

Tom Swain Showmanship Contest Rules

1. Eligible showman will be the first and second place members of the expert showmanship class of 4-H beef, 4-H swine, 4-H sheep, 4-H dairy and 4-H goats, with the only exception to this rule being 4-H Goats representatives will be the first place Dairy Goat showman and first place Meat Goat showman.
2. The show order each year will rotate from the bottom up. The first species from the year before will be last, the second will be first, and so on.
3. The only individuals allowed in the show make up area will be contestants, members of the Tom Swain Committee, 1 owner of the animal and 1 adult chosen by the contestant.
4. Contestants will be assigned animals to show by a random draw before the start of the show, with the exception of allowing them to show their own animal in the species they represent.
5. Contestants are not allowed to show their own animal in a species they are not representing. If the judges opt to switch animals during the contest and they receive their own animal in this manner, this is beyond the Tom Swain committees' control and will be allowed if it occurs.
6. Contestants will receive a minimum of 5 minutes in the make-up area with the animal owner and their chosen adult to discuss their animal prior to entering the ring.
7. Only a Grand Champion and a Reserve Grand Champion will be selected by the judge(s). Score cards will be kept confidential, and no placing will be revealed beyond the top 2.
8. Contestants and Parents (or other responsible adult) will be required to attend a meeting prior to the contest with Show Committee members.
9. Any discrepancies, disputes, or issues not specifically addressed in these rules shall be resolved at the sole discretion of the voting members of the Tom Swain Showmanship Committee, and all decisions of the Committee are final.

Show Committee Contact Info:

Joyce Holtkamp 812-614-1490 holtdjla4@msn.com

Heather Koors 812-614-1760 hkoors@gmail.com

Steve Gunn 812-593-0590 sgunn@sgcompanygroup.com

4H Project Leaders in Beef, Swine, Sheep, Dairy & Goats

Show Order:

2026: Beef, Dairy, Sheep, Swine, Goats

2027: Dairy, Sheep, Swine, Goats, Beef

2028: Sheep, Swine, Goats, Beef, Dairy

2029: Swine, Goats, Beef, Dairy, Sheep

2030: Goats, Beef, Dairy, Sheep, Swine