

2025 State Fair of Virginia Junior Swine Show

Nominations Due July 1st, by 5:00 pm
Entries Due August 22nd by 5:00 pm

Dr. Scott Greiner, Virginia Tech, Youth Livestock Shows Co- Superintendent
Katherine Carter, Virginia Tech, Youth Livestock Shows Co-Superintendent
Hunter Liles, Virginia Tech, Youth Livestock Shows Co-Superintendent

Ryan Horsley, Land of Promise Farm, Swine Department, co-chairperson
Shane Horsley, Land of Promise Farm, Swine Department, co-chairperson
Tim Mize, Fauquier Co. Extension, Swine Department, co-chairperson
John Benner, Augusta Co. Extension, Swine Department, co-chairperson

Judge: Jim McCoy - Bloomingburg, Ohio

Youth Swine Show Rules

The State Fair General Rules, the Livestock Rules and the Show Ring Code of Ethics apply to the Junior Swine Show. By submitting an entry, you agree to read and abide by these rules.

1. See General Livestock Rules for information pertaining to health regulations. The National Show Ring Code of Ethics shall govern the livestock show as found in the General Livestock Rules. The State Fair of Virginia reserves the right to test any entry for volatile drug residues as described in the National Show Ring Code of Ethics. **All market animals exhibited must be eligible to immediately enter the food chain.**
2. **Participants must enter the FairEntry System through the Youth Livestock Web Site at <https://ext.vt.edu/4h-youth/youth-livestock/shows/state-fair.html> under "Exhibitor Entry Information" or use the direct FairEntry link <http://sfva-youth-livestock.fairentry.com/>. The entry system will open on Monday, July 21st. Entries must be made online no later than Thursday, August 22nd by 5:00 pm. Please print the APPROVED Entries Email, and mail with entry fee payment by Monday, August 25th at 5:00 pm. All entry fee payments must be postmarked by Monday, August 25th.**
3. The State Fair of Virginia Junior Swine Show is open to all Virginia 4-H and Virginia FFA youth which are in good standing with their respective organizations and meet the entry requirements of each species division. Exhibitors must be at least 9 years of age by September 30, 2025 (exception for 8 & under sheep costume class) and must not have had their 19th birthday before January 1, 2025. Exhibitor eligibility and entries will be verified using the 4HOnline enrollment system for 4-H youth and the State FFA Office Member Roster for FFA youth.
4. All youth exhibiting beef, meat goats, sheep, and swine **must be** YQCA (Youth for the Quality Care of Animals) certified before August 31, 2025. For more information about YQCA or to be YQCA certified please visit the YQCA section of the Virginia Youth Livestock Website <https://ext.vt.edu/4h-youth/youth-livestock/yqca.html>. Available trainings can be located at this link under the "Training Schedule" Tab.
5. Swine which have participated in any sale or premium auction associated with another fair or livestock show after completing the State Fair of Virginia online nomination process (date of online nomination submission will be used for verification) are ineligible for exhibition at the State Fair of VA. This rule applies even if there was not a change in ownership (i.e. swine are ineligible even if they are "bought back" or "no-saled").
6. Exhibitors must show their own entries unless the exhibitor has more than one animal in the same class, or permission is given by the show superintendent. Substitute show persons must be eligible 4-H or FFA member with 2025 SFVA Youth Livestock entries on-site and checked-in for any species.
7. All youth beef, sheep, goat and swine entries are subject to on-farm inspections to verify entry information. All exhibitors agree to accommodate such inspections by submitting entries and nominations.
8. Exhibitors are required to care for their hogs and to keep their pens and walkways clean at all times until hogs are loaded to return home or on the sale truck. Awards will be withheld if this rule is violated.

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SHOWMANSHIP

1. Only exhibitors entered with youth swine entries checked in and present at the show are eligible for Junior Swine Division showmanship classes.
2. Showmanship competition for market hog and breeding gilt exhibitors will be combined. There will not be separate showmanship divisions for market and breeding.
3. Showmanship classes will be divided by age as follows:
 - a. Novice Division- for exhibitors showing for the first time at the State Fair, and who are 12 years of age or younger on September 30, 2025
 - b. Junior Division- exhibitors 12 years of age and younger on September 30, 2025
 - c. Intermediate Division- exhibitors 13 to 15 years of age on September 30, 2025
 - d. Senior Division- exhibitors 16 years of age and older on September 30, 2025
4. Classes/heats may be divided into smaller preliminary classes.
5. All exhibitors with entries in the Junior Swine Show(s) will automatically be entered in the appropriate showmanship and Skillathon division based on Date of Birth. There will not be a Showmanship or Skillathon Division in the entry system, as all exhibitors will be automatically entered. While neither participation in showmanship or Skillathon are mandatory, they are required for consideration of the Premier Exhibitor awards. It will be the responsibility of the exhibitor to scratch from these competitions by the designated time.
6. **Exhibitors must show their own animal in showmanship.** The animal must be entered in the junior swine show. Exhibitor's animals that are eliminated from the show due to weight requirements may be used in showmanship.
7. **Showmanship animals will be shown clean, dry, and unfitted (no glues or adhesives allowed).**

FITTING

1. **Fitting is permitted. However, the addition of twine, hair or like substances is prohibited.**
2. **Showmanship animals will be shown clean, dry, and unfitted (no glues or adhesives allowed).**

MARKET HOGS & BREEDING GILTS

To be eligible for exhibition, **ALL** Market Hog and Commercial Breeding Gilt entries must have been nominated using the **OFFICIAL STATE FAIR OF VA ONLINE NOMINATION PROCESS, INCLUDING DNA SUBMISSION**. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to properly nominate his or her hogs **NO LATER THAN JULY 1, 2025**. At the time of nomination all market hogs and commercial breeding gilts will be individually identified with an official USDA-compliant "840" EID tag. Only hogs that have been nominated and properly identified will be eligible to show in the Market Hog or Commercial Breeding Gilt competition at the State Fair of Virginia. Exhibitors may nominate up to a total of 12 hogs total (market barrows, market gilts, and/or commercial breeding gilts). Each animal may be nominated in the name of ONE exhibitor only. **NOTE: Purebred breeding gilts are not required to be nominated, however, without being nominated they are ineligible for market hog or commercial breeding classes should situation dictate they cannot show as purebred gilts (ie. issue with registration, tattoo, ear notch etc..).**

*****NOMINATION = OWNERSHIP.** Once an animal has been nominated it may not be shown in/under the name of any other exhibitor between the date of nomination submission and the conclusion of the State Fair of Virginia Youth Livestock Shows. The ONLY EXCEPTION is that a Cloverbud/Pee Wee youth may use that animal in a SHOWMANSHIP CLASS at another event, if that event's rules allow such. However, any change in the owner/exhibitor name in any other circumstance will constitute a change in ownership and that animal will no longer be eligible to be shown at the State Fair of VA Youth Livestock Shows.

DNA Envelopes and RFID/EID Tags (if needed) must be ordered using this link:
<https://tinyurl.com/2025-SFVA-DNA-ENVELOPE-ORDER>

After receiving DNA Envelopes and Tags (if ordered), each exhibitor must complete the online nomination process at this link: <http://sfva-youth-livestock.fairentry.com/>
Deadline for completion of the Online Nomination Process and Postmark Date for return of DNA Samples is July 1st, 2025

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1. Exhibitors are allowed to show a maximum of 6 total hogs. **Those hogs may represent any combination of market hogs (either sex) or breeding gilts.** For nominated gilts, designation of market gilt or commercial breeding gilt will be determined at check-in.
2. Hogs entered in the Market hog show are not eligible for Breeding Gilt classes and Breeding Gilt entries are not eligible for Market Hog classes.
3. Hogs must be owned and cared for by the exhibitor on or before the date of online nomination submission and continuously thereafter. Nomination constitutes ownership.
4. Purebred breeding gilts and purebred market hogs (barrows or gilts) must be recorded with, and have registration papers issued from, a national breed association. Registration certificates for registered breeding gilts and market hogs must be issued in the name of the exhibitor prior to July 1, 2025. Ownership of Registered Breeding Swine may be joint with an immediate family member (parent, step-parent, or sibling), provided the Exhibitor's Name is present on the certificate. No Farm Names, even the family farm, are allowed. For hogs with joint ownership, entries may only be made in the name of one exhibitor and may not be changed once entries are submitted and approved. Registration papers must be available for inspection at time of weigh-in.
5. **A declared weight system will be used for all Market Hogs and Commercial Breeding Gilts.** Exhibitors will pick up their weight/entry card from the designated check-in location. The exhibitor will fill out and turn in the card **by the designated time** with a declared weight which will be the official show weight for that animal. It is the exhibitor's responsibility to have the card complete and turned in by the designated deadline. Scales will be available for exhibitors to use when determining their declared weights.
 - a. The top 2 – 3 placing animals in each class (or more as determined by show management or judge) will be weighed back during the show.
 - b. Hogs must not be more than 15 pounds heavier than their declared weight at weigh-back
 - c. Any hog heavier than the 15-pound tolerance will be disqualified, and will not be eligible for any other live classes.
 - d. No re-weighs will be allowed during the weigh-back process.
 - e. Any market hog under the 220-pound minimum weight at weigh back will be disqualified.
 - f. Any commercial gilt under the 200-pound minimum weight at weigh-back will be disqualified.
 - g. If any hogs are disqualified during the weigh-back process, animals placing lower than those disqualified will move up in placings as appropriate.

Market Hog Classes: Classes will be offered for purebred and crossbred market barrows and gilts.

1. Market Hog Show will be open to barrows or gilts. Barrows and gilts will be shown separately except for overall Grand and Reserve Champions
2. Market hogs must have a declared weight of between 220 lbs. and 300 lbs. to be eligible to show in market classes.
3. Market hogs not meeting the declared weight range of 220 lbs. – 300 lbs. are eligible to be shown in showmanship, as well as in separate market classes for underweight and overweight hogs. Premiums and scholarships will not be awarded in the special market hog classes and those animals are not eligible to show for champion.
4. The market hog show will be terminal for the Overall Grand Champion and Overall Reserve Grand Champion. Exhibitors of these hogs qualify for the Scholarship Program (see Scholarship documents for specific policies, regulations, and details).
5. Class winners are also eligible for the Scholarship Program. To qualify for the Scholarship Program, class winning market hogs must be sold (terminal). Participation in the scholarship program for class winners is optional.
6. Division-specific scholarships are not awarded to division winners and reserve division winners. Reserve division winners that did not win their class are **NOT** required to be sold unless they win Overall Reserve Grand Champion market hog as they are not eligible for the scholarship program.
7. There will be an opportunity to sell hogs at a pre-established market price. Exhibitors are expected to designate sale hogs during weigh-in when the market price will be made available to exhibitors.

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Crossbred Market Barrows and Market Gilts-

1. Classes will be established using declared weights after entries are checked-in, with a reasonable number of hogs per class (Not to exceed 20 classes).
2. Market barrows and market gilts will be shown separately.
3. Market Barrows and Market Gilts will be split into Light, Medium, and Heavy Divisions with approximately the same number of animals and classes within each Division. Class weight breaks and Division assignments will be made at the discretion of show superintendents. A Division Champion and Reserve for each weight division will be selected from the class winners (and seconds as appropriate) within each division.
4. A Champion and Reserve Crossbred Market Barrow and Champion and Reserve Crossbred Market Gilt will be selected from among the appropriate weight division winners in each show.

Registered Purebred Market Barrows and Market Gilts-

1. Registration papers must be transferred into the exhibitor's name by July 1, 2025.
2. Ownership of Registered Breeding Swine may be joint with an immediate family member (parent, step-parent, or sibling), provided the Exhibitor's Name is present on the certificate. No Farm Names, even the family farm, are allowed. For hogs with joint ownership, entries may only be made in the name of one exhibitor and may not be changed once entries are submitted and approved. Hard Copy registration papers must be presented for inspection at check-in.
3. Purebred market hogs (either barrows or gilts) of any breed are eligible.
4. Class weight breaks and Division assignments will be made at the discretion of show officials (i.e., depending on number of entries, classes may be split based on gender, breed, and/or weight).
5. A Champion and Reserve Champion Purebred Market Hog will be selected from the division.

The Champion and Reserve Crossbred Market Barrow, Champion and Reserve Crossbred Market Gilt, and Champion and Reserve Purebred Market Hogs will compete for Overall Grand and Reserve Champion Market Hog.

Breeding Gilt Classes: Classes will be offered for commercial and Registered Purebred breeding gilts

1. Commercial gilts will show by declared weight and Registered Purebred gilts will show by birth date.
2. Breeding gilts are NOT eligible for the scholarship program

***Commercial Breeding Gilts must be owned and cared for by the exhibitor on or before the date of online nomination submission and continuously thereafter. Nomination constitutes ownership.

***Registered Breeding Gilts must be owned and cared for by the exhibitor on or before the registration/transfer deadline of July 1st and continuously thereafter.

Commercial Breeding Gilts-

1. Gilts must have declared weight between 200 – 350 pounds. All gilts that are outside the acceptable declared weight range may be shown in showmanship and will show in separate classes for underweight and overweight gilts., Premiums will not be awarded in the special gilt classes and those animals are not eligible to show for champion.
2. Classes will be established using declared weights after entries are checked-in, with a reasonable number of hogs per class.
3. Commercial breeding gilt classes will be split into a Lightweight Commercial Gilt and Heavyweight Commercial Gilt Division with approximately the same number of animals and classes in each division. Class breaks and division assignments are up to the discretion of show superintendents. Minimum of 10 head in the show is required to split classes.

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4. A Champion and Reserve Champion Commercial Gilt will be selected from two division winners and reserve division champions.

Purebred Breeding Gilts-

1. Registered Purebred Gilts of any breed are eligible.
2. NOTE: Purebred breeding gilts are not required to be nominated, however, without being nominated they are ineligible for market hog or commercial breeding classes should situation dictate they cannot show as purebred gilts (i.e., issue with registration, tattoo, ear notch etc..).
3. Registration papers must be transferred into the exhibitor's name prior to July 1, 2025.
4. Ownership of Registered Breeding Swine may be joint with an immediate family member (parent, step-parent, or sibling), provided the Exhibitor's Name is present on the certificate. No Farm Names, even the family farm, are allowed. For hogs with joint ownership, entries may only be made in the name of one exhibitor and may not be changed once entries are submitted and approved.
5. Gilts must be born between January 1st and May 31st, 2025, and will be shown by birth date
6. Class breaks and division assignments are up to the discretion of the superintendents.
7. A Champion and Reserve Champion Purebred Gilt will be selected from any assigned division splits.

The Champion and Reserve Commercial Breeding Gilts and Champion and Reserve Purebred Breeding Gilts will compete for Overall Grand and Reserve Champion Breeding Gilt.

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Premiums and Special Awards

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10 th
Market Hog										
Classes and Showmanship	\$75	\$50	\$40	\$30	\$20	\$15	\$14	\$13	\$12	\$11
Breeding Gilts	\$30	\$20	\$16	\$12	\$10	\$7	\$5	\$5	\$5	\$5
Grand Champion Market Hog	\$400, Banner, Scholarship and Market price for their animal									
Reserve Champion Market Hog	\$250, Banner, Scholarship and Market price for their animal									
Grand Champion Crossbred Market Barrow					\$150, Banner					
Reserve Champion Crossbred Market Barrow					\$125, Banner					
Grand Champion Crossbred Market Gilt					\$150, Banner					
Reserve Champion Crossbred Market Gilt					\$125, Banner					
Grand Champion Purebred Market Hog					\$150, Banner					
Reserve Champion Purebred Market Hog					\$125, Banner					
Division Champion					\$100, Banner					
Market Barrows & Market Gilts	(max of 6 divisions total; 3 market barrows; 3 market gilts)									
Reserve Division Champion					\$50, Banner					
Market Barrows & Market Gilts	(max of 6 divisions total; 3 market barrows; 3 market gilts)									
Class Winners (Scholarship eligible)–	Scholarship and Market price for their animal									
Market Barrows & Market Gilts										
(Scholarship requires animal to be sold to slaughter through the State Fair)										
<u>A total of \$700 in premiums will be available and split between the respective Breeding Gilt Champions</u>										
Overall Grand Champion Breeding Gilt					Premium and Banner					
Overall Res. Grand Champion Breeding Gilt					Premium and Banner					
Grand Champion Commercial Breeding Gilt					Premium and Banner					
Reserve Champion Commercial Breeding Gilt					Premium and Banner					
Grand Champion Purebred Breeding Gilt					Premium and Banner					
Reserve Champion Commercial Breeding Gilt					Premium and Banner					
Division Champion Breeding Gilts					Rosette					
Reserve Division Champion Breeding Gilts					Rosette					
All participants in the sale of hogs will receive market price										

Virginia Pork Industry Special Award

The **Virginia Pork Industry Association** will award a silver tray to the sweepstakes winner in the Junior Market Hog show. The winner is to be selected by the total number of points accumulated in the show by the following point system: 1st—5 points
2nd—4 points 3rd—3 points for placing in the single classes and showmanship classes. In case of a tie the tying exhibitor placing highest in showmanship will receive the award.

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Scholarship Program Swine

All market hog entries/animals (barrows and gilts) qualifying and designated for the Scholarship Program must be sold and slaughtered. If the animal is condemned for any reason, neither payment nor scholarship will be awarded and the competitor must accept the consequences without recourse against the State Fair of Virginia.

Upon qualifying for and agreeing to participate in the Scholarship Program, the entry will become the property of the Scholarship Program and the exhibitor will be compensated for his/her entry as set forth in the Scholarship Program.

Overall Grand Champion – Market Hog	\$ 900.00 Scholarship
Overall Reserve Grand Champion – Market Hog	\$ 800.00 Scholarship
Class Winners – Market Hogs	\$100.00 Scholarship (Limited to a max of 20)

Qualifying entries for the market hog scholarships must sell their animal (terminal). Scholarships are cumulative for the same animal. Exhibitors may receive multiple market hog scholarships, which may include any combination of the Grand and Class Winner awards detailed above.

Premier Exhibitor Scholarships - 9 Scholarships (by age group):

Junior	1st	\$300.00	2nd	\$200.00	3rd	\$100.00
Intermediate	1st	\$350.00	2nd	\$250.00	3rd	\$150.00
Senior	1st	\$400.00	2nd	\$300.00	3rd	\$200.00

Swine Promotion & Herdsman Award

1st Place: \$100 and Rosette

2nd Place: \$ 80 and Rosette

3rd Place: \$ 40 and Rosette

Additional information, including the rules and rubric for judging, are included in the Herdsmanship/Educational Display Contest Rules and Guidelines.