

American Farm Bureau® Federation  
Young Farmers & Ranchers Discussion Meet  
**COMPETITORS' MANUAL**

2025



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*Note: This competitor manual is designed to be used for Discussion Meet and Collegiate Discussion Meet competitive events. The information is the same for both competitive events unless specifically noted.*

# Background Information

The Discussion Meet is a competition promoted by the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) Young Farmers & Ranchers (YF&R) Committee.

Farm Bureau's strength depends on its members' ability to analyze agricultural issues and decide on solutions that best meet their needs. The competition is designed to simulate a committee meeting where discussion and active participation are expected from each committee member.

As a leadership training and self-improvement activity, the Discussion Meet experience will:

- Stimulate logical thinking and a desire for accurate information.
- Develop a concise and direct manner of speaking.
- Improve the ability to listen.
- Aid the participant in overcoming timidity or stage fright.
- Assist the individual in giving and receiving criticism in a productive way.
- Teach the value of compromise.
- Develop leaders for effective problem solving through group discussion.

Applicants build basic discussion skills, develop a keen understanding of important agricultural issues and explore how groups can pool knowledge to reach consensus and solve problems.

A successful applicant is a productive thinker rather than an emotional persuader. They will assist the group in creating ways to implement the solutions discussed and highlight Farm Bureau's involvement in those actions/steps.

The applicants will discuss pre-selected topics using four bases for the general discussion:

- Cooperation
- Constructive Criticism
- Problem Solving
- Communication

It is recommended that state Farm Bureaus provide, as part of the state recognition award, an expenses-paid trip to the AFBF Annual Convention held in 2025 in San Antonio, Texas or, for CDM, the 2025 FUSION Conference held in Denver, Colorado. Appropriate recognition will be given to all the national competitors in attendance at the AFBF Annual Convention or the AFBF FUSION Conference.

The AFBF YF&R Committee and the AFBF Leadership, Education and Engagement Department will coordinate the program at the national level.



# Eligibility

## Discussion Meet

- Participant shall be a Farm Bureau member between the ages of 18 and 35 in good standing with their county Farm Bureau. The individual shall have reached their 18th birthday at the time they qualify for the national competition and shall not have reached their 36th birthday by the completion of the competition. Competitors qualify at the time the national application is submitted and the completion of the competition is the day awards are given out (Monday of the AFBF Convention).
  - Applicant must be actively engaged in agriculture.
  - Applicant may only compete in one national YF&R competition per year.
  - Past and present members of the AFBF Young Farmers & Ranchers Committee and/or their spouse/spousal-equivalents are not eligible.
  - Previous AFBF Discussion Meet competitors are not eligible to compete. Past state YF&R Discussion Meet winners are eligible if they have not previously competed at the national level.
  - Current employees or agents of county, state and/or the American Farm Bureau organizations and their affiliates are not eligible to compete. An affiliate is defined as an entity owned or controlled in whole or in part by another entity through, for example, ownership (including partial ownership) or positions on the board of directors. Past employees and interns who were responsible for implementing any of the YF&R competitive events since January 1, 2020, at the state or national level are ineligible.
  - Professional speakers are not eligible to compete. Professional speakers are those who have received a fee, royalty or honorarium for speaking (i.e., paid speaking appearances or speaking engagements) within 24 months prior to this annual competition. This excludes reimbursement for travel or expenses attendant to the appearance.
  - Each state may submit one entry to be considered for national recognition and must use the AFBF entry form and application.
- the time the national application is submitted and the completion of the competition is the day awards are given out (Sunday of the YF&R Leadership/FUSION Conference)
- Applicant must be an undergraduate college student in a state with a recognized YF&R program.
  - Undergraduate status is determined at the time the applicant qualifies for the national competition, not necessarily the national event itself.
  - Applicant shall not be enrolled in a graduate-level program at the time of their state or the national Collegiate Discussion Meet competition.
  - Applicant must display a sincere interest in the agricultural industry.
  - Applicant may only compete in one national YF&R Competition per year.
  - Past and present members of the AFBF Young Farmers & Ranchers Committee and/or their spouse/spousal-equivalents are not eligible.
  - Past state YF&R Collegiate Discussion Meet winners are eligible if they have not previously competed at the national level.
  - Past state YF&R Discussion Meet winners and/or previous AFBF Discussion Meet competitors are not eligible to compete.
  - Current employees or agents of county, state and/or American Farm Bureaus organizations and their affiliates are not eligible to compete. An affiliate is defined as an entity owned or controlled in whole or in part by another entity through, for example, ownership (including partial ownership) or positions on the board of directors. Past employees who were responsible for implementing any of the YF&R Competitive Events since January 1, 2020, at the state or national level are ineligible.
  - Professional speakers are not eligible to compete. Professional speakers are those who have received a fee, royalty or honorarium for speaking (i.e., paid speaking appearances or speaking engagements) within 24 months prior to this annual competition. This excludes reimbursement for travel or expenses attendant to the appearance.
  - Each state may submit one entry to be considered for national recognition and must use the AFBF entry form and application.

## Collegiate Discussion Meet

- Applicant shall be a member of a recognized collegiate Farm Bureau chapter or club as established by a state Farm Bureau and be between the ages of 18 and 35. The individual shall have reached their 18th birthday at the time they qualify for the national competition and shall not have reached their 36th birthday by the completion of the competition. Competitors qualify at

## Helpful Hints for Competitors

- Study as much material as possible relating to the overall topic. Sources: Internet; library; newspapers; magazines; Farm Bureau policies; county, state and American Farm Bureau publications; and conversations with experts or knowledgeable people.
- Remember this is a discussion, not a debate.
- Be prepared to ask questions, state facts and opinions, and urge others to be specific.
- Be aware of the audience, but generally address the panel. Speak loudly enough to be heard by the whole audience.
- Participate whenever your contribution will further the discussion. Do not monopolize the discussion.
- Use the one minute of quiet time to organize your closing statement.
- This is not a panel symposium wherein each participant, in turn, makes a presentation, with the moderator ending the session with a summary. Rather, it is an exercise in cooperative problem solving, with the questions, answers and statements coming from any person at any time. The moderator plays an inactive role during the discussion.
- Make notes of key points as the discussion proceeds for use in your summary statement.
- The discussion should not be “conversation” or aimless talk, nor should you take the role of a persuasive speaker. Try to cooperatively shed light on the problem and tentatively retain a flexible position.
- Stand and make your closing statement to the audience. Use accepted speech techniques and stay within the time limit.

## Competition Format

1. All competition facilitators and competitors will meet in the pre-assigned competition room 15 minutes prior to the start of the competition to receive last-minute comments by the room chair. At this time competitors will also draw for order for placement of their name tent/chair. Competitors not present at the time of the drawing will select from the remaining positions. The competition facilitators are AFBF-designated room chairs and moderators.
2. Competitors may not bring anything with them to the competition table, including, but not limited to, prepared notes in any form, props and/or any form of technology (i.e., smart watches, cell phones, etc.) with them to the competition table. After all competitors have been introduced, notes may be written on the paper provided. If a note or a technological device is brought to the table and is noticed by the competition facilitator, there will be a disqualification called at the end of the round by the Discussion Meet chair, the AFBF YF&R Committee chair and/or the AFBF coordinator.
3. The room chair will call the meeting to order, announce the topic to be discussed and introduce the timekeeper and moderator. Any competitor not present at this time will be disqualified.
4. The moderator will introduce the competitors and re-announce the topic to be discussed. They will give each of the competitors, in voluntary order, the opportunity to make a 30-second opening statement directed to the audience.
5. The timekeeper will flash a red timecard indicating when 30 seconds have elapsed and the moderator will announce “time” when the competitor will need to stop. Competitors are expected to complete their statement in the allotted time.
6. The moderator will then indicate the opportunity for open discussion, which for both Discussion Meet and Collegiate Discussion Meet will continue for a total of 25 minutes in the opening rounds and Sweet Sixteen round and 30 minutes for the Final Four round. The discussion should be directed to the fellow competitors.

7. The timekeeper will indicate to the moderator and competitors when five minutes of open discussion time remains. If the discussion is lagging, the moderator may close the discussion at any time.
8. The timekeeper will indicate to the moderator and competitors when 25 minutes in the opening rounds and Sweet Sixteen rounds and 30 minutes in the Final Four round have elapsed with a red timecard. The moderator will call for open discussion to stop for one minute of quiet time, allowing the competitors to compose a closing statement.
9. The moderator will give each of the competitors, in voluntary order, the opportunity to make a one minute closing statement directed to the audience. The timekeeper will flash a red timecard and the moderator will announce "time" when the one minute has elapsed, then when the competitor will need to stop. Competitors are expected to complete their statement in the allotted time.
10. The moderator will recognize the judges and request them to leave the room with the room chair to finalize the tabulation of their score sheets. Judges are not to confer with each other until the room chair has collected their tabulated score sheets.
11. The Round One question will be announced at the competitor orientation. The Round Two and Sweet 16 questions will be announced at the end of the prior round, respectively. The Final Four question will be released at the announcement of those advancing to that round of competition
12. The moderator will thank the panel and ask the audience to recognize their efforts. They will then ask the competitors to share their personal agricultural background with the audience.

# Competition Structure

## Orientations

### • Competitor Orientation

- a) Orientation will be held prior to the opening round of competition.
- b) All participants are required to attend; roll call will be taken.
- c) The opening round topic will be announced.
  - The first-round topic will be announced now, and again in the competition room.
  - Each subsequent round topic will be announced at the close of the prior round, with the exception of the final question. The Final Four question will be announced at the official Final Four Announcement.
- d) Opening round room assignments and locations will be distributed.

### • Judge Orientation

- a) Orientation will be held prior to the opening round of competition.
- b) All judges are required to attend; roll call will be taken.
- c) Judges' duties will be reviewed (see Judge Duties) and any announcements will be made.
- d) Competition timing sequences will be reviewed.
- e) There will be time for judges to ask questions.
- f) Opening round room assignments and locations will be distributed.

### • Timekeeper Orientation

- a) Orientation will be held prior to the opening round of competition.
- b) All timekeepers are required to attend; roll call will be taken.
- c) Opening round room assignments and locations will be distributed.
- d) Timekeeper duties will be reviewed (see Timekeeper Duties) and any announcements will be made.



## Competition

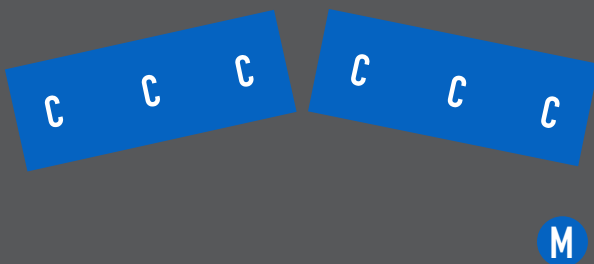
- All participants will compete in the first two rounds of the competition. Each of the first two rounds will include rooms with four to six competitors. The top 16 competitors based on judges' rankings and scores from the first two rounds will be put into a Sweet Sixteen round. The Sweet Sixteen round will have four rooms with four competitors each, with the top competitor in each room moving on to the final round. The four finalists will compete in the Final Four round to determine the winner.
- The physical arrangements of the Discussion Meet rooms should provide for two tables at the front of the room facing each other and the audience. Half the participants should be seated at each table with the moderator on the side. Name cards identifying competitors should be easily visible. Cards should show only the competitor's name, not their state. Placement of name cards will be determined by a drawing for order 15 minutes prior to the start of the round. Competitors not present at the time of the drawing will select from the remaining positions.

## Roles and Responsibilities of Competition Facilitators

### Discussion Meet Subcommittee Chair Duties

- Familiarize yourself with the AFBF YF&R Discussion Meet Competitor Manual.
- Prior to orientations, determine the sequence of topics to be used for the competition.
- Conduct the Discussion Meet Competitor Orientation session.
  - Make introductions.
  - Give a brief explanation of Discussion Meet competition procedures.
  - Distribute room assignments and locations.
  - Allow time for questions.
  - Announce the first-round topic during orientation.
- Settle any and all disputes during the competition.

## Room Layout



x J x x x x x x x T    x x x x x x x x x  
 x x x x x x x x x x    x x x x x x J x x x  
 x x x x x x x J x x    x x x x x x x x x

M = Moderator    C = Competitor    J = Judge  
 T = Timekeeper    x = Audience



## Room Chair Duties

- a) Familiarize yourself with the AFBF YF&R Discussion Meet Competitor Manual.
- b) Review the Tally Sheet. (see Appendix A & B)
- c) Ensure all judges are present and report any changes to the moderator.
- d) Meet in the assigned room with competitors, judges, moderator and timekeeper to answer any questions they may have.
- e) Facilitate the drawing for order and placement of name tents, fifteen minutes prior to the start of the competition.
- f) Call the competition to order at the appointed time. Introduce the moderator and timekeeper.
- g) Following the discussion, introduce and thank the judges.
- h) Escort the judges to the tally room at the end of the competition and allow them to finish tabulating and ranking the participants. Assist with the final ranking if necessary.
- i) Ensure each competitor has been ranked in all sections of the rating sheet.
- j) Supervise tiebreakers. (see Scoring)

## Moderator Duties

- a) Familiarize yourself with the AFBF YF&R Discussion Meet Competitor Manual.
- b) Become acquainted with the competitors.

- c) Open the competition with the following to ensure that all understand the format:
  1. Welcome the audience.
  2. Announce the topic to be discussed.
  3. Ask for the competitors to make a 30-second opening statement, in voluntary order and announce "time" when the timekeeper holds up the Time Elapsed - Red Card at the end of each opening statement.
  4. After the last opening statement, say, "You have heard the opening statements. You may proceed with the discussion."
  5. End the discussion at timekeeper's signal and announce "time".
  6. Call for one minute of quiet time for the competitors to prepare their closing statements.
  7. Ask for the competitors to make a one-minute closing statement, in a voluntary order.
  8. Thank the competitors.
  9. Dismiss the room chair and judges for tabulation.
  10. Give the competitors the opportunity to introduce themselves and share their agriculture background.
  11. Announce the time and location(s) for the next round.

**Note: The moderator should not comment on the topic or encourage discussion. This is the responsibility of the competitors. However, if the discussion seems to stall, the moderator should use their best judgment to end the discussion when the timekeeper indicates five minutes remain in open discussion.**

## Competition Flow

Generally speaking, the discussion should follow these steps:

- State the problem or need.
- Explore, define and understand the problem or need.
- Identify causes of the problem or need.
- Elaborate on all possible alternative solutions.
- Evaluate and compare alternatives.
- Test and project what appears to be the best solution(s).
- Create ways to implement the solution(s) discussed and highlight Farm Bureau's involvement in those actions/steps.

## Timekeeper Duties

- a) Familiarize yourself with the AFBF YF&R Discussion Meet Competitor Manual.
- b) Attend the Timekeeper Orientation session.
- c) Go to your assigned competition room 15 minutes prior to the scheduled starting time.
- d) Meet with the room chair, moderator and competitors for last-minute questions.
- e) Make sure to be seated in the front row near the center.
- f) Indicate the following timing notifications to the moderator and competitors:

## Timing Notifications

### Two Opening Rounds and Sweet Sixteen

- The end of each 30-second opening statement (Time Elapsed – Red Card)
- Warning at 20 minutes of open discussion, holding the card up until all competitors have noted the warning (Five Minutes Remaining – Yellow Card)
- The end of 25 minutes of open discussion (Time Elapsed – Red Card)
- The end of one minute of quiet time (Time Elapsed – Red Card)
- The end of each competitor's one-minute closing statement (Time Elapsed – Red Card)

### Final Four

- The end of each 30-second opening statement (Time Elapsed – Red Card)
- Warning at 25 minutes of open discussion, holding the card up until all competitors have noted the warning (Five Minutes Remaining – Yellow Card)
- The end of 30 minutes of open discussion (Time Elapsed – Red Card)
- The end of one minute of quiet time (Time Elapsed – Red Card)
- The end of each competitor's one-minute closing statement (Time Elapsed – Red Card)



## Judge Duties

- a) Familiarize yourself with the AFBF YF&R Discussion Meet Judges' Manual.
- b) Review the discussion topics.
- c) Review the Judges Sheet. (see page 10)
- d) Attend the Judge Orientation session.
- e) Go to your assigned room 15 minutes prior to the scheduled starting time.
  - Final Four judges are not permitted to attend any preceding rounds.
- f) Meet with the room chair and moderator to receive a list of competitors in your room.
- g) Remain seated until your room chair calls for you to leave the room to do the final tabulating of your score sheet.
- h) Select winners. (see Scoring)
- i) Judges should:
  - List competitors on your Judges Sheet from left-to-right for ease in identification.
  - Score competitors using the Judges Sheet.
  - Total the scores. (There is a total of 100 possible points.)
  - Determine and record competitor ranking and ensure there are no ties in raw score or rank.
  - Sign your Judges Sheet.
  - Provide feedback to each competitor.
- j) Judges should not:
  - Sit near a fellow judge.
  - Judge by applause.
  - Confer with each other until all scores are tabulated.



## Scoring

The room chair will supervise the final tabulation by the judges. Judges will use the point system indicated on the Judges Sheet to assist in selecting the winners. Each judge will be instructed to total his/her Judges Sheet and rank the competitors. Each judge is to break ties that occur on his/her own score sheet. The room chair will assist the judges in determining the final ranking of each round and the final competition.

- The winner will be determined by judges' ranking, and ties will be resolved before the judges are dismissed.
  - o Ties will be broken at the end of each round by an automatic procedure using Problem Solving and Implementation as the first tiebreaker, followed by Analysis of Topic and Cooperative Attitude sections of the rubric (see Appendix A)
  - o In the event of an unresolvable tie between all three categories, total points from the judge's sheets will be used to resolve the tie. The room chair will assist with this process.
- When possible, the above procedure should be conducted in a private room, with only the judges, room chair and Discussion Meet chair present.

The ranking system will again be used this year. The committee feels the system allows for quality discussions and for the best participants to advance on to the Sweet 16 and Final Four rounds.

## Opening Rounds

The contestants will compete in round one as they have in the past. Prior to the competition, competitors will be randomly placed in rooms using a software program. After round one, competitors' scores will be tallied, and they will be given new room assignments according to their rank. For round two, each room will have a 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th ranked competitor (this number will vary based on available rooms and participation numbers). Contestants will compete in the second round, and their scores will be tallied again.

## Sweet Sixteen

The top 16 competitors will compete in the Sweet 16 round and will be placed into room assignments in the same manner as round two. The winning contestant in each of the four Sweet 16 rooms will advance to the Final Four where the final topic will be discussed.

# Discussion Meet Scoring Rubric

<p>(1) OPENING STATEMENT <b>10 pts.</b></p>	<p><b>Competitor...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does not address the problem – is off topic.</li> <li>• Does not address the importance or relevancy of the problem.</li> <li>• Makes a “closed” statement that does not allow room for further conversation.</li> <li>• Does not seem to have a point of view.</li> <li>• Does not finish in the allotted time.</li> </ul> <p><b>Award 0-3 points</b></p>	<p><b>Competitor...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Defines the problem.</li> <li>• Sets the problem in context.</li> <li>• Makes a statement that leaves some room for further conversation but could be more open.</li> <li>• Has a general point of view.</li> <li>• Stays in the given time.</li> </ul> <p><b>Award 4-6 points</b></p>	<p><b>Competitor...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clearly defines the problem.</li> <li>• Conveys the importance and relevancy of the problem.</li> <li>• Makes an “open” statement that leaves room for further conversation.</li> <li>• Sets the stage for an interesting conversation with a very clear point of view.</li> <li>• Uses their time very wisely and stays in the given time.</li> </ul> <p><b>Award 7-10 points</b></p>
<p>(2) ANALYSIS OF TOPIC OR PROBLEM: <b>20 pts.</b></p>	<p><b>Competitor...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does not address the problem or does not remain on topic/wanders/distracts.</li> <li>• Hasn't done much research or lacks quality facts.</li> <li>• Doesn't build on other's ideas, only pushes their own.</li> <li>• Doesn't ask questions to clarify other's ideas.</li> <li>• Doesn't share relevant personal examples.</li> <li>• Misinterprets the issue or does not display competency and therefore does not help with problem solving.</li> <li>• Is unaware of FB policy.</li> </ul> <p><b>Award 0-5 points</b></p>	<p><b>Competitor...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identifies the causes of the problem, does not directly address them, but remains on topic.</li> <li>• Has done research.</li> <li>• Addresses the ideas of others but does not build upon them – or only drops in information they learned without connecting it to previous ideas and moving the conversation forward.</li> <li>• Asks some questions to help vet the ideas of others.</li> <li>• Shares relevant personal examples – may be slightly off topic.</li> <li>• Demonstrates knowledge of this problem but not why it exists.</li> <li>• Is aware of current FB policy.</li> </ul> <p><b>Award 6-12 points</b></p>	<p><b>Competitor...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identifies and addresses the causes of the problem and remains on topic.</li> <li>• Has thoroughly researched the topic.</li> <li>• Confidently builds on the ideas of others to contribute to a coherent analysis.</li> <li>• Asks relevant questions to vet the ideas of others.</li> <li>• Shares relevant personal examples that add to the conversation.</li> <li>• Helps ensure thorough analysis before moving to problem solving.</li> <li>• Is aware of current and relevant FB policy.</li> </ul> <p><b>Award 13-20 points</b></p>

# Discussion Meet Scoring Rubric (continued)

(3) PROBLEM SOLVING AND IMPLEMENTATION <b>25 pts.</b>	<p><b>Competitor...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Instead of helping to guide the conversation to a solution, just data drops.</li> <li>• Offers no plan for a solution or a generic plan like "tell our story" or "educate consumers."</li> <li>• Does not identify how Farm Bureau is involved.</li> </ul> <p><b>Award 0-6 points</b></p>	<p><b>Competitor...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tries to help lead the conversation to address a solution but misses opportunities to collaborate with the group.</li> <li>• Has a plan but is missing specificity.</li> <li>• Farm Bureau is mentioned but is not a crucial piece of the solution.</li> </ul> <p><b>Award 7-16 points</b></p>	<p><b>Competitor...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is a leader in guiding the group and the conversation to specific and relevant solutions.</li> <li>• Generates ideas that contribute to an achievable and specific plan of action to resolve the issue.</li> <li>• Clearly defines how Farm Bureau is part of the action plan.</li> </ul> <p><b>Award 17-25 points</b></p>
(4) COOPERATIVE ATTITUDE: <b>15 pts.</b>	<p><b>Competitor...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does not listen to others – just waits for their turn to talk.</li> <li>• Cuts others off or simply repeats what others have already said.</li> <li>• Is rude, defensive or combative when they do not agree with others.</li> </ul> <p><b>Award 0-4 points</b></p>	<p><b>Competitor...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contestant listens to others but does not comment specifically on their ideas or tie ideas back to the bigger conversation.</li> <li>• Is respectful of others.</li> <li>• Is not rude or defensive when they disagree with others.</li> </ul> <p><b>Award 5-9 points</b></p>	<p><b>Competitor...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is an active listener and comments on references or specific ideas mentioned by others tying them back to the bigger conversation.</li> <li>• Clearly shows grace, courtesy and respect to other participants.</li> <li>• Shows integrity especially when they do not agree with others.</li> </ul> <p><b>Award 10-15 points</b></p>
(5) DELIVERY: <b>15 pts.</b>	<p><b>Competitor...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is boring/ mumbling/ monotoned.</li> <li>• Slouches, does not use appropriate gestures or have eye contact.</li> <li>• Ideas are difficult to understand, or they are not confident in speaking.</li> </ul> <p><b>Award 0-4 points</b></p>	<p><b>Competitor...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Speaks at an appropriate volume and pace with appropriate tone.</li> <li>• Uses effective posture, gestures and eye contact.</li> <li>• Conveys thoughts and viewpoints but could seem overly rehearsed.</li> </ul> <p><b>Award 5-9 points</b></p>	<p><b>Competitor...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is interesting to listen to, animated and lively, speaks at an appropriate volume and with a professional and courteous tone.</li> <li>• Is poised and uses gestures and eye contact that emit respect and professionalism.</li> <li>• Confidently conveys thoughts and viewpoints clearly.</li> </ul> <p><b>Award 10-15 points</b></p>
(6) CLOSING STATEMENT: <b>15 pts.</b>	<p><b>Competitor...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does not accurately summarize the conversation.</li> <li>• Uses memorized speech that doesn't reflect the content of the conversation.</li> <li>• Closing statement is forgettable.</li> </ul> <p><b>Award 0-4 points</b></p>	<p><b>Competitor...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summarizes the conversation that happened.</li> <li>• Uses take-away points from the discussion to help develop a plan.</li> <li>• Closing statement is memorable.</li> </ul> <p><b>Award 5-9 points</b></p>	<p><b>Competitor...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shows that they have actively listened to the conversation in their summary.</li> <li>• Uses take away points from the discussion to develop relevant, realistic and specific action items and plans for the future.</li> <li>• Closing statement is memorable and inspires confidence in their ability to work toward a solution.</li> </ul> <p><b>Award 10-15 points</b></p>

# Discussion Meet Judges Sheet

Room Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Round # \_\_\_\_\_

Judge's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

In the first column, you will find the point values and descriptions. See rubric for additional detail. The total point value for each row is available for each competitor. You are not dividing the total points among competitors. **No ties.**

Columns to the right each represent a different competitor. Please fill in the first and last name of each competitor according to their seat location, from left to right starting with A. Put scores in the larger spaces and rank in the smaller boxes.

Judge's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Room Chair's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Room Chair's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

	Comp A Name:	Comp B Name:	Comp C Name:	Comp D Name:	Comp E Name:	Comp F Name:
(1) <b>OPENING STATEMENT:</b> Defines problem; conveys importance and relevance; sets the stage for an interesting discussion; clear point of view; uses time wisely <b>10 pts.</b>						
(2) <b>ANALYSIS OF TOPIC OR PROBLEM:</b> Has thoroughly researched topic; builds on the ideas of others to help achieve coherent analysis; asks relevant questions; helps ensure thorough analysis before problem solving; aware of relevant FB policy <b>20 pts.</b>						
(3) <b>PROBLEM SOLVING AND IMPLEMENTATION:</b> Leader in guiding the conversation to specific and relevant solutions; has achievable and specific plan of action; clearly defines how FB is part of the action plan <b>25 pts.</b>						
(4) <b>COOPERATIVE ATTITUDE:</b> Active listener; comments on specific ideas mentioned by others and ties them back to the bigger conversation; shows grace, courtesy and respect to others; shows integrity especially when they do not agree <b>15 pts.</b>						
(5) <b>DELIVERY:</b> Interesting to listen to; animated; appropriate volume and tone; poised; uses gestures and eye contact; confident and clear <b>15 pts.</b>						
(6) <b>CLOSING STATEMENT:</b> Shows that they have listened to the conversation; develops relevant and realistic plans; memorable; inspires confidence <b>15 pts.</b>						
Total score for each contestant is to be tabulated by Judge. Any tie scores are to be broken by Judge. Total of 100 points possible. <b>TOTAL</b>						
Rank competitors: 1 (highest) through 6 (lowest). <b>RANK</b>						



# Tie Breaker: Appendix A

## AFBF Discussion Meet: Official Tally Sheet

Round 1 ( )    Round 2 ( )

### Competitors: Final Ranking

(In Seating Order)	Judge 1	Judge 2	Judge 3	Total	Final Rank
Brutus Buckeye	1	2	1	4	1
Herbie Husker	2	3	2	7	
Goldy Gopher	3	1	3	7	
Nittany Nellie	4	4	4	12	4

\*You have a 1st and 4th place, but a tie for 2nd so move to the first tie breaker

### Competitors: Tie Breaker #1 – Problem Solving and Implementation

(In Seating Order)	Judge 1	Judge 2	Judge 3	Total	Final Rank
Brutus Buckeye	1	2	1	4	1
Herbie Husker	2	3	2	7	
Goldy Gopher	3	1	3	7	
Nittany Nellie	4	4	4	12	4

\*You still have a tie. Move to 2nd tie breaker

### Competitors: Tie Breaker #2 – Analysis of Topic

(In Seating Order)	Judge 1	Judge 2	Judge 3	Total	Final Rank
Brutus Buckeye	1	2	1	4	1
Herbie Husker	3	1	3	7	
Goldy Gopher	2	3	2	7	
Nittany Nellie	4	4	4	12	4

\*You still have a tie. Move to 3rd tie breaker

### Competitors: Tie Breaker #3 – Cooperative Attitude

(In Seating Order)	Judge 1	Judge 2	Judge 3	Total	Final Rank
Brutus Buckeye	2	1	1	4	1
Herbie Husker	1	2	3	6	2
Goldy Gopher	3	3	2	8	3
Nittany Nellie	4	4	4	12	4

\*With no ties, there is a final rank. You now have a 2nd and 3rd place. Remember the rankings that are clear in the first box do not ever change, even if they were to fall from that rank in one of the tie breaker boxes.

# Tie Breaker: Appendix B

## AFBF Discussion Meet: Official Tally Sheet

Round 1 ( )    Round 2 ( )

### Competitors: Final Ranking

(In Seating Order)	Judge 1	Judge 2	Judge 3	Total	Final Rank
Clark Kent	2	3	2	7	2
Peter Parker	3	2	4	9	3
Bruce Wayne	1	1	1	3	1
Tony Stark	4	4	3	11	4

*\*Technically, you do not need to go any further since you have a rank, but please fill out the entire form.*

### Competitors: Tie Breaker #1 – Problem Solving and Implementation

(In Seating Order)	Judge 1	Judge 2	Judge 3	Total	Final Rank
Clark Kent	2	1	2	5	2
Peter Parker	4	3	3	10	3
Bruce Wayne	1	2	1	4	1
Tony Stark	3	4	4	11	4

### Competitors: Tie Breaker #2 – Analysis of Topic

(In Seating Order)	Judge 1	Judge 2	Judge 3	Total	Final Rank
Clark Kent	1	4	3	8	3
Peter Parker	4	3	4	11	4
Bruce Wayne	3	1	1	5	1
Tony Stark	2	2	2	6	2

*\*Even though the rank is different from the official rank, it does not change the official rank.*

### Competitors: Tie Breaker #3 – Cooperative Attitude

(In Seating Order)	Judge 1	Judge 2	Judge 3	Total	Final Rank
Clark Kent	1	2	2	5	2
Peter Parker	3	4	3	10	3
Bruce Wayne	2	1	1	4	1
Tony Stark	4	3	4	11	4