
FFA Opening and Closing Ceremony

Event Guidelines

Purpose: This leadership development event is designed to emphasize the importance and purpose of having regular, organized and effective chapter meetings, as well as the significance of the duties of chapter officers. It is hoped this event will lead FFA members and advisors to have future interest in participation in the Conduct of Chapter Meetings and Senior Parliamentary Procedure CDEs.

- 8th, 9th-grade FFA members only.
- Only one team per chapter may advance to the state event.
- FFA members may not perform the advisor's part.
- FFA members may perform on only one team at the Regional level.
- FFA members who have participated in this event at the state level are not eligible to compete again in this event at any level.
- FFA members who have ever participated in the Conduct of Chapter Meetings or Senior Parliamentary Procedure events at any level are not eligible to participate in the Opening and Closing Ceremony Event at any level.
- Each Regional group is eligible to qualify one six-member team to the state level event. The state event will be held in October on the same date as the state Greenhand Quiz event.
- Official FFA Dress is required.
- The event will begin with: (One tap of the gavel, followed by two taps of the gavel.)
"The meeting room will come to order . . ."
- Once the Opening Ceremony is complete, the meeting will transition direct to the Closing Ceremony. "... duly open for the transaction of business, or attention to any matters which may properly be presented . . . Mr./Madam Secretary, do you have a record of any further business which should now be transacted?"
- The event will end with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by the president stating, "I now declare this meeting adjourned." (One tap of the gavel.)
- This event will mirror exactly the Opening and Closing Ceremony as found in the most recent online issue of the Official FFA Manual at www.ffa.org. A team may not deviate from the Official FFA Manual in any way. For example: Secretary: "There are __ members and __ guests present, Mr./Madam President."
- Each team will have the option of allowing its sentinel to enter the contest room prior to the team's performance to conduct only these two tasks: (1) to adjust the chairs to the team's preference, i.e. perpendicular to the tables or angled toward the president. (2) to determine the presence of a gavel at the podium. This room check is NOT scored by the judges and has no bearing on the outcome of the event.
- The criteria for judging this event will be based upon:
 - Memorization
 - Pronunciation, articulation, pitch and force of presentation
 - Stage Presence including gestures, movement, posture and eye contact
 - General effect including speed, poise, confidence and ease before an audience

Additional 2020 Information Event Information

Opening Ceremonies Guidelines for 2020 – Live Performance Option (with social distancing protocols)

- Regional contest must be held between October 1 and October 13
- Chapters are limited to **one** team
- Only regional winner will advance to State Contest (location TBD)
- State winner of this contest will perform at the 2021 State FFA Convention
- If participating in live performance contest, **chapter** cannot participate in the recorded virtual contest
- Judges should be 6 feet apart from each other and 6 feet from all participants
- No “checking” the room prior to competing
- Students and instructors must wear masks and remain socially distanced before and after entering the performance area

Opening Ceremonies Guidelines for 2020 – Recorded Virtual Performance (*For schools that cannot participate in a live format*)

- Contest submissions must be received by 10/13/2020 via dropbox
<https://www.dropbox.com/request/uCCVzp5DFUNibUNqu1jF>
- Chapters are limited to **one** team
- If participating in recorded virtual performance contest, chapter cannot participate in a regional or state live contest
- Participants must follow social distancing guidelines
- Record with iPhone or other high quality, but **basic** recording equipment
- Record from a **stationary** camera location at an angle behind the Sentinel’s station looking toward the President’s station
- No graphics or enhancements to the recording will be allowed
- Recorded submission must not have stoppage and/or edits
- Recordings should start with all participants in the room (**do not record walk in or exit**)
- Background walls should be plain as possible
- Recorded performances will be evaluated and winners of the Area and State Recorded Virtual performance will be announced on www.okffa.org
- The State Winner in the Recorded Virtual contest will **NOT** perform at the State FFA Convention
- The top two teams from each area and the top five overall teams will be recognized

Opening Ceremonies Guidelines for 2020 – Zoom Virtual Performance (ONLY if the State FFA Office deems that neither Live Performance nor Recorded Virtual performances can occur)

- Contest submissions must be received by 10/15/2020
- Chapters are limited to one team
- Will only occur if no other options are offered statewide
- Recorded ZOOM submission should be recorded through ZOOM
- ZOOM Recordings should start with all participants at their location (do not record walk in or exit)
- ZOOM Recorded performance participation will be acknowledged
- Teams will be ranked in **Gold, Silver, or Bronze** format