

NORTH AMERICAN INTERCOLLEGIATE Dairy Challenge™

Tomorrow's Dairy Leaders

December 9, 2015

On behalf of the Western Regional Committee of the North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge, it is our pleasure to invite your school to participate in the 11th Annual Western Regional Dairy Challenge to be held in Tulare, CA, February 25 – 27, 2016.

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. **Team registration closes January 22.** Registration is available here <https://2016westerndairychallenge.eventbrite.com>
- 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 February 5.** This form is available on the Dairy Challenge web site at: <http://2016westerndairychallenge-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.

This year, we will once again be holding all the program events, lunch and dinner meals at the COS Campus – Tulare Center located at 4999 E. Bardsley Ave., Tulare, CA. Hotel rooms will be at the Charter Inn & Suites, located at 1016 East Prosperity Ave., Tulare, CA. Since we will be using these two locations, we would like all the teams to check-in at the hotel by 3 p.m. on Thursday to allow time to travel to the COS Tulare Campus. The campus is four miles from the hotel. Contest events will begin at 4p.m. on Thursday afternoon, February 25th, with a Team Building Program presented by Dairy Challenge Alumni. All meals, except for breakfasts, will be at the COS Tulare Campus. Presentations will be prepared on Friday afternoon and presented on Saturday morning at the COS Tulare Campus. We are planning to complete the contest by 2 p.m. on Saturday afternoon.

The Challenge will cover up to \$1,200 in travel costs. Hotel rooms and meals at the contest are provided. **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, which will be covered by sponsorships. If any coaches would like to share rooms, please inform the planning committee. If your team is unable to return to your home campus for Saturday night, this night will also be covered at a hotel of your choice, with the cost per room not to exceed the cost of the room in Tulare. Please note that rooms will be reserved using the student names provided on your registration form, and inform contest management staff of any student changes prior to the contest to minimize confusion at check-in time. In the event that you do not need all the rooms that have been reserved, it is your responsibility to notify the management staff at least three days prior to the contest in order to have the rooms cancelled. In the event that you fail to notify us, you will be responsible for reimbursement of the unused rooms.

The official schedule of events for the three days of the contest will be provided in late January. 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.

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We are very excited about this contest and the response from students. As we develop this contest for the future, we look forward to your input to improve the educational experience for your students. The Western Regional Dairy Challenge Committee looks forward to meeting you and your team at the 2016 Contest!

Sincerely,

Western Regional Dairy Challenge Committee