**Rules for 2025 Kansas Farm Bureau Competition**

**Purpose:**

Recognize young farmers/ranchers for their achievements in production agriculture and leadership.

**Background**

The Kansas Farm Bureau (KFB) annually conducts a Young Farmer & Rancher (YF&R) of the Year Award competition. Selection of the winning YF&R competitor is based on his/her efforts in production agriculture and leadership achievement. Participation in this program with individual recognition and the resulting publicity will help build the organization. **The ideal candidate(s) for the YF&R of the Year is an individual or couple involved in production agriculture with a majority of his/her gross income subject to farm and/or ranch risks.**

Information about the YF&R of the Year Award applicant is requested on the entry form. ALL INFORMATION IS HANDLED IN STRICT CONFIDENCE AND IS DESTROYED AFTER JUDGING IS COMPLETED.

**Entry Form & Application Guidelines**

* The entry form and application must be completed in first person narrative (i.e. I, me, we, etc.) for questions 1-9 and 13. Applicants must use “A1”/“A2” to denote each applicant for all of question 8-9.
* The Financial Success section must be typed and notarized;
* Do not use abbreviations or acronyms, unless it has been spelled out once with the abbreviation in parentheses behind it. For example, United States Department of Education (USDE). AFBF, FB, and YF&R are acceptable to use throughout the application.
* It will be up to the judges’ discretion to deduct points if applicants include activities before they were 18.

**Note: Disregard of the guidelines will result in disqualification of the application.**

The data below and throughout the application applies to you and your spouse/spousal-equivalent, if married. Please indicate “Applicant 1” (A1) and “Applicant 2” (A2) on question 7.

Applicant(s)\*: A1: A2:

*\*Will be used in the program and for recognition*

Phonetic Pronunciation: A1: A2:

Address:

City: State: Zip Code:

Phone:

Email:

Date of Birth: A1: A2:

I (we) hereby certify the information on this entry form and attached application to be accurate and true statements. **KFB DOES NOT ACCEPT LIABILITY FOR APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED INCORRECTLY BY A PARTICIPANT**. KFB reserves the right to use my (our) photos and/or any video footage for use in promoting Farm Bureau. By participating in the Event, I (we) warrant that I (we) fully and unconditionally agree to and accept the YF&R official contest rules and the decisions of the KFB YF&R Committee, which are final and binding.

Applicant(s) Signature(s): A1: A2:

1. **PERSONAL BACKGROUND**
2. Briefly tell us about yourself, your family, education, and personal interests.
3. Please describe your farm/ranch including how you acquired it, acres owned and rented, years in operation, crops and livestock. Include any other related business enterprises and their relationship/importance to the total farm/ranch.
4. **SCOPE OF YOUR FARM OR RANCH**
5. Explain the ownership structure of your farm/ranch and your vested interest. Please include detail regarding all enterprises in your explanation, if applicable.
6. What percentage of the farm/ranch management decisions are you responsible for? Please break down for each enterprise, if applicable.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Enterprise** |  | **% Management Decisions** |
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1. Please add any additional information that helps explain the previous two responses, if needed.
2. **GROWTH AND ACHIEVEMENTS**
3. Please tell the story of your farm growth since your first year of owning/managing your farm/ranch. Where were you then and where are you now? Use specific examples to show how your operation has grown and highlight your contributions to the success of the operation over time. This can include production efficiency growth you have seen.
4. **MANAGEMENT DECISIONS**
5. Please discuss up to two impactful strategic or management decisions you have made on your farm/ranch, why you made them, and the changes that resulted from implementing those decisions.
6. **GOALS & PLANNING**
7. Moving forward, what short-term and long-term goals do you have for your farm/ranch? Explain how you plan to achieve these goals.
8. **FINANCIAL SUCCESS: Part 1 (You will need to print this section out and have it notarized on page 2 and upload when submitting your application)**

*NOTE: In considering financial situation, judges will consider the whole application and how the financials are connected to the history, goals and strategies of the farm/ranch. Financials are not to be evaluated independent of the other sections.*

1. Using the grid below, please show your debt-to-asset ratio, including farm/ranch/personal debts and assets for each year requested:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Year** | **Total Debt**  (combined farm/ranch and personal debt) | **Total Assets**  (combined farm/ranch and personal assets) | **Debt to Asset Ratio**  (total debt divided by total assets) |
| First year (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_) |  |  |  |
| 3 years ago |  |  |  |
| 2 years ago |  |  |  |
| 1 year ago |  |  |  |
| Current year projection |  |  |  |

Please indicate whether the above reflects:

* the portion of the farm/ranch you own, as indicated in 2(a).

OR

* the portion of the farm/ranch for which you make management decisions *if more than the amount you own*, as indicated in 2(b).

Give an explanation of related irregularities or strategies, if needed:

**(You will need to print this section out and have it notarized on page 2 and upload when submitting your application)** Using the grids below, please show total **farm/ranch** income, expenses and net profit for each year requested. *This should reflect anything related to the farm/ranch business(es) described in the application regardless of marketing practices, production methods or sources.*

**TOTAL INCOME = Farm/Ranch Income + All other income related to the farm/ranch business(es)**

**Other Income Examples:** farm bill payments, trade aid, conservation payments, net crop insurance benefits, and/or income derived from the marketing or selling of farm/ranch products/services such as specialty marketing, agritourism, etc. *(do not include off-farm or other enterprises that are unrelated to the farm/ranch operation)*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Year** | **Farm/Ranch Income** | **+ All other farm/ranch-related income** | **= Total Income** |
| First year (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_) |  |  |  |
| 3 years ago |  |  |  |
| 2 years ago |  |  |  |
| 1 year ago |  |  |  |
| Current year projection |  |  |  |

**TOTAL EXPENSES = Farm/Ranch Expenses + Interest + Depreciation**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Year** | **Farm/Ranch Expenses** | **+ Interest** | **+ Depreciation** | **= Total Expenses** |
| First year (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_) |  |  |  |  |
| 3 years ago |  |  |  |  |
| 2 years ago |  |  |  |  |
| 1 year ago |  |  |  |  |
| Current year projection |  |  |  |  |

**NET PROFIT = Income – Expenses**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Year** | **Total Income** | **– Total Expenses** | **= Net Profit** |
| First year (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_) |  |  |  |
| 3 years ago |  |  |  |
| 2 years ago |  |  |  |
| 1 year ago |  |  |  |
| Current year projection |  |  |  |

Please indicate whether the above reflects:

* the portion of the farm/ranch you own, as indicated in 2(a).

OR

* the portion of the farm/ranch for which you make management decisions *if more than the amount you own*, as indicated in 2(b).

Give an explanation of related irregularities or strategies, if needed:

**Accountant Signature: ­­**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Notary Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Notary Stamp:**

1. **FINANCIAL SUCCESS: Part 2**
2. Where do you see your greatest financial strengths and weaknesses in your farm/ranch business?
3. Describe your record-keeping system and any advisors or supporting team members you rely on for evaluating the financial strength of your operation.
4. Is there any off-farm income earned by you or your spouse and how is that income used?
5. **LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE: FARM BUREAU (from age 18 to current)**   
   *Note: This applies to both applicants, if applying together. Please indicate A1 and A2 when applicable.*

List Farm Bureau and other agricultural leadership roles, recognitions and/or awards received by the applicant, including service on committees, boards or as officers. Please include years and level of involvement (county, state, national). *Example: A1 – Elected President of the County Farm Bureau Board of Directors (2018-2019)*

**9. LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE: OTHER (from age 18 to current)** -

List other community and non-agricultural leadership roles, recognitions and/or awards received by the applicant, including service on committees, boards or as officers (i.e. Chamber of Commerce, civic/service clubs, church, school, scouts, coaching, etc.) *Example: A1 – Local Elementary School, Served as Parent Teacher Association (PTA) President (2018-2020)*