

THE BIG E FFA CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENTS 2009

GOAL STATEMENT FOR THE BIG E FFA ACTIVITIES

The primary goal for all Big E FFA events is to provide a learning experience for all participants. These regional activities will and do accept teams of less than first place in state competition. Some states provide more learning opportunities for more students by sending their first place team in state events to the National Competition and send their second place teams to The Big E. We welcome these students to participate on the regional level.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENTS AT THE BIG E WILL:

1. Include problem solving and critical thinking.
2. Promote an appreciation for diversity by reducing barriers to participation.
3. Promote new directions and focus on future needs of members and society.
Include cooperative activities.
4. Encourage broad participation among members and recognize excellence within levels of experience.
5. Recognize individual and team achievement, develop general leadership and recognize levels of ability.
6. Provide local recognition for superior performance at the local, state, and regional levels.

GENERAL RULES

Violations of any of the following rules may be grounds for the event superintendent to disqualify a participant or team from the activities.

A. TEAM ACTIVITIES

There will be team activities in all career development events with the exception of those career development events, which are individual in nature (i.e. Public Speaking, Star, Tractor Operation, Creed Speaking). Team activities will require two or more members of the competing team to cooperatively work together to solve a problem.

B. ELIGIBILITY OF PARTICIPANTS

1. The student must be a bonafide FFA member in good standing with the local chapter, and State Association at the time of the Career Development Event in which he or she participates.
2. The student, at the time of his or her selection as a team member, must be (1) a high school student and (2) enrolled in at least one Agricultural Education course and/or following a planned course of study, including a supervised occupational experience program, the objective of which is establishment in an agricultural occupation.
3. The student may not have previously participated in the same official National FFA Event and may not have previously been first, second or third place individual in the same Big E Career Development Event.
4. APPROPRIATE WITH SOME EVENTS DEDUCTING POINTS FOR NOT WEAR OFFICIAL FFA DRESS IS NECESSARY FOR THE AWARDS PRESENTATION.
5. THE ELIGIBILITY OF EACH CONTESTANT MUST BE CERTIFIED ON FORMS PROVIDED BY THE RESPECTIVE STATE CONSULTANT OR STATE FFA EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TO THE BIG E FFA COORDINATOR ON THE FORMS FROM THE BIG E WEBSITE. MOST of the registration forms for CDE's are found on an Excel spread sheet that is under registration forms. Additional registration forms for other activities are located in this section also. The waiver forms are also part of this section.
6. Upon certification by the State Official, students may participate in more than one event if no scheduling conflicts exist.
7. Any difficulty concerning the rules shall be referred first to the person in charge of the Career Development Event and then, if necessary, to The Big E FFA Coordinator.
8. Special needs students – students requiring special assistance may not receive direct aid from their agriculture

education teacher but may from other FFA members or contest officials. If a student needs special assistance the Career Development Event Superintendent MUST be informed at least one month prior to the event.

9. Career Development Event officials may stop a contestant if they deem their manner to be hazardous to either themselves or others. Such stoppage shall deem individuals disqualified for that section of the event.
10. Teams, who compete at The Big E, may also be eligible to compete in National Activities.
11. The respective State Supervisors or State FFA Executive Secretary must certify teams participating in various events. Completed forms along with the appropriate entry fee must reach the FFA Coordinator by August 1. Any exceptions must first be cleared with the FFA Coordinator.
12. A TEAM WILL BE MADE UP OF 3 or 4 MEMBERS. IT IS NOT NECESSARY THAT THEY ALL BE FROM THE SAME CHAPTER.
13. **SCHEDULE, RULE CHANGES and FEES:** The schedule showing the time and location of the CDE.'s will be provided as a separate entity on The Big E Website. Changes will be made by superintendents of each CDE and posted on the Website. **The fee is currently set at \$10 for participation in each team or individual event.** Please note that the fee for the Star Competition is \$10 for each individual. All checks are made payable to The Big E Planning Committee and sent with team registrations forms.

REGIONAL FFA PARADE SEGMENT

All FFA members participating at The Big E are requested to march in the FFA Segment of the daily Big E Parade. **OFFICIAL DRESS IS REQUIRED.**

FORMULA FOR DETERMINING THE BIG E FFA SWEEPSTAKES AWARD

1. A state must enter at least eight Career Development Events to be eligible for this award.
2. Career Development Events excluded from the Sweepstakes are any event, which is of an individual nature. (i.e. Star Program, Safe Tractor Event, Creed speaking and both Public Speaking events.)
3. The state with the lowest number of points (highest PLACINGS) in any eight (8) team events shall be the winner. A state entering more than eight (8) team events shall use the eight team events placing the highest for the sweepstakes award.

STATE PRESIDENT'S INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Up to three state presidents from the Eastern FFA Region are selected each year to serve as interns during FFA days at The Big E. A committee of Big E officials selects the three interns based upon the applications submitted. The Big E pays all expenses of the interns from their homes to The Big E and return. Interns are expected to be at The Big E from Wednesday before FFA days and depart on Sunday. The intern's application may be found on The Big E FFA web site.

AWARDS RECOGNITION PROGRAM

An Awards Recognition Program is held for those FFA members who have participated in the Career Development Events at The Big E. This is a ticketed event, tickets are available through FFA Superintendents on Friday and Saturday of competition. Due to the number of participants, only FFA Participants and one coach are eligible to attend. No awards will be announced prior to this program with the exception of the presentation of The Big E Stars. State officers from various states within the Region and The Big E FFA interns will conduct the Awards Recognition Program. Awards are sponsored by **EASTERN STATES EXPOSITION, FARM CREDIT BANKS and AGRI-MARK.**