

California Farm Bureau Federation

2021 Young Farmers & Ranchers Discussion Meet

Background

The Discussion Meet is a competitive event promoted by the California Farm Bureau Federation (CAFB) Young Farmers & Ranchers (YF&R) Committee. The Farm Bureau's strength depends on its members' abilities to analyze agricultural issues and decide on solutions that best meet their needs. The competitive event is designed to simulate a committee meeting where discussion and active participation are expected from each committee member. Contestants 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 contestant is a productive thinker rather than an emotional persuader. They will assist the group in creating ways to implement the solutions discussed and highlight the Farm Bureau's involvement in those actions/steps.** As part of the state recognition award to the winner, the California Farm Bureau provides an expenses-paid trip to the 2022 AFBF Annual Meeting held in Atlanta, GA. Appropriate recognition will be given to all the national competitors in attendance at the AFBF Annual Meeting. The AFBF YF&R Committee and the AFBF Organization Department will coordinate the program at the national level.

Information about the Discussion Meet contestant is requested on the entry form. ALL INFORMATION IS HANDLED IN STRICT CONFIDENCE.

Eligibility

Contestant shall be a Farm Bureau member between the ages of 18 and 35 in good standing with their county Farm Bureau. The individual shall not have reached their 36th birthday by January 31.

Contestant must be actively engaged in agriculture.

Contestant may only compete in one regional Discussion Meet contest per year.

Contestant may only compete in one national YF&R Competitive Event per year.

Past and present members of the AFBF YF&R Committee and/or their spouse/spousal-equivalents are not eligible to compete.

Past state YF&R Discussion Meet winners and/or previous AFBF Discussion Meet competitors cannot compete.

Current employees of the county, state and/or American Farm Bureaus and their affiliates are not eligible to compete.

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 before this annual competition. This excludes reimbursement for travel or expenses attendant to the appearance.

The application must be appropriately signed.

Note: Disregarding any of the guidelines listed above will result in disqualification.

Competition

The contestants will discuss pre-selected topics using four bases for the general discussion: cooperation, constructive criticism, problem-solving, and communication.

The competition will consist of four rounds: two Round Robins, a Semi-Finals, and a Final Four held on Sunday, December 5*.

- All competitors will compete in the first two rounds.
- The top four competitors based on judges' scores will move on to the semi-final round.
- The top two competitors from this contest will compete in the Final Four held at the 2021 California Farm Bureau Annual Meeting.

Each round will begin with a 30-second opening statement and end with a one-minute closing statement by each contestant.

The Round Robins and semi-finals will consist of 25 minutes of open discussion, followed by one minute of quiet time.

During the Final Four round, contestants will have 30 minutes of open discussion, followed by one minute of quiet time.

*The Final Four contestants will receive an expense-paid trip to compete in the final round at the 2021 California Farm Bureau Annual Meeting on December 5, 2021, in Garden Grove.

Note: More detailed information regarding the competitive event can be found in the AFBF Discussion Meet Manual.

**California Farm Bureau Federation
Young Farmers & Ranchers Discussion Meet
2021 Entry Form Application**

Select one:

[] November 13, Bakerfield

[] November 20, Sacramento

Contestant*: _____ Member Number: _____

** Will be used in the program and for recognition*

Phonetic Pronunciation: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Gender: _____

Education/Degree: _____

Spouse/Spousal-Equivalent's Name: _____

I hereby certify the information on this entry form to be accurate and true statements. **CAFB DOES NOT ACCEPT LIABILITY FOR APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED INCORRECTLY BY A COLLEGE OR A COUNTY FARM BUREAU OFFICE.** CAFB reserves the right to use my photos and/or any video footage for use in promoting Farm Bureau. The photos and/or video footage of the undersigned contestant may also be available to sponsors of Farm Bureau events. By participating in the event, I warrant that I fully and unconditionally agree to and accept the YF&R official contest rules and the decisions of the YF&R Committee, which are final and binding.

Contestant Signature: _____ Date: _____

I hereby certify that the above named applicant(s) is eligible to be entered in and considered for CAFB's Young Farmers & Ranchers Discussion Meet for 2021.

President/County Manager Signature: _____ Date: _____

Discussion Meet applications must be received at the CAFB office by 4:30 p.m. November 5, 2021.

Please submit completed applications by one of the following methods to:

Mail: CA Farm Bureau Federation
Attn: Young Farmers & Ranchers
2600 River Plaza Drive
Sacramento, CA 95833

Email: yfr@cfbf.com

Fax: 916-561-4507