



# NATIONAL FEDERATION OF YOUNG FARMERS' CLUBS

## Competitions Programme 2025 - 26

### NFYFC Mace Debate

Adapted from English Speaking Union rules

### 28 & under

### RULES

#### Competition Aim

To encourage members aged 28 or under to work as a team and develop their debating skills.

#### Learning outcomes

Develop knowledge of controversial issues and world affairs, while enhancing speech writing, public speaking, analytical thinking skills and confidence.

REMINDER: Please read these rules in conjunction with **NFYFC General Rules** and familiarise all competitors with the **Fine System in place for withdrawal from competitions.**

Further information can be found at <https://nfyfc.org.uk/competition-organisers-resources>

#### 1. DATE AND VENUE

- 1.1. After Area Finals, the National Final will be held on Competitions Day, **Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> July 2026** at Staffordshire Showground.

#### 2. REPRESENTATION

- 2.1. Counties may enter one team per 600 members or part thereof in Area Finals.
- 2.2. Areas will be represented in the final by one team per 3,000 members or part thereof. (Northern Area 2, Eastern Area 1 and East Midlands 1, West Midlands Area 1, South West Area 2, South East Area 1 and Wales 2)

#### 3. ELIGIBILITY

- 1.1. A team shall consist of **FIVE (5)** members, who must all be 28 years of age or under on 1 September 2025 and full members of a Club affiliated to the NFYFC.

#### 4. SUBSTITUTION

- 4.1. All substitutes must have been eligible to compete in the County Final.

#### 5. PROCEDURE

- 5.1. The team will comprise of a Chair, two speakers for the Proposition and two speakers for the Opposition.
- 5.2. The teams will be split so that the Chair from Team A will work with the two propositions from Team B and the two oppositions from Team C.
- 5.3. Debating subjects in the NFYFC Finals will be provided by the NFYFC twenty-one days prior to the competition. Area rounds will debate subjects provided by the Area Committee twenty-one days prior to the competition.
- 5.4. The Chair and Debaters must be available to meet each other at least thirty minutes before competing time, to enable the Chair to prepare his/her introductory notes.
- 5.5. The Vote shall be taken by a show of hands.
- 5.6. The Chair shall announce the result of the Vote and declare the meeting closed.

6. Further guidelines on this competition can be found from the NFYFC 'How to Guide' or following the link to the English Speaking Union (ESU) Link to MACE guidelines: <https://www.esu.org/competitions/> entitled School's Mace.

7. **SCALE OF MARKS**

<b>Chair</b>	<b>30</b>
Expression and delivery (5)	
Organisation and prioritisation (5)	
Accuracy of timing (10)	
Overall control of debate (10)	
<b>First Proposition - Main Speeches (1<sup>st</sup> Speaker)</b>	<b>40</b>
Expression and delivery (10)	
Organisation and prioritisation (10) (includes timing – 1 mark deducted per 30 seconds over or part thereof)	
Reasoning and evidence (10)	
Listening and response (10)	
<b>First Opposition - Main Speeches (1<sup>st</sup> Speaker)</b>	<b>40</b>
Expression and delivery (10)	
Organisation and prioritisation (10) (includes timing – 1 mark deducted per 30 seconds over or part thereof)	
Reasoning and evidence (10)	
Listening and response (10)	
<b>Second Proposition - Main Speeches (2<sup>nd</sup> Speaker)</b>	<b>40</b>
Expression and delivery (10)	
Organisation and prioritisation (10) (includes timing – 1 mark deducted per 30 seconds over or part thereof)	
Reasoning and evidence (10)	
Listening and response (10)	
<b>Second Opposition - Main Speeches (2<sup>nd</sup> Speaker)</b>	<b>40</b>
Expression and delivery (10)	
Organisation and prioritisation (10) (includes timing – 1 mark deducted per 30 seconds over or part thereof)	
Reasoning and evidence (10)	
Listening and response (10)	
<b>Opposition Summary Speech - Summary Speeches</b>	<b>20</b>
Expression and delivery (5)	
Organisation and prioritisation (5) (includes timing – 1 mark deducted per 30 seconds over or part thereof)	
Reasoning and evidence (5)	
Listening and response (5)	
<b>Proposition Summary Speech - Summary Speeches</b>	<b>20</b>
Expression and delivery (5)	
Organisation and prioritisation (5) (includes timing – 1 mark deducted per 30 seconds over or part thereof)	
Reasoning and evidence (5)	
Listening and response (5)	
<b>Total per team</b>	<b>230</b>
<b>(Includes Chair, 2x Opposition Speakers 2x Proposition Speakers and 2 x Summary Speeches)</b>	

8. **IFYFC Final**

- 8.1 At the IFYFC Final the team placed 1<sup>st</sup> will be awarded *the Novartis Trophy* and Prize Cards
- 8.2 Teams placed 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> will be awarded Prize Cards
- 8.3 IFYFC Certificates of Achievement will be awarded to all members of teams
- 8.4 At the IFYFC Final an individual Prize Card will also be awarded to the Best Chair, Best Proposer and Seconder and Best Opposer and Seconder.
- 8.5 Filming of the competition is not permitted without prior consent from IFYFC and all competing teams
- 8.6 Mobile Device (Phone, Tablet, Laptop etc) use during the competition is strictly for timekeeping purposes only. Mobile device use in Prep Room is prohibited.
- 8.7 Competitors are reminded to dress appropriately for the competition (smart clothing - suitable for an interview scenario)

