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**Department of Agricultural**

**& Human Sciences**

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**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Livestock Judging CDE Participants

**FROM:** Jason Davis, State FFA Coordinator

**RE:** State FFA Livestock Judging Career Development Event

**DATE:** September 1, 2017

I am looking forward to working with each of you on this year’s State Livestock Judging Career Development Event. This is your pre-registration notification. Please review this material carefully and respond appropriately to ensure your team’s eligibility for this CDE. The event will be at the Hunt Horse Arena in Raleigh on **Tuesday, November 28, 2017 at 8:30am**. Registration will begin at 7:30am and students should be lined up in their respective groups by no later than 8:30am.

We will be using *Judging Card* again this year. The scorecard is a scantron form in which the students mark their placings. This program will allow us to speed up the scoring process, eliminate the lost card scenario and even allow you to view your scores on your commute back to your school via the *Judging Card* website.

It is critical that I receive your pre-registration information in a timely manner. The number of participants significantly impacts planning. **Please complete the registration on or before Tuesday, November 21, 2017.** Note the following:

Registration for this year’s event will be online.

1. To register, please follow these instructions:
2. Go to [www.JudgingCard.com](http://www.JudgingCard.com)
3. Click “Sign In” and enter your user name (the username is “NC” followed by your four digit chapter number: “NC0001” for example) and password (the password has been preset to the same thing, with a capital “NC”)
4. Click “Update My Info” to add teachers and email addresses to the account.
5. Click “Event Registration & Information,” move the calendar to November and click on the November 28th event.
6. Register for the event. You may then register your middle grades, junior and senior division teams as well as select the number of additional meals that you need. Students participating will automatically have their meal price included with their registration.
7. **At 5 p.m. on November 21, 2017 the site will close and no more registrations will be taken**.

We will use a two-sided scan form for the event. The state office will provide your students with forms the day of the event. The *Judging Card* website and the Chapter Guide to State Activities both contain sample scorecards for the event so you may download these forms and train your team. It is imperative that your students pay particular attention to the signage at each stop so they will use the correct part of the scorecard. We will continue to use the oral reason scorecards and cooperative activity cards from previous events and manually enter them into the online scoring program.

***Please remind your students to check their work. Failure to bubble in placings or bubble in two selections in the same column will result in a score of 0.***

When registering online:

* Please provide all information requested including your email address.
* Provide names of contestants on your team.
* **Alternates are not allowed for this event**.
* **Substitutions are allowed**. If possible, please give at least 48 hours advance notice in order to conserve time at pre-registration.
* Please make sure teams are registered in the appropriate division: Middle Grades (JudgingCard refers to Middle Grades as “Intermediate Division” – Grades 6-8), Junior (Grades 6-10), and Senior (Grades 6-12). See the Chapter Guide to Activities for participation guidelines.
* **The** **registration** **fee is $20.00 per contestant. Lunch will be provided on site and is included in the fee. Do not send money for the registration, even though JudgingCard.com will generate an invoice. Chapters will be invoiced directly from NC FFA AFTER the event**.
* Additional lunches will be available to request online for advisors, bus drivers, etc. (Additional meals are $10 each)

Registration and sign-in will be from 7:30–8:30 a.m. *(I recommend sign-in prior to 8:00 a.m. particularly if you are driving in so as to avoid traffic).* Plan to arrive as early as possible. **If you miss any portion of the event, you will not be allowed to make it up.** **You must be pre-registered and signed-in during registration to participate in the event.**

**Livestock Judging CDE Reminders**

1. Seven classes will be placed including one class of breeding swine, one class of market swine, one class of breeding ewes, one class of market lambs, one class of breeding heifers, one class of market cattle and oneclass of goats*.*  **Performance data will be provided on breeding animals. Students may choose to use this information.** We will do our best to secure all classes but cannot guarantee all classes.
2. A keep/cull class of eight animals will be evaluated as the team activity. One scorecard will be used for this event and will be based on visual andperformance or production data. The data will be in chart and/or table format and will be included on one sheet of paper. **NOTE: Visual appraisal can affect the cattle chosen to keep or cull.**
3. Students will use visual appraisal and production records to answer a 10-item, multiple choice test on one class of swine (Breeding Swine).
4. One set of oral reasons will be given on **market swine**.
5. One set of oral reasons will be given on **breeding heifers.**

**SPECIAL NOTES**

1. Participation waivers are required for this event and must be signed by a parent if the student is under the age of 18. Waivers will be collected at registration on the morning of the event. No waiver = no participation.
2. **You will receive a package of scantron forms and oral reason cards for your students in addition to instructions when you sign-in**.
3. Students must bring their own pencils to the event for the scantron form. We will provide clip boards for everyone to use. You may not use your own clipboards.
4. Students should write their placement for the oral reasons class on the oral reasons scorecard.
5. **Students should bring their own blank materials for taking notes on oral reasons. However, they cannot use any notes while giving oral reasons. They will have only the oral reasons card.** Students and advisors are reminded that students are not allowed to use any notes other than their scantron while presenting oral reasons. Only blank paper or notebooks without writing or notes are allowed to be used.
6. **The multiple-choice test will be on the breeding swine**.
7. Teachers will be asked to assist with this event. Advisors will be split into groups to assist with directing students during the rotational process. **Please assist us by participating in the flight to which you are assigned. A few others may be assigned for special tasks.** Thank you very much for your help!

Advisors: This is a good time to remind your students of the dress code, cell phone possession, and tobacco use/possession policy. Please review the requirements listed in the Chapter Guide for livestock in regards to student dress. Failure to follow these guidelines will result in a 10% reduction in the total team score. Possession of a cell phone, ipod, smart watch, or other electronic device will result in a total team disqualification. Students are reminded to wear closed toe shoes for this event.

There will not be any corrections to scantron forms after they are submitted by the students. Failure to provide a chapter number, division, name, etc. or incorrect information will result in the loss of points. Please remind your students to check their work. Two classes that are bubbled into the same column will also result in a score of 0.

Advisors of students with special needs or dietary requirements should notify the state office before the November 21st registration deadline. **Please be sure that your students partake of a healthy breakfast before the event. Students that skip breakfast have experienced issues during the event.**

Finally, I have enclosed a list of area hotels for those of you who wish to make reservations. I recommend you contact them immediately upon receipt of this information.

We have tried to make this event a rewarding experience for your students and look forward to seeing you on November 28th!!

Enclosed:

Housing Information

**Livestock Lodging**

Below is a list of hotels in the Raleigh area along with their phone numbers and standard room rates. Available rooms are not guaranteed so please make every effort to make your reservations early.

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| **Hotel** | **Rate** |
| **Arena Suites**  1200 Hurricane Alley Way  Raleigh, NC 27607  **919-854-0502** | $89.00 + tax (king bed)  $99.00 + tax (2 queen beds +  pull out sofa)  **No State Rate Available** |
| **Wingate Hotel**  6115 Corporate Ridge Rd (street address)  510 Corporate Center Dr. (address for GPS)  Raleigh, NC 27607  **919-847-7383** | $109 + tax (king bed) $119 + tax (2 queen beds) |
| **Double Tree by Hilton – Brownstone**  1707 Hillsborough Street  Raleigh, NC 27605  **919-828-0811** | $159.00 + tax (king bed)  $ 139.00 + tax (2 queen beds)  Free wifi |
| **Hyatt Place Raleigh West**  710 Corporate Center Drive  Raleigh, NC 27607  **919-233-2205** | $119 + tax (king bed)  $119 + tax (2 queen beds) Free wifi |

**\* if you can provide state employee id be sure and ask for the state government rate for substantial savings.**

**Advisor Checklist**

To help things go smoothly during registration, please make sure you have completed the following prior to checking in:

☐ Signed waiver for each participant

☐ Two sharpened #2 pencils with erasers for each participant

☐ Blank scratch paper for each participant (clipboards provided by   
 NCFFA)

☐ Review registration material and Chapter Guide

☐ Review scantron form with students for correct bubbling procedures

☐ Check dress code!

☐ No shorts

☐ Closed-toe shoes

☐ No cell phones

☐ No smart watches

☐ No tobacco

**On-Site Checklist/After Registration**

☐ Disperse and adhere name badges

☐ Review Scantron instructions with students (name, chapter #,

contestant #, division, etc.)

☐ Disperse meal tickets

☐ Direct participants to assigned group