

Public Speaking Leadership Skills Event

Objective: To develop the ability of FFA members to competently express themselves as they assume the responsibilities of agricultural leadership.

A. Rules and Regulations

1. The event is open to all FFA members in good standing who are regularly enrolled in agricultural education during one or both semesters of the school year and who have not placed first in a state Public Speaking Leadership Skills Event.
2. *Each district will determine the number of individuals per school allowed to compete at the district level. Each district may send a maximum of two individuals to state competition.*
3. A Public Speaking participant may compete in only one of the following events in a given year: Junior Parliamentary Procedure, Senior Parliamentary Procedure, or Agricultural Demonstration. They are not eligible to compete in any other speaking leadership skills or job interview events in a given year.
4. Each speech will be limited to eight minutes (warning at six minutes) and not less than six minutes in length. One point will be deducted for each second overtime or under time. A maximum of five minutes additional time will be allowed each participant to answer questions asked by the evaluators.
5. A bibliography must be included as part of the speaker's manuscript and direct quotes from any other source of information must be in quotes on the manuscript and identified with the bibliography. Charts and other visual aids are prohibited.
6. The participant's use of manuscript is prohibited at the district/state events; note cards are acceptable.
7. The participant will furnish three typewritten copies of the complete manuscript including cover page and bibliography for the district and state events. The cover page must include the participant's name, chapter, and title of the speech. The copies are to be brought to the district event. For state competition, they must be received in the state FFA office postmarked or delivered on or before March 1.
8. Cover page and bibliography are mandatory.

B. Guide for Conducting FFA Public Speaking Event

Prior to the event:

1. The order of appearance will be determined in advance of the event.
2. Hand out one of the following to each evaluator:
 - a. Public Speaking rules and regulations
 - b. Official score card/Results sheets
 - c. Order of appearance roster
 - d. Manuscripts of speeches

Start event:

1. Each participant will be introduced to the evaluators by the individual running the event.
2. After the participant is finished, the timer will record the time and forward to the evaluators.
3. Each participant is to have a maximum of five minutes of questioning from the evaluators. These questions are to be based on the speech.

After event:

1. Each evaluator should total each participant's score and arrive at the placing. Discussion between evaluators is allowed and encouraged.
2. Ribbons may be awarded according to the guidelines on the results sheets.
3. A critique sheet should be completed for each participant.
4. Two copies of the results should be completed on the sheets provided. List name/chapter of each participant.

Event dress:

1. Each participant should wear the official FFA dress as defined in the FFA Manual: Male - a white shirt, official FFA tie, dark trousers, dark socks, dark shoes, and FFA jacket. Female - a white blouse, official FFA scarf, dark skirt/slacks, dark shoes, and FFA jacket
2. Points will be deducted for variance from official dress.

E. Official Score Card

Content of Manuscript	200
Composition of Speech	100
Voice	100
Stage Presence	100
Power of Expression	100
Response to Questions	300
General Effect	<u>100</u>

Total 1000

Time Penalty: 1 point per second under time and/or overtime.

D. Awards Recognition

1. District Awards—Participants meriting awards shall be rated as purple, blue, red, or white. Each district may send a maximum of two contestants to the state competition.
2. State Awards—Participants in the state event will be designated as gold, silver, or bronze medal recipients. A trophy will be awarded to the top winner. Cash awards will be awarded to the top three winners in the state event.
3. The state winner will represent Nebraska in the National Public Speaking event.

PUBLIC SPEAKING EVENT CRITIQUE SHEET

Participant: _____

FFA Chapter: _____

Excellent
 Good
 Average
 Fair
 Poor

Recommendations for Improvement

Content of manuscript Importance of the subject Suitability of the material Accuracy of statements Evidence of purpose Cover page and bibliography included <i>(maximum of 200 points)</i>						
Composition of speech/manuscript Organization of the content Unity of thought Logical development Language used, sentence structure Accomplishment of purpose-conclusion <i>(maximum of 100 points)</i>						
Voice Quality, Pitch Force Articulation Pronunciation <i>(maximum of 100 points)</i>						
Stage Presence Personal appearance Poise and body posture Attitude, Confidence, Personality Ease before audience <i>(maximum of 100 points)</i>						
Power of expression Communicative ability including: fluency, emphasis, directness, sincerity Conveyance of thought and meaning <i>(maximum of 100 points)</i>						
Response to questions Ability to answer the questions on the speech indicating originality, familiarity with subject & ability to think quickly <i>(maximum of 300 points)</i>						
General effect Extent to which the speech was interesting, understandable and held attention <i>(maximum of 100 points)</i>						
TOTAL <i>(maximum of 1000 points)</i>			Time _____ Points Deducted _____			

GENERAL COMMENTS: