GENERAL

1. This is a contest in which teams or individuals compete. Points are earned or lost by quickness and accuracy of response to specific questions drawn from 4-H project materials and other references.

2. Counties may enter up to a maximum of eight members (comprised of a team of four members and four additional individuals or a team of four members/one alternate and three additional individuals) in each of the Junior, Intermediate, and Senior divisions. Counties may enter only individuals if they do not have enough members for a team. Individual contestants in each age division will be randomly assigned to composite teams by the contest organizer. If a county has more than four members, they must identify the members on the team, its alternate, and those entering as individuals. Composite teams will select team captains by drawing and select team coaches at the contest. 4-H members participating in the statewide competition must be certified by their 4-H Extension Educator and pre-registered for the state contest by the registration deadline. Counties with Junior, Intermediate or Senior teams of 2 members or less have the option to combine individuals from age divisions to compete as a county team or to have the members compete as individuals that are randomly assigned to a composite team. Coaches may move younger 4-H members to an older age division; however, older 4-H members cannot move down an age level.

3. Rules may be varied to meet local club or county requirements; however, statewide competition will be governed by the prescribed procedures and regulations.

4. Additional rules may be promulgated for specific project areas.

5. Each county is responsible for providing one potential volunteers to assist with the contest the entire day (Volunteers may be rotated in and out).

CONTESTANTS AND ELIGIBILITY

1. Contestants must be bonafide 4-H Club members carrying a 4-H Project and approved by the 4-H Extension Educator, Faculty Extension Assistant or Program Assistant of their respective counties.
2. Junior contestants must be between the ages of 8-10; Intermediate contestants must be between the ages of 11-13; and Senior contestants between the ages of 14-18 as of January 1 of the current year.

3. Contestants may attend a college beyond high school. However, club members who enroll in or audit a Dairy Science or Animal Science course prior to the fall term are not eligible for the contest. Also, any club members who enroll in any Dairy Science or Animal Science short course or satellite course eligible for credits towards a college degree prior to the fall term are not eligible for the contest.

4. Contestants participating in out-of-state 4-H dairy bowl contests as a result of state competition are ineligible for participation in future state contests.

OFFICIALS

1. Moderator (Quiz Master) - The moderator assumes complete direction of all contests, asks all questions, designates contestants to answer questions, accepts or rejects all answers unless overruled by both referee judges. He/she may seek interpretation of questions and answers from referee judges. The moderator designates the start of total time, the start and stop of time-outs, the winner of each contest, and shall be in charge at all times. The moderator shall have the final voice in all decisions, except for answers to questions, which are ruled on unanimously by referee judges. WHEN ONLY ONE JUDGE IS AVAILABLE, THE MODERATOR MAKES THE FINAL DECISION.

2. Referee judges - One or two judges are to be used who are knowledgeable in the subject matter. The referee judges may rule individually or jointly on the acceptability of any answer. Both referee judges, or one referee judge and the moderator, must agree on the acceptability or rejection of a question and/or answer if is challenged either by team captains or coaches.

3. Time keepers - One or two individuals will be used to record total elapsed time for each contest and to indicate to the moderator the expiration of total time or the expiration of the time allowed in which to answer questions.

4. Score keeper - Two individuals shall keep scores on each contest—one to be written in such a manner that all points awarded or taken away in penalties may be checked; and one that will be visible to the moderator, the contestants, and in so far as possible, the viewing audience.

5. Coaches - A Coach or Coach’s Representative will be identified for each county prior to conducting phases B and C of each match.

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EQUIPMENT

1. **Response Panels** - Each contestant will have a response panel to indicate intent to answer by activating a light and/or buzzer.

2. **Time recorder** - One stopwatch or other form of elapsed time recorders with stop/start (time-out) capabilities is needed. It should have at least a 20-second range and with fractions of seconds accuracy. Time recorder is integrated within state buzzer systems.

3. **Bell** - This signal device will be used by timekeeper (this may be a buzzer with a distinctly different sound than contestant buzzers).

4. **Score keeping device** - This may be a blackboard, a flip chart or electronic light display system which will score for both teams in multiples of five.

5. **Questions** - Written and oral questions will be prepared by a state 4-H Dairy Bowl Contest Coordinator. The Phase A questions format is detailed below. Phase B and C questions will be short answer or multiple choice.

PROCEDURE OF PLAY

1. Teams will compete in a series of one-on-one elimination contests until the top team is chosen. The contest coordinator will assign teams to the first round of competition before the contest. Some teams may be awarded a bye during the elimination as a part of the assignment process.

2. Competition between teams will be in 3 phases.

**Phase A** – A written test of 50 questions will be given to each contestant prior to the state competition. Tests will be administered by an authorized UME individual at the county level between March 20, 2017-April 2, 2017. Phase A consists of ten rounds with five questions per round. The same 5 questions will be designated for both teams but each group of 5 questions will be used for only 1 round (Round 1 = Questions 1-5, Round 2 = Questions 6-10, etc). Each correct answer will be worth 5 points. Each round in Phase A has a possible 100 points per team (4 team members x 5 questions each x 5 points/correct answer). No points will be deducted for incorrect or blank answers. Points earned by each team will be announced at the end of the match and combined with scores from Phases B and C to determine the winners of a match. Question format will be as follows:

i. Junior Division questions will be a combination of true/false and multiple choice (mostly multiple choice).

ii. Intermediate Division questions will be a combination of multiple choice, short answer and fill in the blank.
iii. Senior Division questions will be a combination of multiple choice, short answer and fill in the blank.

**Phase B** – Judges will ask each Junior team 10 questions of a higher degree of difficulty, while Intermediate and Senior teams will be asked 5 questions of a higher degree of difficulty. Questions may only be repeated once and correct responses are worth ten points. Answers must be started within ten seconds and are to be given by a team captain, but assistance may come from any team member. Partial credit may be given at the discretion of the judges. After the first team in a match has been questioned, the other team will enter the contest room and be asked the same questions in any given round. Results of Phase B will be announced at the conclusion of Phase B for each contest.

**Phase C** – Two teams will be questioned simultaneously with a total of 15 questions will be asked for Junior teams and a total of 20 questions for Intermediate and Senior teams. Each question, including bonus questions, is worth 15 points.

a. Once a question is posed, the first team to signal will answer the question within 5 seconds after being acknowledged by the judge or lose 10 points. Any member answering a question without having a light lit or being acknowledged will lose 10 points. If an incorrect answer is given, the other team has the opportunity to answer the question immediately without having it repeated. No partial credit is available in Phase C.

b. If neither team can offer an answer to the question within 10 seconds, the moderator will give the answer, the question will be dropped and neither team will forfeit points.

c. When a signal is pushed before the question is completely read, the moderator shall stop reading the question when the light goes on. Once the moderator recognizes the contestant, that person may answer the question. If correct, the team will receive credit. The judge may not ask the contestant to explain their answer. If the answer is incorrect, the question shall then be repeated in its entirety and the other team will have the opportunity to answer it.

d. Bonus questions will be asked whenever three team members have each answered a Phase C question correctly with the count kept individually for both teams within a match. Bonus questions will be pulled from a “fish bowl” by the team captain. Bonus questions are not passed to the other team, nor are points deducted for an incomplete or incorrect answer. After a bonus question is asked, the answer must be started within 20 seconds and the tally of correct answers is reduced by one for each individual on the team earning the bonus. For example, on the team from Cow County, Judy answered three questions right, Joyce two questions right and John one question right before the bonus was asked. After the bonus, Judy would have two right, Joyce one
right and John none right. Eligibility for bonus questions does not carry over to another match. Bonus questions can receive partial credit.

e. The only discussion allowed between team members will be on bonus questions and in Phase B. The answers must come from the team captain and only the number of answers required by the bonus question will be accepted. Example: If the bonus has a four-part answer, the first four answers given by the team captain will be accepted.

3. Questions will cover feeds and feeding, milk quality, herd health, udder health, breeding and genetics, marketing, dairy foods, calf raising and other areas. Junior questions will be a combination of multiple choice and short answer/fill in the blank and Intermediate and senior questions will be short answer/fill in the blank.

4. The winning team will be determined by the highest total score from Phase A, B and C. In the event of a tie, the two teams will be asked an additional five Phase C questions.

5. The contest will be conducted as a double-elimination contest, with pairings for the first round based on Phase A, Round 1 results.

6. Answers and interpretations of questions will be the sole responsibility and final recall of the judges. A team member will have the privilege to ask the judges’ panel to verify an answer that he/she feels is correct. If a coach challenges the judge’s decision, the coach must call “time out” immediately before the next question is read. A decision made by the judges after the answer is verified will be final.

7. There shall be no protest of any questions or answers following the declaration of the winner.

a. Any protest of questions or answers to questions may be made by a team captain or the team coach at the time a particular question is read or an answer is indicated. There will be only one coach recognized for each team. When a question or protest is raised, time shall be called. For a protest in the Junior or Intermediate room, the coach must have the resource in the room with them, however, should the official disagree with the answer in the reference material, the question will be thrown out.

b. If a protest is sustained, the moderator will take one of the following actions, as deemed appropriate:

i. If a question is protested before an answer is given and the protest is sustained, discard the question.
ii. If an answer is protested (either correct or incorrect), at least one of the referee judges and the moderator or both referee judges determine the protest is valid, points will be added or subtracted accordingly.

iii. If a question is protested after an answer is given (correct or incorrect), and at least one referee and the moderator or both referees determine validity of protest of question, then the question may be discarded at no loss of points. If the question is allowed, the gain or loss of points will then be determined in the same manner as above.

c. Abuse of protest provisions shall subject a team to the following:

i. Dismissal of team coach from contest area.

ii. Dismissal (or replacement) of team captain.

iii. Dismissal of entire team with forfeiture of contest.

**SELECTION OF HIGH INDIVIDUALS IN THE WRITTEN EXAM**

The total points awarded to each individual from Phase A will determine the high individuals. The top three individuals in each age division will be recognized at the contest.

**SELECTION OF HIGH INDIVIDUALS**

The total points awarded to each individual from Phase A and the team’s first two completed rounds of Phase B and Phase C of the state contest will be added together. Each correct answer in Phase A is worth 2.5 points. Each member of a county team will be assigned the total number of points awarded to that county team during the first two rounds of Phase B. Each correct answer in the first 2 rounds of Phase C is worth 15 points minus any points deducted. Each member of a county team will be assigned the total number of points awarded to that county team for any bonus questions asked during the team’s first two rounds of Phase C. No points earned in Phase B and Phase C after the team’s first two completed rounds are counted towards selection of high individuals. The ten individuals with the highest point total in the Junior, Intermediate, and Senior Divisions will be identified at the end of the contest.

**SELECTION OF STATE TEAM**

The top 12 individuals in the Senior Division with highest total scores in Phases A, B and C of the state contest, as described above, will be selected to work out for the state team. The youth are asked to complete a dairy bowl commitment form at the conclusion of the awards ceremony. If more than four individuals are interested in being on the state team, they will compete in a buzz-off. The buzz off will follow a format similar to Phases A and C of the state contest. The top four individuals in the buzz-off will serve as the state team and the fifth place individual will serve as the alternate. If a question is answered incorrectly, the question will be repeated for the other participants to have the
opportunity to buzz-in and answer. After two incorrect answers are received, a question will be eliminated from the buzz-off and the moderator will move to the next question. In the event of a tie for the alternate, the individual with the greatest score on Phase C will be considered to have a higher score. 4-H members may represent Maryland 4-H on only ONE State competition team in a calendar year. If a 4-Her qualifies for more than one State team in the same year, he/she must choose which team he/she will participate on. Once a 4-Her commits to a State competition team, he/she may not withdraw in order to accept a spot on a different State team."

2017 CONTEST STUDY MATERIALS

Focus All Ages: Dairy Products & Milk Marketing (no more than 5 questions per round)

  • Dairy Info from MyPlate
  • Definitions
  • Importance of Milk in the Diet
  • Know Your Milk
  • Milks Unique Nutrient Package
  • Types of Cheeses

  • How Milk Quality is Assessed
  • A Practical Look at Contagious Mastitis
  • A Practical Look at Environmental Mastitis
  • Cleaning & Sanitizing Milking Equipment


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