



## **CLAY COUNTY 4-H SWINE**

**\*Updated for 2026**

4-H Swine Club Leader: Madison McDonald – (812)201-9201 ([mcdonaldmad@clay.k12.in.us](mailto:mcdonaldmad@clay.k12.in.us))

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### **ENROLLMENT:**

- All swine must be assigned an RFID (840) tag, that number should be entered along with your animal ID information on 4HOnline by May 15th.** The Extension Office has the RFID tags available to purchase for \$3. If you need assistance tagging, please contact the Extension Office or any Swine Committee member prior to the fair.
- Enrolled animals must be owned by the 4-H exhibitor by the May 15th deadline and must be under continuous care, responsibility and ownership through the date of the show, except where change of ownership was to 4-H member's complete ownership. Siblings will be allowed to co-enroll swine in 4Honline.
- 4-H members must be enrolled in Clay County 4-H and the Swine Project by **May 15, 2026**, and all barrows and gilts must be identified in 4HOnline with an ear notch and RFID tag number by **May 15, 2026**.
- Premise ID numbers are required in 4Honline.
- Pigs enrolled must have been farrowed on or after **December 1, 2025**.
- A 4-H'er may enroll a maximum of 15 gilts and 15 barrows.
- County Fair class entries will be due by **July 1, 2026** on [FairEntry.com](https://www.fairentry.com).

### **HEALTH:**

- Hogs will not be unloaded at the fair until inspected and, if necessary, approved by the veterinarian on duty. Animals showing any sign of communicable disease will not be allowed on the fairgrounds.
- Health rules as provided by the Indiana State Board of Animal Health will be followed. In case of a health question, a veterinarian will be contacted.

### **WEIGHT REQUIREMENTS:**

Every animal will be weighed at check-in (gilts & barrows). In order to show in your correct Purebred class (gilts and barrows), your pig must meet the following minimum weight requirements:

- December born - 215 lb. minimum
- January born - 200 lb. minimum
- February born - 175 lb. minimum
- March born - 150 lb. minimum
- All crossbred hogs (no matter the age) - 150 lb. minimum

\* If your purebred pig does not meet the correct weight requirement, you will be given the option to show it as a crossbred as long as it is at least 150 lbs.

For example: If your December 20th (as read on the registration papers) Berkshire barrow weighs in at 209 lbs at check-in, you will have to show him as a crossbred.)

\*\* If your pig does not meet the standard 150 lb minimum, you will not be able to show it & it will not be able to stay at fair.

### **GROOMING:**

Clay County 4-H encourages members and their immediate families to be the primary groomers of their animals. However, exhibitors may use outside groomers for show day assistance if needed. If you plan to have grooming help at the State Fair, please review their updated rule book to ensure all requirements are met. Contact the Extension Office with any questions.

### **PENNING**

- The Superintendent will assign pens prior to bringing hogs to the fairgrounds
- Exhibitors must furnish animal food and water supplies.
- Members must provide their own bedding (shavings or pellet bedding only, no straw). **Pens must be kept cleaned and kept dry** or the superintendent will insist they be cleaned.



d) There will be a pen/stall fee of no more than \$5 per pen/stall due at the beginning of the fair. Please see your leader for further communication on this closer to fair.

## SHOW:

- a) All 4-H Livestock may only be shown by a current Clay County 4-H member.
- b) The following purebreds will be recognized: Berkshire, Chester White, Duroc, Hampshire, Hereford, Landrace, Poland China, Spotted Poland China, Tamworth and Yorkshire
- c) The Clay County 4-H Fair show *does not* do a breed sift; however, the State Fair does and breeds will need to pass breed classification or they will be required to be shown as a crossbred. Please refer to the State Fair swine rules for required classifications.
- d) RFID tags will be checked at fair weigh-in/check-in. **If they do not match the Indiana 4-H Online family profile entry, they will be disqualified.**
- e) All purebred gilts and barrows must have registration papers. Any animal not properly registered as a purebred will be exhibited as a crossbred.
- f) If clipping at the fair occurs, there is no snaring allowed.
- g) The swine committee will determine show order and make classes.
- h) Breeding Gilts will be shown by breed and age: December, January, February, and March.
- i) Barrows and Crossbred Gilts will show by breed and weight. Animals will be weighed at check-in by the Swine Committee. Registration papers will also be checked at this time.
- j) Show order will be – **Showmanship, Breeding Gilts, then Barrows** with the Grand Drive that evening.
- k) The Mini 4-H Show will include members that are enrolled in the Clay Co. Mini 4-H program and have met the grade/age requirement per species as listed in their handbook. Mini 4-H members must be entered in the swine project by **May 18, 2026** to allot time for pairing with an older 4-H member & their animal.
- l) The show bill will be posted the Sunday of fair by Noon. If you have changes that need to be made you must let the swine committee know before 6:00 PM Sunday. After that the show order will be FINAL.
- m) If two animals are in the same class, a substitute showman (current Clay County 4-H member) may be selected by the 4-Her.
- n) If two barrows are in the same class the Exhibitor may choose to move one animal to the next heavier class or have a substitute showman.
- o) If two gilts are in the same class the Exhibitor may choose to move one animal to the next older class or have a substitute showman.
- p) ALL swine must stay on the Fairgrounds until all 4-H livestock is released on Thursday night. **No exceptions!**

## AWARDS

Breed Champion & Res. Champion Breeding Gilts	Breed Champion & Res. Champion Barrows	Top 5 Overall Breeding Gilts	Top 5 Overall Barrows
Grand & Res. Grand Born & Raised Breeding Gilt	Grand & Res. Grand Born & Raised Barrow	Champion & Res. Champion Junior, Intermediate and Senior Showmanship	Champion & Res. Champion, Champion of Champions Showmanship
1 <sup>st</sup> Year Swine Member Award			

## BORN AND RAISED SHOW

Born and raised swine must be raised by the Clay County 4-H members. Members must be the one to show the born and raised animal.

Exhibitors must enter both the Bred & Owned breed class and the regular breed class in FairEntry to qualify for the homegrown award. *Superintendents are not responsible for entry errors.*

**Example:** A Berkshire gilt you've raised since birth must be entered in both the **Bred & Owned Berkshire gilt** and **Berkshire gilt** classes.

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## SHOWMANSHIP:

4-H members may only show their own animals that they will also exhibit in a regular 4-H class.

- Junior Showmanship:** 3rd–5th graders as of Jan. 1, 2026. Once a 4-Her wins Overall Junior Showman, they may only compete in Intermediate Showmanship the following year.
- Intermediate Showmanship:** 6th–8th graders as of Jan. 1, 2026, and all previous Junior winners. Once a 4-Her wins Overall Intermediate Showman, they may only compete in Senior Showmanship the following year.
- Senior Showmanship:** 9th–12th graders as of Jan. 1, 2026, and all previous Intermediate winners. Winners may compete in the Champion of Champions class that year and in future years.
- Champion of Champions Showmanship:** Open to all past Senior Division Champions, including the 2026 winner.

## STATE FAIR INFORMATION:

- Entries required by June 1st or by the date set by the Indiana State Fair on the Exhibitor Corners website (<https://bit.ly/3SMqDra>).
- All hogs must have an RFID tag number listed on the 4-H Enrollment to be eligible.
- Hair samples must be submitted for each hog that you want eligible for the Indiana State Fair. DNA samples will be due to the Extension Office by May 15<sup>th</sup>.

## Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care Training

To exhibit beef cattle, dairy cattle, swine, sheep, goats, poultry and rabbits, 4-H members must be certified through the Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care Training. This is an annual program that can be completed in-person by attending one of the classes on the following dates at the Fairgrounds:

- **March 18, 2026**
- **April 27, 2026**
- **May 21, 2026**
- **June 30, 2026**

An online option is available for \$12 through the YQCA program. Once you complete this [online course](#), you must email the Extension Office your final certificate emailed to you at completion showing your certification number.

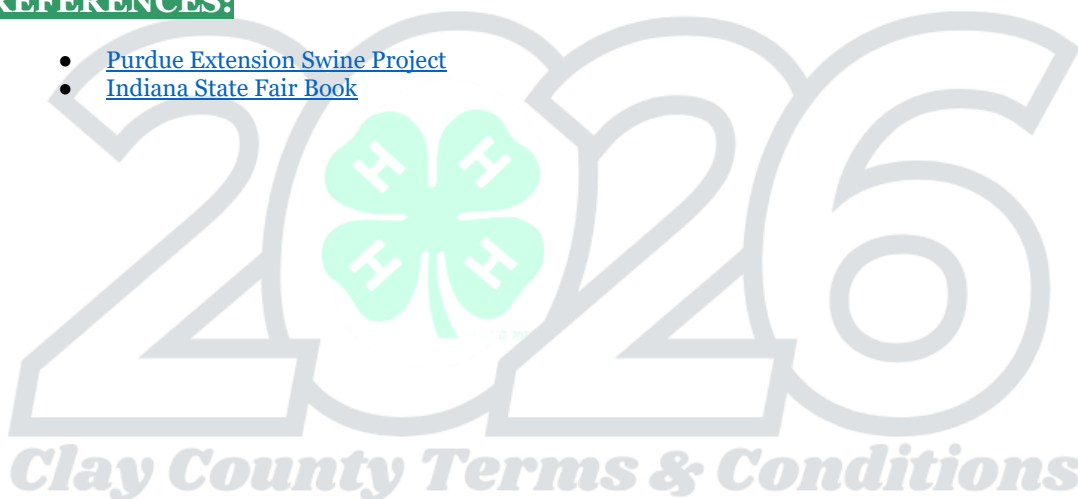
## CLAY COUNTY 4-H LIVESTOCK AUCTION:

**Minimum weight for market hogs to go through the auction is 200 pounds.** Exhibitors wishing to exhibit market animals weighing below 200 pounds must sign a release form acknowledging that their animal is not eligible for sale at the auction.

The livestock auction will be held at the conclusion of the fair. In order to participate, you must show an animal at the fair and designate an animal to go through the auction at fair check-in. A small auction fee percentage will be deducted from each member's check. Detailed auction information will be finalized closer to fair.

## REFERENCES:

- [Purdue Extension Swine Project](#)
- [Indiana State Fair Book](#)



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## IMPORTANT SWINE DATES:

<b>May 18, 2026</b>	Mini 4-Her's must be signed up to participate in the swine show.
<b>May 15, 2026</b>	Deadline to enroll swine online—Your enrollment will not be complete if your show animals are not identified online. Exhibitors who fail to register their animals online before the May 15th deadline will not be eligible to exhibit at the county or state fair.
<b>May 15, 2026</b>	DNA Samples must be returned to the office if going to the State Fair.
<b>July 1, 2026</b>	Fair Entry due on <a href="http://fairentry.com">fairentry.com</a> (where you will enter your show classes for the fair)
<b>TBD</b>	Deadline to register swine online for the State Fair.
<b>July 18 - 24, 2026</b>	Clay County Fair
<b>July 17, 2026</b>	Swine check-in at Clay County Fair
<b>July 18, 2026</b>	Swine check-in at Clay County Fair
<b>July 18, 2026</b>	Mini 4-H Swine Show
<b>July 22, 2026</b>	Swine show at Clay County Fair
<b>July 23, 2026 (9:00 PM)</b>	Swine released
<b>July 24, 2026</b>	Clay County livestock auction
<b>August 7 - 23, 2026</b>	Indiana State Fair

