

2026 Fundamentals of Running MI Pigs Sanctioned Show

Facility

- Allow plenty of time to reserve your pavilion or fairgrounds, etc
- Bleachers/Seating space available
- Restrooms available close by (may need to rent “port-a-potties”)
- Parking space to “show off the trailer” or stall space available? Fee?
- PA/Announcement system tested & working properly, OR system to notify exhibitors if none is available.
- Staging/Holding area for livestock to be lined up for classes.
- Appropriate lighting for evening shows or supplemental lighting for darkened arenas
- Wash Rack available?
- Power supply adequate for Blowers? Fee? Bring generators?

Show Ring

- Show ring perimeter (gating) appropriate for the size of the animal being shown
- Has the Ring been properly graded, rocks removed, and shavings added?
- Functioning fans/cooling system for the show ring area
- Highly recommended to spray shavings down with water throughout the show to cut down on DUST

Volunteers

- Select a volunteer to help in the ring to move animals if needed. Hog Hurdles (Ring Steward)
- Have a person lining up animals so that the next class is ready (in the make-up or holding area)
- Have an announcer. Have the Judge bio/ sponsor list, etc, prepared in advance
- Have someone record the results of each class (clerking),
- Separate person entering results into the recording-keeping program (double-checking results)
- If needed, have a volunteer at the entrance and exit gate to open and close the gate
- Manure is removed from the showing area during the shows

General

- Ribbons/awards/cash are sorted ahead of time for easy dispersal.
- Sponsored items should include the donor's name & mailing address on the item for writing a thank you note
- Announce show/award sponsors frequently.
- Make sure the judge and volunteers have access to water or other beverages.
- Have a photo backdrop available that is clean and well-maintained.
- Check-in/Entry procedures ensure tracking of the animal identification (840 TAGS)

Show Management

- Contact and Contract with judges ASAP (as soon as facility is rented with date, time & address)

- Share reasons for the event
- Are sponsors local?
- What is your payback plan? Are prizes based upon exhibitor entry fees?

What do Youth Events Create?

- Positive experiences
- Lifelong AG supporters
- FUN!
- Lifelong friends!
- Different competition.
- Combines the community and AG beyond Fair week.

Economics:

- Promotional Plan
- Facility
- Community-Restaurants
- Food Trucks, etc.
- Record Keeping System
- Showman app
- NOT paper & Pencil!!

Education:

- Exhibitors learning from others
- Maximizing potential
- Investment
- Expands competition
- Families make memories/experiences beyond just the fair week (traveling, what to pack, support system, etc.)
- Volunteers /support staff have more experience

Michigan Sanctioning groups:

MI Pigs: Dawnel Antrup

mipigsinfo@gmail.com

www.mipork.org/mi-pigs

Facebook: [MI Pigs Youth Challenge](#)

MI Pigs: Brian Hines

MI Pigs: Brady Littlefield

MI Pigs: Wendy Boekskoel

MI Pigs Guest: Nathan Smith

MI Pigs Guest: Sarah Black