

**Connecticut Agriculture Science and Technology Education/FFA
Career Development Events
General Rules & Regulations**

Revised 10-11-2012

1. Career Development Events (CDE) are open to all regularly enrolled Agricultural Education students of Connecticut. However, only active FFA members whose state and national dues have been paid for the current year* are eligible for participation, awards and recognition at any District FFA, State FFA and/or National FFA and BIG E CDE or other competition. If space permits and with prior consent of the Superintendent, out of state teams may participate in Connecticut Career Development Events, realizing that at no time are they competing against Connecticut students for ranking. *Participants in District, State, and National FFA and the BIG E must have dues paid prior to the day the CDE or competition starts.
2. A plaque will be awarded to the school team having the highest rank in each CDE/contest. A plaque will be awarded to the 1st placed individual. Certificates will be awarded to 2nd and 3rd placed individuals in each division. Cash awards are presented to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place individuals provided by the Connecticut State FFA Foundation, Inc.
3. The top winning team qualifying for the National FFA Career Development Events is expected to compete at the Eastern States Exposition for CDEs listed on the Big E website. The coach of the winning team may defer the opportunity to compete at the Eastern States Exposition to the second place team.
4. The State FFA Advisor and/or Executive FFA Secretary may excuse a student from participating at the Big E for extenuating circumstances. Emergency situations will be dealt with as the need arises.
5. No student may be entered in more than one Career Development Event on the same day.
6. Any student who has qualified and competed at the highest level of competition is not eligible to compete in the same Career Development Event in the future.
7. Any student who has qualified, competed (and won) in a CDE that does not go to the National Level is not eligible to compete in the same Career Development Event in the future.
8. If a team wins at the state level at least half of the qualified members should be on the team to compete at the National Competition. With extenuating circumstances a teacher may substitute another student from the chapter who may not have participated at a state qualifying event, with the exception of Creed speaking, dairy handlers activity, extemporaneous public speaking, job interview and prepared public speaking, which must be submitted and approved by the state executive secretary. .

9. It is the superintendent's responsibility to check to make sure the results of the competition are correct. Results are Official on the eighth calendar day after they are posted on the CAAE website unless an appeal has been properly filed. When an appeal has been properly filed the results are final as of the date of the appeals committee decision.

10. Any difficulty concerning the rules (before or during the contest) shall be referred first to the CDE Superintendent. It is unacceptable to contact the superintendent after the conclusion of the contest. Refer to the appeal process if you have concerns regarding the results. Concerns regarding the format or setup of a contest will be discussed during taxonomy meetings.

Appeal Process

11. If a coach has a justified concern about the results of a contest, they must mail a written appeal to the Chair of the CDE Appeal committee. If a written appeal is mailed and postmarked within seven calendar days after the results were posted, the CDE Appeal committee will review the appeal. The written appeal must be accompanied with a \$50 filing fee made out to CT FFA. The fee will be returned if the appeal is justified.

See the Appendix A for more instructions.

SUPERINTENDENT GUIDELINES:

12. To eliminate the conflict of interest, the Superintendent and Assistant should not be the coach or assist in training a team for the event they are the supervising. Selection of Superintendents and assistants will be discussed in CAAE Taxonomy meetings. It is strongly discouraged to coach a team and serve as the superintendent.

Student teachers or Teacher interns shall not serve as the superintendent of a contest if their cooperating teacher is the coach of a team in that contest. If a cooperating teacher is the superintendent of a contest their student teacher or intern shall not coach a team in that contest.

13. Identify yourself and the other adults who are assisting you, so students may direct questions to the appropriate person.

14. All contest materials (judging cards, score sheet, etc.) are to be completed appropriately for the contest. Contestants will not be given credit for incomplete/incorrectly filled out material that they hand in for scoring.

15. Contest officials may stop any contestant if they deem, the contestants, manner to be hazardous to either themselves or others. Such stoppage may deem individuals disqualified for that section of the contest.

16. The rank of the team will be based upon the computation of raw scores from each official

contestant in a particular contest. Number of team members allowed and scores needed to determine team rank are taken from the current National FFA Career Development Handbook.

17. At the completion of a Career Development Event, results/scores must be turned into the Executive FFA Secretary within seven calendar days of the contest.

18. The superintendent shall select judges for each Career Development Event that are knowledgeable in that event.

19. The superintendent shall post all Career Development Event information on the website six (6) weeks prior to the competition.

TEACHER GUIDELINES:

20. All students competing on a team must be from the same agriscience and technology education program.

21. Each school will be assigned a code number (this number corresponds to the chapter ID number that National uses) and contestant's will each be designated A, B, C, D, E or F. Students must use the number and letter on their scorecards. Please inform your students of their contestant number/letter prior to the contest.

Killingly 1

Housatonic 2

Glastonbury 3

Lebanon 4

Wamogo 5

Middletown (Mattabeset) 6

Ray 7

Stamford 9

Rockville 10

Southington 11

Storrs 12

Wallingford (Lyman Hall) 13

Woodbury 14

Suffield 16

Trumbull 17

Ledyard 18

Northwestern 22

Bridgeport 23

New Haven 24

Bloomfield 25

22. All teachers are encouraged to communicate with the Career Development Event Superintendent to see where you may be of assistance. Yes, even if you have coached a team entered in that contest.

23. Official FFA dress is recommended for all FFA members where appropriate. Please recognize that dress shoes, heels and sandals, although black in color, may not be appropriate for all Career Development Events.

24. All participating students **shall** receive proper instruction in the skills and knowledge required to safely compete in the Career Development Event (CDE) prior to participating in said CDE.

25. Only students entered as official contestants in a Career Development Event are allowed to be at the contest site. No Alternates. Audience viewing is allowed if space permits.

26. Students who have been determined by their individual school systems to require special services are encouraged to participate in Career Development Events. If the contestant requires special assistance, the student's teacher must notify the Career Development Superintendent at least two weeks prior to the day of the event. Accommodations should be agreed upon one week prior to the CDE in communication between the teacher and superintendent.

STUDENT GUIDELINES:

27. Follow all rules made known to you by the Career Development Event Superintendent and direct all questions to the Superintendent running your CDE.

28. Any communication, verbal or non-verbal, between participants during a career development event may be sufficient cause to eliminate the team member involved from the career development event. The only exception to this would be communication between team members during the team activity portion of a given event.

29. Any assistance given to a team member from any source other than the Career Development Event officials or assistants may be sufficient cause to eliminate the team from the career development event.

30. CDE participants who start an event and do not complete the event without notifying event officials at the time of the departure may be disqualified. This can affect the overall team rank and position. In some events this may also disqualify the entire team.

31. The use of electronic equipment of any kind is **not** permitted during any CDE unless stated in the list of required materials for an individual CDE. This includes listening devices and cell phones. The use of these devices may be reason for the disqualification of the contestant. Cell phones may be carried but are to be powered off.

32. Any Agriscience and Technology Education Program, whose team or team member has been disqualified from a CDE, shall not be allowed to participate in the same CDE in the following year.

Appendix A

Appeals

1. The appeals committee shall consist of a chairman and two agriculture teachers as voted on by the CAAE membership at the annual meeting.
2. The appeals committee may be changed without having to approve CDE rules and regulations.
3. If a coach has a justified concern about the results of a CDE/contest, they must mail a written appeal to the Chair of the CDE Appeal committee. If a written appeal is mailed and postmarked within seven calendar days after the results were posted, the CDE Appeal committee will review the appeal. The written appeal must be accompanied with a \$50 filing fee made out to CT FFA. The fee will be returned if the appeal is upheld.

Appeal Procedures

1. Superintendent of the CDE must be notified that you are appealing the results of a CDE.
2. The Chairman of the Appeal Committee must be e-mailed with your intention to appeal.
3. A check, written to the CT FFA and a written summary, which shall consist of no more than a one page, single spaced, 12 font paper, for the reason(s) your appeal should be heard shall be sent to the Chairman of the Appeal Committee, post-marked no later than seven days after the CDE Results are posted onto the CAAE website.
4. The Chairman shall convene the Appeal Committee in a manner that will expedite the decision making process.
5. The appeal Committee will have 10 calendar days from the first appeal meeting to render a decision.
6. The appellant will be notified of the committee's decision within 10 calendar days of the first meeting of the committee.
7. If the appeal is upheld,
 - i. The Check will be returned
 - ii. The Superintendent CDE will be notified to change the CDE results
 - iii. All affected CDE individuals/teams will be given the committees final verdict.
8. If the appeal is denied
 - i. The Superintendent CDE will be notified that the CDE results are official as posted
 - ii. The appellant forfeits the \$50 to the CAAE
 - iii. All affected CDE individuals/teams will be given the committees final verdict.
9. The decision of the Appeal Committee is final.

Members of the Appeal Committee as of 10/16/2012:

Chairman:	Harold Mackin	Devon O'Keefe	Lori Bennett
	State Consultant	Ledyard High School	Wamogo High School
	165 Capitol Ave	24 Gallup Hill Road	98 Wamogo Road
	Hartford, CT 06106	Ledyard, Ct 06339	Litchfield, Ct 06075
	Harold.mackin@ct.gov	do'keefe@ledyard.net	lbennett@rsd6.org