

North Dakota 4-H State Dairy Cattle Judging Contest Rules



GENERAL INFORMATION

The North Dakota 4-H Dairy Judging Contest provides an opportunity for youth enrolled in 4-H Livestock projects to enhance their animal evaluation and selection skills. Additionally, a judging contest improves their communication and decision-making skills giving them invaluable life skills towards career development. The purpose of the 4-H dairy judging contest is to teach youth how to evaluate dairy cattle and how to make and defend their decisions. Participants will judge groups of dairy cattle classes as a team and individually. Participants will then prepare sets of oral reasons and meet one-on-one with an official to describe the reasons for placing their class placement. Competition in dairy judging fosters self-confidence, organization, critical thinking, teamwork skills and oral communication skills. Just as important, this contest advances their knowledge of the livestock and dairy cattle industry. This contest provides an educational program for all project members, including those who may not own a project animal.

The winning 4-H senior dairy judging team will represent North Dakota at the National 4-H Dairy Cattle Judging Contest at the National World Dairy Expo in Madison, WI, in October.

OBJECTIVES & OUTCOMES:

- Stimulate learning in animal science and agricultural industry;
- Youth develop positive interests and attitudes about livestock and dairy cattle evaluation, animal science and related careers;
- Youth gain a base of knowledge of dairy cattle project and the dairy industry;
- Youth will utilize skills and abilities to solve everyday situations;
- Youth gain valuable producer experience;
- Reward 4-H members for knowledge gained in a subject matter area;
- Provide a competitive setting where attitudes of friendliness and fairness prevail;
- Participants will process information, analyze complex problems and make informed decisions regarding current dairy cattle and dairy industry decisions;
- Develop teamwork, self-confidence, public speaking and decision-making skills;
- An increased number of participants seek out higher education opportunities and careers related to animal science.

Contact:

Leigh Ann Skurupey, Ph.D.
4-H Youth Development Specialist – Animal Sciences
e. LeighAnn.Skurupey@ndsu.edu | p. 701-231-6658

PRE-Registration Required

Register on 4HOnline

Pre-registration will guarantee you an **NDSU parking pass** to avoid paying for parking or receiving a parking ticket during a normal NDSU work week where parking restrictions apply. Parking will be for **Visitors Lot E**, which is directly east of Shepperd Arena. The entrance to the parking lot is off Albrecht Blvd, heading east on 14th Ave. N.

Make checks payable to **4-H Foundation** and send to:

NDSU, ATTN: Holly Halvorson, Dept. 7280 FLC 219. PO Box 6050, Fargo, ND 58108.

****Deadline for winning State 4-H Dairy Cattle Judging Team to decide to go to Nationals: July 1****

Contestants & Eligibility

1. Contestants must be enrolled in North Dakota 4-H (4honline) as a full time member in the county they represent. Short-term 4-H members are not eligible to compete at the state level.
2. Counties may enter any number of participants in either age division. The high **three individual** scores will determine the team score.
3. All participants are eligible for individual awards.
4. **Counties may combine to form a team provided neither county has more than 2 participants.** Combination teams must pre-register together for the appropriate age group. A team of three (3) may not pick up a fourth member from another county.
 - a. **Both counties and coaches from the different teams must approve combining of individuals for a team.**
5. Contestants in the **senior** division must be 14-18 years on December 31, 2020. The **junior** division is for members 8 years of age to 13 on December 31, 2020.
6. FFA members judging in the FFA contest who are also 4-H members may participate in both contest. To do so, they must be pre-registered by their county extension agent and fill out a 4-H card for each contest. Oral reasons scores will be used for both contests. There may be more than one FFA chapter in your county, resulting in a combination of members from different FFA chapters or a mixture of FFA members and non-FFA members, 4-H membership requirements must be observed.
7. While the contest is in progress (including reasons), there shall be NO conferring between contestants or anyone else other than the Contest Superintendents, Group Leaders or their representative. **50 points** will be deducted from the total score for each talking infraction reported.
8. Individuals with disabilities are invited to request reasonable accommodations to participate in NDSU-sponsored programs and events. To request an accommodation(s), please contact Holly Halvorson at 701-231-7251 or Holly.Halvorson@ndsu.edu one week prior to contest to make arrangements.
9. 4-H members are not eligible for this contest if:
 - a. He/she has judged at a National 4-H Dairy Cattle Judging Contest.
 - b. He/she has participated in official post-secondary (university, college, junior college or technical school) competitive events of a similar nature in the same subject matter area. Neither can he/she be a member of a post-secondary team undergoing training in preparation of an event.

Contest divisions

Each age division is considered a separate contest and youth may enter one of the following divisions.

- ✿ Junior 4-H division: Youth ages 8 to 13 years old and enrolled in North Dakota 4-H as a full time 4-H member (not a short-term member) as of December 31, 2020.
- ✿ Senior 4-H division: Youth age 14 to 18 on December 31, 2020 and enrolled in North Dakota 4-H as a full time 4-H member (not a short-term member).
- ✿ *County agents and coaches are responsible for determining the age and member eligibility of participants in the State 4-H Dairy Cattle Judging Contest from their respective clubs.*

Dress code

Participants shall follow the 4-H Dress Code: 4-H members must be dressed neatly and wear a solid white, yellow, gray, or green shirt with 4-H emblem on the front. **County names or other affiliation should not be worn at the state contest in order to avoid bias.** The clover may be imprinted, screened, or attached with an adhesive (if clovers are pinned to the shirt, use multiple pins and place pins discreetly underneath the chevron). Failure to comply will result in the deduction of 50 points from the individual or team score. 4-H members are asked to stay in official dress until completion of awards. **4-H participants also participating in the FFA contest should follow the official dress requirements of FFA.**

Contest Guidelines

National 4-H Contest rules will apply. Local managers may modify rules and procedures as needed to conduct the event in the allowed time.

1. There is a **\$5** registration fee.
2. No electronic devices (phones, tablets, computers, etc.) will be allowed during the contest.
3. **Twelve minutes** will be provided to judge each class.
4. Scantrons will be used for the entire contest if there are over 25 participants, otherwise, regular judging Hormel cards will be utilized. An example scantron for practice has been provided on our website: https://www.ndsu.edu/4h/programs_events/state_4_h_contests/livestock_judging/
5. Contestants must bring their own #2 pencils if scantron is utilized, clipboards or judging books to take notes for oral reasons.
6. It is the individual's responsibility to ensure their scantron is filled out properly if it is utilized for the contest. This includes:
 - a. Erased bubbles on the scantron are erased well so the scanner does not pick up a double marked answer.
 - b. Scantron bubbles are filled in neatly and dark enough for the scanner to read the bubble correctly.
 - c. Scantrons will **NOT** be evaluated or checked for inaccuracy do to the error of the contestant.
 - d. Please make sure to DOUBLE CHECK scantrons before they are handed in. Once they are handed in, they will NOT be returned for any reason.
7. Contestants should not have paper, cards or notes to assist while giving reasons.

General Rules:

1. **Juniors** – will judge **5 classes** of dairy cattle and give **2 sets of reasons**.
2. **Seniors** – will judge **5 classes** of dairy cattle with **2 sets of reasons**.
3. **Judging Phase** – 50 points per class
Contest will consist of any or all of the following placing classes: heifer class and/or cow class. A minimum of **12 minutes** will be allowed for contestants to judge each class. 15 minutes will be allowed for reasons classes. FFA includes additional parts of the contest including an CDE exam. 4-H only contestants will not take an exam or judge additional classes.
4. **Reasons Phase** – 50 points per set
Two minutes are allowed for oral reasons. Contestants should not have paper, cards or notes to assist while giving reasons. Reading notes to a reasons taker will result in a score no higher than **25 points**. Reasons are evaluated on content, accuracy, emphasis, completeness, terminology and presentation.

Tie-Breaking

All ties overall, individual and team, will be broken using the following sequence:

1. Reasons scores overall
2. Judging scores overall
3. Dairy cattle classes will be ranked prior to the start of the contest to serve as the final tiebreaker.

Awards

1. Senior and junior 4-H division participants are eligible for the following awards:
 - a. Individual ribbon awards for the top five individuals
 - b. Top three teams overall
2. Senior 4-H division first place team (top three scores plus first alternate) will be eligible to represent North Dakota 4-H at the National Contest.

Ribbon awards are sponsored by the North Dakota 4-H Foundation.

- ✓ **To request funding for the National 4-H Dairy Cattle Judging contest:** The county Extension agent of the representative team will need to write a formal letter to the ND 4-H Foundation Director, Penny Dale, requesting funds (\$1,000) for travel (penny.dale@ndsu.edu). Please include
- Who the 4-H Foundation should make the check out to
 - Where to mail the check
 - The names of those competing on the team
 - The name and date of the National event
 - Please CC Animal Science Specialist too: LeighAnn.Skurupey@ndsu.edu

Results:

Will be posted on the ND 4-H Animal Science Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/NDSUextension4Hanimalscience>

Officials:

In order to provide a rewarding experience for our youth, volunteers are key to the successful operation and efficiency of each contest. If you would like to serve as an official during the State 4-H Dairy Judging Contest, please send an email to LeighAnn.Skurupey@ndsu.edu.

1. **Superintendent(s):** Oversees all aspects of the contest, assists contestants and other officials. Arrange for qualified Judge(s). Publicize contest. Ensure rules are updated. Arrange for and select animals for classes. Secure other officials, supplies, and paperwork to efficiently run the contest. Establish contest on Judgincard.com and develop contest within the system. Introduces the contest and ensures the PA system is working. Works to ensure results, reasons, and classes are being conducted in a professional and timely manner. Assists in presenting awards and posting awards results.
2. **Moderator(s):** The moderator should be knowledgeable in dairy judging procedures, guidelines, and regulations. The moderator assumes complete direction of the contest (may also be the superintendent), calls rotation of the animals and rotation of the participants during the judging phase. Gathers the official placings and cuts for tabulation.
3. **Judge(s):** A judge can be anyone with a strong background in dairy judging. The judge(s) will make informed decisions on the official placing for each class. Along with the moderator, they will come to an agreement on official cuts based on the difficulty or ease of placing each class. The judge(s) may or may not be used as reasons takers. Should give reasons for the class placings and official placings/cuts before the awards ceremony after the contest is complete.
4. **Time Keeper:** The timekeeper will monitor elapsed time for each timed rotation of stations allowing **12 minutes** for each class to be judged, giving adequate time for each rotation to settle in prior to starting the time clock after each rotation.
5. **Reasons taker(s):** An industry professional knowledgeable in dairy cattle. Reasons taker listens to each participant to evaluate the content, accuracy, emphasis, completeness, terminology and presentation for each class. A reasons taker should make their best effort to score consistently throughout the contest. Reasons takers will listen to the first three sets together and collectively score them, to make every attempt to maintain uniformity. Reasons takers should be on the same page when participants read off their notes (highest score allowed being **25 points**).
6. **Dairy Cattle handlers:** Assist with moving animals around in a pen to help participant's ability to see all sides of each animal. Help transport animals from pen to pen during rotation. Help lead or hold animals if needed.
7. **Group leaders:** Volunteers, coaches, chaperones, agents that assist with leading each group of contestants during the rotation of classes. They are responsible for collecting cards when the class is complete from each participant. They are the only individual that participants are allowed to talk to during the judging portion of the contest. Group leaders help to ensure participants are not talking amongst themselves and report illegal behavior (cell phones, talking, cheating, etc.) to the superintendent or moderator.
8. **Tabulators:** Collecting reasons cards and scantrons. Helping to input reasons scores into the JudgingCard.com system. Double-checking the top ten individuals for each category.
9. **Reasons room advisors:** Help to ensure participants are not talking to each other and the volume of voices are held at an appropriate level for contestants to work and respect each other. Ensuring participants are not conversing with each other.
10. **Hallway advisors:** Beneficial in helping each participant find their way to their respective reasons rooms. Ensure participants are not conversing with each other.
11. **Extra volunteers:** Help with assembling and passing out lunch. May help with registration desk. May run scorecards and reasons cards to the tabulation room.

Other Resources

NDSU Livestock Judging Terminology Manual:

To purchase, contact: LeighAnn.Skurupey@ndsu.edu

Dairy judging resources:

- World Dairy Cattle Judging Contest photos: https://worlddairyexpo.com/file_open.php?id=296

OSU Extension Youth Judging Materials

- Notes and oral reasons examples: <https://u.osu.edu/livestockjudging/notes-and-reasons/>

Livestock Judging.com

- Livestock judging.com is a subscription based website that you pay for different levels of access to but the good news is that there are also some free resources on the site as well. There are 10 free practice classes you can access.
- <http://www.dairyjudging.com/>

YouTube

- Virginia Tech Dairy Judging 101:
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6x9ES-EuWaU>
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XX1cfVNN5Os>
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zX2gLolbiwU>
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jh4jJRhPQ6s>
 - <https://hoards.com/videos-104-dairy-judging-101-holstein-3-year-olds.html>
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N663C0IQc_Q
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=psubG6XgyAM>
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3gJhyyzK2Vw>
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gMzDzW1wPsl>
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZWwH9b_lE3k
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rsH5A_GQ14c
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6E2joF46s6Y>
 - <https://hoards.com/videos-118-dairy-judging-101-practice-classes-bs2-g2-j2.html>
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ycd5XQfQ0-U>
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o3rB1w8fLU0>

Judging class cuts calculator

- <https://www.judgingcard.com/resources/hormel.aspx>

ND 4-H County Numbers			
4001	Adams	4030	Morton
4002	Barnes	4031	Mountrail
4003	Benson	4032	Nelson
4004	Ft. Berthold	4033	Oliver
4005	Bottineau	4034	Pembina
4006	Bowman	4035	Pierce
4007	Burke	4036	Ramsey
4008	Burleigh	4037	Ransom
4009	Cass	4038	Renville
4010	Cavalier	4039	Richland
4011	Dickey	4040	Rolette
4012	Divide	4041	Sargent
4013	Dunn	4042	Sheridan
4014	Eddy	4043	Sioux
4015	Emmons	4044	Slope
4016	Foster	4045	Stark-Billings
4017	Golden Valley	4046	Steele
4018	Grand Forks	4047	Stutsman
4019	Grant	4048	Towner
4020	Griggs	4049	Trail
4021	Hettinger	4050	Walsh
4022	Kidder	4051	Ward
4023	LaMoure	4052	Wells
4024	Logan	4053	Williams
4025	McHenry		
4026	McIntosh		
4027	McKenzie		
4028	McLean		
4029	Mercer		



www.ndsu.edu/4h/

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