



## NATIONAL FEDERATION OF YOUNG FARMERS' CLUBS

Competitions Programme 2015-16

Status FINAL  
March 2015  
**REGIONAL Eliminator**

### NFYFC Just A Minute

21 & under

R U L E S

#### Competition Aim

Encourage YFC members to speak in public, without the formalities of addressing a formal gathering, to be quick thinking and humorous and to entertain an audience

#### Learning outcomes

Broadened vocabulary, confidence, use of humour

#### 1. DATE AND VENUE

- 1.1. After Area Eliminators, the final will be held at Competitions Day on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2016 at Stafford County Showground.
- 1.2. Regional Eliminator Semi Finals for North and South of England will be held on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2016. Venues to be confirmed.

#### 2. REPRESENTATION

- 2.1. Counties may enter one team per 600 members or part thereof in Area Eliminators.
- 2.2. Areas will be represented by one county team per 3,000 members or part thereof in Regional Eliminator Semi Finals (North of England and South of England).
- 2.3. Representation at the final (after Regional Eliminator Semi Finals) will be one team per 6,000 members or part thereof by county teams.

#### 3. ELIGIBILITY

- 3.1. A team shall consist of **FOUR (4)** members, who must all be 21 years of age or under on 1 September 2015 and full members of a Club affiliated to the NFYFC.
- 1.1. Competitors are required *in person* to produce on the day of each round of the competition (County/Area/Regional and National) their current and signed Membership Card, with suitable photograph, or a fine of **£20** will be imposed for non-production.

#### 4. SUBSTITUTION

- 4.1. If more than half the original team are unable to compete at the next round the next highest scoring team will represent area/region.
- 4.2. **All substitutes must have been eligible to compete in the County Final.**

#### 5. PROCEDURE

The Just A Minute page of the BBC Radio 4 website lists the broadcast times of the current series. Pod casts of previous shows can also be found on that webpage as well as many recordings on YouTube. YFC members are encouraged to listen to the show or recordings of the show as they prepare for the competition rounds.

- 5.1. The NFYFC (or competition organisers) will appoint a Chairman (Judge), a Score Keeper and a Time Keeper.
- 5.2. On the day of the area/regional round of the competition, the same Chairman and Score Keeper will be in place for each heat of the competition and the chairman will act as judge.

- 5.3. NFYFC will send the topics for discussion at the national final. This allows panel members to research topics and prepare factual background and comedic content. Competitors are NOT ALLOWED any notes or reminder cards when 'on stage'.
- 5.4. A panel will consist of four members, each drawn from a different team/county federation.
- 5.5. The panel will be given one minute to speak on a given subject/topic.
- 5.6. The panel will speak to a total of 4 topics before the scores are computed and announced by the scorer.
- 5.7. The four panellists are challenged to speak for one minute on a given subject without "**repetition, hesitation, or deviation**".
- Repetition - you must try not to repeat yourself. This is only within the given subject. If the subject is lost and you gain it back again you cannot repeat anything you said earlier. You can repeat what someone else has said and you can use any part of the subject as many times as you like. People do slip up on using plurals of a given word again and again however; which is different to the singular word.
 

"Repetition" means the repetition of any word or phrase, although challenges based upon very common words such as "and" "is" "or" are generally rejected except in extreme cases. Words contained in the given subject are exempt unless repeated many times in quick succession. Skilful players use (sometimes obscure) synonyms in order to avoid repeating themselves. The term "BBC" can be successfully challenged for repetition of "B".
  - Hesitation - can be difficult to judge, however if they say "erm" that should be a hesitation. It can be difficult when people breathe. But there is a difference between a breath and a longer pause. One place competitors slip up is pausing for laughter. That is hesitation.
 

"Hesitation" is watched very strictly: a momentary pause before resumption of the subject can give rise to a successful challenge, as can tripping over one's words. Even pausing during audience laughter or applause (known as "riding a laugh") is usually not permitted.
  - Deviation – Is fairly simple apart from if it is an incorrect use of the grammar of a word or word within a subject it is a deviation from the given subject.
 

"Deviation" means deviating from the subject, but has also been interpreted as "deviating from the English language as we know it", "deviation from grammar as we understand it", deviating from the truth, and sometimes even logic, although often leaps into the surreal is allowed.
- 5.8. Each of the competitors shall start a topic first. A draw shall be made to determine which order the panellists speak first on each of the 4 topics (e.g. number 1 to start the first topic 1<sup>st</sup>; number 2 to start the second topic 1<sup>st</sup> etc).
- 5.9. The time keeper starts the clock when the first panel member starts to speak. When a challenge is made the clock is stopped. The clock is re-started when the next speaker starts to speak. Time keeper blows a whistle when 60 seconds (one minute) has elapsed.
- 5.9.1. Panellists should try to challenge the speaker for: **Repetition, Hesitation or Deviation**
- 5.10. A panellist scores a point for making a correct challenge against whoever is speaking. The chairman (judge) will decide if the challenge is correct or not and will exercise the benefit of the doubt evenly.
- 5.11. The speaker gets a point if the challenge is deemed incorrect and then resumes speaking on the subject/topic.

- 5.12. If a witty interjection amuses the audience, even though it is not a correct challenge, at the chairman's discretion, both the challenger and speaker may gain a point, the speaker then resumes speaking on the subject/topic.
- 5.13. A panellist who makes a correct challenge takes over the subject for the remainder of the minute, or, until he or she is correctly challenged.
- 5.14. The speaker also scores a point if they are the person speaking when the 60 seconds expires.
- 5.15. If the speaker speaks for the whole minute without being interrupted or challenged, he/she gains an extra point. (1 point for speaking when whistle blows and 1 point for speaking for one whole minute without being interrupted or challenged).

It is unusual for a speaker to speak within the three cardinal rules for any substantial length of time, whilst remaining coherent, and also being amusing. Therefore, to speak for the full minute without being challenged is a special achievement.

## 6. TIMING

- 6.1. Each panel will speak for one minute for each of the 4 topics.

## 7. SUMMARY OF MARKS

- 7.1. A panellist scores a point for making a correct challenge against whoever is speaking.
- 7.2. The speaker gets a point if the challenge is deemed incorrect.
- 7.3. If a witty interjection amuses the audience, even though it is not a correct challenge, both the challenger and speaker may gain a point, at the chairman's discretion.
- 7.4. A panellist also scores a point if they are the person speaking when the 60 seconds expires. An extra point is awarded when a panellist speaks for the entire minute without being challenged.
- 7.5. A scorer will keep scores as the rounds of the competition commence, and the winner will be team with the highest score.
- 7.6. **In the event of a tied score after each team has competed, the two tied teams will make two panels (2 members from team A and two from team B and vice versa). Each panel will be given one topic and a draw shall take place to determine who speaks first. The team gaining the highest scores after each panel has discussed their topic for one minute, will be the deemed the winner. Panelists may only make challenges to competitors not from their team.**

## 8. PENALTIES

- 8.1. The use of foul language will be penalised with a deduction of marks.

## 9. AWARDS

### 9.1. NFYFC Final

- 9.1.1. At the NFYFC Final the team placed 1<sup>st</sup> will be awarded **a Trophy** and Prize Cards
- 9.1.2. Teams placed 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> will be awarded Prize Cards
- 9.1.3. NFYFC Certificates of Achievement will be awarded to all members of teams placed 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup>
- 9.1.4. At the NFYFC Final individual trophies will also be awarded to the Best Speakers who have received the highest marks on the day of the final.

### 9.2. NFYFC Regional Semi Finals

- 9.2.1. NFYFC Prize Cards will be awarded to teams placed 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> on the day of the Regional Semi Finals.

9.2.2. NFYFC Certificates of Achievement will be awarded to all members of teams placed 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> on the day of the Regional Final, i.e. those that do not qualify for the NFYFC final.

10. **NOTES**

- 10.1. **IMPORTANT**: Competitors are reminded to read carefully the General Rules relating to National Competitions if they are taking part in this Competition. These are available from the NFYFC website.
- 10.2. This competition **WILL** carry points towards the NFU Trophy – finalists only (not regional semi finalists)
- 10.3. Members will be disqualified if they are not at the Presentation of Awards without prior permission being granted.

