

North Senior Speechmaking Competition 2024/2025

2024/25 Chair, Speaker & Vote of Thanks (Club Team)

2025/26 Chair, Proposer, Opposer & Arbiter (Club Team)

2026/27 Chair, Speaker, Question Master & Vote Of Thanks (Club Team)

2027/28 Chair and Three Panel Members (Mixed Team)

ELIGIBILITY

1. A Team will consist of three members of any Young Farmers' Club affiliated to the Scottish Association of Young Farmers' Clubs, one of which may be an Associate. All of these members must not exceed the age limit by the date of the National Final.
2. No member of the SAYFC may represent more than one club in the same competition in any one year.
3. The Club entry will consist of three members: a Chair, a Speaker, and Vote of Thanks. These members will compete in Club Teams.
4. 50% of the winning team from the previous National Senior Speechmaking finals is eligible to compete.

SCORING CRITERIA

Competitors will be marked on the following criteria:-

	Points
(a) Chair	
Presence, style, voice and clarity	10
Introduction of team	10
Management and conduct of meeting	10
Originality and question handling	10
	40
(b) The Speaker	
Composition of speech	20
Presence, style, voice and clarity	15
Answers to questions	15
	50
(c) The Mover of the Vote of Thanks	
Presence, style, voice and clarity	10
Content and composition	10
	20
(d) General impression of team work	10
TOTAL MARKS	120

Marks for incorrect timing will be deducted from the Chair as follows :-

Two (2) marks for each full minute over or under time on the total team performance.

PROCEDURE

1. One hour before the commencement of the Competition, all club teams, who must be present in their entirety, must report to the Chief Steward at the Competition venue in order that the draw for the order of appearance. Failure of any team to report or individual team member will result in disqualification of that team.
2. Members of the competing teams may join the audience at any time but must report to the Steward in charge not less than 30 minutes before they are due on the platform.
3. All Chairs will be supplied with pro forma biographic sheets, which they must complete as fully as possible prior to the competition and hand them to the Chief steward.
4. The Speaker will select a subject from a sheet of 2 general/ leisure, 2 countryside and 1 domestic topic.
5. The Speaker will have 20 minutes to prepare a talk of approximately 5 minutes duration. Approximately 4 minutes will be allowed on the completion of the speech for questions and answers.
6. The Chair will be informed of the chosen topic 10 minutes before performing on stage. He/she is then expected to take control of the whole meeting and introduce the Speaker and the Mover of the Vote of Thanks to the audience and judges. After the speech has been delivered he/she will call for the questions from the appointed question

masters, call for the vote of thanks and wind up the team's performance. For all of these duties 3 minutes are allowed. The optimum time that is allowed for each team is 15 minutes. (Other times are only suggested and marking will be on total time only).

7. The Mover of the Vote of Thanks when called upon by the Chair should sum up the speech and the questions and express thanks for his/her talk and the time allowed for this is 3 minutes.
8. Each team member may use brief notes but speakers will be penalized for reading their speech. Lecterns may not be used.
9. Only the Chair will be allowed the use of a timing device.
10. Smart devices will not be permitted unless under special circumstances, which require staff approval 2 weeks prior to event.
11. Each Club will be notified of the closing date for entry in their District and Regional Elimination Contests by the Secretaries of the District and Regional Committees.
12. The Committee will appoint a panel of three judges whose decision will be final. All Judges will score all competitors and an average will be taken.
13. Team members competing in subsequent rounds of any Competition must comprise at least 50% of the team competing in the previous round. Any member being substituted is not allowed to compete in subsequent rounds of that competition.

ENTRIES

The National Finals of this Competition will be held at the National Competitions Weekend 2025.

Allocation:

West – 4 Teams East – 3 Teams and North – 3 Teams

Entry Deadline:

Friday 25th October

Entry Fee:

£25

Competition Date:

Saturday 9th November

Entry Criteria:

Region to National