

NORTH AMERICAN INTERCOLLEGIATE Dairy Challenge™ *Tomorrow's Dairy Leaders* SOUTHERN REGIONAL

September 23, 2014

RE: NAIDC 9th Annual Southern Regional Dairy Challenge
November 16 – 18, 2014 in Salisbury, North Carolina

Dear Dairy Challenge Coach:

Based on your previously expressed interest and on behalf of the Southern Regional Committee of the North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge, it's our pleasure to invite your school to participate in the 9th Annual Southern Regional Dairy Challenge. The event will be held in Salisbury, North Carolina on November 16 -18. This year's event will be hosted by North Carolina State University.

We have attached an entry form along with this letter. The entry form, schedule, rules booklet and required waivers will also be available online at www.dairychallenge.org

This letter contains important information about participation in the Southern Regional Dairy Challenge. Please review it carefully.

New this year:

- **Students will be allowed to use their own computers for this Southern Regional contest.** As such, each student is encouraged to bring their own computer for their use during the event.
- **Students will be allowed to use the internet during the Southern Regional contest.**

Note: Each school is asked to bring at least ONE (1) university laptop computer. University computers will be loaded with the herd data in both PCDART and DairyComp 305 programs and will be used by aggregate teams and judges panels; students may use their own personal computers to prepare presentation material and load material from Contest Data USB. Please review the [Computer Requirements](#) posted on the Southern page before you come for additional details.

Like last year:

- This year's contest is being held Sunday-Tuesday.
- An awards program will be held immediately following end of the contest. As such, contest activities will end by 3:30 pm on Tuesday giving schools the opportunity to travel home on Tuesday night. If your school is not able to complete your trip home, funds will be available to defray the cost of your rooms on Tuesday night. Please indicate your need for Tuesday night hotel funds by checking "Tuesday" by "Room Nights Needed" on the accompanying Entry Form.
- We will be using one farm with 2 panels of judges.

Participation

- This event is open to all schools in the Southern region and adjacent states.
- Priority will be given to schools whose faculty advisors have expressed interest in participating. Completed entries will receive priority by postmark if contest size limits are reached.
- Schools are limited to up to 6 participants but 2 alternates may be identified should we have fewer than 75 students.
- Due to deadlines imposed by the hotel for rooming lists and to ensure the contest flows smoothly, no changes may be made to students participating after October 17, 2014. Please note this date and plan accordingly.
- Students will again be presented with the goals or changes the farm is considering; student recommendations should reflect these goals/changes. The students also need to assess whether these are the best goals for this particular farm.

Registration

Registration forms and entry fees are due by **Friday, October 17, 2014.**

- Return to: NAIDC - Southern Region Contest
Attn: Ann Marie Magnochi
3310 Latham Drive
Madison, WI 53713
Phone: 608-224-0400
Fax: 608-224-0300
Email: amagnochi@wdexpo.com
Entry Fee: \$50.00

Make check payable to: North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge or NAIDC.

Housing

Room reservations will be made by Dairy Challenge upon receipt of the entry form. All participants will be staying at Comfort Suites Salisbury, 1040 East Innes Street, Salisbury, NC 28144, Phone: (704) 630-0065 Fax: (704) 797-8878, www.salisburycs.com

Rooms will be provided at no extra charge for each participating team:

- 1 room(s) for female participants
- 1 room(s) for male participants
- 1 room(s) for coach(es)

Please note, in order to keep costs down and to facilitate interactions, participants may be placed in rooms with participants (same gender) from other schools. Coaches may also be similarly paired.

- Room reservations will be for the nights of Sunday, November 16 and Monday November 17. If your school is not able to complete your trip home on Tuesday November 18, funds will be available to defray the cost of your rooms on Tuesday night. Please indicate your need for Tuesday night hotel funds by checking "Tuesday" by "Room Nights Needed" on the accompanying Entry Form.
- Hotel check-in begins at 3PM and registration will be from 4-5 PM.
- You should plan to arrive no later than 4:30 p.m. on Sunday afternoon. The committee is asking your team to deliver computers to the hotel between 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. so computers are ready for data distribution at approximately 8:30 p.m. Sunday night activities begin at 6:00 pm with dinner, contest welcome, group activity and data distribution.

Transportation

If you consider flying to the Southern Dairy Challenge, your best options are:

- Charlotte/Douglas International Airport = 45 minutes
- Raleigh Durham International Airport = 2 hours

Ride share options: Contact us if you would like help connecting with other universities who might have room in their van.

Funds for travel assistance are usually not provided but can be considered if a hardship exists and sufficient funds are available. The Regional Steering Committee will decide how funds are distributed. Please notify us if your school is in need of travel assistance. Please indicate your need for Tuesday night hotel room funds on the attached entry form.

Meals

Meals will be provided for one coach and officially registered team members:

November 16 (Sunday): Dinner

November 17 (Monday): Breakfast, lunch, and dinner

November 18 (Tuesday): Breakfast and lunch

Additional meals for extra people will have to be paid for at the time of registration. Should you have a member needing a special diet, please include this information with the contest entry form.

A confirmation letter with more contest details will be sent upon receipt of your registration material. Final communication will follow in early November with the last minute details. We look forward to your participation in this exciting and innovative contest.

Sincerely,

Steve Washburn
Southern Regional Dairy Challenge
Schools Contact

Dave Whitlock
Southern Regional Dairy Challenge
Steering Committee Chair