




# SWINE DEPARTMENT


Rev. 2.25.26

**Superintendent:** Brian Somers: (302) 593-5131  
Assistant Superintendents: John Tigner & Lauren Nickerson  
Show Secretary: Jeffrey Billings  
Assistant Show Secretary: Linda Somers

## Dates & Times:

Date	Time	Description	Location
 Wednesday, July 22	8:00 AM	All Hogs may begin to arrive	ONLY THRU GATE 2
Friday, July 24	NOON	All Hogs must be in place 	Kent Building
Saturday, July 25	8:30 AM	<b>Mandatory</b> Barn Meeting & Weigh Ins Weigh Ins of Crossbred Gilts after Market	Kent Building
	3:00 PM	Youth Showmanship	
 Sunday, July 26	9:00 AM	Market Hog Show & Open Barrow Show	Kent Building
Monday, July 27	12:01 AM	Market Hogs will begin to leave the grounds	Kent Building
	6:00 AM	Boars may enter between 6AM and 9AM, and can leave after Midnight, Monday July 27	
	9:00 AM	Market Hogs not making auction must be removed from the grounds	
	3:00 PM	Jr. and Open Breed Show	
Tuesday, July 28	7:00 PM	Livestock Extravaganza	Kent Building
Wednesday, July 29	12:01 AM	1/3 Breed Hogs may leave by 8:00 AM	Kent Building
Thursday, July 30	6:30 PM	Junior Livestock Auction	Kent Building
Sunday, August 2	1:00 AM	Remaining hogs may be removed from the grounds	ONLY THRU GATE 2
	8:00 AM	All Swine must be removed from the grounds	

## Arrival & Departure:

- Pen assignments will be posted during the check-in times by Superintendent Brian Somers between Wednesday, July 22, 8:00 AM through Friday, July 24, at 12 Noon. 
- All Hogs (Market and Breed) may begin to arrive Wednesday, July 22, starting at 8:00 AM and MUST be in place by Friday, July 24 at Noon.
  - Market Hogs (excluding animals making the Junior Livestock Auction) will begin to leave the grounds Monday, July 27, at 12:01 AM and must be removed from the grounds by Monday, July 27, at 9:00 AM.
  - Boar Breed Hogs may begin to arrive Monday, July 27 at 6:00 AM and MUST be in place by Monday, July 27 at 9:00 AM. Boars may leave after midnight that night.
  - All remaining hogs may be removed from the grounds on Sunday, August 2, at 1:00 AM and MUST be removed from the grounds by Sunday, August 2, at 8:00 AM

3. In order to drop off animals on the grounds, please have your vehicle pass in the bottom driver's side front windshield to be permitted onto the grounds.
4. All animals may not leave the grounds before Sunday, August 2, at 1:00 AM.
5. Animals removed before Sunday, August 2, at 1:00 AM will result in forfeited premiums.
6. The Swine Department will only be allowed access through Gate 2 for arrival and departure. Please refer to the map of the fairgrounds in the [Livestock Handbook](#).

### **Entry Information & Fees:**

1. Entries can only be made online via the [Fair's website](#) beginning 9:00 AM April 1, 2026 thru 11:59 PM June 1, 2026.
2. A \$10.00 entry fee per class (excluding groups, pairs, showmanship, fitting & contest classes) is required for all show entries.
3. Each exhibitor may show no more than two (2) entries in any class. When there are two or less entries in a class, the superintendent may move such entries into "Any Other Breed" class. For purposes of this rule, Exhibitors to be counted shall include the adult owners of a farm or business entity in whose farm or business name an animal may be registered. For more information refer to Rule 3, General Animal Rules, Section D, Ownership.
4. It is the responsibility of each exhibitor to read all [General Animal Exhibitor Rules on the Fair's website](#).
5. Entries are restricted to Delaware residents and active Delaware 4-H members regardless of residency.
6. Exhibitor back tag numbers will be supplied by the Delaware State Fair. The number must be worn whenever the exhibitor is in the show ring.

### **General Rules & Regulations:**

1. All animals are subject to be used in Livestock Judging Contests for 4-H or FFA and the Livestock Extravaganza.
2. Due to new fans installed in the Kent Barn, portable fans will not be permitted.
3. **If the number of hogs entered exceeds the number of pens available, then a waiting list will be established as determined by the time and date of entry.**
4. During shows, no photographers are permitted in the ring except for the official photographer. Please take photos from behind the fencing; remaining outside of the ring.
5. Exhibitors should wear appropriate show attire while in the show ring e.i. collared shirts, jeans and boots. Please refrain from plunging necklines, sleeveless shirts, shorts or open toed shoes. Anyone not in proper attire will be asked to leave the show ring.

### **Swine Department Rules & Regulations:**

1. Animals showing any signs of being unethically fit will be disqualified. Please refer to the Delaware State Fair Livestock Handbook for the Code of Showring Ethics. For swine, you may use skin conditioners. Paint conditioners can be used on existing colors but may not be used to attempt to change the color pattern or alter any aspect of breed character.
2. There will be no Registered Barrow classes. All barrows (purebred and cross) will be shown as Dark Cross or Light Cross in the Open Barrow Show on Sunday. A "Light Cross" pig is one with primarily white or blue pigmentation, may have small areas of black pigment like on the snout or toes. A "Dark Cross" pig will have significant black or red pigmentation with a black or red belted pattern, large dark patches or a black head. Light Cross and Dark Cross classification will be determined at weigh-in.
3. Weight Requirements
  - a. All Open Barrows and Crossbred Gilts must weigh between 200 lbs. min - 300 lbs. max at weigh-in. Animals unable to meet this requirement will be dismissed from the fairgrounds immediately and may not be exhibited.

- b. All Junior Market Hogs must weigh between 220 lbs. min - 290 lbs. max at weigh-in. Animals unable to meet this requirement will be dismissed from the fairgrounds immediately and may not be exhibited unless eligible for the Junior Commercial Gilt Class or the Open Barrow Class.
4. Please note the following weigh-in/tagging dates and minimum weight requirements:

Date	Time	Location	Weight
May 2, 2026	8 AM - 11 AM	Newark- Cook's Farm	75 lbs
May 9, 2026	8 AM - 11 AM	Delaware State Fair	80 lbs
May 26, 2026	5PM - 8 PM	Delaware State Fair	85 lbs

### Registration Papers:

1. All swine under 6 months must be prepared to prove eligibility for registration and all swine over 6 months must be registered with their respective breed registry departments.
2. All Berkshire swine must be registered by the American Berkshire Association (ABA), P.O. Box 2436, 1769 US 52 West, West Lafayette, IN 47996. The ABA is the only Berkshire swine registry recognized by the National Association of Swine records (NASR) and the National Pedigreed Livestock Council (NPLC).
3. Registration papers will be checked on Sunday between 2PM - 4PM in the Kent Building.
4. The Association reserves the right to reject any entry not in show condition.

### Pens & Barn Cleanliness:

1. All pens are to be cleaned by 11:00 AM daily. No washing hogs after 11:00 AM except on show days.
2. **Please be sure to note clearly on your entry who you wish to be penned with or near and their contact number.**
3. Pen assignments will be posted during the check-in times by Superintendent Brian Somers between Thursday, July 23, 8:00 AM through Saturday, July 26 at 8:00AM.
4. **FFA ADVISORS** – Fax (302-398-5030) or email ([premiums@thestatefair.net](mailto:premiums@thestatefair.net)) a list of members and entries to the Fair office by June 1st so chapters may be penned together.
5. Pens must be kept in good condition, i.e. NO ODOR! Sloppy, dirty or stinking pens as well as empty or dirty water buckets will not be tolerated. There will be one warning and the second time the exhibitor will be asked to leave, thus forfeiting premiums.

### Adding or Eliminating Breeds:

1. A new breed class will be created if there are 6 or more animals represented by 3 owners for 2 consecutive years.
2. If a breed class is not represented by 6 or more animals and 3 owners for 2 consecutive years, then that breed class will be eliminated and the animals will be entered in all other breeds.

### DE Bred & Owned Rules:

1. There may only be one person listed as the breeder and the owner to be eligible for the Bred & Owned Division.
2. The exhibitor's first and last name must be listed on the pedigree as the owner and breeder to be eligible for the Bred & Owned division.
3. The Owner Number and the Breeder Number must be identical to be eligible for the Bred & Owned Division.
4. No farm names or partnerships can be listed to be eligible for the Bred & Owned Division.
5. The exhibitor must have owned the dam at the time of breeding.

- 6. Exhibitors **MUST** declare that his or her gilt is eligible for Bred & Owned awards at registration/check-in. If you do not declare this designation at the time of check-in/registration you will **NOT** be eligible to show in the Bred & Owned division.
- 7. Exhibitors must be a **DE resident** regardless of 4-H/FFA membership.

Example of qualifying Bred & Owned:

<u>Breeder</u>	<u>Owner</u>
John Doe	John Doe
Harrington, DE	Harrington, DE

Examples that **DO NOT** qualify for Bred & Owned:

<u>Breeder</u>	<u>Owner</u>
John & Jill Doe	John & Jill Doe
Harrington, DE	Harrington, DE

\*A second person's name is listed; therefore, this animal cannot compete in the Bred & Owned division.

<u>Breeder</u>	<u>Owner</u>
Doe Farms	Doe Farms
John Doe	John Doe
Harrington, DE	Harrington, DE

\*A farm name is listed; therefore, this animal cannot compete in the Bred & Owned division.

### PEN DISPLAY

Contact - Karen Tigner (302) 632-4250

Rules:

- 1. All pen displays must be in place by 12:00 PM on Sunday, July 26, 2026. Display size should be limited to your own assigned pen area. No Pre-Registration is required.
- 2. For more information please contact Karen Tigner.
- 3. The Delaware Pork Producers Association and The Delaware Soybean Board : youth. The awards will be presented before the market show on Sunday.



**Judging Rubric:**

Educational Value	30 pts
Swine Industry Promotional Value	30 pts
Neatness & Attractiveness	20 pts
Personal Project Promotional Value	10 pts
Creativeness	10 pts
<b>Total</b>	<b>100 pts</b>

Class #	Class Description
1	Educational and Promotional Display Award

### DEBORAH ANN HEARN MEMORIAL SWINEHERD AWARD

Rules:

- 1. This contest will be judged throughout all days of the fair. Results will be posted in the Swine Department on Saturday, August 1, 2026.

Premiums			
1st	2nd	3rd	4th
\$55.00	\$49.50	\$38.50	\$27.50

**Judging Rubric:**

Cleanliness of Animals in Exhibit	20 pts
Cleanliness of Pens and Bedding	20 pts
Cleanliness of Aisles	20 pts
Neatness of Feed and Supplies	20 pts
Courtesy to Fair Patrons	20 pts
<b>Total</b>	<b>100 pts</b>

Class #	Class Description
50	Swineherd Award

**YOUTH SHOWMANSHIP**

Rules:

1. Trophies sponsored by: The Delaware Pork Producers Association
2. Belt Buckles for the Junior Grand and Reserve Champion Showman will be sponsored by Mason Hay, owner of 302 Livestock Performance.
3. Senior Grand Champion Showman will participate in the Livestock Extravaganza.
4. Youth Showmanship Entrants eligible for one class only
5. No Boars Allowed
6. In order to participate in showmanship, the exhibitor must show their own animal and that animal must be shown in an individual junior class.

Premium Schedule for Junior Showmanship classes										
# of Exhibitors	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
1	\$23.25									
2	\$24.25	\$21.00								
3	\$25.50	\$22.00	\$18.75							
4	\$26.50	\$23.25	\$20.00	\$16.50						
5	\$27.50	\$24.25	\$21.00	\$17.75	\$15.50					
6	\$28.75	\$25.50	\$22.00	\$18.75	\$16.50	\$13.25				
7	\$29.75	\$26.50	\$23.25	\$20.00	\$17.75	\$14.50	\$11.00			
8	\$31.00	\$27.50	\$24.25	\$21.00	\$18.75	\$15.50	\$12.25	\$9.00		
9	\$32.00	\$28.75	\$25.50	\$22.00	\$20.00	\$16.50	\$13.25	\$10.00	\$10.00	
10	\$33.00	\$29.75	\$26.50	\$23.25	\$21.00	\$17.75	\$14.50	\$11.00	\$11.00	\$11.00

Class #	Class Description	Awards
2	Showmanship (ages 20-21)	
3	Showmanship (ages 18-19)	
4	Showmanship (age 17)	

5	Showmanship (age 16)	
6	Showmanship (age 15)	
7	Showmanship (age 14)	
8	Showmanship (age 13)	
Do not enter	Senior Grand Champion Showman	Rosette / Trophy
Do not enter	Senior Reserve Champion Showman	Ribbon / Trophy
9	Showmanship (age 12)	
10	Showmanship (age 11)	
11	Showmanship (age 10)	
12	Showmanship (age 9)	
13	Showmanship (age 8)	
14	Showmanship (age 7)	
15	Showmanship (age 6)	
16	Showmanship (age 5)	
Do no enter	Junior Grand Champion Showman	Rosette / Belt Buckle
Do not enter	Junior Reserve Champion Showman	Ribbon / Belt Buckle

### MARKET HOG CONTEST

#### Rules:

1. All junior market animal exhibitors MUST complete a Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) training certification class (online or in-person), unless they have an existing Youth Pork Quality Assurance (YPQA) certification that is valid through August 1, 2026. The YQCA training certification course can be done either in person or online, **but must be completed to enter a market animal in the 2026 Delaware State Fair. Exhibitors will be asked upon entry to provide their YQCA certification before moving forward with their entries.**
  - a. This mandatory training requirement shall apply to all those exhibiting market animals. The training certification is not limited to only market animal exhibitors and all exhibitors are encouraged to consider completing this course.
  - b. If you are a junior market animal exhibitor and have not attended or completed the online YQCA course nor currently have an existing YPQA valid certification **by the deadline (June 1, 2026)**, you will not be permitted to show your market animal(s).
  - c. For more detailed information about the YQCA requirement and how to fulfill the requirements please [click here](#) to visit the Fair's website.
2. Market animals can upload a photo of their animal until **July 1, 2026**.
3. Without a PQA/YQCA certificate, your hog WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO SHOW!
4. Each exhibitor in the Market Hog Contest shall show no more than 2 hogs in the contest. Only one entry per exhibitor per weight class will be accepted. If two market animals entered by the same exhibitor are determined to be in the same weight class, the exhibitor shall select one of the two animals to be moved up to the next higher weight class thereby allowing the exhibitor the opportunity to show both animals. If two market animals entered by the same exhibitor are determined to be in the heaviest weight class, the exhibitor shall choose which animal will be struck from the competition.
5. Hogs must not be farrowed before January 1, and must be tagged with Delaware State Fair ear tags.
6. All Junior Market Hogs must weigh between 220 lbs. min - 290 lbs. max at weigh-in. Animals unable to meet this requirement will be dismissed from the fairgrounds immediately and may not be exhibited. No re-weighing will be permitted.
7. The number of classes will be determined after weigh-in.

**IMPORTANT**



Class #	Class Description	Awards
18	Light Cross Barrow Class (200 lbs. min - 300 lbs. max)	
19	Dark Cross Barrow Class (200 lbs. min - 300 lbs. max)	
Do not enter	Grand Champion Light Cross Barrow	Rosette
Do not enter	Reserve Champion Light Cross Barrow	Ribbon
Do not enter	Grand Champion Dark Cross Barrow	Rosette
Do not enter	Reserve Champion Dark Cross Barrow	Ribbon
Do not enter	Supreme Champion Barrow	Banner

### JUNIOR BREED SHOW

Rules:

1. Exhibitors in the junior breed show may enter the same animals in the open show.
2. One entry per exhibitor in each class will be accepted.
3. Active Delaware 4-H members are permitted to exhibit in youth livestock shows regardless of residency.
4. The open crossbred market gilt class winners do not go to the auction on Thursday night. Each entrant must be prepared to prove ownership by the person in whose name entry is made.
5. All breeding and market hogs should be in show condition; if not they will be asked to leave the Fairgrounds
6. The Hampshire breed will be shown in "Any Other Breed" due to low entries for the past 3 years.

Premium Schedule for Junior Breed Show Classes										
# of Exhibitors	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
1	\$23.25									
2	\$24.25	\$21.00								
3	\$25.50	\$22.00	\$18.75							
4	\$26.50	\$23.25	\$20.00	\$16.50						
5	\$27.50	\$24.25	\$21.00	\$17.75	\$15.50					
6	\$28.75	\$25.50	\$22.00	\$18.75	\$16.50	\$13.25				
7	\$29.75	\$26.50	\$23.25	\$20.00	\$17.75	\$14.50	\$11.00			
8	\$31.00	\$27.50	\$24.25	\$21.00	\$18.75	\$15.50	\$12.25	\$9.00		
9	\$32.00	\$28.75	\$25.50	\$22.00	\$20.00	\$16.50	\$13.25	\$10.00	\$10.00	
10	\$33.00	\$29.75	\$26.50	\$23.25	\$21.00	\$17.75	\$14.50	\$11.00	\$11.00	\$11.00

Any Other Breed	Berkshire
Crossbred Boars	Crossbred Gilts (Determined by weight)
Duroc - Jersey	Hereford
Spotted & Black Poland China	Yorkshire

Class #	Class Description	Awards
20	Boar, farrowed: 1-1-26 thru 1-31-26	
21	Boar, farrowed: 2-1-26 thru 2-28-26	
22	Boar, farrowed: 3-1-26 thru 3-31-26	

Do not enter	Grand Champion Boar	Rosette
Do not enter	Reserve Champion Boar	Ribbon
23	Gilt, farrowed: 1-1-26 thru 1-31-26*crossbreeds not eligible	
24	Gilt, farrowed: 2-1-26 thru 2-28-26*crossbreeds not eligible	
25	Gilt, farrowed: 3-1-26 thru 3-31-26*crossbreeds not eligible	
Do not enter	Grand Champion Gilt	Rosette
Do not enter	Reserve Champion Gilt	Ribbon

### OPEN CLASSES

Premium Schedule for Open Show Classes										
# of Exhibitors	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
1	\$34.25									
2	\$35.25	\$29.75								
3	\$36.50	\$31.00	\$25.50							
4	\$37.50	\$32.00	\$26.50	\$21.00						
5	\$38.50	\$33.00	\$27.50	\$22.00	\$16.50					
6	\$39.75	\$34.25	\$28.75	\$23.25	\$17.75	\$17.75				
7	\$40.75	\$35.25	\$29.75	\$24.25	\$18.75	\$18.75	\$18.75			
8	\$42.00	\$36.50	\$31.00	\$25.50	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00	\$20.00		
9	\$43.00	\$37.50	\$32.00	\$26.50	\$21.00	\$21.00	\$21.00	\$21.00	\$21.00	
10	\$44.00	\$38.50	\$33.00	\$27.50	\$22.00	\$22.00	\$22.00	\$22.00	\$22.00	\$22.00

Any Other Breed	Berkshire
Crossbred Boars	Crossbred Gilts (Determined by weight)
Duroc - Jersey	Hereford
Spotted & Black Poland China	Yorkshire

Class #	Class Description	Awards
26	Boar, farrowed: 1-1-26 thru 1-31-26	
27	Boar, farrowed: 2-1-26 thru 2-28-26	
28	Boar, farrowed: 3-1-26 thru 3-31-26	
Do not enter	Grand Champion Boar	Rosette
Do not enter	Reserve Champion Boar	Ribbon
29	Gilt, farrowed: 1-1-26 thru 1-31-26*crossbreeds not eligible	
30	Gilt, farrowed: 2-1-26 thru 2-28-26*crossbreeds not eligible	
31	Gilt, farrowed: 3-1-26 thru 3-31-26*crossbreeds not eligible	
Do not enter	Grand Champion Gilt	Rosette
Do not enter	Reserve Champion Gilt	Ribbon

## OVERALL SWINE AWARDS

<b>Class #</b>	<b>Class Description</b>	<b>Awards</b>
Do not enter	Supreme Champion Boar	Banner & \$110
Do not enter	DE Bred & Owned Champion Boar	Banner & \$100
Do not enter	Supreme Champion Gilt	Banner & \$110
Do not enter	DE Bred & Owned Champion Gilt	Banner & \$100
Do not enter	Overall Reserve Champion Gilt	Rosette
Do not enter	3rd Overall Gilt	Ribbon
Do not enter	4th Overall Gilt	Ribbon
Do not enter	5th Overall Gilt	Ribbon