

CDE Committee Report - July 25th, 2024

Area 7 Reps: Colton Pouncy- Medina Valley FFA & Joe David Lehmborg - Marion FFA

2024-2025 Contest Dates Reported by University Reps

- Tarleton State University:
 - Invitational: Mar. 27th
 - Area: Apr. 9th
 - State: Apr. 24th
- Sam Houston State University:
 - AAE: Apr. 4th
 - Area: Apr. 10th
 - State: Apr. 25th
- Texas Tech University:
 - Invitational: Apr. 5th
 - Area: Apr. 12th
 - State: May 3rd
- Texas A&M University:
 - Judging Clinic: Mar. 29th
 - Area: Apr. 12th
 - State: Apr. 26th

Contest Notes & Changes

Ag. Communications:

Nationals changed their rules and event format for their national contest. Texas Tech as the contest provider presented a recommendation for changing the contest format and scoring to better match the new nationals format. This recommended change was approved by the CDE committee and sent to the board for final approval at the September Meeting. These changes if approved would make the practicum activities more team oriented instead of individual. It would also update the activities to more modern activities. Again, this recommendation still needs to be approved by the board in September before the changes could take effect.

Tractor Tech:

Discussion on how to better do Dress Code & Clipboard Checks as well as who is responsible for organizing it (HLSR or TX FFA). TX FFA will reach out to the contest superintendent to get an improved plan for the pre-contest checks. May be potential changes to that process or need for more volunteers going forward.

Horse:

Lots of discussion about how to better communicate which students are judging 4H and which are judging FFA at shared contests (Area) so that there are not students doubling up. Also discussion of trying to work with 4H & the contest provider to not have the patterns released early for 4H in order to maintain competitive integrity/balance in the FFA contest.

Ag Sales:

SHSU will look at rearranging the way they run things in order to try and have a better flow to the contest and create more consistency in the judging process. 4 function calculator approved to be added as an approved piece of equipment in the contest rules.

ENR:

Rule update restricting GPS units that have built in communication functions or apps was approved by the CDE committee.

Vet Science:

The rule requiring students and teams to be in matching scrubs was changed; removing the matching requirement so that it is only required that students' scrubs are a solid color.

FBM:

Contest provider is going to work on making the process for teachers to check to test more transparent and separate from the ongoing contest. A drop sheet is being created by TX FFA.

Cotton:

Teams are allowed to go to the Classification Center in the 2 weeks leading up to the State contest. This is a request from the contest provider and is a specific exception to the general rules prohibiting teams from visiting contest sites prior to state contests. In addition, teams will be able to select which time slot they want to compete in. It will be first come first serve as teams register and there will be a limit of max teams per wave. So the earlier you register the more likely you will get the time slot you want.

Milk Quality:

There is a discrepancy in the rules about the number of ingredients that will be looked at for the Dairy v. Non-Dairy part of the contest. One place in the rules says 1st ingredient, another says 1st 2 ingredients. The contest provider has usually done the 1st 2 when doing officials. Nationals uses the 1st ingredient. TX FFA is going to work with the contest provider to have the rules followed in line with what the National Contest format is.

Agronomy:

TX FFA is going to fix the Insect ID numbers so that they work with the scantron. Will also be creating an insect fact chart like what National FFA has but with the Texas specific insects as a resource to help with inconsistencies in the contest.

ATMS & AAE:

Rule update stating that tools will be provided by the contest provider unless posted 60 days before contest was approved. Increase in registration cost to \$125 to help with providing materials was approved.

Floral & Nursery:

Updates to the ID list need to wait for the revision cycle. However, start thinking about potential changes for when that time comes.

General CDE Items:

Tarleton Invitationals:

Might do staggered start times to help with getting students to different locations. There will be a new superintendent for the Entomology contest.

TX FFA:

- If you have weather concerns on site you need to get in touch with the contest providers.
- Areas need to address how they will handle teams being coached by university reps (faculty or students) for area contests. If this is happening at state contests it needs to be reported to the state office.
- The CDE committee created a sub committee to look at clarifying what contests are considered national contests and would affect eligibility for future participation at area and state contests. (Joe David Lehmberg serving on this subcommittee if you have questions/concerns).
- The CDE committee created a sub committee to look at revising the tiebreakers of all CDE contests, especially those that rely on coin tosses for tiebreakers. (Colton Pouncy serving on this subcommittee if you have questions/concerns).
 - It was approved by the CDE committee that in the case that there are multiple students that are still tied after all tiebreakers for the high point award; they will be declared co-champions.
- Motion to protect 1st place teams from the wildcard if they're the only team from their area failed.
- Ag Ed CDE was discussed more. TX FFA is going to look into potential invitational partners in the future to experiment with how it might work before

becoming an officially approved CDE. (Lots of rules and formats that would still need to be worked out.)

- Auctioneer CDE- The idea was presented to the committee. No action taken. Could potentially be a one off contest at Convention at some point if sponsored but not likely.

Respectfully submitted,

Colton Pouncy & Joe David Lehmberg
Area 7 State CDE Committee Representatives