



PA FFA Dairy Handling Career Development Event



Chairperson Information

CDE Chairperson	Darla Romberger
Email	dromberger@cvschools.org
Best Contact Number	570-617-8074
Contest Date/Times	June 10, 2026 @ 9:00 am
Contest Location	Dairy Cattle Barns-University Park, PA
CDE Review Time	12:30 pm
CDE Review Location	Dairy Cattle Barns

Basic CDE Guidelines

Event Type: Individual	# of Team Members: 0
Contestant Requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Previous experience showing dairy heifers/cattle at county/regional/national shows Items to Bring to Contest: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Showmen must wear "Show Whites" to the contest• Showmen must wear closed-toe shoes to the contest (boots are recommended)	Contest Chair will provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Show Harnesses• Show Halters• Scorecards• Bottled Water between rounds
Qualification: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 24 contestants will be selected to participate based on years of experience, grade, etc.• Submit the Dairy Showmanship Application via email to DRomberger@cvschools.org by 11:59 pm on May 1, 2026.	
Trip Winners (<i>updated 11/25/2024</i>): <p>There is no longer a Dairy Showmanship CDE at the National level. As such, the following individuals will advance to represent Pennsylvania at the Big E Dairy Showmanship Competition in September of each year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1st Place Individual – Advance to Big E• 2nd Place Individual – Advance to Big E• 3rd Place Individual – Advance to Big E• 4th Place Individual – Advance to Big E	

CDE Rules

CDE Component	Points	Component Description
Appearance of Showman	15	Contestant must wear professional show whites
Control of animal by showman	20	Contestant must provide eye contact, Mannerisms, Gestures and Poise to judge while showing animal with confidence
Poise and calmness of showman	25	Contestant must provide calm mannerism while showing
Skill in Showing	40	Ability to properly show dairy cattle
Clarification for Showing Heifers: Dairy Showmanship participants will be evaluated utilizing the <i>Purebred Dairy Cattle Association's 2016 Showmanship Guidelines</i> . These guidelines were recently updated in 2025 (link below in Resources section). All showman should review the "Showing Animal to its Best Advantage" section of the document to fully understand the new revisions for showing heifers.		
Causes for Disqualification: None		
Tie-breaker: Score of animal #4		

Resources

- Purebred Dairy Cattle Association's 2016 Showmanship Guidelines (updated in 2025).
 - Link: https://www.purebreddairycattle.com/file_open.php?id=12