



**NAIDC 17th Annual Southern Regional Dairy Challenge Contest
November 17-19, 2022**

Hosted by the North Carolina State University and University of Mount Olive in Charlotte, North Carolina

To register your team, go to: <https://2022southerndairychallenge.eventbrite.com>

Registration Deadline: Monday, October 10, 2022

September 16, 2022

Dear Dairy Challenge Coach:

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 17th Annual Southern Regional Dairy Challenge. This year's event will be held at the Holiday Inn Charlotte Airport & Conference Center Charlotte Airport in Charlotte, North Carolina November 17-19, and hosted by North Carolina State University and University of Mount Olive. Note this year's program runs Thursday evening through Saturday afternoon to minimize days away from campus.

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

Participation

- This event is open to all schools in the Southern region and adjacent states.
- Teams will be mixed/aggregate.
- Hotel rooms will be assigned by school and may be shared with students from other schools as needed. Coaches will likewise be paired with a coach (2 to a room).
- 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 register up to 5 students. If you have additional students interested in participating, you may register them as alternates. Alternates will be added should we have fewer than 60 students. Please review [Southern Contest Rules, Eligibility of Contestants](#) on the contest web site 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, 2022. Please note this date and plan accordingly.

Registration

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 Monday, October 10, 2022.**

- Online Registration: <https://2022southerndairychallenge.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. NAIDC will send an email to each of the registered students with a link to the student information form and resume upload instructions.
- **Entry Fee: \$50 per student** which includes meals and 2 nights (Thu-Sat) lodging
 - If paying with a check, make checks payable to: North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge or NAIDC
- After your registration is confirmed, students will be instructed to complete a Student Information Form and upload a resume. The form and resume upload will be available on the Southern Dairy Challenge page on the NAIDC web site <http://www.dairychallenge.org/contests> and will be due October 25, 2022.

Housing

Room reservations will be made by Dairy Challenge upon receipt of the entry form. All participants will be staying at [Holiday Inn & Conference Center Charlotte Airport](#) 2707 Little Rock Road, Charlotte, NC 28214, PH: 704-394-4301.

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)
- Room reservations will be for the nights of Thursday, November 17 and Friday, November 18. Note our event will end by 4:00 PM EST.
- Hotel check-in begins at 3 PM on Thursday and contest registration will be from 5:30-6:00 PM at the Holiday Inn's Conference Center.

Travel

If you are flying to the Southern Dairy Challenge, your best option is Charlotte Douglas International Airport. The Holiday Inn Charlotte Airport is located one mile from the airport and offers complimentary airport shuttle. You should plan to arrive no later than 5:00 PM on Thursday afternoon. Thursday night activities begin at 6:00 PM with dinner, contest welcome, group activity and data distribution.

Meals

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

- November 17 (Thursday): Dinner
- November 18 (Friday): Breakfast, lunch, and dinner
- November 19 (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.

Additional Details

- An optional pre-challenge tour will be offered at the [Piedmont Research Station](#) in Salisbury, NC on Thursday afternoon 1:00 – 3:00 PM Eastern Time. Schools interested in participating may wish to travel directly to the research station, then check in to the Holiday Inn in Charlotte after the tour. Contest registration is available from 5:30 – 6:00 PM at the hotel's conference center.
- We will be using one farm with 2 panels of judges.
- Participants should plan to use their own computers for the contest. In addition, it is important that each school bring at least 2 computers for use in presentation and prep rooms, etc. Note, Mac's do not work with the dairy software, so schools may need to make arrangements for students who have Macs. Please review computer requirements, which will be added to the Southern page soon.
- Dairy software (PCDART and Dairy Comp) will be available for downloading from the [Southern web site](#). Students should download the software to their computers BEFORE coming to North Carolina. Support is available if needed.
- All contest materials will be posted to a secure web site only accessible to registered participants. This year, students will have early access to some contest data the week of the contest; the rest will be released once onsite in Charlotte Thursday evening. We are asking coaches to ensure that all contest data is removed from your students' computers after the contest ends.
- Students will be responsible for completing a single form online - a Student Information form that includes Contestant Liability Waiver, Contest Information Release Waiver, and the Contestant Honor Code. Once you have received confirmation from us, on or about October 13. Students will have until October 25 to complete this form. This form will be available on the southern tab of Dairy Challenge web site at <http://www.dairychallenge.org/contests>
- Students should also prepare a resume for upload by October 25. The upload link will be available on the southern tab of Dairy Challenge web site at <http://www.dairychallenge.org/contests> Resumes will be distributed to sponsors for the Southern Region for recruiting purposes. In addition, students should bring copies with them for handing out to sponsors on Saturday.
- Student information forms must be submitted, and resumes must be uploaded by the October 25 deadline. Students who miss the deadline without prior permission will be canceled from the event.

Social Media Corps

In addition to contest participants, Dairy Challenge is looking for students who would be interested in serving on the Southern Social Media Corps team. Please visit with students in your club and your ag communications department about this unique hands-on opportunity to work with communications professionals to promote our event. An application is posted to the Southern page.

2022 Southern Regional Dairy Challenge 20th Anniversary Commemorative Shirt

You and your students can order a t-shirt or hoodie commemorating the 20th year of Dairy Challenge and this year's contest. Orders will be shipped to the event and can be picked up during registration. The shirt order form link will be added to the Southern page. Please share with your students. Orders will close October 31, 2022.

Communications will follow once registration closes in mid-October with additional information, and in mid-November with last minute details. We look forward to your participation.

Sincerely,

Liz Eckelkamp
Southern Regional Dairy Challenge
Steering Committee Chair