



WISCONSIN  
ASSOCIATION OF FFA



# PREPARED PUBLIC SPEAKING LDE

## PURPOSE

The FFA Prepared Speaking Event is designed to develop agricultural leadership, communication skills and promote interest in leadership and citizenship by providing for member participation in agricultural public speaking activities.

## EVENT RULES

- A) An FFA member must be in good standing with the local chapter and the state FFA association. The member cannot have graduated from high school at the time of the district event for the given competition year. A State FFA Prepared Speaking winner may not compete again in any FFA Prepared Public Speaking event in succeeding years.
- B) An FFA chapter may have **two** entries for Prepared Public Speaking at the district event in a given year. **Two** district winners will advance to the sectional event. These may be from the same school, if so, selected by the judges. One sectional winner per section will advance to the state event.
- C) Official FFA dress must be worn by all participants. Deductions for deviations from Official FFA dress will be at the discretion of the judges who will consider special situations when presented prior to the participant's presentation.
- D) **Manuscript:** Each student's manuscript will be the result of the student's own efforts. It is expected that the participant will take advantage of all available training facilities in their local school in developing their speaking ability. Facts and working data may be secured from any source but must be appropriately documented.
- E) **Props:** The use of props and a podium are **not** permitted in any level of competition.
- F) Any participant in possession of an electronic device during the competition is subject to disqualification. Recording of presentations is permitted by one person from each participant's chapter for that participant only.

## EVENT FORMAT

## MATERIALS TO BE SUBMITTED TO EVENT HOST

- 1) Participants must provide the host chapter advisor with **4 copies** of their written manuscript **POSTMARKED 2 weeks before the date of the event** in order that the judges have adequate time to review the manuscripts. Those advancing on to the state event must submit **6 copies** of their manuscripts to the Wisconsin FFA Center postmarked the date set by the State FFA Executive Director (Tentatively May 25). Every day that the prepared speech is late, the participant will lose 25 points.
- 2) Manuscript requirements:
  - i) Formatted to 8 1/2" x 11" double spaced with a 1" margin.
  - ii) Cover page including the speech title, participant's name, chapter and year.
  - iii) Font size must be 12 point using a serif (Times New Roman, Cambria, etc.) or sans serif font (Arial, Calibri, etc.).
  - iv) Follow the most current APA style guide for developing a reference list and in text citations.
  - v) Do not bind or place in folders or covers. Place a staple in the upper-left corner.
  - vi) Manuscripts not meeting these guidelines will be penalized.
- 3) **Reference List:** A complete and accurate reference list should be included in manuscript. All participants should give credit to others where any direct quotes, phrases, or special data are used in the manuscript, in order not to be guilty of plagiarism.

## SUBJECTS

Participants may choose any current subject of an agricultural nature for their speeches. This may include but is not limited to the areas of agribusiness, animal systems, plant systems, environmental services, food products and processing, natural resource systems and power, structural and technical systems. Official judges shall disqualify a participant if he or she speaks on a non-agricultural subject.

## TIME LIMIT:

Each speech shall be a *minimum of six minutes in length and a maximum of eight minutes*. Participants are to be penalized one point per second on each judge's score sheet for being under six minutes or over eight minutes.

Each participant will be allowed five minutes additional time immediately following their speech, in which they will be asked questions relating to their speech.

The official timer will keep track of time during the speech, for the judges. The official timekeeper will not indicate the time to the participant at any point during the event. The timekeeper will announce the conclusion of the five-minute time period for questions for each participant. Timing for the question section of each participant's presentation will begin when a judge has completed the first question to that participant.

## USE OF NOTE CARDS:

Participants may use note cards at the district event only. Participants may not have the manuscript or note cards before them at sectional, state or national events. Penalties for the need for prompting will be assigned by the judges; their discretion and judgment in the amount of penalty to be assessed will be final.

## JUDGING

- A) Three competent and impartial judges will be selected to judge the event. At least one judge should have an agricultural background. At the time of the event, the judges will be seated in different sections of the event room. Decision of the judges is final.
- B) Prior to the event, the judges will be furnished with copies of the participants' manuscripts. The judges will read each manuscript and score on content and composition using the manuscript portion of the score sheet.

- C) Judges are responsible for developing questions for each participant based off the manuscript that they receive from each participant. Questions shall pertain directly to the speaker's subject. Questions containing two or more parts should be avoided.
- D) The chairman of the event or another designated individual shall draw for the order of competition in an impartial manner. A designated individual shall then introduce each participant by name to the judges and in order of the drawing. Applause shall be withheld until all participants have spoken.
- E) Two designated timekeepers will record the time used by each participant in delivering his or her speech, noting under time or overtime, if any for which deductions will be made.
- F) Each judge will ask questions at the conclusion of the oral presentation of the speech. Judges will score each participant on the ability to answer all questions asked by judges. The full five minutes for questions should be used.
- G) When all participants have finished speaking, each judge will total the score on composition, delivery and response to questions for each participant. The timekeepers' record will be used in computing the final score for each participant. Participants shall be ranked in numerical order on the basis of the final score to be determined by each judge. The judges' score sheets will then be submitted to event chairman.
- H) Participants shall be ranked in numerical order on the basis of the final score to be determined by each judge without consultation. The judges' ranking of each participant then shall be added and the winner will be that participant whose total of rankings is the lowest. Other placings shall be determined in the same manner (low rank method of selection.)

## SCORING

### Overview:

Manuscript Scorecard – 200 Points

Presentation Scorecard – 500 Points

Response to Questions Scorecard – 300 Points

**Total Points: 1,000**

## TIEBREAKERS

Ties will be broken based on the greatest number of low ranks. Participants' low ranks will be counted and the participant with the greatest number of low ranks will be declared the winner. If a tie still exists, the judges will rank the participants response to questions. The participant with the lowest rank from the response to questions will be declared the winner. If a tie still exists, the participants' raw scores will be totaled. The participant with the greatest total or raw points will be declared the winner.

## PROPER OFFICIAL DRESS

Participants are expected to observe the National FFA Code of Ethics and the proper use of the FFA jacket during career and leadership development events. (Please reference the latest edition of the Official FFA Manual.) Proper Official Dress is required for this competition.

### Proper Official Dress for an FFA member includes:

- Official FFA Jacket zipped to the top
- Black slacks and black socks/nylons or black skirt and black nylons
- White collared blouse or white collared shirt
- Official FFA tie or official FFA scarf
- Black dress shoes with closed heel and toe

- Note: Official garb of recognized religions may be worn with Official Dress.  
(Taken from the FFA Official Manual)

## REFERENCES

*This list of references is not intended to be all inclusive.*

Other sources may be utilized, and teachers are encouraged to make use of the very best instructional materials available. Make sure to use discretion when selecting website references by only using reputable, proven sites. The following list contains references that may prove helpful during event preparation. The most current edition of resources will be used.

Past CDE materials and other resources *FFA.org*

National FFA Core Catalog: DEVELOPING GREAT SPEECHES GUIDE

APA Style Guide (most current edition) – [www.apastyle.org](http://www.apastyle.org)

Speak Well, latest edition, Liz O’Brien, McGraw-Hill Higher Education

Purdue’s Online Writing Lab – APA Formatting Guide: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/01/>

## AGRICULTURE, FOOD, AND NATURAL RESOURCES (AFNR) CONTENT STANDARDS

<b>CS.01.01. Performance Indicator: Examine issues and trends that impact AFNR systems on local, state, national and global levels.</b>		
<b>Measurement Assessed</b>	<b>Where measured in event</b>	<b>Academic Content Standards Addressed</b>
CS.7.02.01.c. Evaluate a public policy within AFNR systems and defend or challenge it.	Manuscript	
<b>CS.02.02. Performance Indicator: Examine the components of the AFNR systems and their impact on the local, state, national and global society and economy.</b>		
CS.02.02.01.c. Devise a strategy for explaining components of AFNR systems to audiences with limited knowledge.	Presentation	
CS.02.02.03.c. Evaluate how positive or negative changes in the local, state, national or global economy impacts AFNR systems.	Manuscript	
<b>CRP.04.01. Performance Indicator: Speak using strategies that ensure clarity, logic, purpose and professionalism in formal and informal settings.</b>		
CRP.04.01.01.a. Identify and categorize strategies for ensuring clarity, logic, purpose and professionalism in verbal and non-verbal communication (e.g., vocal tone, organization of thoughts, eye contact, preparation, etc.).	Presentation	

CRP.04.01.02.b. Apply strategies for speaking with clarity, logic, purpose and professionalism in a variety of situations in formal and informal settings.	Presentation	
<b>CRP.04.02. Performance Indicator: Produce clear, reasoned and coherent written communication in formal and informal settings.</b>		
CRP.04.02.02.c. Compose clear and coherent written documents (e.g., agendas, audio-visuals, drafts, forms, etc.) for formal and informal settings.	Manuscript	
<b>CRP.04.03. Performance Indicator: Model active listening strategies when interacting with others in formal and informal settings.</b>		
CRP.04.03.01.b. Apply active listening strategies (e.g., be attentive, observe non-verbal cues, ask clarifying questions, etc.).	Presentation	
CRP.04.03.02.c. Model active listening strategies in formal and informal settings.	Presentation	

**FFA Prepared Public Speaking Leadership Development Event Rubric–PART 1 of 2**

**MANUSCRIPT AND COMPOSITION RUBRIC – 200 points**

CONTESTANT NAME

CHAPTER

INDICATOR	Very strong evidence of skill is present 5-4 points	Moderate evidence of skill is present 3-2 points	Strong evidence of skill is not present 1-0 points	Points Earned	Weight	Total Points
<b>Topic relevance</b>	Topic addresses an issue facing the industry of agriculture.	Topic addresses an issue that may show some relationship to the industry of agriculture.	Topic addresses an issue that is unrelated to the industry of agriculture.		x 6	
<b>Persuasive explanation of position on topic</b>	Position clearly stated and ample evidence is provided.	Position is not obvious and evidence is not clearly provided.	Position is not stated and evidence is not provided.		x8	
<b>Alternative viewpoints recognized</b>	Identifies and counters alternative viewpoints.	Only identifies alternate viewpoints.	Does not identify alternate viewpoints.		x 4	
<b>Logical order and unity of thought</b>	Clearly organized and concise with strong introduction, body and conclusion layout.	Good organization with few statements out of place or lacking in clear construction.	Little to no organization is present; sometimes awkward and lacking construction.		x 4	
<b>Spelling/grammar (sentence structure, verb agreement, etc.).</b>	Spelling and grammar are extremely high quality with two or less errors in the document	Spelling and grammar are adequate with three to five errors in the document.	Spelling and grammar are less than adequate with six or more errors in the document.		x 7	
<b>Quality of resources</b>	Resources are from reputable sources.	Resources are from questionable sources.	Resources are unreliable and invalid.		x 6	
<b>Manuscript written according to guidelines</b>	<b>5 points</b>		<b>0 points</b>			
<b>Double-spaced formatted to 8½” x 11” with 1” margins</b> 12 point serif (Times new roman, Cambria, etc.) or sans serif font (Ariel, Calibri, etc.)				x 1		
<b>Cover page with speech title, participant’s name, state and year</b>				x 1		
<b>APA style for references and citations</b>				x 3		
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b>						

**FFA Prepared Public Speaking Leadership Development Event Rubric – PART 2 of 2**

**PRESENTATION AND QUESTION RUBRIC – 800 points**

CONTESTANT NAME \_\_\_\_\_

CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

INDICATORS	Very strong evidence of skill is present 5-4 points	Moderate evidence of skill is present 3-2 points	Strong evidence of skill is not present 1-0 points	Points Earned	Weight	Total Score
<b>Oral Communication and Non-Verbal Communication</b>						
<b>Supporting evidence</b>	Examples (stories, statistics, etc.) are vivid, precise and clearly explained.	Examples are usually concrete and sometimes need clarification.	Examples are sometimes confusing leaving the listeners with questions.		x 15	
<b>Persuasive use of evidence</b>	Exemplary use of evidence to persuade listeners.	Sufficient use of evidence to persuade listeners.	Has difficulty using evidence to persuade listeners.		x 15	
<b>Pace</b>	Speaks very articulately at rate that engages audience.	Speaks articulately but occasionally speaks too fast or has long unnecessary hesitations.	Speaks too slow or too fast to engage audience.		x 15	
<b>Command of audience</b>	Speaker uses appropriate emphasis and tone to captivate audience.	Speaker presents speech as mere repeating of facts and speech comes across as a report.	Speaker lacks enthusiasm and power to engage audience.		x 20	
<b>Eye contact</b>	Constantly looks at the entire audience (90 to 100 percent of the time).	Mostly looks around the audience (60 to 80 percent of the time).	Occasionally looks at someone or some groups (less than 50 percent of the time).		x 10	
<b>Mannerisms and gestures</b>	No nervous habits are displayed. Hand motions are expressive and used to emphasize talking points.	Sometimes exhibits nervous habits. Hands are sometimes used to express or emphasize.	Displays some nervous habits. Hands are not used to emphasize talking points; hand motions are sometimes distracting.		x 10	
<b>Poise</b>	Portrays confidence and composure through appropriate body language (stance, posture, facial expressions)	Maintains control most of the time; rarely loses composure.	Lacks confidence and composure.		x 15	
<b>Response to Questions</b>						
<b>Response to questions</b>	Is able to respond with organized thoughts and concise answers.	Answers effectively but has to stop and think and sometimes gets off focus.	Rambles or responds before thinking.		x 20	
<b>Knowledge of topic</b>	Answer shows thorough knowledge of the subject and supports answer with strong evidence.	Answer shows some knowledge of the subject but lacks strong evidence.	Answer shows little knowledge of subject and lacks evidence.		x 40	
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b>						

**TOTAL POINTS**

Total Points Manuscript and Composition \_\_\_\_\_

Total Points Presentation and Questions \_\_\_\_\_

Gross Total Points \_\_\_\_\_

\*Less time deductions: (1pt./sec.) - \_\_\_\_\_

Late Manuscript Deduction: - \_\_\_\_\_

NET TOTAL POINTS: \_\_\_\_\_

Rank of Contestant: \_\_\_\_\_

Judge's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_