



September 27, 2019

RE: NAIDC 14th Annual Southern Regional Dairy Challenge
November 21-23, 2019 in Campbellsville, Kentucky

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 is our pleasure to invite your school to participate in the 14th Annual Southern Regional Dairy Challenge. The event will be held at the Taylor County Cooperative Extension and Best Western Campbellsville Inn in Campbellsville, Kentucky November 21-23. This year's event will be hosted by University of Kentucky and Kentucky Cooperative Extension. Note this year's event will run Thursday through Saturday.

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

- Registration is 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. **Team registration closes Friday, October 18.**
- Coaches *do not* have to collect and submit student forms. Students will be responsible for completing a single form online - a Student Information form. Once you have received confirmation from us, on or about October 25, **students will have until November 8 to complete this form.** This form will be available on the Dairy Challenge web site at http://www.dairychallenge.org/so_event.php
- Student information forms must be submitted by the November 8 deadline. Students who miss the deadline without prior permission will be canceled from the event.
- The signing of the Contestant Liability Waiver, Contest Information Release Waiver, and the Contestant Honor Code will be handled on site at the event.
- Students will be allowed to use the internet during the Southern Regional contest.
- We will be using one farm with 2 panels of judges.
- A pre-challenge tour will be offered Sunday afternoon starting at 2:00 PM. Schools interested in participating may wish to travel directly to the tour farm, then check in to the Best Western by 4:30 pm

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 registration date/time if contest size limits are reached.

- Schools may bring up to 6 participants. Up to 2 additional students (alternates) may be identified should we have fewer than 80 students. Please review Contest Rules, Eligibility of Contestants as you select participating 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 25, 2019. Please note this date and plan accordingly.

Registration

Registration forms and entry fees are due by **Friday, October 18, 2019**.

- **Online Registration:** <https://2019southerndairychallenge.eventbrite.com>
 - Be prepared with your students' email addresses when you begin registration
 - Upon completion of the team registration, the system will send you a confirmation and an email to each of the registered students with a link to the student information form.
- Student Information Form will be posted on or about October 25, 2019. This form should be completed by each student after team registration is confirmed. The form is due November 8, 2019. The link will be posted on the southern page at: http://www.dairychallenge.org/so_event.php
- Entry Fee: **\$50 per student** * which includes meals and 2 nights (Sun-Tues) lodging
 - If paying with a check, make checks payable to: North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge or NAIDC

** On average, it costs the Southern Region approximately \$315 per student attending the southern contest. Our ability to cover these costs depends greatly on support of our southern dairy industry, which has experienced difficult times. This increase will help close the gap between regional expenses and income. The committee suggests schools pay the first \$25, asking each student to contribute the remaining \$25 toward their fee. The committee felt students who have paid even a small amount have demonstrated ownership in their participation and the program. However, the amount paid by the student vs the school is left to you, the coaches, to decide.*

Housing

Room reservations will be made by Dairy Challenge upon receipt of the entry form. All participants will be staying at [Best Western Campbellsville Inn](#), 1400 E. Broadway Street, Campbellsville, KY 42718, PH: 270-465-7001.

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, 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 Thursday, November 21 and Friday, November 22. If your school is not able to complete your trip home on Saturday, November 23, funds will be available to defray the cost of your rooms on Tuesday night. Please indicate your need for Saturday night hotel funds by checking "Saturday" by "Room Nights Needed" on the online registration form. Note our event will end by 3:45 PM.
- Hotel check-in begins at 3 p.m. on Thursday and contest registration will be from 5:30-6:00 p.m. at the Taylor County Cooperative Extension Office.
- You should plan to arrive no later than 4:30 p.m. on Thursday afternoon. Thursday night activities begin at 6:00 p.m. with dinner, contest welcome, group activity and data distribution.

Travel

If you consider flying to the Southern Dairy Challenge, your best option is Louisville International Airport, 61 miles from the hotel.

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

Meals

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

November 21 (Thursday): Dinner

November 22 (Friday): Breakfast, lunch, and dinner

November 23 (Saturday): Breakfast and lunch

Additional meals for extra people will have to be paid for at the time of registration. Should you need a special diet, please include this information with the contest entry form. Students will be asked this on their Student Information Form.

Communications will follow after registration closes with additional information, and in early November with last minute details. We look forward to your participation in this exciting and innovative contest.

Sincerely,

Mary Sowerby
Southern Regional Dairy Challenge
Schools Contact

Dave Winston
Southern Regional Dairy Challenge
Steering Committee Chair