

## General

- **Question:** Would it be possible to send out a new, updated list of dates?  
**Answer:** Yes, Proficiency finalists should create a new PDF after they make their judges recommended updates by May 15, 2020 and National Chapter finalist should create a new PDF after they make their judges recommended updates by May 22, 2020.
- **Question:** How are these events going virtual going to affect students award qualifications in future years? For example, meeting the 5 events above the chapter level for the Empire Degree. Will attending the virtual convention count and how will we ensure the validity in students putting that on a degree application?  
**Answer:** Attending virtual events will count towards events above the chapter level. To validate these students, we will record participants in our tours, workshops, and delegate session. If your chapter wants to see who has participated with the online posts, it was suggested and we encourage that students like, comment, and share those posts to expand our virtual impact and promote more engagement with our members and supporters.
- **Question:** How have we been affected financially so far? Meaning losing deposits and such organization  
**Answer:** On the chapter level, all chapters and individuals who had already registered for Convention prior to its cancellation were refunded in full. On the state organization level, all deposits have been moved to the 2021 State Convention that will also be held in Syracuse or returned.
- **Question:** Any indication from Nationals when they will make a decision about National Convention in the fall?  
**Answer:** They have encouraged states to do at least the necessary things that are contained in our constitution virtually this year and have extended deadlines to provide more time for states to submit entries. Time will tell how the 2020 National FFA Convention will be impacted. We expect to have a clear picture about this event by the end of May beginning of June.
- **Question:** How will you handle things in the event that some of us won't be allowed to participate in any summer activities? ie. camp, officer trainings, EFD, fairs  
**Answer:** Each event will be handled on an individual basis depending on state guidelines and ensuring the safety of our members and teachers. Activities that can be conducted effectively online will be considered as an alternative option so we can continue to have a positive influence on our members and allow them to advance to the national level if applicable.

## Virtual Convention

### General

- **Question:** What is the cost of the Virtual Convention?  
**Answer:** All Virtual Convention activities will be free of charge to all participants. Registration is required to receive links for each tour, workshop, keynote, and the delegate business session.
- **Question:** Will students have to have Facebook in order to watch the videos?  
**Answer:** All videos that we post on Facebook will also be posted to our YouTube channel so students will have an alternate way to view the content.

## Registration

- **Question:** Can parents and guests sign up for State Convention? The sign in just says students but I had some community members and parents ask.  
**Answer:** They can participate in our Facebook and YouTube posts.
- **Question:** The registration is for students. Can advisors access any of these tours/workshops, etc?  
**Answer:** Yes, advisors are welcome to participate in most of the tours, workshops, and the keynote. We do ask, however, that advisors refrain from registering for the “To Do or To Be” workshop because the attendee number is limited and we would like those opportunities to go to students. Advisors registering themselves for tours, workshops, and the keynote can use the same form and simply skip the “Student Name” and “Student Email” sections.
- **Question:** Can you share the names of student participants with teachers from the virtual convention?  
**Answer:** Yes, we will be able to share which students registered for each Virtual Convention activity and which students attended each activity.
- **Question:** Are any of the tours being recorded to be used later in our classrooms?  
**Answer:** We will be recording each of the tours and workshops but they may not be posted for classroom use, depending on preferences of the presenter. We want to respect our tour host and workshop presenters by honoring their privacy and content-sharing wishes.
- **Question:** Is it easier for us to register all of our FFA members who want to attend the virtual convention? Or should we encourage our members to sign up themselves?  
**Answer:** Members should be encouraged to register themselves for the Virtual Convention because of the way our form is set up. If an advisor wants to register their students, they can but it may be time consuming. If students register themselves, they should use an email that can receive messages from outside organizations.
- **Question:** Can you explain more about email? All of our students would use school email.  
**Answer:** If your school email does not allow messages from outside organizations, students should use their personal email addresses to register for the Virtual Convention. Derek Hill ([dhill@cornell.edu](mailto:dhill@cornell.edu)), Sarah Peavey ([slp279@cornell.edu](mailto:slp279@cornell.edu)) and Jessica Currie ([jc2582@cornell.edu](mailto:jc2582@cornell.edu)) will need to send them messages containing the Zoom links and other important information. To ensure all Cornell emails are received, it was suggested to approve @cornell.edu.

## Zoom

- **Question:** My school is directing us NOT to use Zoom with students. What should I do?  
**Answer:** Please refer to our website (<https://www.nysffa.org/new-page-71>) for our guide to Zoom’s updated security measures. Please also feel free to send this information to your administrators and IT departments for their review. Also, the majority of the Virtual Convention will be hosted via Facebook and YouTube so schools without access to Zoom will still be able to participate. Only the tours, workshops, keynote, and delegate business session will be hosted via Zoom.  
**Comment:** Erie 1 BOCES has secured an ED2 Law Compliant document from Zoom. Please refer to Shari Lighthall’s email from April 21, 2020 containing sample information about how Erie 2-Chautauqua-Cattaraugus BOCES is allowing districts to opt-in to the Erie 2-Chautauqua-

Cattaraugus BOCES ("E2CCB") Education Law 2-D compliant Zoom agreement. This information may be useful for you to share with your school's administration or IT department.

#### Using Convention Activities as Assignments

- **Question:** I want to use the Virtual Convention as an assignment for my students. What could I do?  
**Comment:** "I made it an assignment for my students on Google Classroom. They have to submit the list of what they registered for by Fri. Then I'll use that to make an assignment to give feedback on what they participated in."  
**Comment:** Have students comment on and interact with the posts.

#### District Meetings

- **Question:** Could you send out the delegate numbers again for District meeting?  
**Answer:** Yes, they have been sent.
- **Question:** Can we use Google Forms when voting for District Presidents?  
**Answer:** Each district will have a meeting hosted by the state staff. We will use the polling system in Zoom.
- **Question:** Are districts creating the zoom/google meeting for their virtual district meeting? Or is state staff doing that  
**Answer:** The state staff is facilitating the district meetings, please make sure everyone is registered that is a delegate or wants to watch along.
- **Question:** Is the day/time for the DP virtual speeches and voting being set up at the state level? Meaning the whole district meeting?  
**Answer:** Yes

#### CDE/LDE Invitational

##### General

- **Question:** What is the cost of the invitational?  
**Answer:** There will be a cost of \$5 per participant.

##### Pre-Qualification and Eligibility

- **Question:** Ag Issues question for the invitational - forums are required for Ag issues but currently there are no meetings going on and people cannot be together. Based on the rules, one 2 virtual forums count in the minimum 5 required...is there any change in that on the national level or any waiver?  
Hopefully we could still do forums in the summer if this lifts...but that time frame is so up in the air that we weren't sure what to do.  
**Answer:** It is encouraged to take advantage of virtual meetings to practice presenting using online formats. No final decision has been made on the state or national level at this time.
- **Question:** Will you allow newly elected state officers to compete at the invitational?  
**Answer:** If they competed at the district level and are moving onto the invitational, yes. However, just like in prior years they will not be eligible to compete in other State Fair contests.

- **Question:** Will all contests have the pretest online beforehand? Even the ones that do not have lots of teams previously in the past?

**Answer:** We will be coming out with a schedule for what contest components will be online.

**Question:** When would the online tests be given for the invitational?

**Answer:** We expect to have the online test ready for the students to take at the end of June to provide time to figure out who qualifies and get them registered and plan for the invitational. All of this is subject to change depending on if there is a State Fair or not and if there is a National Convention or not.

#### Nationals

- **Question:** What will happen with contests that require entry to National by late May/June, I.e. Agriscience?

**Answer:** National FFA has moved back many deadlines for this year already and they will be coming out with a statement about contests toward the end of May.

#### NYS Fair Contests

- **Question:** Are we planning to run NYS Fair contests as normal if the Fair runs? For example, Dairy Handlers, Dairy Cattle Evaluation, Diesel Engines, etc. Will these contests be limited to one team/participant per school?

**Answer:** Yes, as of now all contests will run as normal. Livestock Judging has been moved to Sunday, August 30 due to scheduling conflicts to ensure all the species will be onsite for the time of the contest. The discussion has started with coordinates to consider putting portions of the contest online if we need to save time or are not able host in person.