

NORTHWEST KANSAS DISTRICT FREE FAIR  
4-H CATCH-IT-PIG CONTEST/PROJECT

**RULES and REGULATIONS**

The Catch-It-Pig contest and project is cooperatively sponsored by the Northwest Kansas District Free Fair Board and K-State Research & Extension Sunflower Extension District #6 and is under the direct supervision of the Catch-It-Pig Superintendent and Committee.

The purpose of the contest and project is to provide a means whereby younger 4-H members may participate in catching, caring for and showing an animal at the county fair. Emphasis will be placed on educating the member on all aspects of the swine industry as well as ongoing participation in the swine project.

It is to be understood that the Catch-It-Pig Committee will not tolerate unethical practices or violation of the rules. If violations of the rules have occurred, prize money can be withheld.

Attendance at a mandatory meeting is required in order to exhibit at the Northwest Kansas District Free Fair. Contestants who catch a pig at the contest will be given ample notification of the meeting. At that meeting, 4-H members and parents will be given further instruction regarding the rules and expectations of the Catch-It-Pig Project.

The rules and regulations are those of the Catch-It-Pig Committee and their decision on all matters is final.

The Northwest Kansas District Free Fair Board, K-State Research & Extension Sunflower Extension District #6 and the Catch-It-Pig Committee will not be responsible for any accident or injury connected with this contest.

Contestants catching a pig:

- A. Must enroll in the 4-H Catch-It-Pig project for the current 4-H year
- B. Will be given a pig in the spring of the current 4-H year
- C. Must be a 4-H member in good standing by November 1 of the current 4-H year
- D. Must abide by all rules governing market swine for fair exhibits
- E. Must assume the responsibility of feeding the pig according to the rules
- F. Must bring the animal to fair in show condition
- G. Must fit and show the animal in the Catch-It-Pig class at the fair
- H. Must make written reports of the project's progress
- I. Must complete all sponsor letters by the designated deadlines
- J. Must complete the Catch-It-Pig record book
- K. Must attend a majority of the Catch-It-Pig project meetings and make up those missed

### APPLICATION DEADLINE

Completed application including signatures must be received no later than the day of the NWKS District Free Fair parade of the current year. Applications are available at the Sherman County Extension Office. Day of the contest applications are not eligible.

### ELIGIBILITY AND AGE REQUIREMENTS

The contest is open to all Sherman County youth 7-13 years of age as of January 1 of the current 4-H fair year. Contestants may not be currently enrolled in the 4-H swine project or have sold a pig at a Northwest Kansas District Free Fair livestock sale.

4-H members who have participated in the Catch-It-Pig Contest and Project previously are not eligible to enter.

Contestants must have written consent of the parents/guardian and must have submitted a signed application prior to the deadline.

### SPONSOR INFORMATION

Following the contest you will be notified by letter who is sponsoring your pig.

You are required to write your sponsor four (4) letters during the year.

- A. Letter 1 Deadline: within two weeks after receiving the pig
- B. Letter 2 Deadline: May 15
- C. Letter 3 Deadline: July 15
- D. Letter 4 Deadline: August 15

Sponsor letters should include what you are doing with your pig, how your pig did at the fair, how much money you made. Thank your sponsors for their involvement in the Catch-It-Pig Program. A copy of each letter must be sent to the Catch-It-Pig Superintendent and also included in your record book in order for you to receive credit.

You are required to have two (2) personal contact meetings with your sponsor during the year.

### RECORD KEEPING

You will receive a Catch-It-Pig record book from the Superintendent when enrollment requirements are met for the 4-H year.

A complete cost record of feeding the pig must be kept.

When the pig is sold each 4-H member will complete a financial report and write a story about their experience in his or her Catch-It-Pig Record Book. A KAP will not be required for the Catch-It-Pig Project record. Complete record books will be due to the Catch-It-Pig Superintendent on or before the date the Sherman County 4-H KAP records are due.

An overall winner will be chosen. Consideration will be given for the quality and completeness of the record book.

A monetary penalty will be made for failure to write letters to the sponsors in the amount of \$25.00 each. Incomplete record book penalty of \$50.00 will be assessed.

### CONTEST RULES

The contest will be held during the Northwest Kansas District Free Fair at during the swine show on Wednesday of Fair at the Sherman County Fairgrounds.

Small pigs will be placed in the pen. Contestants will be required to catch a pig and unassisted carry the animal to the trailer.

If a contestant has hold of a pig, no other contestant will be allowed to touch the pig. If two or more contestants catch a pig at the same time, the pig will be turned loose.

The pigs caught at the contest will not be the pigs raised by the contestant. Pigs will be delivered in the spring.

### RAISING/SHOWING/SELLING THE PIG

The Catch-It-Pig Committee will select uniform pigs of good quality and size in the spring.

The pigs will be weighed, tagged, and vaccinated by the committee prior to delivery to the contestant.

When you receive your pig, you will place it on a ration that will produce a choice grade pig at the fair. All members of the Catch-It-Pig project will feed the same ration to provide for uniformity within the project. The financial terms and conditions of the feed purchases will be worked out individually between the Superintendent and the member.

Pigs will be weighed by the committee at the beginning of the project. You must bring the pig to the 4-H weigh-in as a check of their progress and condition. The pig will be required to have an ear tag. Should the tag be lost, the Superintendent must be notified immediately and a replacement tag will be put in.

Periodic inspection of the pigs will be made by the Catch-It-Pig Superintendent. The committee reserves the right to take the pig away from a member who does not abide by the rules. If a pig is taken away, no allowance will be made for the replacement, feed, or labor.

It is agreed and understood that ownership of the pig will be joint ownership between the contestant and the Catch-It-Pig Committee. These pigs will not be allowed to be sold, traded, or disposed of except by the consent of the Catch-It-Pig Committee. In the case of the death of a pig or one that becomes diseased, the Catch-It-Pig Committee must be notified immediately. The loss will be borne by the 4-H member. Optional animal insurance, if used, is to be the financial responsibility of the 4-H member.

In the event of death of a pig prior to the 4-H weigh in date, replacement of pig will be handled on an individual case basis. Decision will be determined by the Catch-It-Pig Committee.

Pigs will be exhibited in a special Catch-It-Pig class at the fair. The top two placings in the class will be eligible to show for Overall Champion and Reserve Champion. Prize money will be awarded by the NWKS District Free Fair board just as in any other project.

Pigs will be sold in the 4-H Livestock sale. The 4-H member will collect the premium monies in the same manner as all other 4-H members who sell livestock. The 4-H member will be responsible to pay any fees associated with shipment of the animal.

COMPANION PIG: Because pigs do not do well if raised alone, it is suggested that the member house the pig with another 4-H member or sibling's pig. If this option is not available, the 4-H member should plan to purchase a "companion pig" to raise along with the Catch-It-Pig. This expense is the responsibility of the member. The companion pig can be shown, but is not eligible to be sold through the 4-H Livestock Sale. Individual buyers will be sought out by the committee or the member may choose to have the animal butchered for personal use. It is suggested that the 4-H member purchase the companion pig from the same breeder as the Catch-It-Pig is purchased from.

#### CATCH-IT-PIG PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

Contestants who catch a pig will participate in the scheduled Catch-It-Pig project meetings. These meetings are designed to provide education and hands on experience related to the swine industry. Specific information on feeding, caring for, necessary equipment, and showing of the pig will be provided.

Project meetings will include, but not be limited to: identification, equipment, housing/shelter, feeding, showing, and record book/paperwork completion.

Catch-It-Pig Superintendent may be contacted at any time there are questions.

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