

## 4-H CONSUMER DECISION MAKING NATIONAL CONTEST

### Contest Superintendents:

Matthew Hibdon  
Chair, FCS National Committee  
1301 East Main Street  
MTSU Box 97  
Murfreesboro, TN 37132

Lori Gallimore, Ed.D.  
Extension Specialist III  
4-H Youth Development  
205C Morgan Hall  
Knoxville, TN 37996

[Matthew.Hibdon@mtsu.edu](mailto:Matthew.Hibdon@mtsu.edu)

[lbelew@utk.edu](mailto:lbelew@utk.edu)

### I. Eligibility

- A. A State/territory/District of Columbia is allowed only one entry in only one division of a contest in a national 4-H competitive event each year. An entry is an individual, in the events where individuals compete against individuals only, or a team in events where total team scores are computed and recognition given to the team. Individuals may be recognized in those events that are primarily team events. **One team per state with a maximum of four participants.**
- B. Entries not officially entered will not be permitted to participate for any reason.

### II. Procedures

- A. Six classes will be judged with four items in each class. Ten minutes will be allowed for each class.
- B. Classes will be selected from various states with resources announced each year. 2024 and 2025 contest year classes will be selected from posted study guides.
- C. While judging, contestants will confer with no one except the group leader of their section or a superintendent of the contest. Offenders may have their class card pulled, resulting in a zero.
- D. Cards must be marked with contestant number, class name and placing. Failure to mark either of these areas will result in a zero for that card.
- E. Each contestant will give two sets of oral reasons with a time limit of two minutes per set. There will be 10 minutes of preparation time allowed prior to giving reasons.

- F. Fifty (50) points will be deducted from the team score for talking in the reasons holding area for each incident. The second reminder for a contestant will result in disqualification of that contestant's scores.
- G. Following the completion of class judging and reasons, each team will participate in a Group Think activity.
- H. The Group Think consists of 5 basic steps:
1. Ascertain the issue or problem and state the facts
  2. Determine the alternative solutions to the problem
  3. List personal or social goals (or criteria) bearing on the problem
  4. Evaluate the alternatives according to the goals or criteria
  5. Make a decision based on the evaluation
- I. Each team will be given 10 minutes processing time. Teams will be taken into the judging room in random order. Upon entering the judging room, the team will be presented a situation. With the judges watching, the team will read and evaluate the problem, discuss their solution, and present a final statement of their decision. Recommended processing time is 3 minutes for read through, 3 minutes for discussion, and 2 minutes for the final statement.
- J. Total scores are based on 50 points each for 6 classes (300), 50 points each for reasons (100), for a total possible score of 400 for each individual. Team score is a possible 900 for classes, 300 points for reasons (based on three scores, on a four man team the low score is dropped), and 400 points for the Group Think, for a total possible score of 1600 points per team.
- K. In case of a tie, the total reasons score will be used to break the tie on team and individual overall, should there still be a tie, it will be broken by a predetermined class. A tie on the reasons score will be determined by the lowest placing scores on reasons classes. If there is a zero in the placing classes of one of the contestants, that contestant automatically loses the tie. If there is still a tie, the breaker moves to the predetermined classes. A tie on the placing classes score will be broken by the total reasons score. If there is still a tie then the tie will be broken by the predetermined classes. A tie in Group Think scores will be broken by the judges.