbs
Birth Date	After January 1, 2023	Maximum Weight @ Fair	315lbs
Possession	May 1, 2023	Record Book (Both Market and show only)	Required Due: 9/11/23
Tagging	Virtual Online Form Due by May 15, 2023	Thank You Note	Required Due: 10/2/23

*Participating 4-H youth must abide by all general rules and regulations listed in the Northwest Michigan 4-H Livestock Council's Policies & Procedures books and the Premium Book of the Northwestern Michigan Fair. This includes, but is not limited to, Code of Conducts, registration deadlines, showmanship and market requirements, record book and thank you letter requirements, etc.*

### **Registration Requirements**

- ◆ To participate in a 4-H market swine project, youth must attain the age of eight (8) or older by January 1<sup>st</sup> of that calendar year and be registered with 4-H Online 2.0
- ◆ All Swine Participants (Market, Show only and Cloverbuds) MUST complete the online registration via the Northwest Michigan 4-H Livestock Council's website NO LATER THAN midnight the first Monday of February.
  - o Optional: Each 4-H market swine participant may register an extra hog for \$10, to be paid to the Northwestern Michigan Livestock Council by the first Monday of June of the program year. The extra hog may only be used within the family that purchased the hog and only one (1) market swine may be brought to the fair per 4-H member. The swine that weighs is the swine that stays!!!
- ◆ To participate in the 4-H livestock shows and auction at the fair, youth must follow all registration requirements listed in the Northwestern Michigan Fair's Premium Book.
- ◆ To participate in the 4-H livestock auction at the fair, youth must register and compete in the appropriate showmanship AND market classes.

## **Animal Requirements**

- ◆ Tagging:
  - All market swine must be tagged with a USDA 840 ID tag from the breeder/4Her.
  - Virtual tagging checks will be completed by May 15th.
- ◆ Swine must be born after January 1st so that it is about seven (7) months of age by fair time. For the Northwestern Michigan Fair, swine should be born mid to late January.
- ◆ Swine must be in possession or under the care of the 4-H member on or before May 1st.
- ◆ Swine can be a barrow or gilt
- ◆ Vaccinations:
  - Swine must receive an initial shot and booster that includes:
    - Microplasma, Influenza, Erysipelas, and Circovirus.
  - Most swine are vaccinated by the breeder. If so, be sure to have the breeder fill out their portion of the Swine Health Record.
  - If the breeder does not vaccinate, the 4-H member will have to purchase their own vaccinations.
    - Give the initial shot and the booster may be given 21-28 days later.
  - Vaccinations MUST be completed before May 31st
  - The 4-H member will then fill out the Swine Health Record
  - Be sure to follow all instructions on the manufacturer's label
- ◆ Deworming:
  - Follow all directions on the label
  - Be sure to pay close attention to the date of worming and the withdrawal time
  - Note the date given and brand on the Swine Health Record
- ◆ Weight Requirements:
  - To enter a market class, swine must weigh between 225 and 315 pounds
  - Members who have swine that weigh less than 225 or more than 315 pounds at final weigh-in will still participate in 4-H Showmanship, but will NOT participate in 4-H market or the livestock auction
  - Members will be expected to remove the animal from the fairgrounds at the end of fair week or make arrangements with the Livestock Council to send it on the slaughter truck for a specified fee
  - No "For Sale" signs can be posted, and the members CANNOT sell the hog via private treaty while on the fairgrounds.

## **Fair Week Requirements**

- ◆ General Requirements:
  - Weigh-in takes place while unloading at the fair.
    - Youth must be present or must have made prior arrangements with the species chair for someone else to weigh their animal.
    - A Swine Health Record must be filled out, signed, and presented to the Barn Superintendent in order to unload at the fair.
  - No feed, feed bags, or supplies are to be left in the barn (everything must be stored at the campsite).
  - Youth are responsible for keeping their pens clean all week.

- Sawdust needs to be conserved. Morning cleanings will be a complete change of sawdust and must be completed before 9:00 a.m. Afternoon cleaning will be spot cleans and will be performed before 5:00 p.m. each afternoon.
- ◆ Animal Care Requirements:
  - o Youth are responsible for providing enough grain and hay to care for their hog throughout the entire week.
  - o Youth are responsible for feeding, watering, and caring for their animal the **entire** week.
  - o Administration of ANYTHING other than grain/feed, hay, or water **MUST** be cleared through the Livestock Council Species Chair, the Fair Superintendent, AND the Fair Veterinarian. Documentation must be signed and the Species Chair and/or Superintendent **MUST** be present during administration.
    - This includes, but IS NOT LIMITED TO: Electrolyte replacements (Gatorade, Pedialyte, electrolyte powders, etc); Medications (Aspirin, Pepto Bismol, Antibiotics, etc); etc.
    - **Failure to follow this policy WILL result in disqualification and removal from all 4-H and Open Livestock Shows held at the fair.**
- ◆ Show Day Policies:
  - o **Failure to comply with these policies WILL result in disqualification from the show.**
  - o The swine barn will close 2 hours prior to the start of the first show.
    - During barn closure times, only the 4-H'er and ONE (1) support person of their choice may enter the barn and/or wash rack areas.
  - o The 4-H'er and their support person may fit and prepare the hog for show.
  - o The body of your hog may be clipped to ½ inch or longer. **DO NOT** shave your pig.
- ◆ Fair End Responsibilities:
  - o Completely clean and scrape down pens
    - Bars on the pens need to be scrubbed and wiped down.
  - o When ready to leave, youth must be checked out by a barn volunteer.

### **After Fair Requirements**

- ◆ All market and show only Swine participants must turn in a physical hard copy of a completed record book at the September Livestock council meeting to the species chair.
- ◆ A Thank you and 5 x 7 Auction photo must be given to your buyer and a hard copy of the thank you note is due at the October Livestock council meeting.
- ◆ Failure to submit a completed record book at the September meeting and a Thank you at the October Meeting of the 4-H Livestock Council **WILL** result in suspension from the 4-H Livestock classes and auction held during the NW MI Fair the following year. Suspended youth who complete their record book and submit it to the 4-H Livestock Council by the November meeting that same year will again be eligible to register for 4-H Livestock classes and auction held during the NW MI Fair the following year.

## **Important Information & Tips for a Successful Swine Project**

- ◆ Fair Week Show Attire:
  - Clean pants or jeans (free of rips or holes)
  - Button up shirt or polo (tucked in and free from logos or writing)
  - Protective boots or leather shoes
  - Cane or whip, Spray/water bottle, small pocket brush
- ◆ Fair Week Barn Essentials:
  - Wheelbarrow, rake, shovel, and broom
  - Board for sitting on in the pen
    - Nothing should be left on the board when the youth is not present
    - Boards cannot be used for storage space
  - Members are responsible for keeping their club area free of trash
  - Be sure pens stay clean and dry throughout the day, every day while at fair

## **Cloverbuds**

- ◆ 4-H members who are 5-7 years of age (as of January 1st of the current year)
- ◆ Cloverbuds must still register by the February deadline
- ◆ Cloverbuds ages 5 & 6, may NOT bring their own pig to fair.
- ◆ 7-year-old Cloverbuds MAY be allowed to bring their own pig to the fair.
  - Determination will be based on registration numbers after the February registration deadline
  - If the number of market pigs is less than 225 at registration, 7-year-old Cloverbuds will have the OPTION to bring their own pig
  - Participants will be notified of the determination no later than March 1st
  - 7-year-old Cloverbuds MUST be supervised, assisted, and escorted at all times when their pig is out of its pen by an ADULT volunteer
  - 7-year-old Cloverbuds must follow all barn rules listed above including tagging, animal care, and fair week requirements
  - 7-year-old Cloverbuds may NOT market their pig at the fair and must make arrangements to haul it from the fairgrounds on the last Sunday of the fair
- ◆ Cloverbuds (that do not bring their own hog to fair as above) should make arrangements to borrow another 4-H member's hog for Cloverbud Showmanship.
- ◆ For safety, Cloverbuds must have an adult in the show ring with them.
- ◆ Cloverbuds will be paired with a 4-H mentor during fair week.

## **Volunteers**

### Barn Duty

- ◆ Barn Duty will be assigned by species chair to each 4H group for 2, one-hour sessions each during fair week. Leader or designated adult must be present to oversee 4-H'ers the entire time.

### Showmanship and Market Set Up and take down

- ◆ After barns close, 4-H'ers 15 and older will be expected to help with set up of rings for following day's shows. Sign in and out will be expected. This expectation will also be expected for tear down.

## Parents

- ◆ Parents of 4-H'ers in the swine barn will be expected to sign up for positions during shows and/or fair week. These positions are the following, but not limited to:
  - Running swine boards for unloading, show days, picture day, and auction, along with trucking morning.
  - Announcing over the PA system in the barn for shows and auction day
  - Releasing pens as numbers are called
  - Arena workers to help guide 4-H'ers and swine in and out of the arena and help with boards in the arena if needed.
  - Gate attendant for front and back gate during shows and auction
  - Escorting 4-H'ers back to pens and securing gates
- ◆ Parent Volunteer Signups will be released via Google Drive by August 1, 2023

## Mentors

- ◆ 4-H'ers will have the option to sign up for mentoring of Cloverbuds during fair week. The 4-H'ers will be paired with a swine Cloverbud and allow them to shadow them throughout the week and be at the Cloverbud show. Mentoring is important to help our youngest swine kids to be a part of all aspects of the barn.