

MARKET SWINE & CARCASS SWINE GUIDELINES

MARKET SWINE COMMITTEE

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Market Swine Weigh - In: Upon arrival to the Junior Fair **Place:** Livestock Scales
Market Swine Judging: Livestock Show: Wednesday, September 2, 2026, 5:30 p.m.
Market Swine Showmanship - Thursday, September 3, 2026, to follow Market Lambs
Market Swine Sale: Thursday, September 3, 2026, 7:00 p.m. (to follow Market Lambs)
Place: Michael Kusalaba Fund of the Youngstown Foundation Event Center

REQUIREMENTS:

1. MANDATORY MEETING REQUIREMENTS:

- Members taking the Market Swine Project must attend **at least three Mahoning County Market Swine Meetings.**
2. Members must also follow all General Junior Fair Guidelines and Market Livestock Guidelines.

SECURING MARKET SWINE:

1. Birth Date for project animals is recommended to be **between January 1 and February 15.**
2. **Mule foot swine are prohibited from showing and selling at the fair.**
3. Prior to the purchase of an animal, member should question the method of castration and check for evidence of testicular removal.
4. **POSSESSION:** Market Swine must be secured and in member's possession by the date of mandatory tagging & weigh-in.
5. **MANDATORY TAGGING:**
 - a. **All Market Swine must be tagged or pick up their tags under the direct supervision of the Swine Committee on the SPECIFIED DATE OF MANDATORY TAGGING.**
 - b. **If the Market Swine youth plans to tag already has an 840 tag in the ear, then the animal MUST be brought to tagging to have the 840 tag scanned in our system. These tags can be used for our identification purposes.**
 - i. **If you do not bring this animal to this tagging, then you will not be permitted to participate in the Junior Fair Program.**
 - ii. **DO NOT ATTEMPT TO REMOVE THIS TAG. IT IS ILLEGAL TO REMOVE AN 840 TAG.**
 - c. **Youth should request a written proof of erysipelas vaccine from the point of purchase upon leaving the premises and bring this with them to tagging.**
 - d. **The committee will provide the erysipelas vaccine at tagging for those who do not possess such proof of vaccination.**
 - e. **First year members may bring their hogs to have hogs tagged and vaccines given at their assigned times on Tagging Day. All other members must pick up tags/shots at the assigned times.**
 - f. Each member may tag up to three animals but may bring only one animal to the Junior Fair.
 - g. If only one animal is tagged per child, the family may register one additional animal under the family name at the time tags are assigned. This animal may be a substitute or back-up for any enrolled member of the family.
 - h. Family back-up means sibling children only and does not include friends or extended family.
 - i. Substitute project animals may be authorized up to the time of the fair. Members wishing to make a substitution must have a valid reason, and must contact the Market Livestock Committee in writing, to make the substitution. All registration and identification should be in accordance with the County Livestock Committee Guidelines. Substitute animals will NOT be eligible for Grand or Reserve champion.
6. **All members must submit tagging photos as instructed in the online system by June 1.**
7. Members must check for evidence of testicular tissue removal upon tagging. If there is any evidence of testicular tissue or retained testicles, this must be taken care of at this time. Any animal with evidence of this tissue at fair weigh-in will be barred from the show and sale.
8. **Exhibitors are not permitted to exhibit Market Swine that have knowingly been fed "Ractopamine," also known as Paylean, in the Mahoning County Junior Fair Show. The Junior Fair reserves the right to randomly spot test animals during the year if necessary. If an animal tests positive during the year, they will not be permitted to show. If an animal tests positive at the fair, all awards and premiums will be forfeited for that project.**

MARKET SWINE CHECK-IN & WEIGH-IN POLICIES & PROCEDURES:

1. All swine must be vaccinated for Erysipelas no less than 21 days prior to the fair. Vaccinations must be documented on the health paper.
2. The 2026 Market Swine Show has been designated as **A PARTIAL TERMINAL SHOW**, which requires that at least the Grand and Reserve Champion Market Swine must be slaughtered.
3. All Market Swine exhibited must be sold in the Market Livestock Sale **UNLESS THEY WEIGH LESS THAN 200 LBS** (see below).
4. **WEIGH – IN:** Market Swine Project animals will be weighed upon arrival on Tuesday, Check-In Day. There will be **NO RE-WEIGHS**. Members should bring and index card with exhibitor's name, swine tag number, and mark the card if they wish to participate in showmanship. Members should be present for weigh – in.
 - a. **Any animal weighing over 220 may compete for market placing.**
 - b. **Any animal weighing 200 to 219 pounds cannot place as Grand or Reserve and will be sold at the end of the sale. The exhibitor may still participate in showmanship.**

- c. Market Swine weighing less than 200 pounds may stay, at the discretion of the committee, and can ONLY be shown in showmanship. These animals MUST BE TAKEN HOME BY THE EXHIBITOR at the end of the Junior Fair exhibition. These animals will not sell in the sale.
 - d. Any animal weighing over 350 pounds will not be eligible for Grand or Reserve Champion. These animals will show and be sold at the end of the sale.
5. UNLOADING: Exhibitor or helper must unload the animals being hauled to the fair. The committee will not enter trailers to unload animals.
 6. A committee member must be notified when an animal becomes sick or the veterinarian is called to treat an animal.
 7. ONLY ONE ASSISTANT per exhibitor is permitted in the pen area of the barn on show day. All others will be asked to leave.
 8. Slick clipping or body shaving of Market Hogs is prohibited except on the ears, and tails. Slick clipping or body shaving means: having hair that is less than one half inch in length on the body of market hogs. (Determination of evidence of slick clipping or body shaving will be at the discretion of the Market Swine Committee, Manager of Junior Fair, Senior Fair Director.)
 9. Market Swine may be misted with water ONLY prior to entering the ring. Skin should have no evidence of powder, polish, oil, and/or any other grooming product which is applied to the skin for show enhancement.

ANIMAL CARE DURING THE FAIR:

It is the responsibility of the member to clean and care for their animal. Pens will be inspected daily after 9:00 a.m. Refer to the policy above in the Junior Fair General Guidelines.

COMPLETED RECORD BOOK & THANK YOU MANDATORY:

1. Both record book(s) and thank you note(s) must be turned in to the Market Swine Committee Sunday of the fair between 12:00 noon and 2:00 pm in the Michael Kusalaba Fund of the Youngstown Foundation Event Center.
2. MEMBERS MUST COMPLETE THE FULL RECORD BOOK TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR S BEST RECORD BOOK PRIZE.

CARCASS SWINE GUIDELINES

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Participant MUST:
 - a. Be signed up in the Mahoning County Extension program taking Market Swine. (4-H online does not have a Carcass Swine project.) Carcass Swine will be marked on the Junior Fair online registration form.
 - b. Participate in the Market Swine program for 1 year before being eligible to participate in the Carcass Swine program.
 - c. Must be in good standing with the Mahoning County Market Livestock Club.
 - d. Must be exhibiting a Market Swine in the Junior Fair program in the same year.
2. Carcass Swine must be a swine tagged for the Market Swine program.
3. The participant may only bring 1 carcass swine to the butcher.
4. The participant is responsible for delivering the Carcass Swine to the designated butcher on the designated day. The date will be announced and will 7 – 10 days prior to the start of the Junior Fair Show.
5. Carcass Swine must be clean upon arrival to the butcher.
6. Carcass Swine must have a completed DUNF form on file by Entry Day and must be marked on the online Junior Fair Entry form with a photo submitted by August 1 by midnight.
7. Carcass swine live weight must be between 230 and 280 pounds to be eligible for Grand and Reserve Champion.

CARCASS SWINE PROGRAM DETAILS:

1. The Carcass Swine will be slaughtered and the carcass will be judged by a hired meat certified judge. Members will be invited and are encouraged to be present after judging to hear the results and reasonings for placement.
2. The judge will place Grand and Reserve Champion, then 3rd thru 10th place.
3. Grand Champion thru 10th place will be announced during the Junior Fair Show prior to the start of the Market Swine classes on Wednesday night. Awards will be given at this time.
4. Only Grand and Reserve Champion Carcass Swine will sell during the Market Livestock Auction. They will be sold immediately after the Grand and Reserve Champion Market Swine.
5. All other participants are responsible to sell or take home their Carcass Swine and pick up this meat from the butcher.
6. Meat cut sheets will be completed and given to the butcher the night of the judging. If no sheet is provided, the meat will be cut according to the butchers standards.
7. All butcher fees are the responsibility of the participant. These fees can be paid by the purchaser if the meat is sold, but are ultimately the responsibility of the participant.
8. Butcher fees not paid or meat not picked up from the butcher will result in the participant being banned from the Carcass Swine program.
9. These guidelines will be implemented by the Market Swine Committee under the direction of the Senior Fair Board and Junior Fair Management.

A commission charge of not more than 2% will be withheld from the selling price of the animal sold.

MARKET SWINE SHOWMANSHIP & SKILLATHON DIVISIONS

Beginner: 8 or 9 and in the 3rd grade as of Jan. 1 of current year

Junior: 10 - 11 (as of Jan. 1 of current year)

Intermediate: 12-14 (as of Jan. 1 of current year)

Senior: 15 - 18 (as of Jan. 1 of current year)

* Subject to change if too many in one class.

Market Swine Showmanship will be held Wednesday beginning promptly at 5:30 p.m.

See General Junior Fair Market Livestock Guidelines for Skillathon Guidelines

MARKET SWINE SHOWMANSHIP GUIDELINES

1. Open to all members of the Mahoning County Market Swine Club.
2. Each member will fit and show his/her own animal. The member may be asked by the judge to show another animal during the show.
3. Fitting will be judged upon the following criteria of cleanliness, appearance, and general knowledge of exhibitor and the exhibitor's ability to handle the animal. Judges may ask members questions pertaining to the project and animal shown.
4. The Skillathon and Showmanship are not mandatory. Participation is highly recommended.
5. If the member's Market Swine is deemed "unable to be shown" per written excuse from the fair veterinarian, the member may show another member's Market Swine in Showmanship. The excuse must be submitted to the Market Swine Committee, and pre-approved. The final permission will be ultimately the decision of the Market Swine Committee.

SWINE OUTSTANDING EXHIBITOR

1. Outstanding Exhibitor will be determined based on placings in Market Swine Skillathon, Showmanship, and Market Class.
2. Winners will be announced Thursday, immediately following Market Swine Showmanship.
3. Scoring will be as follows:
 - Skillathon: All members participating in Market Swine Skillathon will receive 50 points.
 - Participants placing 1 through 10 in their respective age divisions will receive the following additional points.
 - 1st = 50 points, 2nd = 45 points, 3rd = 40 points, 4th = 35 points, 5th = 30 points,
 - 6th = 25 points, 7th = 20 points, 8th = 15 points, 9th = 10 points, 10th = 5 points
 - Showmanship: All showmanship participants will receive 50 points.
 - Participants placing 1 through 10 in their respective age divisions will receive the same points as the skillathon.
 - Market Class: Points will be awarded as follows:
 - 1st = 75 points, 2nd = 70 points, 3rd = 65 points, 4th = 60 points, 5th = 55 points
 - 6th = 50 points, 7th = 45 points, 8th = 40 points, 9th = 35 points, 10th = 30 points

TIE BREAKER: In case of a tie, the highest skillathon score will be used as the tie breaker