

**South Carolina
2008 Region and State
FFA Prepared Public Speaking
Career Development Event**

Purpose

The Prepared Public Speaking CDE is designed to develop agricultural leadership. It aims to provide the opportunity for personal growth and premier leadership by enhancing the speaking skills of participants. The event also encourages civic participation and cultivates a better knowledge of agriculture among participants.

Eligibility

1. One participant per chapter.
2. This event is open to FFA members who are currently in high school at the time they compete in their region competition.
3. The top two contestants in each region will compete at the state event to be conducted during the state FFA convention.
4. A student can compete in only one speaking event (Greenhand Creed, Upper Creed, Prepared, or Extemporaneous) on the state level in a given year.

General Plan

The preliminary contests at the region levels should follow the rules of the national prepared public speaking contest. These preliminary events culminate in the state contest held during the annual state FFA convention.

Subject

1. Participants may choose any current subject for their speeches, which is of an agricultural nature. This may include agriscience and technology, agribusiness, agrimarketing, international agricultural relations, and agricultural communications.
2. Official judges shall disqualify a participant if he or she speaks on a non-agricultural subject.

Time Limit

1. Each speech shall be not less than six and not more than eight minutes in length.
2. Five additional minutes allowed for related questions, which shall be asked by the judges.
3. Participants will be penalized one point per second on each judge's score sheet for being under six minutes or over eight minutes.
4. Time commences when the speaker begins talking. Speakers may use a watch to keep a record of their time.
5. Event officials or observers will give no time warnings.

Procedures

1. The CDE coordinator will randomly draw speaking order.
2. Contestants shall bring four copies of their typewritten manuscripts to the competition.
3. A timekeeper will keep the official speaking time and monitor the time the judges' use for asking questions.
4. At least two competent and impartial persons will be selected to judge the event.
5. Each judge shall formulate and ask questions. Questions shall pertain directly to the speaker's subject.
6. When all participants have finished speaking, each judge will total the score on each speaker. The timekeeper's record will be used in computing the final score for each participant.
7. 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 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 point method of selection). In case of a tie, the individual who has the highest grand total score shall have higher rating.
8. Contestants should wear official dress.
9. The criteria and point allocation are detailed on the prepared public speaking CDE score sheet.
10. Participants shall introduce themselves and their topic to the judges.

Tiebreakers

1. Ties will be broken based on the greatest number of low ranks. Participant's low rankings will be counted and the participant with the greatest number of low rankings will be declared the winner.
2. If a tie still exists, then the event superintendent will rank the participant's response to questions. The participant with the lowest ranking from the response to question will be declared the winner.

Awards (tentative, based upon sponsorship.)

The state winner will receive a plaque and \$500 for expenses towards a trip to Indianapolis, IN to compete in the National FFA Prepared Public Speaking Career Development Event. Plaques will be awarded to the 2nd and 3rd place individuals on the state level.