

Arkansas Farm Bureau Virtual YF&R Discussion Meet

With the cancellation of the 2020 Officers and Leaders Conference, ArFB is hosting a virtual YF&R Discussion Meet. The virtual format will allow members to participate in a similar fashion to a face to face competition. The competition will run from July 20-23, 2020.

Opening rounds:

For Rounds one and two, competitors will have 24 hours to submit two, five-minute videos containing individual discussion around the YF&R Discussion Meet question. (One video per question.) Videos should include a thesis statement, analysis of agricultural issue, suggested solution and ways Farm Bureau can be a part of the solution. These clips will be sent to groups of judges in random sets to be evaluated.

Final Four:

Similar to in person discussion, competitors will be judged on problem solving and implementation, analysis or topic or problem, cooperative attitude, delivery and opening and closing statements.

Competitors will be placed within a Zoom meeting with judges, a room chair, and timekeeper. Each competitor will make a 30 second opening statement, followed by 30 minutes of open discussion. Competitors will be given one minute to prepare a closing statement. The order for opening and closing statements will be drawn prior to the competition by the room chair.

Arkansas Farm Bureau Virtual YF&R Discussion Meet Process

All competitors will automatically complete two rounds, with one question per round. Scores from each round will be averaged for a final score.

Round One & Two follow the process outlined below:

1. Question one & two are published at 10 a.m. Monday July 20, via social media and emailed directly to the competitors.
2. Competitors have 24 hours to submit a video clip for each question meeting the following requirements:
 - a. Five minutes or less.
 - b. Includes opening statement, analysis of agricultural issue, suggested solutions and ways Farm Bureau can be a part of the solution.
3. Upload two separate video clips to YouTube as “unlisted.” Share the videos using the unique URL for each. Send links to yfr@arfb.com
4. Video clips are sent to judges to evaluate based on provided rubric.
5. Top 4 competitors are identified based on judges’ ranking and scores. Those individuals advance to the Final Four round.

Final Four: Zoom Discussion Room

1. Final round competitors and question will be published at 4 p.m. Wednesday July 22, via social media as well as emailed directly to the competitors. This email will also include a link to the Zoom meeting.
2. Final round Zoom Discussion will take place Thursday July 23 at 10 a.m.
3. Final Four competitors, moderator, timekeeper, and judges enter zoom video conference 15 minutes early for brief video conferencing etiquette/orientation.
4. The winner will be announced during the Officers and Leaders Virtual Conference beginning at 6 p.m. Final Four competition will be recorded and published following the conference.

Virtual Discussion Meet FAQ

Q: When is the application deadline for the Virtual YF&R Discussion Meet?

A: Applications deadline is **July 10**. Please email to yfr@arfb.com.

Q: What are the questions for the Discussion Meet?

A: The questions are included in this packet and also can be found at https://www.arfb.com/uploads/pages/arfb_2020_dm_questions-afbf_2021.pdf.

Q: For Rounds One and Two where do you recommend participants film their videos?

A: We would encourage participants to film in front of a solid colored wall in a well-lit area that is free of background noise. Judges will review the videos for content and will not judge based on the quality of video filming. However, it is important to minimize any distractions for the judges.

Q: How do I share my videos?

A: Upload to YouTube as "unlisted." Share the videos using the unique URL for each. Send links to yfr@arfb.com

Q: What online platform will be used for the Final Four round?

A: We will use Zoom as the online platform for the last round of competition.

Q: What is the preferred dress for competitors?

A: We would ask that all competitors dress in business professional as they would in an in-person discussion.

Virtual YF&R Discussion Meet Timeline

- Monday July 20th** **10 a.m.** Question one and two will be published via social media and emailed directly to the competitors. Competitors have 24 hours to submit a video clip.
- Tuesday July 21st** **10 a.m.** All video clips must be submitted at this time.
- Tuesday July 21st** **12 p.m.** Video clips will be sent to judges for evaluation.
- Wednesday July 22nd** **12 p.m.** All scores from rounds one and two must be submitted at this time.
- Wednesday July 22nd** **4 p.m.** Final Four participants and question will be announced via social media and email.
- Thursday July 23rd** **10 a.m.** Final Four round will take place via Zoom video conference.
- Thursday July 23rd** **6 p.m.** YF&R Discussion Meet winner will be announced during the virtual Officers and Leaders Conference.

**2021 Young Farmers & Ranchers
Discussion Meet and Collegiate Discussion Meet Questions**

1. International trade is important to agriculture. We must continue working to build strong relations with existing customers while seeking out new trade partners to strengthen market stability. How can we enhance existing, and establish new and diverse foreign trading partners?
2. Connectivity underpins the modern economy. What mix of investment and policy initiatives can provide reliable broadband access to farmers, ranchers and rural America?
3. The increasing frequency and intensity of natural disasters creates additional risk for farmers and ranchers. What tools and production practices can be engaged to reduce climate and weather risks?
4. The decline in rural populations is accelerated by a poor farm economy. What solutions would enhance the vibrancy and economic sustainability of agriculture and rural communities?
5. Is big data a big solution or big exposure? Technology tools are often cited as a method of increasing productivity and profitability, but there are liabilities that go along with technology. As young farmers and ranchers we are often first adopters. How do we ensure clear understanding of the risks and rewards of big data and smart farming?

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These questions will be used for the YF&R Discussion Meet held during AFBF Annual Convention in San Diego, California and the Collegiate Discussion Meet held during the FUSION Conference in Portland, Oregon.

YF&R Discussion Meet Judges Sheet

Room Name: _____ Round # _____

Judge's Name: _____

In the first column, you will find the point values and descriptions. ***The total point value for each row is available for each contestant.*** You are not dividing the total points for each category between contestants.

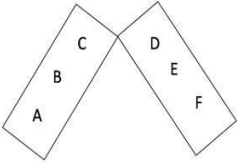
Columns to the right each represent a different contestant. ***Please fill in the first and last name*** of each competitor

Rank each competitor for the first three sections using the small box within each column. Provide overall rank using the bottom row of the chart. (1 = First, 2 = Second, etc.)

	Comp A Name:	Comp B Name:	Comp C Name:	Comp D Name:	Comp E Name:	Comp F Name:
(1) PROBLEM SOLVING AND IMPLEMENTATION: 45 pts. Contestant develops solutions (15 points) & plans actions to resolve the issue (15 points) while including Farm Bureau in the action plan. (15 points)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(2) ANALYSIS OF TOPIC OR PROBLEM: 30 pts. Contestant identifies causes of the problem (10 points), remains on topic (10 points), while sharing an accurate, working knowledge of the topic (10 points).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(3) DELIVERY: 15 pts. Contestant speaks at an audible volume and pace (5 points), forms clear sentences (5 points), and conveys thoughts and viewpoints clearly and confidently (5 points).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(4) THESIS STATEMENT: 10 pts. Contestant clearly defines the problem (5 points) and relays the importance and relevancy of problem (5 points).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
TOTAL 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.						
RANK Rank contestants: 1 (highest) through 6 lowest).						

YF&R Discussion Meet Judges Sheet

Room Name: _____

	Comp A Name:	Comp B Name:	Comp C Name:	Comp D Name:	Comp E Name:	Comp F Name:
<p>In these columns, put the first and last name of the competitors according to where they are sitting using this diagram:</p> 						
<p>(1) PROBLEM SOLVING AND IMPLEMENTATION: (200 points) Ability and judgment in seeking answers and solutions, planning and organizational understanding, and the inclusion of Farm Bureau in implementing action programs.</p>						
<p>(2) ANALYSIS OF TOPIC OR PROBLEM: (150 points) Does contestant attempt to identify problem causes and remain on topic?</p>						
<p>(3) COOPERATIVE ATTITUDE: (100 points) Listening, asking pertinent questions, airing all points of view, securing major agreement, minimizing major differences. Courtesy to other participants, encourage discussion from other participants.</p>						
<p>(4) DELIVERY: (100 points) Voice quality, loudness, clear enunciation, communication skills, desirable sentence structure and interesting choice of words.</p>						
<p>(5) OPENING STATEMENT: (50 points) Definition of problem, importance, causes, effects, relevancy of problem.</p>						
<p>(6) CLOSING STATEMENT: (100 points) Ability to summarize discussion and formulate direction for the future.</p>						
<p>Total score for each contestant is to be tabulated by Judge. Any tie scores are to be broken by Judge. TOTAL → Total of 700 points possible.</p>						
<p>Rank contestants: 1(highest) – 6(lowest) RANK →</p>						

Signed: _____
Room Chair

Signed: _____
Judge