

NJAA PREPARED PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST

Communication is a vital element in our society -- today more than ever before. The ability to communicate effectively is not only an art; it can mean the difference between success, mediocrity, or failure.

In an effort to foster the development of speaking skills among NJAA members, the National Junior Angus Association and the Events & Education Department of the American Angus Association will co-sponsor a public speaking contest during the National Junior Angus Show.

Eligibility of Contestants

1. Contestants must be Junior, Regular, or Life Members of the American Angus Association.
2. This contest is available to the following age divisions, as of Jan. 1 of the current year: Junior A (8-10), Junior B (11-13), Intermediate A (14-15), Intermediate B (16-17) and Senior (18-20). Prizes will be awarded in each division.
3. Multiple entries from a state shall be allowed during this event's formative years. In time, each state may be eligible to designate only one representative to the contest.
4. Contestants will be required to submit a title page and a typewritten, double-spaced outline of their speech through the AAA Login Online Contest Portal by May 25. The outline must be the result of the contestant's own efforts.
5. A title page must accompany the outline when submitted. It must include the title of the speech and the speaker's name, address, member code, birth date, age as of January 1.

The Speech

1. Any subject pertaining to Angus cattle or the beef industry is acceptable for the junior division. Exploration of, and insight into, any and all phases of the industry are encouraged. Current affairs, policies and trends provide good topics.
2. The intermediate speech division will have a specific industry related category. The category will be determined by the NJAA Board.

The 2020 intermediate speech category is: Discuss an issue facing the beef industry.

The senior speech division will have a specified topic which will be industry related. The topic will be determined by the NJAA Board.

The 2020 senior speech topic is: Describe how labeling on beef products can impact consumer decisions.

3. The speech must be the result of the contestant's own efforts and cannot have been presented for competition at a previous National Junior Angus Show.
4. Each speech in the junior division will be 4-6 minutes in length, the intermediate division will be 5-7 minutes and senior division shall be between 6-8 minutes in length. Deductions of a half a point per ten seconds will be made from the score by each judge for speeches under or over the specified length. A 1-minute warning will be given by event officials.
5. Each contestant will be allowed up to five minutes to answer questions from the judges.

Method of Judging

1. The NJAA Board and the Events and Education Department will be in charge of the contest. Three competent and impartial judges will be selected to evaluate the contestants' efforts.
2. Speaking order will be determined prior to the contest and posted near the show office.
3. Contestants will be permitted to use notes. Excessive reference to notes, however, may result in scoring deductions. The use of visual aids (charts, signs, slides, etc.) is not allowed.
4. Judges shall receive copies of the outline prior to the contest so that the general idea of the speech may be reviewed before actual presentation.
5. The judges will ask questions after each speech. Contestants will be graded on their ability to respond effectively.
6. The contestant will be scored on the basis of 50 points with 20% in organization and content, 20% in language and delivery, 20% in presentation, 20% in total effectiveness, and 20% in response to questions.
7. Upon completion of all speeches each judge shall total his/her score of the manuscript and presentation for each speaker. Contest officials will inform the judges if any points need to be deducted for time violations and then the judges will rank the contestants in numerical order on the basis of each judge's scores. (Highest score first, lowest score last.)

The rankings (not the score) of the three judges shall be added for each speaker, and the final placings determined by the lowest composite rankings. Actual scores will be used only to break ties. In the event the participants are still tied, they shall be named co-winners and two awards will be given for that placing and none given for the following placing.

Awards

Prizes and cash awards will be presented to the top contestants in each division. Prize money will be paid as follows: 1st-\$125; 2nd-\$100; 3rd-\$75.

Special Awards - Senior Division Only

The *Angus Journal* will award the top three placing contestants of the senior division with the following college scholarships: 1st - \$1,000; 2nd - \$750; 3rd - \$500.