



# North Carolina FFA and 4-H Statewide Dairy Judging Contest



## MEMORANDUM

To: FFA Dairy Evaluation CDE / 4-H Dairy Judging Participants

Date: January 25, 2024

The combined 4-H Dairy Judging Contest and FFA State Dairy Evaluation Event will be held **Friday April 5, 2024**, at the Carolina Classic Fairgrounds in Winston-Salem. This is your invitation to register. **Please review these materials carefully** and respond appropriately to ensure your FFA chapter or county 4-H team eligibility for this CDE/contest. Individuals can dual participate in FFA and 4-H events, as long as they are bona fide members of NC FFA or NC 4-H (enrolled in 4-HOnline), respectively. No registration fees for this event will be required and lunch will be provided thanks to sponsorship from the **North Carolina Dairy Youth Foundation** and other organizations.

### Things to Note:

- Students will be provided clipboards and scan sheets.
- Students should bring two sharpened number two pencils.
- Students may not bring or use any additional tools, learning devices, or equipment.
- Cell phones, iPods, or other electronic devices including smart watches (Apple Watches, FitBits, etc.) will **not** be allowed at the event.
- Coaches and Advisors WILL be assigned duties during this event to assist with the contest; please plan accordingly to participate.
- Please be sure to follow the state guidelines for the dress code.
- Parts of the contest may occur outside, please check the weather prior to arrival and prepare accordingly for temperature changes or precipitation.
- The judging event should be concluded by approx. 3:30 pm.

### Schedule of Events (Tentative; subject to change):

Time	Description	Location
7:45AM	Team check in (all teams, 4-H and FFA)	Home & Garden Building
8:45AM	Check in completed. Contest Overview and Instructions for the day.	
9AM	Contest Starts- Class rotations	Arena Building/Lawn
11AM	Reasons Starts (order TBD)	Yesteryear Village
12:30PM-1:30PM	Lunch available	Home&Garden/Arena
3:30PM	Judging Contest Ends	Arena Building/Lawn
4:00PM	NC FFA Handler's Contest	Arena Building/Lawn



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## Registration and Contest Information

Registration/sign-in for teams will be **7:45 am** until **8:45 am** on Friday morning. The event will begin promptly at 9:00 am. Please remember to bring pencils for your scan sheets.

Advisors/Coaches are also strongly encouraged to assist their students with completing their information on the scan sheets. **We will make NO changes to the sheets after they are turned in to the event officials. Waivers submitted are required for all FFA participants.**

## Important Contest Information

	NC FFA CDE	NC 4-H Contest
<b>Registration*</b> DUE MARCH 22, 2024	<a href="http://www.judgingcard.com">www.judgingcard.com</a>	<a href="https://go.ncsu.edu/youthdairyjudging">https://go.ncsu.edu/youthdairyjudging</a>
<b>Senior Division Age</b>	11 and 12 <sup>th</sup> grade	14 to 18 (as of Jan 1, 2024)
<b>Junior Division Age</b>	6 to 10 <sup>th</sup> grade	9 to 13 (as of Jan 1, 2024)
<b>Contest Information</b>	<a href="http://www.ncffa.org">www.ncffa.org</a> (NC FFA > Career Development Events)	<a href="https://dairy.ces.ncsu.edu/">https://dairy.ces.ncsu.edu/</a> (Dairy Youth Programs > Dairy Judging)
<b>Participant Type</b>	Team only, no alternates	Teams or Individuals allowed

\*If participants compete in both FFA and 4-H contests, both (two) registrations must be completed to be eligible for scoring purposes.

## FFA Registration

Please register your team members via [www.judgingcard.com](http://www.judgingcard.com) no later than **March 22, 2024**.

To register, FFA chapters should follow these instructions:

- 1) Go to [www.JudgingCard.com](http://www.JudgingCard.com).
- 2) Click "Sign In" and enter a username and password\*.
- 3) Click "Update My Info" to add teachers and email addresses to the account.
- 4) Click "Event Registration & Information," click the March 22nd event.
- 5) Register for the event.

## 4-H Contest Changes

In the past, the top 25 youth from the state contest have been invited to try out for the 4-H State Dairy Judging team, to compete at a national competition. Going forward, the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place 4-H teams will be invited to compete as the "A" and "B" teams. If any those 8 team members are not able to participate, substitutions can be made from the top participants of the state contest. All members representing NC 4-H at a national contest must be enrolled and active in 4-HOnline. 4-H agents/volunteers will be expected to continue to coach and travel with their teams. Youth travel and support will be provided through sponsorship from NC Dairy Youth Foundation. Funds are also available to assist agents/volunteers with travel costs.



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## **Contest Layout and Requirements**

All FFA and 4-H Divisions are required to place all classes of cows and/or heifers. The Reasons classes will be identified the morning of the event. FFA will only give reasons on cow classes. 4-H reasons classes can be cow or heifer classes. Please note on the rotational schedule that each class is based on a 15-minute time frame. Students will use Universal Form A to place classes. Contest officials/advisors will direct and assist with the rotational process. Participants are not allowed to use any notes while presenting oral reasons.

Division	Classes	Reasons	Written Test
FFA Senior	8	2	✓
FFA Junior	8	1	
4-H Senior	8	2	
4-H Junior - Only	4	1	
<b>*Juniors dual enrolled in 4-H and FFA will be required to judge all 8 classes and give reasons on 1</b>			

The placing of classes will be based upon the PDCA (Purebred Dairy Cattle Association) Scorecard. An example can be found at [www.holsteinfoundation.org](http://www.holsteinfoundation.org) under "Educational Workbooks" and "Dairy Judging Workbook." There are many valuable resources in this workbook including oral reason guidelines. Another helpful source of video examples can be found through the University of Wisconsin Extension website (<http://fyi.uwex.edu/4hdairyjudgingvideos>).

The FFA written test multiple choice questions will be taken from the following references:

- The latest edition of Modern Livestock and Poultry Production by James Gillespie will be the major reference.
- Instructional Materials Services, Texas A&M University (8642A, 8647A, 8646E, 84-5)
- Any questions available through SchoolNet question banks.
- Cooperative Extension Service and Dairy Industry materials may also be utilized.

The 5 questions for the Dairy Herd Record Evaluation portion will be similar to the sample provided in the National FFA Career Development Event Handbook.

If you have any questions concerning the event, please contact:

4-H Dairy Judging Contest  
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NC FFA Dairy CDE  
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**We look forward to seeing you in April!**