

Area VII FFA

Virtual Leadership Development Event Planning Guide

Greenhand Creed Speaking and Senior Creed Speaking

November 19, 2020 at 11am

Event Registration

All teams and participants who have previously qualified in a preliminary district event will need to register for the Area VII LDE event on www.judgingcard.com.

Event Procedures for Virtual Events

Due to the current health crisis and to stay in compliance with social distancing and other COVID-19 guidelines, all Area VII Leadership Development Events will take place in a virtual format in 2020. Students will be allowed to participate in virtual event(s) from their homes or schools, in accordance with specific guidelines. The FFA Advisor will be required to review these guidelines with each student prior to the event and the advisor must certify that the students will adhere to the following guidelines:

- 1) Each contestant will use only the allowed materials as set for in the rules, and this virtual event procedure document.
- 2) Contestants will not talk, share questions/answers or in any way communicate regarding event materials at any time during the event, except as permissible in the contest rules.
- 3) All presentations will be completed solely by the FFA contestant during the allotted time without any assistance from anyone else or by any means not allowed in the event rules or this virtual event procedure document.
- 4) **Download Zoom:** Zoom is the preferred platform for the Area VII Leadership Development Event contest. Please download Zoom (zoom.us) on your computer OR download the Zoom application on your phone to prepare for the presentation. If your school district does not allow the use of Zoom, other platforms (i.e. Google Meets and Microsoft Teams) can be accommodated.
- 5) The use of electronic devices (other than devices on which the Zoom presentation is conducted) such as cell phones, smart watches, tablets, etc., is strictly prohibited.
- 6) No pictures of screenshots or contest materials can be taken during the contest.
- 7) **Setting/Environment:** Please select a location that has sufficient lighting (please do your best to be lit from the front) and does not have a distracting background or noise. It is encouraged to reach out to your campus IT staff and/or administration to determine if there are locations on campus best suited for virtual competition (i.e. School Board meeting rooms).
- 8) **Connectivity:** We recommend that during practice sessions, participants check their internet connectivity. Some parts of the state have poor internet connectivity. In those locations, it may be better for a student to use a cell phone. That's perfectly fine. We

would just recommend that a student use the LANDSCAPE (horizontal) view, rather than the PORTRAIT (up/down) view.

9) FFA members must adhere to the Code of Ethics as set forth in the FFA Manual.

Inconsistencies and violations of these procedures will be investigated thoroughly. In the instance where a procedure listed above is violated, the team may be subject to disqualification

Official Dress Requirements

All teams and individuals will be required to adhere to the Official Dress requirements listed in the event rules published on www.texasffa.org/lde.

Event Scoring

Electronic rubrics provided by JudgingCard will be utilized in all events that require evaluation by judges. For pricing and availability, please contact info@judgingcard.com.

Virtual Format Practice

In order to feel comfortable presenting via Zoom, recommend that participants PRACTICE ahead of time. Zoom is a free program/app and can be used on computers or mobile devices (cell phones). The free Virtual Leadership Development Event Planning Guide Greenhand Creed Speaking and Senior Creed Speaking version allows more than two people to stay on a Zoom call for up to 40 minutes.

Participants can set up free Zoom calls multiple times over the next several weeks to practice their group presentations. When presenting, it should be assumed that the device connected to Zoom is your judge. The device should be placed in a location which allows the view of each participant. Additionally, the device should remain stationary during the presentation, and not be moved. Contestants should be facing the device and presenting to the device, just as they would a live judge if the event were in person.

Event Components and Procedures by LDE

Greenhand Creed Speaking Date: Thursday, November 19, 2020 to begin at 11am

Event Details:

- Each contestant should join the meeting from their own individual device with the camera displaying the contestant from the waist up. It is recommended that the contestant join the meeting from a computer with a webcam for video, but connect to audio in the meeting via a cellular phone with headphones that include a microphone.
- **Students will enter the meeting and wait for their turn to be put into the warm-up breakout room when they are next to go. An advisor may be present with them in the waiting room and warm-up room but will not be permitted in the Judges room.**
- There will be no penalties assessed to contestants for the use of a cellular phone and headphones during this event.
- In the event of a power outage, network connectivity issue, etc. contestants may regain access to the event at the judge's discretion

- If contests are presenting on a school campus, no penalties will be assessed if students are required to wear personal protective equipment (i.e. face masks, face shield, gloves, etc.). The National FFA Board of Directors adopted a motion during their May meeting which allows for personal protective equipment to be worn with Official FFA Dress due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

- **The Area winner in this event will qualify for state competition in the Preliminary Greenhand Creed Speaking LDE on December 1, 2020.**

Senior Creed Speaking Date: Thursday, November 19, 2020 to begin at 11am

Event Details:

- Each contestant should join the meeting from their own individual device with the camera displaying the contestant from the waist up. It is recommended that the contestant join the meeting from a computer with a webcam for video, but connect to audio in the meeting via a cellular phone with headphones that include a microphone.

- **Students will enter the meeting and wait for their turn to be put into the warm-up breakout room when they are next to go. An advisor may be present with them in the waiting room and warm-up room but will not be permitted in the Judges room.**

- There will be no penalties assessed to contestants for the use of a cellular phone and headphones during this event.

- In the event of a power outage, network connectivity issue, etc. contestants may regain access to the event at the judge's discretion

- If contests are presenting on a school campus, no penalties will be assessed if students are required to wear personal protective equipment (i.e. face masks, face shield, gloves, etc.). The National FFA Board of Directors adopted a motion during their May meeting which allows for personal protective equipment to be worn with Official FFA Dress due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

- **The Area winner in this event will qualify for state competition in the Preliminary Senior Creed Speaking LDE on December 1, 2020.**