

2025 VA 4-H/FFA Dairy Skillathon

Tuesday, April 22, 2025

Rockingham County Fairgrounds

Jr Division – Ages 9-13 (as of September 30, 2025)

Sr Division – Ages 14-19 (as of September 30, 2025)

Registration Deadline: Noon on Thursday, April 17, 2025

[Registration Form](#)

Competition Guide

Contest Rules and Regulations

1. The Dairy Skillathon is open to any bona fide 4-H or FFA member in Virginia. Contestants must be entered by their 4-H club leader, extension agent, or agricultural education teacher prior to the entry deadline.
2. Students are not eligible if they have begun college prior to June 1 of the current year.
3. Teams may consist of 3 or 4 members. When 4 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 or FFA member may compete as an individual contestant as long as they have been properly entered.
4. Junior contestants will be those who are 9-13 years of age as of September 30, 2025. Senior contestants will be those who are 14-19 years of age as of September 30, 2025.
5. Follow current CDC and Virginia 4-H/FFA guidelines.

The Contest

1. All contestants and coaches will report to the Rockingham County Fairgrounds (4808 South Valley Pike, Harrisonburg, VA 22801). Registration will begin at 9:30am and the Contest will start at 10:00am. Contestants will rotate through the stations. Awards will be announced as soon as results are tabulated after the contest.
2. Contestants will be supplied with any necessary forms. Contestants will not be allowed to take any books, notes, or pamphlets into the contest area.

3. While the contest is in session there shall be no communication among contestants and anyone else, except as designated by the contest committee. Cell phones or other types of electronic devices may not be used by contestants while the contest is in progress. Violators will be penalized by having one or more scores disallowed.
4. Additional information about the contest including a list of resources may be found at the following link: [Skillathon Resources](#)

Determination of Ratings

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

Classes

1. Feeds (5 identification; 5 multiple choice questions)
2. Dairy products (5 identification; 5 multiple choice questions)
3. Dairy equipment (5 identification; 5 multiple choice questions)
4. Anatomy and dairy breeds (5 identification; 5 multiple choice questions)
5. Dairy management (10 multiple choice questions)
6. Meat/Beef on dairy
7. Judging class A
8. Judging class B
9. Reasons on judging class B

Each class is worth 50 points. Total points possible per individual is 450.

Awards

The top 5 individuals and top 5 teams will receive ribbons. The high team and high individual in both divisions will receive a plaque.

Resources:

Class 1. Feeds - Will have 5 feeds from the list to identify and 5 multiple choice questions about dairy feeds and nutrition. Nutrition questions will come from the [Virginia Dairy Quiz Bowl Packet](#), Chapter 6.

Class 2. Dairy products - Will have 5 dairy products from the list to identify and 5 multiple choice questions about dairy products. Dairy product questions will come from

the [Virginia Dairy Quiz Bowl Packet](#), Pages 21-43 of the [All American Jr Dairy management](#) contest.

Class 3. Dairy equipment - Will have 5 identification of Equipment used on dairy farms (Dairy or Cattle) from list and 5 multiple choice questions.

Class 4. Anatomy and dairy breeds - Will have 5 parts to identify and 5 multiple choice questions about the breeds of dairy cattle anatomy. All may come from [PDCA Scorecard](#), https://nydairyadmin.cce.cornell.edu/uploads/doc_113.pdf or [Virginia Dairy Quiz Bowl Packet](#), Chapter 3.

Class 5. Dairy management - There will be 10 multiple choice questions on general dairy management. They can come from the quiz bowl packet or holstein foundation [working with dairy cattle](#) workbooks or the [All American Jr Dairy management](#) packet pages 14-21.

Class 6. Meats/ Beef on Dairy- 10 questions on beef meat cuts, Beef on dairy, could be identification or questions.

<https://www.beefitswhatsfordinner.com/cuts/cut-charts>

<https://agnext.colostate.edu/beef-on-dairy-crossing/>

<https://www.holsteinusa.com/holsim/>

https://www.purinamills.com/getmedia/9d58013e-9648-4224-9f63-7c0688fcae40/24-MRE-0229_PrimestartDairyBeefReport_062124_v3_digital-2.pdf

Class 7. Judging class A - 4 Animals the same age, may be cows or heifers

<https://hoards.com/flex-351-dairy-judging-corner.html>

Class 8. Judging class B - 4 Animals the same age, may be cows or heifers

Class 9. Reasons on judging class B - Participants will give one set of oral reasons to a judge. They will be scored by the judge on a 50-point scale. Reasons should be around 2 minutes in length <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rWEdkOcNkl0>

Other Resources:

<https://allamericandairyshow.files.wordpress.com/2023/08/2023-junior-dairy-management-study-material-combined.pdf> Jr Dairy Management Contest study material

[ID Lists](#) for Dairy Products, Feeds and Dairy Equipment

VA Dairy Quiz Bowl Materials – <https://www.youth.dasc.vt.edu/quiz-bowl.html>

Dairy Foods Booklet –

<https://ffa.app.box.com/s/ejdz4mdv5vcy8a24jzl9d668wfs3w46u/file/1488384318824>

<https://nationaldairyfarm.com/producer-resources/dairy-stockmanship/>

<http://www.holsteinfoundation.org/education/workbooks.html>

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