

**2018 State Fair of Virginia
SWINE Exhibitors Letter**

Arrival/Check-In Schedule and Information:

1. All market hogs and breeding gilts must be in the barns by 10:00 AM on Friday, October 5th.
2. ***Note all health inspections will be conducted upon arrival at the fair this year (not during weigh-in as in previous years). Be sure to have your paperwork (CVI/health paper) in hand upon arrival to the grounds.***
3. All market hogs and breeding gilts, must be checked in by show superintendents during the designated check-in times. Failure to check-in will result in disqualification from the show.
4. Weigh-in/Check-in Time:
 - a. 2:00 – 4:00 pm, Friday – All market barrows, market gilts, commercial breeding gilts and purebred gilts will need to be weighed for show

Exhibitor Meetings – All swine exhibitors will be required to attend an exhibitor meeting. The Swine Exhibitor meeting will be held just prior to the Market Hog Show at 11:00 AM on Saturday.

Market Barrows & Market Gilts: Only market barrows and market gilts which were nominated in August are eligible to show. Exhibitors are limited to showing a maximum of 4 market animals (either sex).

Breeding Gilts: Each exhibitor is allowed to show a max of 4 breeding gilts, not to exceed a total of max of 6 hogs shown per exhibitor. Designation of breeding gilt or market gilt must have been determined at time of nomination. Only breeding gilts which were nominated in August are eligible to show.

Purebred Breeding Gilts and Purebred Market Hogs: All registered breeding gilts and market hogs (barrows and gilts) will be required to provide registration papers during check-in. Please note the following specific items:

1. All ear-notches need to match the registration papers.
2. Ownership must be in the exhibitor's name **ONLY**.
3. Ownership or Transfer of ownership had to occur before **August 1st**.

Failure to meet one of the guidelines above could result in **disqualification** from the show.

Participation in sale of hogs: A buyer will be secured for those wishing to sell hogs. Designation of sale hogs will take place at weigh-in. Sale price will be posted at weigh-in. Show superintendents must be notified of hogs that are scratched from the sale within one hour after the conclusion of the market hog show on Saturday.

Health Requirements: In addition to the general requirements, the following applies to swine specifically:

1. Swine must be free of clinical symptoms of infectious and contagious disease.
2. Because of concerns with PEDV health certificates are required on **all** animals.

Penning and Bedding: Hog pens will be pre-assigned based on individuals and counties. If you have a specific stalling request, please contact Scott Greiner (sgreiner@vt.edu) with the youth's name and number of hogs coming (NOT ENTERED). Southern States Cooperative has generously donated shavings for the 2018 Youth Livestock Shows at the State Fair of Virginia. If you are a swine exhibitor, shavings will be available for your stalling area.

(over)

Unloading: Please plan to unload all pigs on the east end (end closest to the beef barn) of the north side (side closest to Rt. 30) of the swine/sheep/goat tent. We will only be able to accommodate one trailer being unloaded at a time, so please be patient with the process and try to arrive early. PLEASE **DO NOT BLOCK** THE WASH RACK AREAS, while waiting to unload. Traffic will need to flow between all of the barns and this becomes an area of congestion. All animals must be in place by 10 AM on Friday.

Premier Exhibitor Program: The Premier Exhibitor Program consists of

- A. 35% Swine Skillathon Contest – The swine Skillathon will take place at a predetermined time, and exhibitors are responsible for completing the various stations of the contest during the advertised time. Portions of the Skillathon contest may be separate for Junior, Intermediate, and Senior exhibitors. This portion of premier exhibitor points will be from the non-quiz portion of the Swine Skillathon Contest.
- B. 30% Swine Quiz – The quiz will be a component of the Skillathon.
- C. 20% Showmanship – Exhibitors must participate in showmanship.
- D. 15% Swine Placing – Highest placing on any swine exhibited (market gilt, market barrow, commercial gilt or purebred breeding gilt).

Awards are presented for Junior, Intermediate, and Senior divisions. To be eligible for awards, you must participate in all areas included in the Premier Exhibitor Program. Therefore, ***exhibitors wishing to take part in the Swine Premier Exhibitor Program must participate in the Swine Skillathon Contest which takes place on Friday*** (registration starts at 8:00, and contest open 8:30 am-12:00 noon). ***The Quiz will be given as a component of the Swine Skillathon Contest.*** We encourage you to participate in this activity, as scholarship awards are available this year in addition to awards in recognition for our Premier Exhibitors. The Skillathon contest will be set up for you to complete at your convenience during the allotted time frame, and those of you competing in multiple species will have time to complete others species Skillathon as well.