Junior Dairymen's Contest

Date: Friday, September 25

State Fair Address
Meadow Event Park
13111 Dawn Blvd
Doswell, Virginia 23047
Caroline County

Event Location
First Bank & Trust Company
Pavilion Cattle Show Ring

Times
Registration: 10:00-10:30 AM
Instructions: 10:45 AM
Contest Begins: 11:00 AM
Awards Presentation: 3:00 PM

Entry Deadline
Monday, September 14
@5:00 pm

Superintendents
Katherine Carter
Hunter Liles
Lauren McCroskey
Dave Winston

Questions? Contact:
Katherine E. Carter
School of Animal Sciences
Virginia Tech
Litton Reaves, Room 380
175 West Campus Dr
Blacksburg, Virginia 24061
carterke@vt.edu
540-231-2257

Contest Objective

To provide an educational program for Virginia youth who are interested in improving and testing their knowledge of the dairy industry.

How To Enter

Step 1: 4-H Leader or FFA Advisor will complete the online group entry form. **https://tinyurl.com/2026-SFVA-Jr-Dairymans-Contest**

*****Entry Deadline is Monday, September 14, 2026 at 5:00 pm*****

Step 2: Agent/Coach/Advisor will assign contestants to Teams during the check-in process the morning of the contest.

Step 3: Agent/Coach/Advisor will purchase tickets for all attending, students and chaperones. **Tickets must be purchased using this link: https://www.etix.com/ticket/c/0B673755704EB0C7B865819C1BE568E9/4h-ffaadvanced-payment - advanced pay only at this link**

Participants and coaches must have a Student/Competition Ticket to enter the Fair grounds unless they are already at the Fair for another competition.

Questions regarding the contest or entry submission should be directed to Katherine Carter at carterke@vt.edu

Contest Rules and Regulations

1. Extension agents, 4-H volunteer leaders or agricultural education instructors are responsible for submitting entries and ordering tickets. Instructions and the link for ordering tickets will be shared as soon as available from the SFVA.
2. The Junior Dairymen's Contest is open to any bona fide 4-H or FFA member in Virginia. Contestants' eligibility will be verified using 4HOnline for 4-H members/teams and Chapter Rosters for FFA members/teams.
3. Students are not eligible if they have begun college prior to June 1 of current year.
4. Each county 4-H club or agriculture department is invited to enter up to five teams total (junior and senior divisions combined). Teams may consist of three or four members. When four members are entered, the three members with the highest overall individual scores will make up the team total. The fourth member will be the alternate. Alternates will be eligible for individual awards. In addition, any 4-H member or FFA member may judge as an individual contestant as long as he or she has been properly entered.
5. Junior contestants will be those who are 13 years old or younger by Sept. 30 of the current year. Senior contestants will be those who are 14-19 years old by Sept. 30 of the current year. There will be one contest with two divisions – Junior and Senior – those divisions are determined based on Date of Birth.
6. The Superintendent of the contest, in cooperation with the contest committee, will be in charge of the contest and will conduct it in compliance with these rules and regulations. They shall have the authority for the interpretation of the rules.

The Contest

1. All contestants and coaches will report to the Cattle Show Ring (First Bank & Trust Company Pavilion) at 10:45 a.m. Final instructions will be given and questions answered at this time.
2. The Superintendent will supply contestants with the scantron form https://www.judgingcard.com/ScanSheets/Samples/705D-2.pdf that will be used to record all answers. Each contestant will need a clipboard and at least one No. 2 pencil. No contestant will be allowed to take any books, notes, or pamphlets into the ring.

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3. Twenty-five minutes will be allowed for the quiz. Fifteen minutes will be allowed for identification classes and DHIA questions. Twelve minutes will be allowed for judging classes.
4. While the contest is in session there shall be no communication among contestants and anyone else, except as designated by the superintendent or his assistants. Cell phones, PDA's, or other types of electronic communication may not be used by contestants while the contest is in progress. Violators will be penalized by having one or more scores disallowed.
5. Additional information about the contest including study materials for the quiz and a list of potential identification items may be found on the following website: www.youth.dasc.vt.edu/state-fair-jr-dairymens-contest.html

Determination of Rankings

1. The overall individual ranking shall be determined by adding contestant's scores.
2. The overall team ranking shall be determined by totaling all the scores of the three team members.
3. In case of a tie for individual or team awards, ranking will be determined by the team (individual) with the highest score in Class 1. If still tied, Class 2 will be used and so on until broken.

Classes

1. Written test of 50 questions ..... 250 points
2. Identification of 10 pieces of dairy equipment ..... 50 points
3. Identification of 10 pieces of cattle equipment ..... 50 points
4. Identification of 10 grains, forages, silage or supplements commonly fed to dairy cows ..... 50 points
5. Identification of 10 dairy products ..... 50 points
6. Answer 10 questions on DHIA records ..... 50 points
7. Judge a class of cows ..... 50 points
8. Judge a class of heifers ..... 50 points

TOTAL POSSIBLE SCORE ..... 600 points

Awards

The State Fair of Virginia will provide premiums and ribbons for the high scoring teams and individuals according to the following schedule:

Teams			Individuals		
Placing	**Senior**	**Junior**	**Placing**	**Senior**	**Junior**
1	$100	$50	1	$50	$25
2	90	45	2	45	20
3	80	40	3	40	15
4	70	35	4	35	10
5	60	30	5	30	5
6	50	25	6	25	5
7	40	20	7	20	5
8	30	15	8	15	5
9	20	10	9	10	5
10	10	5	10	5	5

All contestants will receive a participation ribbon. The high team and high individual in both the Junior and Senior Contests will receive a plaque.

State Fair Scholarship Program

Contestants will be eligible to participate in the State Fair Scholarship Program. Please see the State Fair website, www.statefairva.org, for more information regarding the State Fair of Virginia Scholarship Program and eligibility requirements for other available scholarships. The following scholarships will be awarded:

Division	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place	4th Place
Senior	$600.00	$400.00	$300.00	$200.00
Junior	$400.00	$300.00	$200.00	$100.00

Southland Dairy Farmers is sponsoring the 1st place Junior & Senior Scholarships.