

Agricultural Education Club Speech Contest

Saturday, February 3, 2024

KSU Student Union

Event Rules – All Divisions

1. Any student may participate if they are currently enrolled in high school or middle school agriculture.
2. **Cost is \$10 (with a t-shirt), \$5 (without a t-shirt) per student.** These entry fees will not be refundable. Make checks payable to the KSU Agricultural Education Club. Payment can be made the day of the event or mailed to:

Dr. Gaea Hock
301 Umberger Hall
Manhattan KS 66502

3. Submit registration via the online form at
https://kstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0GLbo11ctBaID8O

Priority deadline will be **January 5, 2024 to get a shirt.** Last day to register is January 17, 2024 to allow adequate time for creating speech schedules.

4. According to National FFA rules, no props, posters, mockups, etc. shall be used. A penalty of 10% of the final score (before time penalty, if any) shall be deducted for use of above or similar material. Notes are discouraged in all divisions except extemporaneous.
5. Contestants may listen to other contestant's speeches upon the speaker's consent.
6. People may enter and leave the room only between speeches.
7. Participants may choose any current subject for their speeches, which is of an agriculture nature. This may include agriscience and technology, agribusiness, agrimarketing, international agricultural relations and agricultural communications. *There are to be no speeches with a leadership topic.*
8. It is highly recommended that participants be in official FFA dress *as defined in the current Official FFA Manual.*
9. Participants will be deducted for time over or under given time requirements listed below.
10. Middle school students are those in 6th, 7th, or 8th grade.
11. A student may not present in more than one of the following categories: Middle School, Freshmen, Sophomore, Junior or Senior Division. A student may present in their grade level division in addition to Creed or Extemporaneous.
12. A student is allowed to compete at their grade level or up. (They are not allowed to move down a grade level.)
13. With two rooms per division, the teams with two entries per division will be assigned to separate rooms.
14. Ties will be broken on the total **power of expression score in the junior high, freshmen, sophomore, and junior divisions** and the **total question score in the creed, senior, and extemporaneous division.**
15. The first speeches will begin at **8:30 a.m.**
16. Awards (top ranking individuals and top-ranking schools) will be announced at the conclusion of the contest.

Event Format – Creed

Creed speakers shall currently be enrolled in their freshmen year if in a four-year high school and in their sophomore year if in a three-year high school. Questions will be asked at the conclusion of the presentation of the creed. No time limit is imposed on this division. If more than eight participants in the division, the participants may be split into two rooms and the top two individuals from each room will compete in a final round to begin within 15 minutes of the last room in the division to finish preliminaries.

Event Format – Middle School, Freshmen, Sophomore, Junior Divisions-Prepared

The length of each speech in the appropriate division shall be: Middle School: 2-3 minutes; Freshmen: 2-4 minutes; Sophomore: 3-5 minutes; and Junior: 4-6 minutes. There will be no questions asked in any of these divisions. No time warnings will be given. The top two individuals in each room will compete in a final round to begin within 15 minutes of the last room in the division to finish preliminaries.

Event Format – Senior Division - Prepared

Each speech shall be a minimum of six minutes in length and a maximum of eight minutes. Each participant will be allowed five minutes additional time in which he or she will be asked questions relating to his or her speech. No time warnings will be given. *According to national guidelines, a participant will be permitted to use notes while speaking, but deductions may be made for this practice if it detracts from the effectiveness of the presentation.* Finals will only take place if there are enough participants for two rooms in this division. If so, the top two individuals in each room will compete in a final round to begin within 15 minutes of the last room in the division to finish preliminaries.

Event Format - Extemporaneous

1. Participants will select their topic 30 minutes before their scheduled speaking time. The participants will draw three specific topics, selected at random from the pool of 12, relating to the industry of agriculture. After selecting the topic they desire to speak on, all three topics will be returned for the next drawing.
2. Twelve topics will be prepared by the event judges and will include three each from the following categories: a) agriscience and technology b) agrimarketing and international agricultural relations c) food and fiber systems d) urban agriculture.
3. Participants will be admitted to the preparation room at 15-minute intervals and given exactly 30 minutes for topic selection and preparation.
4. Participants may have up to 10 minutes to conduct online research. Technology will be provided.
5. Reference materials cannot be notes of speeches prepared by the participants or notes prepared by another person for the purpose of this event. (Follow National rules for acceptable resource material.)
6. Each speech should be the result of the participant's own effort using approved reference material that the participant may bring to the preparation room. No other assistance may be provided. Participants must use the uniform note cards provided. Any notes for speaking must be made during the 30-minute preparation period.
7. *Each speech should be not less than four and no more than six minutes in length, with five minutes additional time allowed for related questions* that will be asked by the judges. The room monitor will introduce the participant by name and chapter, and the participant may introduce his or her speech by title only. Time commences when the speaker begins talking. Speakers may use a watch to keep a record of their time.
8. 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.
9. The top two individuals in each room will compete in a final round to begin within 15 minutes of the last room in the division finish preliminaries. Participants will then draw a topic and have 30 minutes to prepare. Rules will remain the same as preliminaries, however, the room number may change and there may be multiple rooms.

Event Format – Team Competition

Team awards will be provided to recognize the collective effort of chapter members. A “full team” consists of two speakers in each of the six divisions (creed, freshmen, sophomore, junior, senior and extemporaneous). Chapters that do not have a “full team” are still eligible for team awards. **Middle School contestants’ scores will not be included in team competition.** The highest average speaker scores per room per division will be added and ranked to determine the highest points team. (**The scores are weighted so that they are even when calculating the final award. Ex = Creed has 100 points on the rubric, while Extemp has 1,000. The Creed score is multiplied by 10 in order to evenly weight the scores.*) Only scores from preliminary rounds will be used. Finals results will not be calculated in determining team awards. The top three team scores will be recognized.