

Show Time!

Basics of what to do before, during, and after the show

Prior to the Show

- Have them clipped before getting to the fairgrounds
- Wash before entering the arena (about an hour or two before you show-get all OIL off)
- Keep pen clean/clear of poop and urine
- Brush daily- brush/ spray with water before entering the arena (brush in the direction the hair is growing)
- Look at animal before entering the arena to determine if they need food/water (don't want a "pot belly look" but you don't want him to be drawn in either.

Clipping Show Hogs

- Wash Pig before clipping
- About 2-5 days before (depending on if you have to hold your pig) the show you will need to clip your pig so he has a fresh haircut.
- There is NO clipping at the fairgrounds so if you need help, contact me and I can do it.
(give me about a week notice so I can set my schedule up)

Exercise & Show Ring Training

- Enter the ring with everything you need
 - brush- used to keep animal clean
 - Show stick
 - Rag (if the pig has diarrhea)
- Silence is golden-- You shouldn't be hitting the pig so hard it makes a whipping noise
- A show pig should be trained and physically fit. Train your pig to drive and turn when you ask so that you will be able to present your pig to the judge in a smooth, easy going manner. Do NOT let your pig run (at home or in the show ring) allowing them to run could injure them and cause the judge to overlook your pig when entering the arena. Train them at home to walk, where YOU want them to go. Just following behind your pig for 15-20 minutes every day just keeping him moving isn't the type of training he needs to be successful. Pick a landmark in your practice arena and practice driving to it giving all of the views (butt view, chest view, side view) A good physically fit show pig should be able to walk for about 30-40 minutes without getting tired. Having a good conditioned pig could be the difference between 1st place and 2nd place!

Things to do in the Show Ring

- Look at the judge at all times- glance at your hog/ use peripheral vision to see where you are going and where you need to move your pig.
- Work slow and steady- you may be in the ring for a while, don't get too worked up where you and the animal are exhausted within 10 minutes. Drive hard when the judge is looking and back off when he is viewing other pigs.
- Stay out of the crowd, away from the fence, and out of corners.
- Enter promptly when your class is called (don't be late!)

Things NOT to do in the Show Ring

- Never cross between the pig and the judge!
- Don't be TOO serious where you look like you aren't having fun. But don't be TOO relaxed where it looks like you don't care.
- Do not get right on TOP of the judge- find a "hole" in the crowd (that is still in front of the judge) and show your animal there.
- If the pig is moving good, then don't use your show stick, sometimes we get nervous and overuse the stick in the show ring.
- Do NOT have oil, paint, powder, etc. on your pig when it enters the arena (WATER ONLY)
- Never stop showing unless the judge tells you to stop

What is showmanship?

- Exhibiting an animal to the judge in a competitive manner
- Judging YOUR ability to present the animal
- In your weight/breed class they are judging the hog only, showmanship it is all about YOU
- Keep your cool if your animal gets frustrated or tired (a lot of times showmanship is at the end of the day so they are tired, you are tired, and it could get ugly if you let it. Stay calm!

You and your Animal

- Both should be cleaned up and neat
- No hats or gum!
- Nice button down shirt, nice blue jeans (without holes)
- Clip or have animal clipped properly