



# 2024 Agriculture Public Speaking Contest Rules

September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Nebraska State Fairgrounds - Grand Island, NE

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2024 Superintendent:

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## RULES AND REGULATIONS

### 1. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- a. The 2024 Aksarben Stock Show Prepared Public Speaking Contest will be held Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup> in the Pinnacle Bank Expo Center. Check-in will be from 8:30 to 9:00 a.m., but all contestants are encouraged to be there by 8:45 a.m.

### 2. ENTRIES

- a. Entries and fee payment can be made online through aksarbenstockshow.com by **midnight September 11th**. The fee is \$20 per contestant.
- b. Manuscripts must be emailed to by midnight September 8<sup>th</sup>. Email speech as a pdf, double spaced and formatted for an 8½ x 11 paper. A complete and accurate bibliography must be included. Only electronic submission of speeches will be accepted.

### 3. GENERAL RULES

- a. Open to anyone nine to nineteen years of age, as of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024. Participants do not have to be livestock exhibitors at Aksarben Stock Show.
- b. There will be two divisions, Junior (age 9 to 13, as of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024) and Senior (age 14 to 19, as of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024).
- c. The contest is limited to a maximum of twenty-five entries. Preliminary judging of manuscripts may be implemented if necessary.
- d. Participants may choose any current subject of an agricultural nature for their speeches. This may include the areas of agribusiness, animal systems, plant systems, environmental services, food products and processing, natural resource systems and power, structural and technical systems.
- e. For the Junior Division: Speeches will be a minimum of four minutes in length and a maximum of six minutes. A contestant will be disqualified from the contest if the speech is less than three minutes and thirty seconds or more than six minutes and thirty seconds. Upon being introduced, the contestant will proceed immediately to the speaking position. Timing will begin with the contestant's first definitive verbal or non-verbal communication with the audience. This will usually be the first word uttered by the contestant, but would

include any other communication such as sound effects, a staged act by another person, etc.

- f. For the Senior Division: Speeches will be a minimum of six minutes in length and a maximum of eight minutes. A contestant will be disqualified from the contest if the speech is less than five minutes and thirty seconds or more than eight minutes and thirty seconds. Upon being introduced, the contestant will proceed immediately to the speaking position. Timing will begin with the contestant's first definitive verbal or non-verbal communication with the audience. This will usually be the first word uttered by the contestant, but would include any other communication such as sound effects, a staged act by another person, etc.
- g. All contestants in this contest should give credit to others when any direct quotes, phrases or special dates are used in the manuscript, in order to not be guilty of plagiarism. A bibliography **MUST** be included as part of the speaker's manuscript. Direct quotes from any source of information must be in quotation marks on the manuscript and be identified in the bibliography. Failure to do so will automatically disqualify a contestant.
- h. Speakers will be evaluated using the National FFA Prepared Speaking Rubric from the Career and Leader Development Events Handbooks.

#### 4. AWARDS

- a. First Place Junior Prepared Public Speaking & Senior Prepared Public Speaking – Banner and Award
- b. Second Place Junior Prepared Public Speaking & Senior Prepared Public Speaking - Banner
- c. Third Place Junior Prepared Public Speaking & Senior Prepared Public Speaking - Banner