

Dear Dairy Challenge Coach:

On behalf of the Midwest Regional Committee of the North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge, it is our pleasure to invite your school to participate in the 12th Annual Midwest Dairy Challenge. The event will be held February 17-19, 2016 and hosted by Southwest Technical College and the University of Wisconsin-Platteville in Platteville, Wisconsin. The 2016 contest will take place Wednesday through Friday.

New this year:

- Registration is now online. This is the *only* method of registration. Registration fees can be paid using a credit card at the time of registration, or there is an option to pay with a check as in years past. <u>Team registration</u> <u>closes December 11</u>. Registration is available here https://www.eventbrite.com/e/midwest-regional-dairy-challenge-registration-19546746846
- Coaches do not have to collect and submit student forms. This year, students will be responsible for completing a single form online, titled Student Information form. Students must submit this form by January 8. This form is available on the Dairy Challenge web site at: http://mwdairychallenge-studentinformation.eventbrite.com. The signing of the Contestant Liability Waiver, Contest Information Release Waiver, and the Contestant Honor Code will be handled on site at the event.

Each school may register up to four students and two additional students. This year's contest will be capped at 80 students. Entry fee for the first four students is \$50 total due at time of entry. If a school wishes to sign up two additional students, they may do so at time of registration at no cost. If space allows, schools will be notified that one or both of their extra students will be accepted. Additional students may participate at a cost of \$350/student. This can be paid via check or through the NAIDC website with a credit card after the original team registration is submitted. Payment for additional students will be due prior to the contest and constitutes a commitment to participate (no refunds will be issued).

This year's contest hotel is the Country Inn and Suites, Platteville, WI. Room reservations will be made from the returned student information on the Entry Forms. Rooms will be provided for each school for the evenings of February 17th – 18th at no charge. The committee is asking your team to arrive at the hotel on Wednesday afternoon, February 17th and depart after the completion of the contest on Friday, February 19th. If you choose to stay on Friday night, room reservations and costs are the financial responsibility of the school. Driving directions to the hotel will be provided in later communications. We will be pairing coaches for room sharing again this year. If you have a roommate preference, please contact Molly Kelley or Ann Marie Magnochi.

Dinner on Wednesday, February 17th; breakfast, lunch and dinner on Thursday, February 18th; and breakfast, lunch and a snack on Friday, February 19th will be provided for one coach and all participating students. Additional meals must be paid for at the time of registration at a cost of \$120 per person, this includes additional coaches. Should you have a member with dietary restrictions, please indicate this information on the Entry Form.

We look forward to your participation in this exciting and innovative contest. Additional information, including the schedule and guidelines, as well as entry forms and student information forms, will also be available online at www.dairychallenge.org.

Sincerely,

Robin R. Rastani, Ph.D. Co-Chairperson Midwest Dairy Challenge Committee

Tera Montgomery, Ph.D. Host School Representative Midwest Dairy Challenge Committee Erin Berger Co-Chairperson Midwest Dairy Challenge Committee

Jeff Dornink Host School Representative Midwest Dairy Challenge Committee