

OFFICIAL 2026 CLARK COUNTY FAIR PIG SCRAMBLE RULES

Sponsored by the Clark County Agricultural Society and Contributors

Fair Board Committee Members in Charge:

Greg Kaffenbarger, Stuart Waddle, Andy Eberhard, Justin Mattern, Brian Waddle, Levi Kimley, Emily Bumgardner, Todd Bumgardner

The Clark County Agricultural Society, Vocational Agriculture Departments, OSU Extension - Clark County and the Committees in Charge will not be responsible for any accidents connected with this event.

2026 Applicant Rules:

1. Qualifications:

- A. Must be girls between the ages of 13-18. Must have reached her 13th birthday by July 24, 2026, and not reached her 19th birthday by December 31, 2026. **Qualifications on age 18 – she must have one year of high school to complete after the fair and be age eligible to enroll as a 4-H or FFA member to participate in Junior Fair.**
- B. Be interested in pig feeding.
- C. Be reliable and trustworthy.
- D. Must be able to feed and care for the pig from **April 2027 Scramble pig selection and pickup through 2027 Fair Scramble animal release at the Fair.**
- E. Currently carrying a 4-H or FFA project.
- F. Must designate in which youth organization (4-H or FFA) the scramble pig project will be enrolled in the following year.
- G. Must submit an on-line application with an **1800-2250-character** essay (**300-350 words**) on **“Why I Would like to participate in the Pig Scramble” no later than midnight on June 1, 2026.** On-line applications include digital acknowledgement of rules and minor release agreement by the applicant and her parents/legal guardians. Scan the QR Code or go to <https://go.osu.edu/2026clarkcofairpigscrambleapplication> to access the on-line survey application.
- H. Must include a Letter of Recommendation from an adult that is a non-immediate family member that shares how the applicant's experience and support network can successfully care for a Scramble pig. **Letter of recommendation may be e-mailed to Laura Sharp at laura@clarkcoag.com or mailed to the Clark County Ag. Society, 4401 S. Charleston Rd., Springfield, OH 45502 and must be received by close of business on June 1, 2026.**



2. **Previous Participants:** If you caught a pig in a past scramble, you **ARE NOT** eligible to reapply.

3. Attire Requirements and Restrictions:

- A. Each girl must wear a football helmet. Helmets must be provided by the contestant's parents/legal guardians.
- B. Girls must wear the t-shirt provided by the Clark County Pork Council.
- C. Shoes and long pants will be allowed.
- D. Body piercing jewelry **MAY NOT** be worn during the scramble contest.

4. Pig Scramble Contest Procedures:

- A. Girls and pigs will be placed in the arena as directed by the Arena Director.
- B. If a girl has hold of a pig, no other girl will be allowed to touch the pig until it breaks away.
- C. If a girl catches the pig by the tail, she shall be given a reasonable amount of time (approximately 30 seconds) to work around to its head, otherwise, the referee will order her to let go of the pig.
- D. If two or more girls catch the same pig, the pig will be let loose.
- E. Girls must take the pig to center circle to win the pig.
- F. At any time, a pig(s) breaks out of arena all pigs not caught must remain loose and the scramble starts over. Pigs in possession will not be turned loose.

5. Pig Scramble Officials:

- A. The Pig Scramble will be judged by a group of not less than six referees selected by the Committee in Charge.
- B. Referee (judge) decision final on time and forward progress. (Approximately 20 minutes to get to the winner's circle).
- C. Undue roughness will not be tolerated by the referee.
- D. Poor sportsmanship automatically disqualifies any contestants.

6. Selection and Notification:

- A. After all on-line applications have been reviewed by the Scramble Selection Committee, each applicant will be notified of her acceptance or not as a participant.
- B. Only completed applications will be reviewed. A completed application includes: the entire on-line application with required essay and digital signatures of parents and applicants, letter of recommendation from an ADULT that is a non-immediate family member that can describe the applicant's ability to care for a scramble pig and her support network to be successful in raising a Scramble pig to exhibit at the following year's Clark County Fair.

7. Scramble Meeting Requirements:

- A. Each selected contestant must participate in a Scramble Meeting held during the Clark County Fair.
- B. **EACH CONTESTANT MUST PROVIDE A CURRENT DOCTOR'S PHYSICAL EXAMINATION IN WRITING BEFORE PARTICIPATING IN THE 2026 PIG SCRAMBLE DUE AT THE SCRAMBLE MEETING DURING THE FAIR.** This may be submitted prior to the required scramble meeting or at the meeting.
- C. Each selected contestant and his parent(s)/legal guardian(s) **WILL BE REQUIRED TO READ AND SIGN a hardcopy of the Pig Scramble Minor's Release and any EMS Release provided by the Emergency Medical facility working** the event at the scramble meeting. Make sure your parents are present.

8. Pig Scramble Winners:

- A. Girls winning pigs through the Pig Scramble will receive a pig to bring back to the 2027 Fair for show in a special class. These pigs cannot be entered in the regular Jr. Fair market pig shows.
- B. Girls that catch a Scramble pig will be eligible to show the maximum pigs permitted as a 4-H or FFA member and a Scramble pig.
- C. Scramble pigs remain the property of the Clark Co. Fair **until completion of the show when the scramble pig becomes the possession of the exhibitor.**
- D. The Fair Board retains the right to view the animals at any time and the right to remove any animal when deemed the circumstances are detrimental to the welfare of the animal.
- E. The Pig Scramble Committee will notify winners in the Spring of the pick-up date for the Scramble pigs at the Clark County Fairgrounds.
- F. Must register her scramble pig using the 2027 Clark County Jr. Fair On-Line entry system by May 15, 2027.
- G. Must show her scramble pig in the 2027 Clark County Fair Scramble Pig Class(s).

9. Scramble Cancellation:

- A. If the Scramble is cancelled due to severe weather, then all participants who have already been awarded an animal in the center of the ring will retain the animals.
- B. All other animals will be released and then awarded via a lottery system among remaining participants.

2025 Pig Scramble Winner Requirements for Showing in the 2026 Clark County Fair Scrambles

1. Registration Requirements:

- A. The pig caught in the 2025 Clark County Jr. Fair Pig Scramble must be enrolled as a regular project in 4-H or FFA in 2026 as designated on the application.
- B. Register Scramble pig by midnight May 15, 2026, using the 2026 Clark Co. Jr. Fair On-Line entry system. Go to <http://clarkohjrfair.fairentry.com> to enter your scramble market hog. **You must upload 2 photos as well – one must be a side profile and the other one must be a head shot showing the ear notches and Scramble tag.**

2. Show Requirements:

- A. The Scramble pig must be shown in the 2026 Clark County Jr. Fair Scramble Only Class(s) on Sunday, July 26.
- B. The Scramble pig may be shown in the County Farrowed Show, but it is the responsibility of the exhibitor to register for the County Farrowed Show as part of the Clark County Jr. Fair On-line entry system.
- C. Scramble pigs are not eligible for the Overall Champion Market Hog, Overall Reserve Champion Market Hog or Top 5 Market Hogs Overall, because the scramble pigs are not owned by the exhibitor, but by the Clark County Agricultural Society.

3. Sell Requirements:

- A. All Scramble pigs become possession of the exhibitor upon completion of their show and are an auction eligible project (live or on-lin).
- B. The Champion and Reserve Champion Scramble Pig must sell in the Sale of Champions and go to harvest at Copey's Butcher Shop.

4. Awards and Prizes:

- A. The Clark County Agricultural Society will award the following prize money in lieu of a scholarship to the winners of the Scramble Pig Contest at the 2026 Fair:
 - 1st Place - \$50.00
 - 2nd Place - \$25.00
 - 3rd Place - \$15.00

5. Scramble Pig Exhibitor Sponsor Sign:

- A. Current Scramble exhibitors must design a Donor Sponsor Sign and display above her pen by 8 AM, Sat., July 25.
- B. Signs will be judged on Saturday, and awards will be presented during the scramble class at the Market Hog Show on Sunday, July 20
 - 1st Place - \$100.00
 - 2nd Place - \$50.00
 - 3rd Place - \$25.00

6. Care of Scramble Animals at Fair:

- A. Scramble pigs must be kept clean and cared for during the entire Clark County Fair.
- B. Pens must be kept clean by the exhibitor during the entire Clark County Fair.
- C. Exhibitors in violation will not be allowed to sell in the Jr. Fair Livestock Auction.