February 26, 2016

Dear Dairy Judging Coach:

The Penn State Dairy Science Club will be holding its annual Invitational Dairy Judging Contest on Saturday, March 19, 2016. The contest begins at 9:30 a.m. with registration starting at 9 a.m. There are four youth divisions in the contest: Senior 4-H, Intermediate 4-H/FFA, Junior 4-H, and Senior FFA. As judging contest co-chairs, we would like to invite you and your team(s) to participate and compete against other teams from around the state.

Following lunch, contestants will go to Business Building where senior and intermediate division contestants will give oral reasons. There will also be a judging workshop for Junior 4-H contestants and coaches conducted by members of the 2014/15 Penn State Dairy Judging Teams. Junior 4-H contestants wishing to give reasons should compete in the intermediate division. There will be at least one heifer class in this year’s contest.

Enclosed is an entry form and complete set of rules. Junior 4-H contestants must be 8, 9, 10, or 11 by January 1, 2016. Intermediate 4-H and FFA contestants must be 12, 13, or 14 by January 1, 2016. Senior 4-H and FFA contestants must be 15, 16, 17, or 18 by January 1, 2016. Contestants may move to a higher division, but not to a lower one. Persons who have competed in the National 4-H Judging Contest in Madison are ineligible for the 4-H division, and students who have judged in the National FFA Dairy Judging Contest are ineligible for FFA competition.

Entry fees are $5 per contestant plus $5 per coach attending the contest if paid in advance. This fee covers the costs of lunch (pizza) and mailings and should accompany the entry form. For late entries on the day of the contest or after the deadline, we will charge $10 per contestant and coach. Entries are due by March 15, 2016. Checks should be made payable to the Penn State Dairy Science Club. Please note that this deadline is later than for the livestock and horse judging contests.

Please note that 4-H Volunteers/Educators are responsible for the county’s delegation and should follow 4-H procedures for field trips and medical forms. School personnel are responsible for ensuring that they follow their procedures for traveling with their FFA students.

Best wishes for much success in this year's contest!

Sincerely yours,

Ben Landis
Judging Contest Co-Chair

Emily Heilinger
Judging Contest Co-Chair