ND FFA Association

General Rules and Guidelines

NORTH DAKOTA

Philosophy of the FFA Activities Program

North Dakota FFA Career Development Events (CDEs) and Leadership Development Events (LDEs) are educational activities organized by the North Dakota FFA Association with support from the North Dakota FFA Foundation and its special industry sponsors.

1. Events are designed to complement classroom instruction by giving students an opportunity to apply classroom knowledge in competitive situations.

2. Each event has been specifically designed to test skills, concepts and knowledge of students in a particular area of agriculture.

3. Involvement by all FFA members in selected FFA activities to provide opportunities for personal career development should be the ultimate goal.

4. Award and degree applications should reflect the individual's occupational goals and the supervised agricultural experience program in operation.

5. Individual member participation should closely correlate with the individuals occupational and leadership development goals.

6. Individuals and teams are encouraged to participate in events above the chapter level provided that they are adequately prepared and can gain through such participation.

Determining Chapter Eligibility

1. To be eligible for participation in district and state sponsored FFA activities, each chapter must submit their membership roster. Those chapters that fail to submit membership rosters by **January 15** will be suspended from state participation until all are received and paid. Additional members can be added to the chapter roster at any time until the first Friday in April. This is for the annual official state membership roster and delegate count for state and national convention.

2. The Program of Activities for each chapter must be submitted electronically in a pdf format to the administrative assistant in the state office by **October 15.**

3. The Career and Technical Student Organizations Consent and Medical Release forms for each FFA member must be submitted in a pdf format and submitted electronically to the administrative assistant in the state office by **October 15**.

4. Any chapter having past-due accounts with the North Dakota FFA Association in excess of 90 days from the date of posting and notification will be ineligible for any State Association called or coordinated activity from that final due date. A suspension rendered by the State Association shall continue for 90 days after satisfaction of the account or arrangements are made for repayment with the approval of the State FFA Advisor.

5. Each chapter shall annually complete and submit an Annual Chapter Report due by **July 1**.

6. FFA chapters may remain fully active for **one** year without an instructor/advisor, due to teacher shortages or program discontinuance, provided they meet all the requirements of eligibility and proper supervision is given by a person having the approval of the local school district and state FFA advisor.

7. In situations of multi-district centers or cooperatives, with shared teacher arrangements, FFA chapters may operate as separate entities and be entitled to entry in all CDEs & LDEs. A single multi-school umbrella chapter composed of mini-chapters may enter only one team or individual per

contest or award area. The umbrella chapter shall function as a single chapter.

8. Provisions of the chapter constitution may not conflict with the State and National FFA Constitutions and chapter activities must be in harmony with the ideals and purposes of the National FFA Organization (Article IV Section B, National Constitution).

Determining General Individual Member Eligibility

To be eligible for participation in district and state sponsored FFA activities each member must:

1. Meet all eligibility requirements as outlined in the National Constitution (Article V Section B) which in part states: "to be eligible for active membership in a chartered chapter, a student must be enrolled in a secondary agricultural education program". In North Dakota, seventh and eighth grade students enrolled in pre- agriculture education are eligible for FFA membership. "To become an active member and retain membership, a student must:

    a. 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.'

2. FFA membership is also available to students enrolled in a school not currently offering agricultural education courses, home-schooled students, students taking classes via interactive television or students enrolled in courses through the ND Division of Independent Study.

    a. In order for these students to participate in FFA activities above the local level, that student must be enrolled in at least one agriculture class of at least one semester in length and must include a Supervised Agricultural Experience Program (SAE). Membership must be in the FFA chapter in the students' home school district or in the FFA chapter located closest to the students' residence or in the chapter of the school providing the interactive television course.
    b. Agricultural internet courses (on-line courses) taken by students are acceptable for this requirement if the course is accepted by the school district and becomes a part of the students' High School transcript.

3. Show an interest in the affairs of the organization by attending meetings, striving for degrees of membership and participating in other organized activities of the chapter.

4. Pay all current state and national dues by the date determined by the chapter.

5. Display conduct consistent with the ideals and purposes of the National FFA Organization.

6. Meet all requirements for the specific CDE, LDE or activity.

7. Meet any other eligibility requirements of the local school and have the approval of the local school administration to participate in those activities sanctioned by the ND FFA Association, Inc. above the local level.

8. A member who is eligible at the time entry is made for an award or an award trip shall be eligible to take part in the complete progression of that activity. Graduating seniors may not enter a new CDE or LDE after August 31 following their graduation from high school. See rules for each activity.

9. The use of ineligible members shall result in the forfeiture of individual and/or team awards in the activity in question.

10. A member may retain active membership until November 30, following the fourth National FFA Convention after graduation from high school.

Policy Governing State Association Sanctioned Activities

Approved state activities shall be limited to those which will:

1. Motivate individual members in their study of agriculture and encourage their personal development as a useful citizen in our democracy.

2. Develop individual skills, interests, attitudes and/or abilities which will help individual members select and pursue an agricultural career.

3. Be closely related to the instructional program and curriculum.

4. Promote leadership development.

5. Be kept within the proper perspective so as not to unduly interfere with classroom activities nor provide intensified training for a selected few individuals at the expense of the educational opportunities of the rest of the members of the chapter.

6. Not involve nor promote competition with other youth organizations.

7. Traveling plaques and trophies for state sanctioned events shall become the property of the chapter with the most state winners. In the event of a tie, the most recent state winner will receive the traveling plaque and trophy.

8. All available contest printed materials (tests, etc.) shall be made available to local chapters on ndffa.org.

9. Participants are expected to observe the FFA Code of ethics and the proper use of the FFA jacket during CDEs and LDEs (Please see the latest edition of the Official FFA Manual). Official dress is highly recommended for all participants where appropriate and is required for awards presentations and recognitions unless otherwise noted. (See appendix D)

Methods used to Select Individuals and Teams to Represent the ND FFA Association

1. North Dakota will select a state team to represent the ND FFA Association at national CDEs and LDEs in the following areas:

NATIONAL FFA CONVENTION TEAM CDEs		# of TEAM MEMBERS
1.	Agricultural Communications	4
2.	Agricultural Sales	4
3.	Agricultural Technology & Mechanical Systems	4
4.	Agronomy	4
5.	Dairy Cattle Evaluation and Management	4
6.	Environmental and Natural Resources	4
7.	Farm and Agribusiness Management	4
8.	Floriculture	4
9.	Food Science and Technology	4
10.	Horse Evaluation	4
11.	Livestock Evaluation	4
12.	Milk Quality and Products	4
13.	Meats Evaluation and Technology	4
14.	Nursery/Landscape	4
15.	Small Animal Care (Veterinary Science)	4

OTHER TEAM CDEs		# of TEAM MEMBERS
1.	Land Judging	Up to 4
2.	Quiz Team	Up to 4
3.	Range Judging	Up to 4

NATIONAL FFA CONVENTION TEAM LDEs		# of TEAM MEMBERS
1.	Parliamentary Procedure	6

NATIONAL CONVENTION INDIVIDUAL EVENTS		# of INDIVIDUALS
1.	*Agriscience Fair	*
2.	*Band	*
3.	*Chorus	*
4.	Courtesy Corps	Unlimited
5.	Creed Speaking (LDE)	1
6.	Dairy Handlers (Activity)	1
7.	Employment Skills (LDE)	1
8.	Extemporaneous Public Speaking (LDE)	1
9.	Prepared Public Speaking (LDE)	1
10.	*Talent Show	*

*Selected by National FFA

2. The state association will designate the official state event in each activity and coordinate its operation.

3. Teams selected to represent our state association shall consist of the high team as determined at the state event. In the event that the high team cannot participate in the national event, the second-place team will be eligible to participate and will receive the travel stipends. Members of a state team must be from the same chapter.

4. The coach of the high team will serve as coach for the national event provided, he/she is still employed as the agriculture/agribusiness instructor and FFA advisor in the same school through the time period of the national event. In the situation where the instructor leaves that school, the successor would be designated as team coach.

5. In Land and Range judging, regional and/or national events may allow several FFA teams per state to compete, but only the first-place team in the ND state event will be recognized by the ND FFA Association. Location of the Old West Regional Range Contest will vary each year (five state rotation). The National Land & Range Judging Event is held in Oklahoma. The state association will work with state teams to coordinate participation in these activities.

6. In the event the same chapter wins more than one state event qualifying for national convention participation, the winning coach, may select an assistant to coach one of the teams. National guidelines limit students to participation in only one national CDE per year.

7. The state winning teams and individuals in each CDE, LDE or activity are eligible for state award stipends and travel stipends to the National FFA Convention. See the ND FFA Foundation Awards and Stipends Policy Manual for details and eligibility.

State Team Member Guidelines

1. Participants must be FFA members in good standing (dues paid) at the time of the state event. The FFA Code of Ethics must be followed; use of alcohol, tobacco and/or drugs will not be tolerated.

2. The participant at the time of selection must be an active member, grades 7-12, or a graduating senior up to and including the first National FFA Convention following high school graduation and meet all other general eligibility requirements.

3. No student may participate in more than one National FFA team event. National rules prohibit more than one year of participation in a specific national career development event. (Exception: Land Judging, Range Judging, and Quiz.

4. Individuals who have participated in the national event for a specific activity may continue to compete in that activity at the state level for individual awards only. They must be so designated upon registration.

Individual National Activity Participants

1. The state winning teams and individuals in each CDE, LDE or activity are eligible for state award stipends and travel stipends to the National FFA Convention. See the ND FFA Foundation Awards and Stipends Policy Manual for details and eligibility.

2. In the event the state winning individual(s) is unable to attend, the next successive individual in the state event will be offered the opportunity to participate.

3. Advisors & coaches are reimbursed through the local program and will receive no compensation.

4. The state FFA association will reserve housing and registration (if needed) for the Honorary American FFA Degree candidates. Please see the ND FFA Foundation Awards and Stipends Policy Manual for expenses covered.

5. Local sponsorships may be coordinated through the State FFA Foundation.

6. Past State Officers (from the previous year only) will be secured lodging at the National FFA Convention. Please see the ND FFA Foundation Awards and Stipends Policy Manual for travel and lodging stipends.

Awards

1. Individual and team awards will be provided to participants in state events using the following guidelines: top 20% gold, next 25% silver and next 30% bronze. When making these award splits, activity chairs will take into consideration natural breaks in the event results.

2. In events where there has been district elimination, all participants in the state event will receive an award (e.g. state LDEs, state tractor driving, etc.)

3. The high individual in a state event shall receive a Baby Bison trophy.

4. The high individual or team in a state event shall take possession of any revolving trophy or plaque, add their name and return it for presentation at the next state event. Damages/repairs and engraving to traveling trophies are to be made prior to the next state event and are the responsibility of the chapter/individual in possession of the award.

Determining Implementation of Career Development Events

Before a CDE or LDE will be implemented in North Dakota, the following criteria must be met:

1. The curriculum to which the event provides supplementation must be provided by 15% of the Agricultural Education programs in the state. This to be verified by review of the Calendar of Units submitted annually for review to the Supervisor for Agricultural Education.

2. The first year for a proposed new event will be demonstrative. The second year will be considered probationary.

   a. For a CDE to become a probationary event and continue to board review and delegate approval, a minimum of eight chapters representing no fewer than five districts must participate in each the demonstration year and probationary year.

   b. The winner of a demonstrative event will be allowed to participate in that National FFA event. Participation will be at the expense of the individual/team/chapter. No high-individual scholarship will be made available.

   c. The winner of a probationary event will be allowed to participate in that National FFA event. Please see the ND FFA Foundation Awards and Stipends Policy Manual for state award and travel stipends.

3. At the completion of the demonstration and probationary years the event will be reviewed by the State FFA Board of Directors for evaluation of content, procedure and compliance with state and national guidelines.

4. Having met the stipulations of the afore-mentioned criteria, the CDE/LDE will be presented to the delegates at the North Dakota FFA State Convention for final approval as a state sponsored activity.

Determining Continuation of CDEs/LDEs/Activities

1. Any state sponsored activity that no longer reflects the extension of the classroom and curriculum will be reviewed by the Board of Directors for potential revision to attain applicability. If revision cannot be made, the activity will be presented to the delegates of the North Dakota FFA State Convention for discontinuance as a state sponsored activity.

2. Any state sponsored team CDE/LDE that has fewer than five teams or thirty individuals participating will be placed on probation for one year. If by the end of the probationary year the minimum numbers have not been met, that CDE/LDE will be presented to the delegates of the North Dakota FFA State Convention for discontinuance as a state sponsored activity. Reinstatement of that CDE/LDE as a state sponsored activity would be treated in the same fashion as the implementation of a new event.

Official FFA Dress Requirements

		OFFICIAL DRESS
1.	Advanced Tractor Driving (NDSF)	**No
2.	Agricultural Communications	Yes
3.	Agricultural Sales	No
4.	Agricultural Technology & Mechanical Systems (Basic, Intermediate, Advanced)	No
5.	Agronomy	Yes
6.	Agriscience Fair	Yes
7.	Band	*Yes
8.	Basic Tractor Driving (NDSF)	**No
9.	Chorus	*Yes
10.	Courtesy Corps	*Yes
11.	Creed Speaking (LDE)	Yes
12.	Dairy Cattle Evaluation and Management	Yes
13.	Dairy Cattle Handlers (Activity)	No
14.	Demonstration (LDE)	*Yes
15.	Employment Skills (LDE)	Yes
16.	Environmental and Natural Resources	Yes
17.	Extemporaneous Public Speaking (LDE)	Yes
18.	Farm and Agribusiness Management	Yes
19.	Floriculture	Yes
20.	Food Science and Technology	Yes
21.	Horse Evaluation	Yes
22.	Land Judging	**No
23.	Livestock Evaluation	Yes
24.	Meats Evaluation and Technology	No
25.	Milk Quality and Products	Yes
26.	Nursery/Landscape	Yes
27.	Overall Livestock Showmanship (NDSF)	**No
28.	Parliamentary Procedure (LDE)	Yes
29.	Prepared Public Speaking (LDE)	Yes
30.	Quiz	Yes
31.	Range Judging	**No
32.	Small Animal Care (Veterinary Science at Nationals)	Yes
33.	Talent	*Yes

*Yes = Certain conditions may not be appropriate for official dress.
**No = Official dress not required for event or awards.
Yes = Official dress is required for the event and required for awards presentations.
No = Official dress not recommended for the event but required for awards presentations.

CODE OF ETHICS

The Code of Ethics formulated for the North Dakota FFA Association is in keeping with the code adopted by delegates to the 1952 National FFA Convention and revised at the 1995 National FFA Convention which states: As an FFA member I pledge to:

1. Develop my potential for premier leadership, personal growth and career success.

2. Make a positive difference in the lives of others.

3. Dress neatly and appropriately for the occasion. "Official Dress" for FFA members is defined in the most current "Official FFA Manual".

   "Appropriate Dress for all state called FFA Activities will be the "Official Dress" of the National FFA Organization or appropriate dress as defined for a specific state-called activity by the State FFA Advisor.

   "Appropriate Dress for locally called FFA Activities will be the "Official Dress" of the National FFA Organization or as defined and announced for that specific locally-called FFA Activity by the local FFA Advisor.

4. Respect the rights of others and their property.

5. Be courteous, honest and fair with others.

6. Communicate in an appropriate, purposeful and positive manner.

7. Demonstrate good sportsmanship by being modest in winning and generous in defeat.

8. Make myself aware of FFA programs and activities and be an active participant.

9. Conduct and value a Supervised Agricultural Experience Program.

10. Strive to establish and enhance my skills through agricultural education in order to enter a successful career.

11. Appreciate and promote diversity in our organization.

12. Use of alcohol, tobacco, <u>electronic cigarettes</u>, <u>vaping, nicotine products,</u> drugs, or any other actions deemed inappropriate will not be tolerated while members are attending an official FFA activity.

13. Members attending convention sessions should show courtesy and respect for other FFA members and guests by not leaving the building unless absolutely necessary until the session is over. Chapters are urged to continue to familiarize their members with the high ideals of the FFA and to use fair and reasonable corrective measures when necessary.