



IOWA

FFA ASSOCIATION

AG DISCUSSION MEET LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT EVENT

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LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT EVENT (LDE)

GENERAL POLICIES, RULES, RESULTS AND STANDARDS

*Violations of any of the following rules may be grounds for the disqualification of the participants.

I. **Board Policies**

The following board policies (<https://www.iowaffa.com/about.aspx>, "Governing Documents" link on the right) apply directly or in part to LDEs:

- Board Policy #3: Changes to Judging Event Results
- Board Policy #7: Substitution of Team Members
- Board Policy #17: Advancement of Teams to National FFA Competition
- Board Policy #18: Use of Electronic Storage/Transmission Devices

II. **Eligibly of Chapters and Participants**

- A. Events are open to all FFA chapters in good standing with the Iowa FFA Association. The first qualifying level of participation varies among sub-district, district, and state levels. Refer to event specific rules to identify the initial level of participation.
- B. It is recommended, but not required, to have local FFA advisors or their designee enter teams in the initial level of an event their intent to have a team on Iowa FFA On-Line (<http://anfmp01.dmac.edu/fmi/webd#>) seven (7) days prior to the initial event.
- C. Participants in the following events may compete in only one sub-district, one district and one state FFA event:
- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| • Ag Broadcasting | • Conduct of Meetings |
| • Ag CSI | • Experience the Action |
| • Ag Impact | • Extemporaneous Speaking |
| • Ag Issues & Perceptions | • FFA Creed Speaking |
| • Ag Sales (Individual) | • Job Interview |
| • Chapter Program | • Parliamentary Procedure |
| • Chapter Website (Event Day Presenter) | • Public Speaking |
- D. Only one entry per chapter is permitted in each official event with the following exceptions: Ag CSI and Ag Impact. It is strongly recommended that local events be utilized to determine the local winner to broaden the base of competition at the local level.
- E. After an FFA Advisor registers the chapter's intent to enter an event, it is suggested, but not required, to enter the names of the participants on Iowa FFA On-Line (<http://anfmp01.dmac.edu/fmi/webd#>) by noon three (3) days prior to the event. Any member not listed on Iowa FFA On-Line will need to be registered as an FFA member on the National FFA Roster (<https://www.ffa.org/>). Changes to online entries may be made the day of the event. State and National FFA Dues will be invoiced in accordance with Iowa FFA Association policies and by-laws.
- F. A participant, at the time of his/her participation in the state event and selection as a national team member, must:
1. Be a current bona fide dues paying FFA member in good standing with the local chapter, state FFA Association and the National FFA Organization at the time of the LDE in which he/she participates.
 2. Be a middle school or high school FFA member. A graduating senior is considered eligible to compete in state and national LDEs up to and including their first national convention following graduation. Middle school refers to students in grades 7-8 and high school refers to students in grades 9-12.
 3. Currently be an active FFA member of the chapter making entry into the event.
- G. A member may not participate in both a state 4-H and state FFA event when said events are held on the same day.
- H. If an entry in an LDE is not able to advance, the designated alternate(s) will become the participant(s).
- I. Members are eligible to participate for up to two years in the following LDEs on the sub-district/district level. Once they have participated in one of those events on the state level they are ineligible to participate in that event in future years.
- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| • Ag Broadcasting | • Experience the Action |
| • Ag CSI | • Extemporaneous Speaking |
| • Ag Impact | • FFA Creed Speaking |
| • Ag Issues & Perceptions | • Job Interview |
| • Ag Sales (Individual) | • Parliamentary Procedure |
| • Chapter Program | • Public Speaking |
| • Conduct of Meetings | |

- J. At the Sub-District and District level, it is permissible to deliver the written materials to the Sub-District Advisor or District Advisor respectively. Written materials will be returned following the respective event and may be revised before the next event. Written materials advancing to the State event must be postmarked to the FFA Enrichment Center seven (7) business days following the District event. Events with written materials include:
- Ag CSI
 - Ag Impact
 - Ag Sales (Individual)
 - Chapter Program
 - Experience the Action
 - Job Interview
 - Public Speaking
- K. No student may participate in more than one LDE/CDE each year at the national level.
- L. Accommodations for participants can be made upon request of the FFA Advisor. The accommodation form must be submitted no less than 14 days prior to the respective event. Any assistance given to a team member from any source other than the LDE officials or assistants will be sufficient cause to eliminate the team from the LDE.
- M. Proctors that are identified for online or virtual components shall have proper credentials to deliver educational programs to youth and shall not have a conflict of interest with participants in the event. The FFA advisor(s) and/or assistant FFA advisor(s) shall not serve as a proctor.
- N. Participants shall not initiate contact with the judges. Doing so will result in a 5% deduction of points. Interactions allowed between the judges and participants are identified in each respective LDE's rules.
- O. Items needed for specific phases of each LDE will be noted under their specific rules.
- P. Participants are expected to observe the National FFA Code of Ethics and the Proper Use of the FFA Jacket during the career development events found in the Official FFA Manual (<https://www.ffa.org/official-manual/>).
- Q. Official FFA dress is expected for all participants when appropriate. If official dress is not appropriate, official casual dress should be worn. Official casual dress shall consist of 1) FFA t-shirt or polo shirt and 2) khaki or nice denim pants or shorts.

III. Holding Room Operating Procedures

- A. Only holding room supervisor(s) and FFA participants are allowed in the holding area while competitive events are in session.
- B. Participants will be escorted to the bathroom by an official FFA student or courtesy corps member. If participants are in procession of electronic storage or transmission devices, participants will hand over technology to student escort during that time.
- C. In case of emergency, the sub-district or district advisor will be notified immediately, as well as the participant's advisor(s) and holding room supervisors.
- D. In the event of an emergency contact which must be made with a participant, the message will be relayed to the participant by means of the holding room supervisor(s), and/or the holding room supervisor accompanying the advisor(s) delivering the message.
- E. In the event that participants are arriving late, the participants will be met at the main entrance of the event and escorted by an event official to the holding room area and immediately check in with the holding room supervisor(s). Allowance of a late arrival is at the discretion of the host advisor.

IV. Judging Results and Awards

- A. All events at sub-district, district and state levels are to be judged on a group ranking basis of Gold Emblem, Silver Emblem, and Bronze Emblem. Members placing below the three rankings will be listed as participants. Only if a written rule is violated will a "participation" ranking be given. This will prevent that entry from advancing. If necessary for entry in a regional or national event, one or more of the winners will be selected.
- B. First, second, and third place shall be designated in every event at the state level.
- C. In sub-district, district and state events, effort will be made to secure three (Ag Sales and Job Interview events shall have four) qualified and impartial persons to serve as judges whose decisions shall be final.
- D. Judges:
1. Effort will be made to make the comments of judges on strong and weak features available to all advisors for their participants, after the placings have been made.
 2. Of all events should make every effort to supply comments on individuals and team events.
 3. Must obtain permission from the LDE Chairperson before issuing a "participation" rating.
- E. The results of all district FFA events will be released only by the District FFA Advisor, upon completion of the events at the district level.

- F. Results of sub-district, district, and state events are to be released to the press and radio services so that parents and others at home may know of the outcome of the FFA events at the earliest opportunity. Release dates should be STRICTLY observed.
- G. All references to awards to be provided by the National FFA Foundation, Inc. or Iowa FFA Foundation, Inc., are tentative, pending final announcement by the organization.
- H. Should an unusual interruption occur while an event is in progress it is expected that good judgment will be exercised in maintaining fairness to all participants.
- I. Officer books advancing to the state level of competition will not be displayed at the district event in order to assist the district advisors in meeting their obligations to preserve the materials for further competition. They will be displayed at the state leadership conference.

V. AFNR Career Cluster Content Standards

AFNR Content Standards are specifically outlined within each respective LDE.

Ag Discussion Meet

- For Post-Secondary FFA Members –
2024 Chairperson: Duane Fisher, Retired

I. Overview

The Ag Discussion Meet is an FFA event initiated only for “out-of-school” active FFA members. Although the participants participate in groups of about three to eight, similar to a panel, they are not judged collectively, but are judged on an individual basis. The participants are seated similar to a panel, but they do not operate as a panel with the moderator starting and stopping each participant. Rather, they function in freewheeling style with no order of participation and with freedom of discussion as if a few people were sitting around a table discussing an agricultural topic.

This is a State Level Only Event.

II. AFNR Career Cluster Content Standards

CRP.01. Standard: Act as a responsible and contributing citizen and employee.

CRP.01.01. Indicator: Model personal responsibility in the workplace and community.

CRP.01.02. Indicator: Evaluate and consider the near-term and long-term impacts of personal and professional decisions on employers and community before taking action.

CRP.01.03. Indicator: Identify and act upon opportunities for professional and civic service at work and in the community.

CRP.02. Standard: Apply appropriate academic and technical skills.

CRP.02.01. Indicator: Use strategic thinking to connect and apply academic learning, knowledge and skills to solve problems in the workplace and community.

CRP.02.02. Indicator: Use strategic thinking to connect and apply technical concepts to solve problems in the workplace and community.

CRP.04. Standard: Communicate clearly, effectively and with reason.

CRP.04.01. Indicator: Speak using strategies that ensure clarity, logic, purpose and professionalism in formal and informal settings.

CRP.04.02. Indicator: Produce clear, reasoned and coherent written and visual communication in formal and informal settings.

CRP.04.03. Indicator: Model active listening strategies when interacting with others in formal and informal settings.

CRP.05. Standard: Consider the environmental, social and economic impacts of decisions.

CRP.05.01. Indicator: Assess, identify and synthesize the information and resources needed to make decisions that positively impact the workplace and community.

CRP.05.02. Indicator: Make, defend and evaluate decisions at work and in the community using information about the potential environmental, social and economic impacts.

CRP.06. Standard: Demonstrate creativity and innovation.

CRP.06.01. Indicator: Synthesize information, knowledge and experience to generate original ideas and challenge assumptions in the workplace and community.

CRP.06.02. Indicator: Assess a variety of workplace and community situations to identify ways to add value and improve the efficiency of processes and procedures.

CRP.06.03. Indicator: Create and execute a plan of action to act upon new ideas and introduce innovations to workplace and community organizations.

CRP.07. Standard: Employ valid and reliable research strategies.

CRP.07.01. Indicator: Select and implement reliable research processes and methods to generate data for decision-making in the workplace and community.

CRP.07.02. Indicator: Evaluate the validity of sources and data used when considering the adoption of new technologies, practices and ideas in the workplace and community.

CRP.08. Standard: Utilize critical thinking to make sense of problems and persevere in solving them.

CRP.08.01. Indicator: Apply reason and logic to evaluate workplace and community situations from multiple perspectives.

CRP.08.02. Indicator: Investigate, prioritize and select solutions to solve problems in the workplace and community.

CRP.08.03. Indicator: Establish plans to solve workplace and community problems and execute them with resiliency.

CRP.09. Standard: Model integrity, ethical leadership and effective management.

CRP.09.01. Indicator: Model characteristics of ethical and effective leaders in the workplace and community (e.g. integrity, self-awareness, self-regulation, etc.).

CRP.09.02. Indicator: Implement personal management skills to function effectively and efficiently in the workplace (e.g., time management, planning, prioritizing, etc.).

CRP.09.03. Indicator: Demonstrate behaviors that contribute to a positive morale and culture in the workplace and community (e.g., positively influencing others, effectively communicating, etc.).

CRP.10. Standard: Plan education and career path aligned to personal goals.

CRP.10.03. Indicator: Develop relationships with and assimilate input and/or advice from experts (e.g., counselors, mentors, etc.) to plan career and personal goals in a chosen career area.

CRP.10.04. Indicator: Identify, prepare, update and improve the tools and skills necessary to pursue a chosen career path.

CRP.11. Standard: Use technology to enhance productivity.

CRP.11.01. Indicator: Research, select and use new technologies, tools and applications to maximize productivity in the workplace and community.

CRP.11.02. Indicator: Evaluate personal and organizational risks of technology use and take actions to prevent or minimize risks in the workplace and community.

CRP.12. Standard: Work productively in teams while using cultural/global competence.

CRP.12.01. Indicator: Contribute to team-oriented projects and builds consensus to accomplish results using cultural global competence in the workplace and community.

CRP.12.02. Indicator: Create and implement strategies to engage team members to work toward team and organizational goals in a variety of workplace and community situations (e.g., meetings, presentations, etc.).

III. **Event Rules**

The rules governing the State event are as follows:

- A. The minimum number of participants in order to hold a state FFA Ag Discussion Meet will be three (3). If fewer participants are participating, the meet will be canceled. The maximum number of participants is limited to twenty-four (24) on a first come, first served basis.
- B. No more than two (2) members per FFA Chapter will be permitted to participate in the Ag Discussion Meet in any given year.
- C. Previous first (1st), second (2nd) or third (3rd) place FFA Ag Discussion Meet state winners shall not be eligible to participate in this event.
- D. Participants must register through their FFA Chapter using the online Iowa FFA Leadership Conference registration system by the specified date.
- E. A briefing session for judges, moderator and participants will precede the discussion meet event. Attendance at this briefing session is mandatory and is a requirement for participation.
- F. The number of participants in any discussion group may vary from a minimum of three (3) to a maximum of eight (8) at the discretion of the contest chairperson.
- G. When there are more than eight (8) participants, it will be necessary to have preliminary rounds. Participants will be drawn for assignment to a discussion group for the preliminary rounds.
- H. If more than one (1) discussion group [over eight (8) participants] is needed, a finals round will be necessary. It will be composed of the two (2) participants scoring highest in each of the discussion groups from the preliminary round.
- I. The moderator is the adult chairperson of the event. The moderator's responsibility is to introduce the topic and participants, to start the discussion, keep it on the track, and see that no one monopolizes the time.
- J. Each discussion group, irrespective of number, will be limited to the following sequences and time allotment:
 - Introduction of participants and judges and announcement of the topic by the event moderator.
 - An opening thirty (30) seconds (maximum) statement given in voluntary order by each participant.
 - A maximum of thirty (30) minutes for the discussion group's discussion.
 - Contest chair will provide a visual warning at twenty (20) minutes.
 - One (1) minute of silence for preparation of closing statements.
 - A closing statement of sixty (60) seconds (maximum) by each participant, also in voluntary order of speaking.
- K. Participants may not bring notes or other information into the event. They will be provided blank paper for taking notes during the event.

- L. The topic to be discussed will be drawn from a list of three (3) previously specified topics by the contest chair in full view of the participants just prior to turning the panel over to the moderator. The same topic is drawn for all preliminary round groups. One (1) of the two (2) remaining topics will be drawn for the finals round.

IV. Resource Information

- A. Before the Ag Discussion Meet:
- Become familiar with the discussion questions posted by the Iowa FFA Association.
 - Learn as much as possible about the procedure for the Ag Discussion Meet.
 - Study material relating to the three topics. Sources:
 - library
 - newspapers
 - magazines
 - farm organization policies
 - county, state and national agricultural publications
 - conversations with those having knowledge of the subject
 - online resources
 - At the time of the orientation/instruction meeting:
 - Become acquainted with the other participants & moderator.
 - Ask questions to clarify any instructions that are not clear.
 - Listen carefully as the moderator outlines the procedures you will follow.
- B. During the event:
- Listen carefully as the moderator clarifies the topic and indicates opening statements are to begin.
 - Stay seated to make opening statement.
 - Listen carefully to other participants as they make their opening statements.
 - Keep within time limit on your opening statement.
 - There should be a conflict of ideas, but not of personalities. Remember, this is a discussion, not a debate.
 - Be aware of audience, but not to the exclusion of the discussion group. (Talk loudly enough to be heard by all of the audience.)
 - Be prepared to ask questions, state facts and opinions, and urge others to be specific.
 - Participate whenever it will contribute to furthering the discussion without monopolizing the time.
 - Be enthusiastic and, in general, use logic rather than emotion.
 - Make notes of key points as the discussion proceeds for use in summary statement.
 - Use the one-minute time to organize your summary statement.
 - Stand and make your closing statement to the audience—use accepted speech techniques—stay within time limit.
- C. The participants' responsibilities are to exchange ideas and information in an effort to solve the problems inherent in the topic. The discussion should not be "conversation" or aimless talk nor should the participants look upon their role as that of persuasive speakers. They should attempt to cooperatively provide further information on the topic and tentatively retain a flexible position. Participants should regard themselves as productive thinkers rather than as emotional persuaders. Thus, they are free to say what they believe and to change their minds whenever new information and ideas become the reasonable thing to do.
- D. Finally, this is not a symposium wherein each participant makes a presentation in his/her proper turn with the moderator ending the session with a summary. Rather, it is the technique of letting the participants talk freely with the questions, answers, and statements coming from any person at any time. Furthermore, this event is not a debate.
- E. Generally speaking, the discussion should follow these steps:
- Statement of problem or need.
 - Explore, define, understand problem or need
 - Discover all possible alternative solutions
 - Evaluate and compare alternatives
 - Test and project what appears to be the best solutions
 - Indicate ways to implement (course of action)

V. Awards

State:

Individuals:	FFA Certificates	(Available online)
1 st Individual:	\$300 & Plaque	(Awarded on Stage at SLC)
2 nd Individual:	\$200 & Plaque	(Awarded on Stage at SLC)
3 rd Individual:	\$100 & Plaque	(Awarded on Stage at SLC)

All awards subject to available sponsorship.

VI. Event Hosting Guidelines/Checklist

Needed Materials Checklist:

- ___ Copies of Discussion Meet Topics
- ___ Discussion Meet Judges Score Form on white (1 copy x 3 judges x Total Number of Contestants)
- ___ General Critique Forms on blue (1 copy x 3 judges x Total Number of Contestants)
- ___ Discussion Meet Summary Form on yellow (1 copy)
- ___ 2 Tables for Judges
- ___ 3 Chairs for Judges
- ___ 2 Tables for Contestants
- ___ 8 Chairs for Contestants
- ___ "20 Minutes" Time Card
- ___ Stopwatch
- ___ Pens/Pencils for Judges

Event Chairperson: Refer to the "Advisor's Handbook" for specific directions.

VII. Event Forms

Ag Discussion Meet Questions 2024

1. Consumers continue to be disengaged and misinformed about food production. Farm families comprise less than 2% of the overall population, yet one farm feeds 166 Americans each year on average. Despite how agriculture is portrayed by some outlets, 98% of U.S. farms are operated by families. How can young farmers utilize social media to share their story and engage with non-farmers?
2. Property taxes continue to increase and is a cost of doing business that goes up regardless of farm profitability. Local governments levy property taxes which fund services that benefit your farm, like roads and bridges. Property taxes also fund other services that don't provide a benefit to your property. How can young farmers get involved in local government to advocate for the best interest of farmers and the taxpayers?
3. As the average age of farmers continues to rise, it's harder for young farmers to find each other to talk about experiences and share ideas on how to succeed. How can young farmers come together to collaborate, create a support network that understands some of the challenges they are facing, and gain invaluable leadership training?

Participants' Names (Left of Moderator)				DISCUSSION MEET JUDGES SCORE FORM				Participants' Names (Right of Moderator)			
				Topic _____ _____ _____ _____ _____	Superior = 10 Excellent = 8 Good = 6 Fair = 4 Poor = 2						
				10 Points available per category - total of 60 points.							
				(1) DEFINITION OR TOPIC OR PROBLEM: Importance, causes, effects, relevancy or problem							
				(2) ANALYSIS OF TOPIC OR PROBLEM: (Tie breaker No. 3) Does participant attempt to identify problem causes and remain on topic? Knowledge, extent, and accuracy of facts.							
				(3) PROBLEM-SOLVING AND IMPLEMENTATION: (Tie breaker No. 5) Ability and judgment in seeking answers and solutions, planning and organizational understanding in implementing action programs.							
				(4) FFA IMPACT: Possible impact FFA could have on the resolution of the topic, effect of various points on FFA, etc. How is FFA affected by this issue?							
				(5) DELIVERY: (Tie breaker No. 4) Voice quality, loudness, clear enunciation, communicativeness, desirable sentence structure, and interesting choice of words.							
				(6) COOPERATIVE ATTITUDE: (Tie breaker No. 2) Listening, asking pertinent questions, airing all points of view, securing major agreement, minimizing major differences, courtesy to other participants.							
				TOTAL (Tie Breaker No. 1 - Total score for each participant is to be tabulated by Judge. Any tie scores are to be broken by Judge.)							
				RANK (Rank participants: Highest score = 1; second highest =2, etc.)							
Room Chairperson's Signature: _____ Judge's Signature: _____											

Judge's Discussion Meet FFA Event Summary

This form is to be used by Event Chairperson to report results of the judging.

Event: Discussion Meet

Judge Names:

State: Iowa

Date of Event: _____

	School P.O. (Town)	Participant Name	Use letters to indicate ratings G - S - B - P			Total Points	G = Gold	S = Silver	B = Bronze	P = Participation
			Judge 1	Judge 2	Judge 3					
1										
2										
3										
4										
5										
6										
7										
8										
9										
10										
11										
12										
13										
14										
15										

20 Minutes