



John Deere Gator Wars

Purpose

The purpose of the John Deere Gator Wars Event is to stimulate interest, encourage proficiency development and recognize excellence of students using skills in agricultural mechanics.

State Event Superintendent

The Superintendent for this event is Mr. John Arthur, John Deere: ArthurJohnR@JohnDeere.com

Comments and questions may also be directed to Mr. Joshua Bledsoe, State Agricultural Education Leader, Department of Agricultural and Human Sciences, NC State University, Box 7654, Raleigh, NC 27695-7654

Phone: 919.513.1205 Fax: 919.513.0216 Email: joshua_bledsoe@ncsu.edu

Eligibility

This event is open to all FFA chapters and FFA members in good standing. FFA member may not participate in a Career Development Event that leads to a state level event after July 1, following their high school/early college graduation. Members winning a previous state event in this area or that have participated in a previous national event in this area are ineligible.

Teams shall consist of three or four members. No alternates are allowed in state events. Any alternate found participating in a state event will result in total team disqualification. Only one team per chapter is permitted to participate in this event.

Teams will be selected to participate by random drawing from those that register before the stated deadline.

The use or possession of cellular phones, Personal Digital Assistants (PDA's) or any other mobile electronic communication device is prohibited during any state-level career development event. Any violation of this rule by any team member will result in total team disqualification.

FFA members participating in career development events that require the use of calculators may only use non programmable/graphing calculators that do not have the ability to communicate with other calculators. Calculators will be screened prior to the start of a CDE for acceptability. Students caught using data stored on a calculator or communicating with other calculators will result in a total team disqualification for the event.

Any member found cheating in any state-level career development event will result in total team disqualification for that event.



At the North Carolina FFA State Convention, participation in more than one FFA CDE event is permitted as long as events are not being held concurrently and no special provisions are required to facilitate participation with the exception that parliamentary procedure and public speaking and parliamentary procedure and Creed speaking which are held concurrently will allow dual participation and special provisions for flighting.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, NC FFA will honor requests for reasonable accommodations made by individuals with disabilities. Please direct accommodation requests to: Carmen Bracey at carmen_bracey@ncsu.edu. Requests can be served more effectively if notice is provided at least 10 days before the event.

Middle School Participation

Middle school students and teams may participate in any Career Development Event or Leadership Development Event. The top three middle school participants will be recognized in each division of an event. Middle school participants should designate during registration.

Dress Code

Participants are required to follow the North Carolina FFA Career Development Event Dress Code. A ten percent reduction in the total team score will be taken if a participant violates the dress code. For this event, all participants should wear appropriate shop clothing that includes closed-toe shoes and provide their own industrial-quality eye protection.

State Career Development Event Participation

The appropriate numbers of teams based on event participation from each region along with the top three scoring individuals regardless of their team placing are eligible to compete in the state career development event. Teams and individuals advancing to state event participation must be certified by the regional FFA advisor.

Procedures for Administering the Event

1. Personal safety equipment conducive to the work to be performed is to be provided by the participant. This includes appropriate footwear, gloves, long sleeves and long pants, and eye protection such as safety glasses and/or goggles.
1. Team members must supply their own hand tools. No power or air powered tools are permitted. Hammers, chisels, large adjustable wrenches, jacks, and floor jacks are not needed. Work areas should be kept orderly and neat.
2. Teams will all start at the same time to assemble their John Deere product in addition to analyzing and fixing 1-2 faults that prevent the gator from cranking and moving.
3. Once a team flag an official to inspect their station or if a safety issue arises, a horn or while will blow. At the sound of the horn or the whistle, the students should step back away from their stations until directed to do so by a contest official.
4. Once the first team has been declared by the winner, the teams should continue to work until the 3rd place team has been determined.



State Awards

The following awards will be presented annually at the state FFA convention, provided sponsorship is available:

State Winning Team

Plaque, team pins for members

Second Place Team

Plaque, team pins for members

Third Place Team

Plaque, team pins for members