

# **Frisco Lone Star FFA Judging Season Manual 2023-2024**



**Please review this judging season manual. Sign all required pages, and return everything before January 31, 2024.**

Judging season is here! Students will be working throughout the semester on contest preparation in contests we refer to as Career Development Events (CDE's). Students will be required to attend practices, study at home, and attend practice contests referred to as invitationals. The qualifying event, Area V CDE, will be held over multiple days and will require students to place in the top 10% to advance to the state contests (which is the goal). The attached forms are for parents and students to fill out together.

### **CDE Team Rules and Expectations**

All students representing Frisco Lone Star FFA and Frisco ISD are expected to meet all criteria of the Frisco Lone Star ISD Student Code of Conduct and Frisco Lone Star FFA policies regarding student conduct and student travel. We have the following expectations of all students on judging teams, please review and sign the permission slip, acknowledging that you agree to abide by these expectations.

1. Ag teachers will set study and practice times. Each practice time will try to accommodate everyone on the team's schedule. However, in some cases that may not be feasible, if students miss or are unable to attend practice the student is responsible for getting caught up. Students' attendance and make ups of practices may factor into team participation in contests and eligibility to compete.
2. Communication is KEY to a successful CDE Season. Students need to communicate before the withdrawal date that they will not be in attendance for the contests. Students who skip contests or practices without approval may be removed from the team and become ineligible to compete and will owe the chapter registration fees for missed contests.
3. CDE's require students to work together as a team. Students are expected to be respectful of their teammates in their communications and support their teammates.
4. Students must be passing all courses and be eligible to compete according to the UIL No-Pass-No-Play rules.
5. Students are required to travel with the Frisco CDE Teams. Students are not allowed to drive themselves to and from the competitions.
6. All students need to be coachable. This includes attending practices and completing mandatory assignments to the amount or level as determined by the Ag teacher.
7. Students will encourage teammates and never talk them down or discourage them in any way. You will be a good team member by knowing your role on the team and working hard to fulfill that role. You will be humble in success and gracious in defeat.
8. You will represent Frisco Lone Star FFA and Frisco ISD to the highest standards set for all students and members of the Frisco Lone Star FFA. This includes wearing the correct attire to the contests, using proper language and acting in an appropriate manner at all times.
9. Frisco Lone Star FFA CDE contests are a privilege NOT a right. The Ag Teachers reserve the right to make decisions that are best for individuals, teams, and the entire program during the CDE season.
10. You will be respectful at all times of all teachers, coaches, volunteers, contest officials, and other students. You will also be respectful of the livestock and all contest materials. Cheating of any kind at any time will not be tolerated and may result in removal from all CDE teams.

## **Dress for Travel & Competitions**

We expect all students to be an ambassador for Frisco Lone Star FFA, Frisco Lone Star High School, and the community of Frisco at all times. For this reason, appropriate dress and grooming will be required for all travel. In order to accomplish this, we will expect students to travel in school appropriate jeans and a button down shirt or other appropriate attire for their CDE.

## **Team Composition Decisions**

The decision of who will be on the travel team or making the team for contests is strictly up to the Ag Teacher. As Ag Teachers for these contests, we do everything we can to make these decisions based on data available to us. Just like any coach, we have to make decisions which we feel are in the best interest of the entire team and program. Below are some examples of times we will have to limit the number of students who can compete and also how we will make those decisions.

- We will look at each students' scores from all their invitationals. We will look at the placings of the Frisco Lone Star FFA members and assign rank based on their score. In the event that the student cannot attend all practice competitions due to other extracurricular absences or other reasons approved by the ag teacher, all events they have attended will be taken into consideration.
- We will also look at contests that are comparable to the area or state event and see if students did better than others at a similar contest. For example, area poultry judging is put on by Texas Tech and is a vastly different set of officials than the state contest put on at TAMU. We will compare students' results in events put on by TTU vs. TAMU to determine differences in students fit for each area/state contest.
- In the event of a tie, participation in practices, correct completion of scantrons, and scores on each section of the contest will be evaluated but the final decisions will be made by the ag teachers.

## **AREA AND STATE CONTESTS**

Unfortunately, only 3-4 students will compete at the area and state contests in each event. Due to this, we will only be able to allow 3-4 students to compete at those contests. Ag Teachers will compile a list of alternates and in the event that someone will be absent from the Area or State Contest, the Ag Teachers will pull up a member from the alternate list.

<b>Dates of Contest</b>	<b>Contest</b>	<b>Teams</b>	<b>Withdrawal Date</b>
Feb. 26th-March 1st	Keller Online Invitational (optional)	Wildlife, Floriculture and Nursery/Landscape, Ento	Jan. 29th
Feb. 29th	Jack Co. Invitational	Nursery/Landscape, Floral	Jan. 29th
March 1st	Winnsboro Double Header	Ento, Milk	Feb. 15th
March 20th	Northwest Invitational	Nursery/Landscape, Floral	Feb. 29th
March 21st	Tarleton Invitational	Ento, Dairy	March 1st
March 25th	Plano West Invitational	Ento, Floral, Milk,	March 1st
March 26	Weatherford College/ Parker County	Milk, Wildlife	March 8th
March 27th	Bridgeport	Dairy Cattle	March 8th
March 28th	Alvarado/Cleburne	Wildlife	March 8th
April 15th	Area V CDE Contest		Jan. 29th
April 16th	Area V CDE Contest		Jan. 29th
April 25th	Tarleton State CDE		Required Attendance
April 26th	Sam Houston State CDE Contest		Required Attendance
April 25th-27th	Texas A&M State CDE Contest		Required Attendance
April 19th-April 20th	Texas Tech State CDE Contest		Required Attendance

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My signature below signifies that I understand the above statements and that I understand the rules and responsibilities of being a member of a Lone Star FFA CDE Team.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_