

Virginia FFA Guide



Virginia FFA does not discriminate against employees, students, or applicants on the basis of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, disability, age, veteran status, national origin, religion, or political affiliation.

Philosophy for Virginia FFA Career Development Events

Students are important customers of agricultural education and the FFA who recognize quality and value in products and activities. When provided an opportunity to fashion their educational experiences, they generally make wise decisions based on needs, perceptions, image and the opinions of others influence students. They value change based on their perceived personal needs as well as the needs of others. They sometimes value change for the sake of variety. Adults are concerned about the experiences of students and want to help organize experiences that will meet the future needs of students while accomplishing the purposes of agricultural education and the FFA organization. The Virginia FFA Association should assume the leadership role in developing and continuously improving relevant FFA career development events and awards. Although the Virginia FFA Association should be aware of the needs of local chapters and should react to those needs, it should help initiate opportunities that reflect relevant and emerging technology.

Virginia FFA career development events and awards should be developed with significant input from FFA members, teachers, partners, respective industry sponsors, and others involved in agricultural education. Virginia career development events and awards should reflect instruction that currently takes place in the entire agricultural education program, including classroom instruction, laboratory instruction, individualized instruction, and/or supervised agricultural experience. However, it is appropriate for the state organization to develop career development events and awards that stimulate instruction in emerging areas that reflect both current and future community, national, and global work force needs. The authority for insuring the relevance of an FFA activity is ultimately vested in the Virginia FFA Advisory Council. The primary goal of career development events is to develop individual responsibilities, foster teamwork and promote communication and individual achievement.

The activities in each career development event:

- Include problem solving, critical thinking and teamwork skills, where appropriate.
- Encourage appreciation for diversity by reducing barriers to participation among members.
- Develop general leadership and recognize individual and team achievement.
- Promote concentrated focus on future needs of members and society.

The state association should promote individual, chapter, and team career development events and awards. Chapter and team career development events and awards should be based on cooperation and teamwork while recognizing the value of competition and individual achievement. The role of career development events and awards is to motivate students and encourage leadership, personal growth, citizenship, and career development.

Students should be recognized for achievement in career development events and awards. Quality standards should be used as a basis for achievement. The state association should ensure that the recognition is appropriate and meaningful. Recognition for achievement should be reflective of the total effort required by the chapter/team/individual and should take place at all levels of participation.

The Virginia FFA Association shall encourage accessibility and provide opportunities for achievement and recognition for students with diverse backgrounds. High expectations should be consistently communicated to those who are involved in career development events and awards.

Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources (AFNR) Career Cluster Content

Agriculture is a highly technical and ever-changing industry upon which everyone is dependent. In order to maintain agriculture as the nation's number one industry, it is crucial to understand the importance of agrisciences, marketing strategies, safe food production and continuous research. Strong, relevant Agriscience programs are on way to maintain the nation's agricultural edge.

General Rules and Official Policies

Violations of any of the following rules may be grounds for the event superintendent to disqualify the participants.

State FFA Staff and CDE Superintendents will use the published rules and procedures to organize and implement the State FFA Career Development Events. Event activities may not be conducted due to lack of necessary materials, expertise or extreme impact to event budgets.

TEAM ACTIVITIES

The primary goal of team career development events and awards is to develop individual responsibilities, foster teamwork, and promote communications while recognizing the value of ethical competition and the value of individual achievement. A team career development event/award requires two or more members from one chapter working cooperatively. Team career development events and awards are intended to be an outgrowth of instruction.

Team career development events and awards should:

- include problem solving and critical thinking.
- promote an appreciation for diversity by reducing barriers to participation.
- promote new directions and focus on future needs of members and society.
- include cooperative activities.
- encourage broad participation among members and recognize excellence within levels of experience.
- recognize individual and team achievement, develop general leadership, and recognize levels of ability.
- provide local recognition for superior performance at the state and national level.

ELIGIBILITY OF PARTICIPANTS

- 1) Each participant must 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 career development event (or by May 1 for the Virginia FFA, whichever date comes first.) In the event a participant's name is not on the chapter's official roster for the years in which the dues were payable to the National FFA Organization, a past due membership processing fee of \$35, in addition to the dues must be paid.
- 2) The participant, in a State Senior Career Development Event, must be:
 - a. A high school FFA member, (a graduating senior is considered eligible to compete in state career development events the convention directly after graduation.)
(High school refers to grades 9-12.)
 - b. A middle school team consisting of all 8th grade FFA members.
 - c. While in school, be enrolled in at least one agricultural education course during the school year and/or follow a planned course of study; either course must include a supervised agricultural experience program, the objective of which is preparation for an agricultural career. For this purpose a student needs to be enrolled in at least one agricultural education course during the year they qualified for the event. If the student was previously enrolled in an agriculture class and was an FFA member, they may compete in a contest if they have scheduling issues (ex. Advanced Placement classes) that do not allow them be enrolled in an agriculture class but they must still have an SAE.
- 3) The participant in a State Junior Career Development Event must be:
 - a. at the time of the event must be a 6th, 7th, 8th or 9th grade full dues paying member.
 - b. While in school, be enrolled in at least one agricultural education course during the school year and/or follow a planned course of study; either course must include a supervised agricultural experience program, the objective of which is preparation for an agricultural career. For this purpose a student needs to be enrolled in at least one agricultural education course during the year they qualified for the event.
- 4) The participant in a State Middle School Career Development Event must be:
 - a. At the time of the state competition has qualified as either a 6th, 7th or 8th grade middle school member.
 - b. While in school, be enrolled in at least one agricultural education course during the school year and/or follow a planned course of study; either course must include a supervised agricultural experience program, the objective of which is preparation for an agricultural career. For this purpose a student needs to be enrolled in at least one agricultural education course during the year they qualified for the event.

- 5) To compete in the creed speaking event, the member has qualified as either a 7th, 8th or 9th grader by state convention.
- 6) CDE participants who start an event and do not complete the event without notifying event officials at the time of departure will be disqualified. This can affect the overall team rank and position. In some events this will also disqualify the entire team
- 7) The state supervisor/executive secretary of agricultural education must certify that participants are eligible. If an ineligible student is entered in any career development event, the entire team of which that student is a member may be declared ineligible.
- 8) The first contest that a school wins in the current year will be the contest that the individuals on that team will represent Virginia at the National FFA Convention. To explain, if an FFA chapter puts more than one current winner of an FFA contest on an additional team, then the second place team will be declared the State Winner and will compete at the National FFA Convention. If one person is a duplicate and the National rules allow for a three-person team, then the first place team will represent Virginia. If a student that wins a contest is declared ineligible, or cannot attend the Convention, then the other members of the team will be allowed to compete for individual awards only. (A medical waiver may be granted if a member of a winning team is unable to attend due to a medical condition.)
- 9) Individuals who have been state winners or have represented the state in any official national FFA career development event are not eligible to enter the same FFA event again. However, FFA junior division state winners are eligible for state senior division. Individuals on a state winning team cannot compete in that division again.
- 10) A chapter may enter any number of career development events; however, a chapter may have no more than one team in each division in each event. ***If the contest allows a Junior and Senior Team then only the Senior Team is eligible to advance to the National Level. If the event is a joint FFA & 4-H contest, then a school must declare an official team but will be allowed to enter the number of teams permitted by 4-H.***

CHECK-IN

Participants will check-in at the state FFA convention as indicated in the annual State Guidelines. Dates, hours and place of check-in will be sent annually to the agricultural education teacher. All participants will be given an identification number by which they will be designated throughout the event.

ADDITIONAL OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES AND POLICIES

- 1) Emergency Conditions: Under emergency conditions, a state team participating in a Virginia FFA Career Development Event may be made up of less than the required members. Fewer than the required number could compete if an emergency condition such as illness, death in the family or an act of God would occur. Those individuals competing would still be eligible to qualify for individual awards.
- 2) Event committees will strive to divide teams into groups so that no two participants from a team will be in the same group. In any case, no two members will be placed side-by-side.
- 3) **Disqualification:**
 - a. Any communication, verbal or non-verbal between participants during a career development event will be sufficient cause to eliminate the team member involved from the career development event. The only exception to this would be communication between team members during the team activity portion of a given career development event.
 - b. Teams arriving after the career development event has begun may be disqualified or penalized. No member substitutions may be made after the career development event begins.
 - c. Any assistance given to a team member from any source other than the career development event officials or assistants will be sufficient cause to eliminate the team from the career development event.
 - d. Event superintendents may stop any participant if they deem their manner to be hazardous either to themselves or others. Such stoppage shall deem the individuals disqualified for that section of the career development event.
 - e. CDE participants who start an event and do not complete the event without notifying event officials at the time of departure will be disqualified. This can affect the overall team rank and position. In some events this will also disqualify the entire team.

- f. Participants will not be allowed to utilize personal electronic communication devices, other than those approved by the event officials, during the entire course of the event. Participants who access personal electronic communication devices without prior approval of the event officials will be disqualified.
 - g. No participant shall gain access to real materials that will be utilized by the event committee during the competition. Any team, participant, advisor or coach reported and proven to do so will be disqualified from the national event.
- 4) Advisors
 - a. Advisors are not allowed to be in contact with their students at any point or time during the competition.
 - b. Advisors may only be allowed at the contest site if they are assigned to a supervise a group or part of the contest
 - 5) Participants are expected to observe the National FFA Code of Ethics and the Proper Use of the FFA Jacket during the career development events. (Please see the latest edition of the Official FFA Manual.)
 - 6) Official FFA dress is highly recommended for all participants where appropriate and is required for the awards presentation and recognition.
 - 7) Participants or advisors will not be allowed in the career development event area as designated in the specific career development event rules. Infractions of this statement may result in team disqualification.
 - 8) Accessibility for all students—all special needs requests should be submitted two weeks prior to the event for scheduling of assistance during event.
 - 9) Written Document Penalties- a penalty of 10% of the total points allotted will be assessed for the written documents received after the postmarked deadline. If the document is still not received seven days after the postmark deadline, the team/individual may be subject to disqualification.
 1. National staff will mark late entries as such.
 2. Event officials will be notified of late entries at the time written documents are provided for judging.
 3. Event superintendent will ensure that penalty is applied.
 - 10) Results of all Virginia State FFA Career Development Events will be announced during sessions at State Convention.

TEAM AND INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

The ranking of teams and individuals in each of the career development events will be on the basis of logical groups within the total range of scores. Awards will be distributed to the winning teams and individuals at award programs following the completion of the career development events.

VIRGINIA FFA ADVISORY COUNCIL

Purpose: To advise the State Staff on issues impacting both FFA Career Development Events and Awards to ensure:

- 1) All activities are consistent with industry needs.
- 2) All activities are available to all members.
- 3) All activities are conducted openly, fairly and in a quality manner.
- 4) Cooperation among various activities occurs, to the degree possible, to promote the interconnectedness of agriculture (i.e. forestry and agricultural mechanics or farm business management and dairy or livestock) and agricultural education (classroom, SAE, FFA).
- 5) New and innovative activities are being put forward for consideration.
- 6) As many students as possible have the opportunity to participate.
- 7) A constant process of local advisor in-service on proper use of these activities as tools for learning is being championed.
- 8) All activities are operated consistently with Advisory Council policy.

- 9) Activities are conducted within available budgets approved by the FFA Advisory Council and, if appropriate, Virginia FFA Foundation Board.

The State FFA Advisory Council shall consist of two instructors of agricultural education from each FFA area in the state, two at-large agricultural education members, past State FFA President, and current President of the Virginia Association of Agricultural Educators; appointed annually by the state advisor. The duties of this council shall be to represent the FFA chapters and advisors in the areas on matters pertaining to the conduct of the entire program; to arbitrate conflicts at the area, federation and chapter level; to review State FFA Degree applications, Star FFA Degree Applications, Proficiency Award Applications, and National Chapter Award applications and make recommendations to the state advisor; to recommend changes, revisions and/or new rules and regulations to the State FFA Board of Directors and the state advisor; and to serve in any capacity in which it may be called upon by the state advisor.

The chair of the advisory committee on awards and career development events will be elected each year.

State Board of Directors

Section A.

Governing Body

1. The governing body of the organization shall be the State Board of Directors, which shall consist of: the state FFA advisor, who shall serve as chairperson; one agricultural education instructor from each of the state FFA areas; one representative from the State FFA Advisory Council, one representative of the State FFA Foundation; and one representative of the State FFA Alumni Association. The state FFA executive secretary shall serve as ex-officio member of the State FFA Board of Directors.
2. The terms of office of members, other than the ex-officio member, shall be prescribed in the bylaws.
3. The State FFA Board of Directors shall meet at least once each year at such time and place as may be prescribed by the board and shall present an annual report.
4. The duties of the State FFA Board of Directors shall include: interpret rules governing the activities of the state association, including the State FFA Convention; to have full power to prescribe new regulations that the board finds necessary in connection with the operation of the organization, including the State Convention; to interpret rules and regulations applicable to the convention; and to review recommendations from the State FFA Advisory Council and State FFA Executive Committee and take any action deemed appropriate.

Section B.

Governing Committee

The chairperson and two members of the State FFA Board of Directors shall be designated by the board to serve as the Governing Committee and shall have the power to deal with items of business of the state organization. All official actions of the Governing Committee shall be reported to the State FFA Board of Directors.

Meeting Schedule

- 1) Annual fall meeting to report on the completion of activities at convention and provide input into the winter meeting agenda.
- 2) The annual spring meeting will allow for most of the committee's work to be conducted as a whole group and in sub-groups focused on specific issues or specific types of activities (e.g. team career development events, individual awards, chapter awards).

Local advisors should submit concerns suggestions to the state FFA Specialist/chair of the advisory board and their area representative at least two weeks in advance of the meeting.

Rules Committee on State Career Development Events

The advisory committee will meet only when needed and will make all final decisions on interpretation of the rules and regulations of the State FFA Career Development Events or awards programs.

Official judges' decisions are final. The announced results are the official results.

Conflict of Interest

If there is a violation of a student whose advisor is a member of the advisory board, the advisor may not vote on the violation. A teacher from that area maybe used to fill in for the advisor whose student has possible committed the violation.

Official Dress Recommendations, Number of Participants, and Number of Scores

Event	Official Dress Appropriate	Number of Participants	Number of Scores Allowed (per team) for Team Total
Agricultural Communications	Yes	3	3
Agriscience Demonstration	Yes	1-2	Team Total
Agricultural Issues Forum	Yes	3-7	Team Score Event
Agricultural Mechanics Sr.	FFA Shirt	4	Top 3 Scores
Agricultural Mechanics Jr.	FFA Shirt	4	4
Agricultural Sales	Yes	4	4
Avian Bowl	YES	4	Team Event
Crops Judging	*Yes/FFA Shirt	4	3
Computer Applications	Yes	1	1
Creed Speaking	Yes	1	Individual Event
Dairy Cattle Evaluation	*Yes	4	4
Dairy Cattle Handlers' Activity	White/Jacket	1	Individual Event
Environmental and Natural Resources	Yes	4	4
Extemporaneous Public Speaking	Yes	1	Individual Event
Farm Business Management	Yes	4	Top 3 Scores
Floriculture	*Yes/FFA Shirt	4	4
Food Science and Technology	Yes	4	4
Forestry Field Day	FFA Shirt	7	7
Forestry Senior	FFA Shirt	4	4
Forestry Junior	FFA Shirt	4	4
Horse Evaluation	*Yes	4	Top 3 Scores
Horse Hippology	*Yes	4	Top 3 Scores
Horticulture Demonstration	FFA Shirt	1-2	1-2
Job Interview	Yes	1	Individual Event
Jr. Dairyman's	FFA Shirt	4	Top 3 Scores
Jr. Forester's	FFA Shirt	4	Top 3 Scores
Jr. Stockman's	FFA Shirt	4	Top 3 Scores
Livestock Evaluation	*Yes	4	4
Marketing Plan	Yes	3	Team Score Event
Meats Evaluation & Technology	FFA Shirt	4	Top 3 Scores
Middle School Agriscience Technology	FFA Shirt	4	3
Middle School FFA Quiz Bowl	Yes	4	4
Middle School Food & Fiber	FFA Shirt	4	3
Middle School Plant Science	FFA Shirt	4	3
Middle School Small Animal Care	FFA Shirt	4	3
Milk Quality and Products	FFA Shirt	4	4
Nursery/Landscape	FFA Shirt	4	Top 3 Scores
Parliamentary Procedure Senior	Yes	6	Team Score Event
Parliamentary Procedure Junior	Yes	6	Team Score Event
Poultry Evaluation	FFA Shirt	4	Top 3 Scores
Prepared Public Speaking Senior	Yes	1	Individual Event
Prepared Public Speaking Junior	Yes	1	1
Small Engines	FFA Shirt	1	1
Soils Judging	FFA Shirt	4	Top 3 Scores
Tractor Operator's	FFA Shirt	1	1
Tractor Troubleshooting	FFA Shirt	2	2
Veterinary Science	FFA Shirt	4	4

Please remember that all participants are required to wear complete official dress, as outlined in the National FFA Official Manual, to all award functions.

***Official Dress is required for the reasons part of this CDE**

-An FFA Shirt is any shirt purchased from the National, State or Local FFA or FFA emblem or FFA sticker on it. A high school or middle school t-shirt is also acceptable.



State Youth Discussion Meet

Competition Objectives

As a leadership training and self-improvement activity, the Discussion Meet experience will:

- Develop leaders for effective problem solving through group discussion.

Background Information

The Discussion Meet is a competition promoted by FFA based on and sponsored by the Virginia Farm Bureau Young Farmers program.

An agriculture organization's strength depends on its members' ability to analyze issues and decide on solutions and actions that best meet their needs. The competition is designed to simulate a committee meeting where discussion and active participation are expected from each committee member.

Applicants build basic discussion skills, develop a keen understanding of important agricultural issues and explore how groups can pool knowledge to reach consensus and solve problems.

A successful applicant is a productive thinker, rather than an emotional persuader. He/she will assist the group in creating ways to implement the solutions discussed and highlight their organizations involvement in those actions/steps.

The applicants will discuss pre-selected topics using four bases for the general discussion:

- Cooperation
- Constructive Resolution
- Problem Solving
- Communication

Eligibility

- Applicant shall be a FFA member in good standing with his/her county club or chapter.
- Past state Youth Discussion Meet winners are ineligible after they have won.
- Competitors should be in FFA official dress.
- Each chapter may enter one participant for the state event.

Competition Format

1. All competition facilitators and competitors will meet in the pre-assigned competition room 15 minutes prior to the start of the competition to receive last-minute comments by the room chair.
2. Competitors may not take prepared notes in any form with them to the competition table. After all competitors have been introduced, notes may be written on the paper provided. If a note is brought to the table and is noticed by the competition facilitator, there will be a disqualification called at the end of the round by the contest officials.
3. Discussion Meet questions will not be provided at the competition table.
4. The room moderator will call the meeting to order and announce the topic to be discussed. Any competitor not present at their assigned round will be disqualified.
5. The moderator will introduce the competitors and give each of the competitors, in voluntary order, the opportunity to make a 30-second opening statement directed to the audience. Competitors stand for opening.
6. The timekeeper will flash a red time card indicating when 30 seconds have elapsed. Judges may subtract points at their discretion if competitors abuse the time limit.

7. The moderator will then indicate the opportunity for open discussion, which will continue for a total of 15-20 minutes depending on the competition round. The discussion should be directed to the fellow competitors, not the audience.

8. The timekeeper will indicate to the moderator when five minutes of open discussion time remains. If the discussion is lagging, the moderator may close the discussion at this time.

9. The timekeeper will indicate to the moderator when time has elapsed with a red time card. The moderator will call for open discussion to stop and ask for one minute of quiet time, allowing the competitors to compose a closing statement.

10. The moderator will give each of the competitors, in voluntary order, the opportunity to make a one-minute closing statement directed to the audience.

11. The moderator will recognize the judges and request they leave to finalize the tabulation of their score sheets in a tabulation room. Judges are not to confer with each other until after turning in their tabulated score sheets.

12. The next round topic to be discussed will be announced in most cases depending on the round. This will be addressed in orientation.

13. The moderator will thank the panel and ask the competitors to share their personal background with the audience.

Competition Structure

Orientations

- Discussion Meet Competitor Orientation
 - Orientation will be held prior to the opening round of competition.
 - All participants are required to attend; roll call will be taken.
 - The opening round topic will be announced.
 - The first round topic will be announced now, and again in the competition room.
 - Each subsequent round topic will be announced at the close of the prior round, with the exception of the final question.
 - Opening round room assignments and locations will be distributed.

- Judge Orientation
 - Orientation will be held prior to the opening round of competition.
 - All judges are required to attend; roll call will be taken.
 - Judges' duties will be reviewed (see Judge Duties) and any announcements will be made.
 - Competition timing sequences will be reviewed.
 - There will be time for judges to ask questions.
 - Opening round room assignments and locations will be distributed.

- Timekeeper Orientation
 - Orientation will be held prior to the opening round of competition.
 - All timekeepers are required to attend; roll call will be taken.
 - Opening round room assignments and locations will be distributed.
 - Timekeeper duties will be reviewed (see Timekeeper Duties) and any announcements will be made.

Competition

- All participants will compete in at least one preliminary round of the competition. Each preliminary round will include four to eight competitors in each room. A semi-final round will include the top 8-12 competitors and the top two from each room will determine the final four. The Final Four round will determine the winner.
- The physical arrangements of the Discussion Meet rooms should provide for tables at the front of the room facing each other and the audience in an open format. Half the participants should be seated at each section with the moderator to the side. Name cards identifying competitors should be easily visible. Cards should show only the competitor's name, not his or her chapter.

Competition Flow

Generally speaking, the discussion should follow these steps:

1. State the problem or need.
2. Explore, define and understand the problem or need.
3. Identify causes of the problem or need.
4. Elaborate on possible solutions.
5. Evaluate and compare alternative solutions offered by the group.
6. Test and project what appears to be the best solution(s).
7. Create ways to implement the solution(s) discussed and highlight FFA's involvement in those actions/steps.

Helpful Hints for Competitors

- Study as much material as possible relating to the overall topic. Sources: Internet; library; newspapers; magazines; FFA policies; and conversations with experts or knowledgeable people.
- Remember this is a discussion, not a debate.
- Be prepared to ask questions, state facts and opinions, and urge others to be specific.
- Be aware of the audience, but generally address the panel. Speak loudly enough to be heard by the whole audience.
- Participate whenever your contribution will further the discussion. Do not monopolize the discussion.
- The discussion should not be “conversation” or aimless talk, nor should you take the role of a persuasive speaker. Try to cooperatively shed light on the problem and tentatively retain a flexible position.
- This is not a panel symposium wherein each participant, in turn, makes a presentation, with the moderator ending the session with a summary. Rather, it is an exercise in cooperative problem solving, with the questions, answers and statements coming from any person at any time. The moderator plays an inactive role during the discussion.
- Make notes of key points as the discussion proceeds for use in your summary statement.
- Use the one minute of quiet time to organize your closing statement.
- Stand and make your closing statement to the audience. Use accepted speech techniques and stay within the time limit.

2022 Virginia 4-H/FFA Discussion Meet Questions

1. With on-farm income declining and farmland losses to urbanization on the rise, what can be done to improve the general mental health and reduce personal stress on farmers and agriculturalists? How can your organization reduce the stigma in rural communities that prevents many individuals from getting help before it's too late?

Resource link: Mental Health in Agriculture article from Ohio Ag Net

2. The COVID-19 pandemic exposed many challenges in our nation's food supply chain. While farmers, processors and retailers were able to continue providing adequate food, the shortages created opportunities to learn about and resolve weaknesses in the system. As leaders in your youth organizations, how can young agriculturalists use lessons learned in 2020 to strengthen the industry for the future?

Resource links: <https://www.agrinenews-pubs.com/2020/12/17/lessons-learned-from-pandemic/aeg01zq/>
<https://www.dtnpf.com/agriculture/web/ag/news/article/2020/06/01/lessons-pandemic>

3. Many of our youth in agriculture do not come from a farm background and have few farm experiences but do have a growing excitement for opportunities in the industry. How do we help youth become better prepared for a career in the agricultural industry beyond in-class instruction and showing livestock? What can Farm Bureau do to help our youth participating in 4-H, FFA or other youth organizations gain on-farm experience?

Resource link: <https://www.usda.gov/media/blog/2018/03/20/agricultural-youth-opportunities-journey-future-career-success> https://www.fsa.usda.gov/Assets/USDA-FSA-Public/usdafiles/FactSheets/2019/youth_loans-fact_sheetaug_2019.pdf

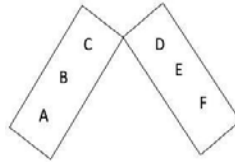
4. The Chesapeake Bay is a treasured national resource that is largely in Virginia, and farmers have gone to great lengths to protect water quality through on-farm best management practices. What actions can be taken by youth in agriculture to help communicate with legislators and non-farm populations about the positive steps agriculture is taking to protect the environment?

Resource link: <https://www.agfoundation.org/news/4-ways-farmers-steward-the-land>
<http://www.explorebeef.org/protectingresources.html>

Discussion Meet Judgesheet

Room Name: _____ Round # _____

Judge's Name: _____



In the first column, you will find the point values and descriptions. ***The total point value for each row is available for each contestant.*** You are **not** dividing the total points for each category between contestants.

Columns to the right each represent a different contestant. ***Please fill in the first and last name*** of each competitor according to their seat location. Refer to the diagram for help.

	Comp A Name:	Comp B Name:	Comp C Name:	Comp D Name:	Comp E Name:	Comp F Name:
(1) PROBLEM SOLVING AND IMPLEMENTATION: 25 pts. Contestant develops solutions (10 points) & plan actions to resolve the issue (10 points) while including his/her group & organization in the action plan. (5 points)						
(2) ANALYSIS OF TOPIC OR PROBLEM: 20 pts. Contestant identifies causes of the problem (5 points), remains on topic (5 points), while sharing an accurate, working knowledge of the topic (10 points).						
(3) COOPERATIVE ATTITUDE: 15 pts. Contestant listens and asks pertinent questions (10 points) and shows courtesy to other participants (5 points).						
(4) DELIVERY: 15 pts. Contestant speaks at an audible volume and pace (5 points), forms clear sentences (5 points), and conveys thoughts and viewpoints clearly and confidently (5 points).						
(5) OPENING STATEMENT: 10 pts. Contestant clearly defines the problem (5 points), and relays the importance and relevancy of problem (5 points).						
(6) CLOSING STATEMENT: 15 pts. Contestant summarizes discussion (5 points) and uses take-away points from the discussion to develop plans for the future (10 points).						
TOTAL ➡						
Total score for each contestant is to be tabulated by Judge. Any tie scores are to be broken by Judge. Total of 100 points possible.						
RANK ➡						
Rank contestants: 1 (highest) through 6 lowest).						