

Nebraska Land Judging Rules and Regulations

Original – May 1982

Revised – Nov. 2010, August 2017, July 2019, Jan. 2020, Jan. 2021

Revisions only include current practices and name changes for gender and those groups or individuals in charge of an area or practice at this time. No revisions have been made to change original intent of rules.

I. General Rules

This section was revised and reprinted on the land judging website under “Setting Up and Holding a Land Evaluation Contest.” You can view the information at <https://www.nrdnet.org/nebraska-land-judging-soil-evaluation>.

II. Divisions

1. 4-H

Not applicable no 4-H teams at this time.

2. FFA Division

- a. To compete in FFA Division, it is necessary to be a 9-12th grade student enrolled in an Agricultural Education class at the competing high school.

3. Adult Division

- a. Agricultural Educators, Extension Service, Farm managers, NRD personnel and past National contest participants will compete in adult division.

III. County Land Judging Contests

Not applicable at this time.

IV. Area Contests

1. Nebraska has been divided into seven areas in order to maintain areas that have similar slope grouping and management practices. The area boundaries therefore follow closely the NRD boundaries. However, Capability Charts and Interpretation Sheets will designate all official judging of contests for that area. See map which designates the counties in each area and the appropriate Capability Chart and Interpretation Sheet to be used.
 - a. The State Land Judging Committee, the local Natural Resources District (NRD) and other local organizations sponsor area contests.
 - b. Any agricultural educator or county agent may bring as many students as they desire to compete at the area contest. Students will compete as individuals.
 - c. The four highest-scoring students will be put on a team as the state qualifying team for the school.
 - d. Only one team from a school may represent the area in the State Contest.

- e. Area contests are elimination contests. The number of teams representing each area at the State Contest will be determined by a designated scale determined by the number of schools competing in the area contest.
 - Less than 3 schools in area contest – 1 team qualifies
 - 3-4 schools in area contest – 2 teams qualify
 - 5-9 schools in area contest – 3 teams qualify
 - 10-14 schools in area contest – 4 teams qualify
 - 15-19 schools in area contest – 5 teams qualify
 - 20-24 schools in area contest – 6 teams qualify
 - 25-29 schools in area contest – 7 teams qualify
 - 30+ schools in area contest – 8 teams qualify
- f. Teams must compete in their own area contests. They will not be allowed to cross area boundary lines.
- g. Ribbons for winners will be furnished by the State Land Judging Committee based on a percentage of the number of previous years participation.

V. State Contest

1. The State Contest will be sponsored by the State Land Judging Committee and hosted by the Natural Resources District (NRD).
2. Contestants in the Adult Division are not required to have participated in an area contest.
3. Substitution of ONE team member will be permitted in the State Contest upon notice by that instructor before the State Land Judging Contest. All substitutions require the approval of the State Land Judging Coordinator.
4. All four team members scores will be counted at the State Contest.
5. The State Land Judging Committee will furnish ribbons and plaques for the State Contest.

VI. National and International Contests

1. Contestants who have represented Nebraska in a previous National Contest are ineligible for further competition in Area and State Contests.
2. Nebraska participation in the National Contest will be limited to a maximum of up to five certified teams representing the FFA Division. These teams will be the top five teams in the FFA Division in the annual State Contest. If the winning team is unable to go to the National Contest, then the next highest team in the division will be eligible to represent the state.
3. Financial assistance will be furnished to the top five FFA teams to go to the National Contest only if it is available.