



ND FFA Association

**EXTEMPORANEOUS
PUBLIC SPEAKING
Handbook**

DISTRICT

The Extemporaneous Public Speaking event is held during District Leadership Meetings and State LDE Day. The purpose of this award is to help develop agricultural leadership by providing opportunity for members to take part in agricultural public speaking activities on local, district, state, and national levels.

General Plan

1. Each chapter may enter in the district event one active member who shall have been declared winner of the chapter's public speaking event. The top 16 (2 per district) are eligible to compete in the state event.
2. Any participant in possession of any electronic device (except basic timing device) in the preparation room is subject to disqualification.
3. Members who have taken part in a previous national FFA extemporaneous public speaking event are not eligible. Persons who have taken part in a previous state event but did not participate in the national event may enter. A chapter winner is eligible to participate only in the next succeeding district, state, and national events.

Procedure

1. Topics for the district extemporaneous public speaking event will be prepared by the State FFA Office.
2. The state office will select articles from farm and ranch publications and other publications which have stories relating to agriculture, FFA, and leadership development.
3. Participants will be allowed to select three articles and choose one of these to prepare their speech.
4. Participants will be admitted to the preparation room at 15-minute intervals and be given exactly 30 minutes for topic selection and preparation.
5. Order of appearance is determined in a random order at the time each chapter registers.
6. Each speech shall be the result of the participant's own effort. Any notes for speaking must be made during the 30- minute preparation period.
7. Copies of all articles will be given to the judges prior to the beginning of the event.

8. Each speaker shall be limited to not more than six minutes or less than four minutes. A deduction of 1 point per 10 seconds will apply to speeches less than 4 minutes or longer than six minutes. Time deduction will start at 3:59 and below and at 6:01 and above. Additional time will be allowed for judges to ask related questions. Time warnings will not be given. Speakers may utilize a basic timing device. (No smart devices allowed.)
9. Judges will evaluate speakers in the district event based on the National FFA extemporaneous public speaking score card.
10. Participants will be grouped on the basis of merit and three levels of achievement will be recognized as gold, silver, and bronze. First and second place speakers will be eligible to represent the district at the State LDE Day.
11. The selection of the judges (minimum of 3) shall be left to the discretion of the district involved, subject to approval of the state FFA advisor. If chapter advisors are used, no advisor shall judge his/her own student. The composite score of the other judges will be used for the score.
12. Members may also compete in the prepared speaking event.
13. The judges will rank contestants with the top two advancing for competition at the State LDE Day.

STATE

Each district may be represented by two speakers. An elimination round will be held, consisting of two groups of eight speakers selected by alternating first and second place district winners. For example, Group A would be set up with the first-place speaker from District 1, second place speaker from District 2, first place speaker from the District 3, etc. Group B would then start with the second-place speaker from District 1, etc.

The procedure, rules and scorecards will be identical with those used in the district events. The judges will select the two top contestants from Groups A and B and these four will be the finalists.

Individual scores will be tabulated and broken into gold, silver, and bronze award areas. The High Individual at the State LDE Day will be named and receive a "baby bison" trophy and eligible to participate in the National FFA Extemporaneous Public Speaking LDE. A \$250.00 award and a \$500.00 travel stipend to the National FFA Convention will be awarded by the ND FFA Foundation.