



SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY

Department of Animal Science

August 2025

TO: State 4-H Program Leaders
Extension Livestock Specialists
Animal Science Department Heads

FROM: Rosie Nold 
Superintendent, National 4-H Livestock Skillathon Contest
Assistant Dean, College of Agriculture, Food & Environmental Sciences, South Dakota State University

RE: 2025 National 4-H Livestock Skillathon Contest

The 24th annual National 4-H Livestock Skillathon Contest will be held on **Monday, November 17, 2025** during the North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE). This comprehensive livestock knowledge competition will be conducted in Louisville at the Kentucky Fair and Exposition Center.

We are asking for your help in distributing this information to appropriate individuals in your state. We also seek your input in improving and more firmly establishing this type of comprehensive livestock knowledge contest. We appreciate your assistance in moving this educational effort forward.

Contest Information:

Registration fee of \$600 to "National Youth Livestock Contests" is required. Information on the payment options is on <https://youthlivestockcontests.org/>, where an electronic payment option is available. If electronic payment cannot be used, checks payable to "National Youth Livestock Contests" should be sent with the entry materials to Rosie Nold.

All required forms are to be mailed or emailed to Rosie Nold, Committee Superintendent (rosemarie.nold@sdstate.edu). Required entry materials include:

1. State entry form with all required signatures, youth and coaches' information,
2. State 4-H Leader Verification form,
3. Participant Code of Conduct forms, and
4. Signed Code of Ethics form.

Contest entry and other relevant forms, along with study materials can be found at <https://youthlivestockcontests.org/>. The North American International Livestock Exposition website will not have this information.

The following items are included on the website:

1. **National 4-H Livestock Skillathon Contest Rules and Regulations.** Please note there is a "General Rules" section that applies to the Skillathon, Judging and Quiz Bowl contests.

2. Team Entry Form: Due by October 15th.

- Form must be completed with all required signatures and contact information.
- Please note the responsibility for verification of eligibility lies with the State 4-H Program Leader/Director.
- Form also includes:
 - State 4-H Leader Verification form, and
 - Kentucky 4-H Code of Conduct

3. Code of Ethics (to be returned with entry),

All forms must be received or postmarked by October 15.

Hotel:

The contest headquarter hotel is the Crowne Plaza, Phillips Lane, Louisville, KY 40209; phone: (502-367-2251). This is the large hotel adjacent to the NAILE grounds.

Coaches' Meeting:

A coaches' meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. on the Sunday evening just prior to the contest at the Crowne Plaza, Louisville Airport Hotel. Contest instructions will be given at this time.

Contact:

For further information regarding the contest, I may be contacted at:

Dr. Rosie Nold
Assistant Dean
College of Agriculture, Food & Environmental Sciences
Berg Agricultural Hall 147, Box 2207
South Dakota State University
Brookings, SD 57007
Phone: 605-688-4893
Cell: 605-592-6194
E-mail: rosemarie.nold@sdstate.edu