



January 17, 2014

The 9th Annual Western Regional Dairy Challenge will be held in Tulare, CA, February 27 – March 1, 2014. Entry, Skill Assessment, Personal Information Waiver, and Liability Waiver forms are attached and are also available online at the National Dairy Challenge website www.dairychallenge.org under Regional Contests, West. Please fill out and return all forms by January 29th to the address noted on the form.

This year all program events, lunch and dinner meals will be held at the College of the Sequoias – Tulare Center (COS), located at 4999 E. Bardsley Ave., Tulare, CA. Hotel rooms will be at the Hampton Inn & Suites, located at 1100 N. Cherry St, Tulare, CA (breakfasts included). The campus is an easy four miles from the hotel. Please check your team in at the hotel by 3 p.m. Thursday to allow time to travel to COS. Contest events begin at 4 p.m. Thursday, February 27th, with a Team Building Program and a presentation by Top of Morn Farms. Presentations will be prepared on Friday afternoon and presented on Saturday morning – also at COS. We are planning to complete the contest by 2 p.m. Saturday.

Hotel rooms and meals for all students and coaches at the contest are provided, complements of contest sponsorships. The Challenge will also cover up to an additional \$1,200 in travel costs to be used at your discretion. Please provide receipts within 10 days after the contest. **Contest management will make all the necessary hotel reservations for your team and yourself.** This will consist of a room for students on Thursday and Friday. Coaches will share rooms assigned by contest management staff. Please note that rooms will be reserved using the student names provided on your registration form; please inform contest management staff of any student changes prior to the contest to minimize check-in confusion. If you do not need all the rooms that have been reserved, it is your responsibility to notify the contest management staff at least 3 days prior to the contest in order to have the rooms cancelled. If you fail to notify us, you will be responsible for the unused rooms. If your team is unable to return to your home campus for Saturday night because of flight schedules, this night will also be covered at a hotel of your choice, with the cost per room not to exceed \$90 (per cost room in Tulare).

The official three-day contest event schedule will be provided in early February. Contest rules are available at the NAIDC website and your students should be aware of the rules and scorecard. Laptop computers are being graciously provided by COS. Each university should still bring at least 1 laptop computer.

We are very excited about the contest and are eager to hear your student's response. As we develop future contests, we also want your input to improve student's educational experience. The Western Regional Dairy Challenge Committee looks forward to meeting you and your team!

Sincerely,

Western Regional Dairy Challenge Committee