

December 18, 2017

The 13th Annual Western Regional Dairy Challenge will be held in Twin Falls, Idaho, March 1-3, 2018. Registration Entry and Student Information forms are available to complete online at the National Dairy Challenge website www.dairychallenge.org under Regional Contests, West.

Registration fee is \$50 per team and is due at time of entry. Deadline to register is Wednesday January 24, 2018. Each school may register up to 5 students and 5 alternates. Schools will be notified of their acceptance shortly after the January 24 deadline. **To register:** https://2018westerndairychallengeregistration.eventbrite.com

Coaches *do not* have to collect and submit student forms. Once participation is confirmed, students will be responsible for completing a Student Information form online. A link to this form will be available on the Dairy Challenge web site after January 24. Students must submit this form by February 9, 2018. Failure to submit the form by the deadline will result in the student being dropped from the contest. The signing of the Contestant Liability Waiver, Contest Information Release Waiver, and the Contestant Honor Code will be handled on site at the event.

Again this year, we will be holding all the program events, lunch and dinner meals at the College of Southern Idaho located in Twin Falls, Idaho. Hotel rooms we will be at the Red Lion Hotel, located at 357 Blue Lakes Blvd. N., Twin Falls, ID. Since we will be using these 2 locations, we would like all the teams to check-in at the hotel by 3PM on Thursday. The campus is about 2 blocks from the hotel. Contest events will begin at 4PM on Thursday afternoon, March 1, with a Team Building event. Following the Friday morning dairy visit, presentations will be prepared on Friday afternoon and presented on Saturday morning at the College of Southern Idaho. We are planning to complete the contest by 2 PM 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 Twin Falls. 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 3 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 the College of Southern Idaho. Each university should still bring at least 1 laptop computer, 2 if possible.

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 2018 Contest!

Sincerely,

Western Regional Dairy Challenge Committee