

# JR HIGH CREED

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## Event Rules:

- 1 The State FFA Creed Speaking Career Development Event will be limited to participants who qualify through a district contest. The number of qualifiers per district is determined as follows:

1-15 participants = 3  
16-20 participants = 4  
21 or more participants = 5

Participants must qualify in grades 7 or 8. (Contestants may not participate in the Greenhand Creed Contest in the same year.)

- 2 It is highly recommended participants be in official FFA dress in each event.
- 3 The State FFA Creed Speaking Career Development Event will follow the general rules and policies for all State FFA Career Development Events.
- 4 The State FFA Association will be in charge of this event.
- 5 Three to six competent and impartial persons will be selected to judge the event. At least one judge should have an agricultural /FFA background. Each district with a speaker shall provide a judge for the state event.
- 6 Once contestants have competed, they will not be allowed back in the holding

## Common Core References:

### 7th Grade

**CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.7.4** Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the impact of a specific word choice on meaning and tone.

**CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.7.4** Present claims and findings, emphasizing salient points in a focused, coherent manner with pertinent descriptions, facts, details, and examples; use appropriate eye contact, adequate volume, and

### 8th Grade

**CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.8.5** Analyze in detail the structure of a specific paragraph in a text, including the role of particular sentences in developing and refining a key concept.

**CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.8.4** Present claims and findings, emphasizing salient points in a focused, coherent manner with relevant evidence, sound valid reasoning, and well-chosen details; use appropriate eye contact, adequate volume, and clear pronunciation.

## **Event Format:**

- 1 The event will consist of an oral presentation.
- 2 Members will present the FFA Creed from the current year's Official FFA
- 3 The State Event will be conducted in two rounds in two preliminary rooms. Four participants will proceed to the final round. No ranking will be given except for the final four.
- 4 Event officials will randomly determine the speaking order. The program chairman shall introduce each participant by contestant number and in order of the drawing. No props are to be used. Applause shall be withheld until all participants have spoken.
- 5 Each contestant must recite the FFA Creed from memory. Each contestant shall begin the presentation by stating "The FFA creed by E.M. Tiffany." Each contestant shall end the presentation with the statement "...that inspiring task. Thank you."
- 6 Contestants will be asked one question from the test question pool provided
- 7 Contestants will be held in isolation until their presentation. Contestants will not be allowed to have contact from any outside persons.
- 8 At the time of the event, the judges will be seated in different sections of the room in which the event is held. They will score each participant on the delivery of the Creed, using the score sheet provided.
- 9 Two timekeepers shall be designated who will record the time used by each participant in delivering his/her speech. Timekeepers will be seated together.
- 10 Two content accuracy judges will record the number of recitation errors during delivery. 1 point per word error will be subtracted from the participant's score. The accuracy judges will be seated together.
- 11 When participants have finished speaking, each judge will total the score of each speaker. The timekeepers' and accuracy judges' records will be used in computing the final score for each participant. The judges' score sheets will then be submitted to event officials to determine final ratings of participants.
- 12 Participants shall be ranked in numerical order on the basis of the final score to be determined by each judge without consultation. The judges' ranking of each participant shall then be added, and the winner will be that participant whose total ranking is the lowest. Other placings will be determined in the same manner (low point score method of selection).

## **Tiebreakers**

- 1 Ties will be broken based on the greatest number of low ranks. Participant's low ranks will be counted and the participant with the greatest number of low ranks will be declared the winner. If a tie still exists then the participant's raw scores will be totaled. The participant with the greatest total of raw points will be declared the winner.

## **References**

This list of references is not intended to be all-inclusive. Other sources may be utilized and teachers are encouraged to make use of the very best instructional materials available. The following list contains references that may prove helpful during event preparation.

Current year's *Official FFA Manual*

<https://www.ffa.org/about/who-we-are/official-manual>

## THE CREED

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The FFA Creed by E.M. Tiffany

I believe in the future of agriculture, with a faith born, not of words but of deeds - achievements won by the present and past generations of agriculturists; in the promise of better days through better ways, even as the better things we now enjoy have come to us from the struggles of former years.

I believe that to live and work on a good farm, or to be engaged in other agricultural pursuits, is pleasant as well as challenging; for I know the joys and discomforts of agricultural life and hold an inborn fondness for those associations which, even in hours of discouragement, I cannot deny.

I believe in leadership from ourselves and respect from others. I believe in my own ability to work efficiently and think clearly, with such knowledge and skill as I can secure, and in the ability of progressive agriculturists to serve our own and the public interest in producing and marketing the product of our toil.

I believe in less dependence on begging and more power in bargaining; in the life abundant and enough honest wealth to help make it so - for others as well as myself; in less need for charity and more of it when needed; in being happy myself and playing square with those whose happiness depends upon me.

I believe that American agriculture can and will hold true to the best traditions of our national life and that I can exert an influence in my home and community which will stand solid for my part in that inspiring task.

Thank You.