Senior Speechmaking Competition 2027

2027 Chair, Speaker, Question master & Vote of Thanks (Club Team)
2028 Chair and Three Panel Members (Mixed Team)
2029 Chair, Speaker & Vote of Thanks (Club Team)
2030 Chair, Proposer, Opposer & Arbiter (Club Team)

ELIGIBILITY

1. A Team will consist of four 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. A District team can be formed only if no one Club from that District has put a team forward.
3. No member of the SAYFC may represent more than one club in the same competition in any one year.
4. The Club entry will consist of four members: a Chair, a Speaker, a Question master and a Mover of the Vote of Thanks. These members will compete in Club Teams.
5. 50% of the winning team from the previous National Senior Speechmaking finals is eligible to compete.

SCORING CRITERIA

Chair	
Originality of remarks	20
Control of Team	10
Conduct of Meeting	10
Presence, style, voice and clarity	10
	50
Speaker	
Content of Speech	30
Suitability of answers	10
Presence, style, voice and clarity	10
	50
Question master	
Relevancy of Questions	20
Presence, style, voice and clarity	10
	30
Mover of the Vote of Thanks	
Originality and content	20
Presence, style, voice and clarity	10
	30
Balance of Team	20
TOTAL MARKS	**180**

Marks for incorrect timing will be deducted from the Chairman as follows: - 2 marks for each full minute over or under the time on total 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 ballot may be drawn to determine the order of appearance of teams on stage.
2. Competitors may then join the audience but all team members will be required to report again to the steward in charge not less than 30 minutes before they are due on the platform.
3. All Chair's will be supplied with proforma biographic sheets. This should contain name, club, age, occupation and hobbies/interests. This must be completed as fully as possible and given on arrival to the Steward in charge. These proformas should be given to the Chair of the competition to use to introduce the Chair of each platform team. These proformas should only be used to introduce the Chair and the chair only; no introduction to topic or teams should be discussed at this time.
4. Teams will be allowed a preparation time of 20 minutes and a stage performance of 15 minutes.
5. The Speaker will choose a list of topics from which he/she will choose a list of topics from which he/she will choose 1 topic on which to speak and will be given 20 minutes preparation time. The topic will be chosen from a list containing:
   2- Rural Affairs, 2- General/Leisure, 1 - Domestic

6. After the first 10 minutes of the Speakers preparation time the **Chair** will then be informed of the Speaker's topic, and will have the remaining ten minutes for his own preparation. There shall be no conferring with the Speaker at any time.
7. Neither the Question master nor the Mover of the Vote of Thanks will be informed of the topic.

8. The recommended times for each individual team member are as follows:

Chair – 4 minutes
Speaker – 5 minutes
Question master – 4 minutes
Mover of the V.O.T – 2 minutes

9. There should be three time timekeepers – 2 backstage to supervise the preparation time and 1 front of stage to record individual and total performance time.
10. On stage each team member may use brief notes but speakers will be penalized for reading their speech. Lecterns may not be used.
11. Smart phones are not permitted whilst competing other than for time-keeping purposes. If a team is caught using a smart phone during the competition for any other reason by a staff member or steward 5 points will be deducted off their overall score. Deduction will happen after judges scores have been counted.
12. No pre-prepared notes will be permitted by team members with the exception of the Chairman and Mover of the Vote of Thanks who are permitted skeleton notes only.

ENTRIES

The National Finals of this Competition will be held at the date shown at the foot of these rules, when 4 teams from the West Region, 3 teams from the East Region and 3 teams from the North Region will be eligible to compete.

Entry Deadline:	**22nd January 2027**	**Entry Fee:**	**£25**
Competition Date:	**6th February 2027**	**Entry Criteria:**	**Club/District to Region**