

# Judge Along



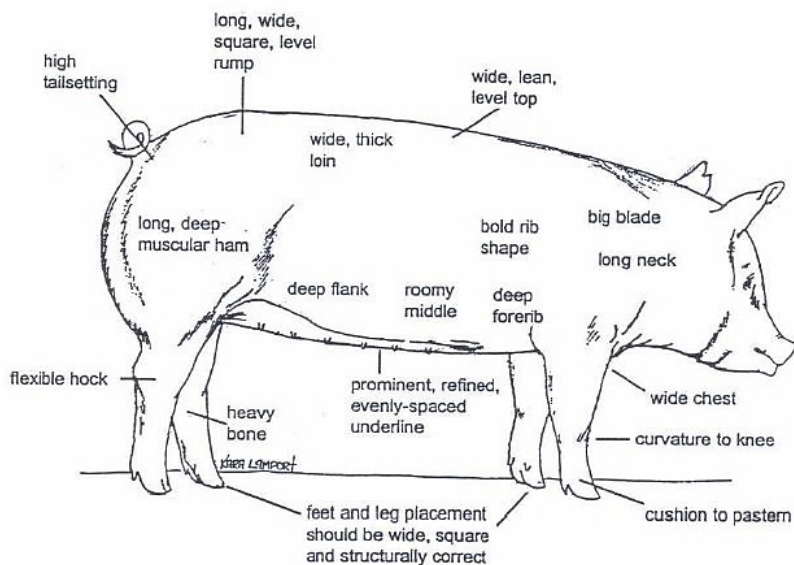
## ◆ SWINE

### What a Judge might look for in Swine:

- ◆ Degree of muscling- the best indicators of degree are, thickness through the center of the hams, the width at the ground between the feet when the animal is standing and walking, and an evaluation of shape over the top (or loin).
- ◆ Growth- you can evaluate growth simply based on the weight of the animals in the class.
- ◆ Capacity or volume - is determined by body width, depth, and length, as well as how well these three factors fit together (balance)
- ◆ Degree of leanness- is best evaluated by looking for indentations over and behind the shoulders and at the ham-loin junction, and by looking for the presence of a dimple just in front of the tailhead.
- ◆ Structure and soundness- attention should be given to the feet and pasterns, hocks, knees, rump, and the shoulders.

### What a Judge might look for in the show ring:

- ◆ Showmanship includes general appearance, especially cleanliness of the animal and exhibitor's ability to control and maneuver swine throughout the show ring.
- ◆ Exhibitors slowly walk and turn the hog to show off to the judge. Present all the angles to highlight the best advantage of the hog to the judge.
- ◆ The exhibitor turns and moves the pig by tapping the shoulder or under the jaw with a variety of tools called whip, pipe, or cane.
- ◆ Alert showman will mist their hogs with water to keep cool and will brush off any dirt that may get on the hog.
- ◆ A great showman will be alert and courteous to other exhibitors and always pay attention to both animals and to the judge.



<u>Your Choice:</u>	<u>Judge's Decision:</u>
1 <sup>st</sup> _____	1 <sup>st</sup> _____
2 <sup>nd</sup> _____	2 <sup>nd</sup> _____
3 <sup>rd</sup> _____	3 <sup>rd</sup> _____
4 <sup>th</sup> _____	4 <sup>th</sup> _____
5 <sup>th</sup> _____	5 <sup>th</sup> _____

## Did you know...

- ♦ Newborn piglets learn to run to their mothers' voices and can recognize their own names by the time they're 2 weeks old.
- ♦ Pigs are navigators and can run at speeds of up to 11mph.
- ♦ Pigs do not have sweat glands, meaning they are unable to sweat. Instead, to cool themselves down, pigs enjoy wallowing in mud.
- ♦ A pig's squeal can be as loud as 115 decibels – that's 3 decibels higher than the sound of a supersonic airliner.
- ♦ Pigs communicate constantly with each other, and more than 20 different vocalizations have been identified: from wooing a mate to saying 'I'm hungry!
- ♦ A pig's sense of smell is by far their strongest sense almost 2000 times more sensitive than humans.
- ♦ Pigs are some of the cleanest animals around and refuse to defecate where they sleep and eat if given the choice.

## Breeds you may see around the Fairgrounds. Can you spot them?

- Berkshire – Black with white feed, some white on face and white switch on tail. Erect ears.
- Chester White - White with short floppy ears.
- Duroc – Brown with droopy years.
- Hampshire - Black with white belt.
- Hereford – red body color with white face, underline of legs, and switch of tail.
- Landrace – white with very droopy ears to nose.
- Poland China –Black with 6 white points, blazed white face, and white tip of tail.
- Spotted Poland China - White with black spots / or vice versa. Droopy ears.
- Yorkshire – white with erect ears



## Test Your Knowledge

1. When ear notching a pig using the universal system, the left ear represents the pig's litter number. **True or False**
2. In the show ring the pig should always be between the show person and the judge. **True or False**
3. A castrated male pig called Boar. **True or False**
4. Pigs are ruminants. **True or False**
5. A small hand brush and rag are essential while showing a pig. **True or False**