



Georgia FFA Association

PREPARED PUBLIC SPEAKING - SENIOR CDE

I. OVERVIEW

Participants in the Prepared Public Speaking CDE present a speech they have individually prepared before a panel of judges. Once the presentation is complete, they respond to questions from the judges and are scored individually by each judge.

II. 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.

III. ELIGIBILITY

This event is open to students in grades 9-12 who are agricultural education students, and are paid members of a chartered FFA chapter. Each student's name must appear on the chapter's FFA roster at least 10 days prior to competition above the chapter level.

Members who are participating in the area competition must first have qualified through earlier elimination brackets (if necessary.) The top two participants in each area are eligible for state competition. This CDE does have a national level of competition; so a winning student may not participate in any other CDE and no student who is a member of a state winning CDE team prior to the state competition is eligible to participate. A student may only participate in one state speaking competition per year.

IV. SPECIAL NEEDS REQUEST

To report any special needs or request special services for a student to compete in a Career Development Event or FFA Award area (Area or State level), it is the responsibility of the FFA advisor to provide a detailed and specific request and explanation in writing. Requests should include written documentation from the school system verifying the IEP and need being requested. Written requests must be submitted to the CDE Superintendent prior to registering for the CDE/event (at least 3 weeks prior to the date of competition.)

V. RULES

1. The Prepared Public Speaking event is limited to one student per chapter on the area level, and two students per area on the state level.
2. This event will follow the general procedure established for all Georgia FFA career development events.
3. All manuscripts must be a student's original work. It is advantageous to consult all available sources, but all material secured from another source must be documented.
4. Participants should follow any instructions given by the event superintendent.
5. It is highly recommended that students wear official dress as outlined in the Official FFA Manual.
6. During the event, participants and their advisors may not listen to any speaker preceding their presentation.
7. The State FFA Executive Committee and their appointees will be in charge of this event.



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VI. EVENT FORMAT

A. Materials to be submitted:

1. Three doubled-spaced typewritten copies of the speech on 8 1/2" x 11" white bond paper with cover page that gives the speech title, participant's name, chapter and date. The body of the manuscript should have 1" margins and the character font should be 10-12 per inch. Format, bibliography and reference questions should be answered by the APA style manual. Do not bind manuscripts, only staple. Manuscripts must be sent to the regional offices for initial level of competition.
2. Each participant should submit a signed statement that the manuscript is original work.
3. Each manuscript must be accompanied by a complete and accurate bibliography. Any plagiarism will result in dismissal from the competition. Consult the APA style manual with documentation questions.

B. Subjects

Participants may choose any current subject of an agricultural nature for their speeches. This may include agriscience and technology, agribusiness, agrimarketing, international agricultural relations or agricultural communications. Official judges of the FFA Pre-pared Public Speaking Career Development Event may disqualify a participant if he or she speaks on a non-agricultural subject.

C. Time Limit

Each speech should 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 additional minutes in which he or she will be asked questions relating to his or her speech. No time warnings will be given.

D. Judging

1. Prior to the event, the content and composition of all manuscripts will be judged and scored by qualified individuals using the manuscript score sheet. Manuscript scores will be averaged and supplied to the presentation judges after they have scored the oral presentation.
2. Presentation judges will be furnished with typewritten copies of the participants' manuscripts, which they will use to formulate questions. Questions shall pertain directly to the speaker's subject.
3. Event officials will randomly determine the speaking order. The event superintendent will introduce each participant by name in order of the drawing. A participant will be permitted to use notes while speaking, but deductions in scoring may be made for this practice if it detracts from the effectiveness of the presentation. No props are to be used. Applause shall be withheld until all participants have spoken.
4. A designated timekeeper 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.
5. At the time of the event, the judges will score each participant on the delivery of the speech, using the score sheet provided.
6. 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.
7. When all participants have finished speaking, each judge will total the score on composition, delivery and response to questions for each participant. The timekeeper(s) 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



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score to be determined by each judge. The judges' score sheets will then be submitted to event officials to determine final ratings of participants.

8. The judges' ranking of each participant then shall be added, and the winner will be that participant whose total ranking is the lowest.
9. The top two placing contestants from each of the two preliminary rounds will compete against each other in the final round.

E. Rounds

1. The state Prepared Public Speaking CDE will be conducted in two rounds, preliminary (12 participants; 6 each in two rooms) and a finals round (4 participants; top 2 from each preliminary round).

VII. SCORING

Total possible points for the Sr. Prepared Public Speaking CDE is 1000 points. Please see the Prepared Public Speaking CDE score sheet below (pages 5-6).

Manuscript Scorecard (200 points)

Manuscript Content – 100 points

1. Topic is important and appropriate (50 points)
 - a. Current topic of interest – 25 points
 - b. Topic is relevant and within the scope of identified subjects – 25 points
2. Suitability of material used (50 points)
 - a. Validity of resources – 25 points
 - b. Accuracy of content – 25 points

Manuscript Composition – 100 points

1. Organization and development of content (40 points)
 - a. Logical order and unity of thought – 20 points
 - b. Accomplishment of purpose – 20 points
2. Grammatical accuracy (35 points)
 - a. Spelling/grammar – 35 points
3. Manuscript written according to event format rule #1 (25 points)
 - a. Double-spaced, 8"x11" white bond paper, 1" margins in body of paper – 5 points
 - b. 12 point Arial or sans serif font; cover page with title, name, state and year – 5 points
 - c. APA style for references and bibliography – 15 points

Presentation Scorecard (800 points)

Oral Communication – 300 points

1. Examples – 50 points
2. Speaking without hesitation – 50 points
3. Tone – 50 points
4. Being detailed-oriented – 50 points
5. Command of audience – 50 points
6. Connecting and articulating facts and issues – 50 points



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Non-verbal Communication – 200 points

1. Attention (eye contact) – 50 points
2. Mannerisms – 50 points
3. Gestures – 50 points
4. Well poised – 50 points

Response to Questions – 300 points

1. Speaking unrehearsed – 50 points
2. Command of questions – 250 points

Consult the National FFA Career Development Handbook on the National FFA website (www.ffa.org.)

VIII. TIE BREAKERS

Consult the National FFA Career Development Handbook or the CDE section of the National FFA website (www.ffa.org.)

IX. AWARDS

Awards shall be determined each year by the Board of Trustees of the Georgia FFA Foundation. The event is made possible through the Georgia FFA Foundation as a special project of an industry sponsor or from the Foundation General Fund. Minimum awards will recognize the first place individual in each area, and the first and second place individuals at the state level.

X. REFERENCES

References shall be those outlined in the National FFA Career Development Event handbook for the Prepared Public Speaking CDE.

Preliminary Brackets

The State FFA Prepared Public Speaking CDE will consist of two preliminary brackets and the finals. The top two places from each area will compete in the two preliminary brackets. The two preliminary brackets will be as follows.

BRACKET A	BRACKET B
First Place Area I	Second Place Area I
Second Place Area II	First Place Area II
First Place Area III	Second Place Area III
Second Place Area IV	First Place Area IV
First Place Area V	Second Place Area V
Second Place Area VI	First Place Area VI

State Finals:

The top two places from Bracket A and Bracket B will compete in the state finals.



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Oral Communication – 300 points				SCORE CARD		
Indicators	Very Strong Evidence skill is present (5-4 points)	Moderate Evidence skill is present (3-2 points)	Strong Evidence skill is NOT present (1-0 points)	Points Earned	Weight	Total Score
A. Examples	Examples are vivid, precise and clearly explained. *Examples are original, logical, and relevant.	Examples are mostly concrete, but lack clarity. *Examples are effective but lack originality.	Examples are abstract or unclear. *Examples are confusing and raise more questions.		x10	
B. Speaking without hesitation	Speaking very articulately without hesitation. *Never has the need for unnecessary pauses or hesitation when speaking.	Speaks articulately, but sometimes hesitates. *Occasionally has the need for a long pause or moderate hesitation when speaking.	Speaks articulately, but frequently hesitates. *Frequently hesitates or has long, awkward pauses while speaking.		x10	
C. Tone	Appropriate tone is consistent. *Speaks at the right pace to be clear. *Pronunciation of words is very clear and intent is apparent.	Appropriate tone is usually consistent. *Speaks at the right pace most of the time, but shows some nervousness. *Pronunciation of words is usually clear, sometimes vague.	Has difficulty using appropriate tone. *Pace is too fast; nervous *Pronunciation of words is difficult to understand; unclear		x10	
D. Being detail-oriented	Is able to stay fully detail oriented. *Always provides details which support answers.	Is mostly detail-oriented. *Usually provides details which support answers.	Has difficulty being detail oriented. *Overlooks details that could support answers.		x10	
E. Command of Audience	Speaker uses power of presentation to engage and captivate the audience with the message of the speech.	Speaker presents speech as mere repeating of facts and speech comes across as a report.	Speaker bores the audience with lack of enthusiasm and power to deliver the speech.		x10	
F. Connecting & articulating facts & issues	Exemplary in connecting facts and issues, and articulating how they impact the issue locally & globally. *Possesses a strong knowledge base and is able to effectively articulate information regarding current events and facts.	Sufficient in connecting facts & issues and articulating how they impact the issue locally & globally. *Possesses a good knowledge base, and is able to, for the most part, articulate information regarding current events and facts.	Has difficulty with connecting facts and issues, and articulating how they impact the issue locally & globally. *Possesses some knowledge base, but is unable to articulate information effectively.		x10	

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Non-Verbal Communication – 200 points				SCORE CARD		
A. Attention (eye contact)	Eye contact constantly used as an effective connection. *Constantly looks at the entire audience.	Eye contact is mostly effective and consistent. *Mostly looks around the entire audience.	Eye contact does not always allow connection with the speaker. *Occasionally looks at some part of the audience.		x10	
B. Mannerisms	Does not have distracting mannerisms that affect effectiveness. *No nervous habits.	Sometimes has distracting mannerisms that pull from the presentation. *Exhibits some nervous habits.	Has mannerisms that pull from the effectiveness of the presentation. *Displays nervous habits.		x10	
C. Gestures	Gestures are purposeful and effective. *Hand motions are expressive & used to emphasize points. *Great posture & positive body language.	Usually uses purposeful gestures. *Hands are sometimes used to express/emphasize. *Occasionally slumps; negative body language.	Occasionally gestures are used effectively. *Hands are not used to emphasize; motions are distracting. *Lacks positive body language.		x10	
D. Well poised	Is extremely well poised. *In control at all times.	Mostly well poised. *In control most of the time.	Is not well poised. *Seems to lose control.		x10	

Question & Answer– 300 points
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A. Speaking unrehearsed	Speaks unrehearsed with comfort and ease. *Is able to speak quickly with organized thoughts.	Speaks mostly unrehearsed *Is able to speak effectively, but has to stop and gather thoughts.	Shows nervousness or seems unprepared. *Seems to ramble or speak before thinking.		x10	
B. Demonstrates knowledge of topic	Answers show thorough knowledge of the speech subject. *Supports answer with strong evidence	Answers show some knowledge of the subject. *Has some evidence, but lacks in strength.	Answer shows little knowledge of the subject. *Evidence is lacking to support the answer.		X50	
Manuscript Score* (max 200 points)						
Gross Total Points (max 1000 points)						
Time Deduction**						
Net Total Points						
Rank						

*manuscript score will be provided to the speaking judges by the CDE Superintendent.
 ** minus 1 point per second over 8 minutes and per second under 6 minutes, determined by the timekeepers