

Swine Showmanship Beyond the Resource Book

Food Animal Quality Assurance

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#1 What we have learned! And you have to accept!

Judges and their opinions are always
subject to change!



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Where does swine showmanship start?



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Swine Showmanship starts with:

- A. Some selection – Your pig has to walk

- B. A healthy and happy pig – (through the whole process)

- C. Most importantly – Bonding with that pig and building trust!



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What's your movement instrument?

AKA "Show Stick"



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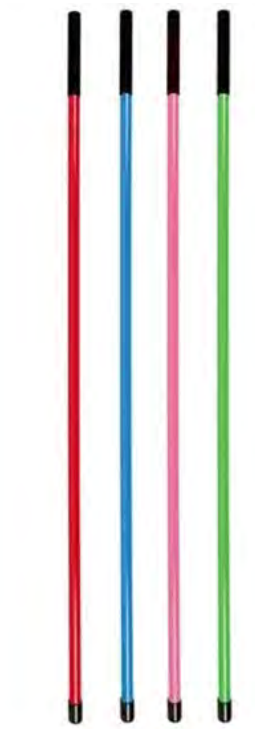




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Celeste Laurent Harned



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Whips



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Whips



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In your bonding/trust sessions, get them use to your whip/pipe!

Smell, Chew on it etc.!

Then move to gently using it in the pen.



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#2 Make the first time and every time out of the pen a positive one!

- Be calm and patient – don't force them out the door/gate
- Use a small area first
 - Isle way, another pen
- Take time
 - Treats, brushing, smelling the new space, building trust outside of pen

***Then take another “small step” to the outdoors!



#3 Walk your pig

- Walk 2 times a day (at least once)
- Build endurance – get to 30 to 40 minutes
- Train to walk with their head up/level – not too high – you want it natural
- Practice around other pigs – ?Another show?
- Practice with someone being the “judge”
- Practice getting in and out of the trailer
- Walk around vehicles/obstacles
- Don't let them run out of the barn
- Take a different path each time

#4 Pig Care

- Wash your pig at home – use mild soap and rinse well
- Keep pen clean
- Be aware that pigs can get sunburn
- Treat for parasites
- Good feed
- Provide fresh clean water
- Heat lamp and straw to keep warm when young
- Fan to keep cool if hot
- Play music in barn



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More Equipment Needed

- Small Pocket Brush
- “Show” Rag to fit in your pocket
- Spray bottle – for show prep, holding or placing pens only



At the Show

- Exercise daily and don't change routine
- Feed and water – never show a hungry pig
- Have a clean pig – decide when is the best time is to wash and keep the pen clean
- Make sure you have your equipment
- If your lucky and your not in the first class, go watch and listen to the judge!
- Don't be late for your class
- Dress for success!



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Holding Pen

- Make a quick check of cleanliness – brush done if needed
- Spray pig down with water
- Push pig up to gate
 - Head to the opening
 - Side view to judge
- Locate judge, begin eye contact, and crouch down behind pig
- Don't let your pig lay down



Entering Ring

- When directed, open gate and direct pig toward judge gently
- Shut gate behind you
- Find your pig and begin
 - Do you know what your white pig looks like in a “sea” of other white pigs?



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In the Ring

- Keep your pig moving
- Keep your pig's head up but not too high
- Keep a distance of about 15-20 feet from the judge
- Always keep the pig between you and the judge
- Have good eye contact with the judge while watching your pig





In the Ring

- Keep in the judge's site and find the open spaces. Try to avoid the "pack" and anticipate the judge's next move
- Be ready for questions about your pig (good and bad traits) or anything swine related
- Show from the side to the hip of your pig
- Tap only neck to right behind shoulder



In the Ring

- Don't over use whip or tube
- Switch hands on your whip/tube when needed – don't reach across your pig with your opposite hand
- Use a slow pace
- If your pig gets dirty (or the judge touches the pig) brush it down
- Use your rag to wipe/clean any poop on your pig



In the Ring

- Have a relaxed, upright, natural, posture



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In the Ring

- Show stance



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In the Ring

- Give different views
 - Work your pig - Side to side and front (chest view) to back (ham view)
- You don't want this to happen but - If you get stuck in the corner or on the rail don't be afraid to use your hands/knee to move the pig away from it

Have Fun and Never Give Up!



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Penning

- If asked to pen the pig, drive the pig straight to the pen
- If your pig gets away, shut the pen and try again
- Brush pig down – spray pig down
- Show side of pig to judge with head toward gate opening, crouch down, keep eye contact, don't relax
- When leaving latch pen gate behind you



Other

- Obstacle courses /chairs
- Switch pigs
 - Switch show instruments
 - Check animal for dirt



Dress For Success

- Nice jeans
- Boots or leather sturdy shoes
- Tucked in, ironed, collared shirt
 - Long sleeve preferred

No's – t-shirt, hat, large jewelry, low cut shirts, latest western wear, hair in your eyes



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Dress For Success



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Win or Loose

Shake the judge's hand.

Congratulate the winner or be gracious in your win.

Never be a sore loser or a boisterous winner.



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