

# EXTEMPORANEOUS PUBLIC SPEAKING

## Individual Event

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### IMPORTANT NOTE

*Please thoroughly read the General CDE Rules Section at the beginning of this handbook for complete rules and procedures that are relevant to State FFA Career Development Events.*

#### I. PURPOSE

The Extemporaneous Public Speaking Career Development Event is designed to develop the ability of FFA members to express themselves on a given agricultural subject without having prepared or rehearsed its content in advance. This gives FFA members an opportunity to formulate their remarks for presentation in a very limited amount of time.

#### II. OBJECTIVES

1. Develop and practice great communication skills.
2. Ability to think, prepare and perform under pressure.
3. Gain knowledge of current agricultural topics and issues.
4. Explore career interests in the diverse field of agriculture.

#### III. EVENT RULES

1. The event is open to students who are regularly enrolled in high school agricultural education and who are active members of FFA chapters in good standing with the state association and national organization. Dual members speaking in 4-H public speaking are ineligible to speak in FFA public speaking during the same school year.
2. The event is structured in four levels of advanced participation: PI, District, State, and National Qualifying. The state event will be limited to participation by two students in each division who have been determined winners in a district event.
3. The selection of topics will be held 30 minutes before the event. The participants will draw three specific topics, selected at random from the pool of approximately 10, 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.
4. Topics will be prepared by the event superintendent and will include subjects from the following categories:
  - a. Agricultural literacy and advocacy
  - b. Current agricultural issues
  - c. Advancing agriculture through agriculture science
  - d. Current technology uses and applications in agriculture
  - e. Agri-marketing and international agriculture
  - f. Food and fiber systems

5. Participants will be admitted to the preparation room at 15 minute intervals and given exactly 30 minutes for topic selection and preparation.
6. The officials in charge of the event will screen reference material on the following basis:
  - a. Must be limited to five items.
  - b. May be printed material such as books or magazines.
  - c. May be printed compilations of materials collected from internet research.
  - d. To be counted as one item, a notebook or folder of collected materials may contain no more than 100 single-sided pages or 50 pages double-sided numbered consecutively.
  - e. Cannot be notes or speeches prepared by the participant or by another person for the purpose of use in this event.
7. Each speech should be the result of the participant's own effort using approved reference material which the participant may bring to the preparation room. No other assistance may be provided.
8. Participants must use the uniform note cards provided. Any notes for speaking must be made during the 30 minute preparation period. A participant will be permitted to use note cards while speaking, but deductions in scoring may be made for this practice if it detracts from the effectiveness of the presentation.
9. Each speech shall be a minimum of four minutes in length and a maximum of six minutes. Participants are penalized one point per ten seconds for under four minutes or over six minutes. Examples: 6:01 to 6:10 would cost a one-point deduction; 6:11 to 6:20 would cost a two-point deduction, etc.
10. Speakers may use a watch to keep a record of their time. Event officials or observers will give no time warnings.
11. The room coordinator of the event will introduce the participant by name and chapter. The room coordinator will also introduce the participant's chosen topic.
12. A member that wins a state speaking division is ineligible to speak again in that division.
13. Any speech participant not in Official FFA Dress will receive a five-point deduction. The Oklahoma FFA Constitution defines Official FFA Dress:
  - a. Official FFA Dress for male members is black slacks or black, pleated jeans; white shirt; official FFA tie; black dress shoes or boots; black socks; and official jacket zipped to the top. Black slacks or pleated jeans noticeably worn or faded are not acceptable.

- b. Official FFA Dress for female members is a black skirt; white blouse; official FFA scarf; black dress shoes; and official jacket zipped to the top. The black skirt shall be no shorter than one inch above the knee. Black slacks are not accepted official dress for female members in Oklahoma.

**IV. EVENT FORMAT**

**A. Team Make-Up**

Individual

**B. Questions**

Immediately following the speech, participants will be allowed five minutes additional time to be asked questions from the judges relating to their extemporaneous topic.

**C. Scoring**

Oral Communication.....60

Non-verbal Communication.....40

**Total Points.....100 pts**

**D. Judging**

1. It is recommended that three competent and impartial persons judge each division. A timekeeper will be designated to record the time used by each participant.
2. Judges should be seated in different sections of the room in which the event is held. Each judge will score each participant based on the criteria of the judge's score sheet provided.
3. Following the presentation, each judge will formulate and ask questions. Questions will pertain directly to the material presented by the speaker. The full five minutes allotted for questions should be used. Judges will score each participant on the ability to answer all questions asked by all judges.
4. No tape recorders or video machines will be allowed in the contest room.
5. When all participants have finished speaking, each judge will total the score for each participant. The timekeeper's record will be used in computing deductions for over/under time. On the bottom line of the score sheet, each judge will rank each participant in numerical order based on the final score. Judges will complete the judging process without consultation with each other.
6. Each judge's score sheet will be submitted to the designated event superintendent to determine the final ranking of participants. The lowest total of the final ranking is the winner. In the event two judges place a participant first, he/she is automatically first. In the event of a tie in the final ranking, the participant that two judges place highest will be determined the winner.

7. No props are to be used. Failure to comply will mean automatic disqualification of the participant.
8. Applause shall be withheld until all participants have spoken.

#### **E. National Qualifying Rules**

1. The state winner in the Extemporaneous speaking division at the State FFA Interscholastics in Stillwater will be Oklahoma's representative in the National Extemporaneous Public Speaking Event held during the national FFA convention.
2. Any member who has represented Oklahoma in a national career development event or national awards area as a 4-H or FFA member is ineligible to participate again in the National Qualifying Event for that area as an FFA member. Therefore, a member who has represented Oklahoma in the National Extemporaneous Speaking event is ineligible to participate again in the extemporaneous division at the OSU State FFA Interscholastics.
3. A member can participate in only one national career development event in a given year. A member speaking in the state event in both prepared and extemporaneous public speaking must declare in which division the speaker would represent Oklahoma in the national event in the event the speaker won both divisions. This must be done prior to the national qualifying event for the prepared division.
4. A member who wins both extemporaneous and prepared divisions but chooses to participate in the prepared division at the national event may compete again in the extemporaneous division for the right to represent Oklahoma in the national event. The reverse of this does not apply.

#### **F. Awards**

The division winners at the OSU State FFA Interscholastics in Stillwater will receive all cash awards, plaques and scholarships provided by sponsors for that division.

#### **G. Resources**

1. This list of resources 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. The following list contains references that may prove helpful during event preparation.
2. Oklahoma Curriculum and Instructional Materials Center (CIMC), FFA Prepared Public Speaking DVD, catalog number AG7301DVD.

3. Oklahoma FFA web site at [www.okffa.org](http://www.okffa.org). Click on Career Development Events. Click on Prepared Speech & Extemp Topic Research Links (provided by Rhett Laubach)
4. National FFA Core Catalog:
  - a. Figures of Speech DVD—<http://shop.ffa.org/figures-of-speech-dvd-p37895.aspx>
  - b. Great Speeches and Presentations—<http://shop.ffa.org/great-speeches-andpresentations-p37634.aspx>
  - c. CDE Q&A's DVD (2007-2010)—<http://shop.ffa.org/cde-qas-c1413.aspx>
  - d. FFA Learn—2005 & 2006 CDE Q&A's—<https://ffa.learn.com/learncenter.asp>
5. Factual information pertaining to agriculture is available from:
  - a. United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250
  - b. State colleges, research centers and/or experiment stations
  - c. The Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402.
  - d. American Farm Bureau Federation – [www.fb.org](http://www.fb.org)

## **H. Supplemental Materials and Forms**

Extemp Score Sheet

