

Agricultural Issues Forum - Information Concerning Local Forums

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During the State LDE Committee Meeting clarification on how judges score the local forums section was requested. Hopefully this brief will offer some clarification as to how most judges evaluate local forums.

From the rules:

Indicate date of area competition and provide documentation that local forum(s) occurred prior to state portfolio deadlines:

Letters from organizations

News articles

Photos (3" x 5" or 4" x 6")

Scrapbook

- Please state when, where and to who the local forum(s) was (were) presented.

Tips

1. Create a table listing each forum, dates and times, locations, organizations presented to and the number of attendees.
2. Forums to local organizations need to show the local community involvement in the understanding of the issue.
3. Each of the local forums needs supporting documentation either from pictures or from letters, preferably both.
4. Make sure pictures illustrating the forums are of the proper size [see rules listed above]
5. Use pictures to show the local forums' size and scope. Pictures should show the audience as well as, the students presenting. If the organization has an emblem it would support the off-campus presentation if the organization's emblem or flag were in the picture.
6. Letters should be on organizational letter head and include dates, times and number of attendees.
7. Newspaper reviews provide further support.
8. If radio stations /cable TV forums are presented, a letter will provide documentation of that event – the letter needs to include the presentation date and scope of listeners/viewers.
9. Practice forums presented to classes or to teachers at school do not carry any weight as compared to those off campus to local community organizations, except for presentations made to elected school board trustees.
10. Forums presented to representatives or corporate leaders are noteworthy but do not carry as much weight as those presented to the local groups [ie., Lions Club, JCs, Junior Service League, Water Boards, Rotary, etc.]
11. The majority of the portfolio needs to illustrate the scope of the forums.
12. Presentations for District and Area competition are acceptable to post in table of forums but do not carry weight when scored by judges.