

State Degree Check Committee
Meeting Minutes
07/22/2021 - Corpus Christi, Texas

Invocation - Brent Kiefer

Texas FFA Staff / ATAT Staff Present - Tammy Glascock, Sterling Pieniazek, Ray Pieniazek

Welcome/Introductions

1. Roger Green, Andrew Hokanson
2. Travis Lange, Blake Chudej
3. Sarah Burke, Sommer Thomas
4. Dawson Shannon, Josh Sanders
5. Brittany Douglas, Jennifer Gilbreath
6. Brent Kiefer , Michael Bowen
7. Patrick Padgett, Danny Kempen
8. Michelle Stanton, Monica Patrick
9. No one was present.
10. Raymond Ramirez
11. Liz Treptow, Christy Capps
12. James Marcuse, Amy Torres
13. Roger Hanagriff with the AET

Tammy gave an introduction and breakdown of scoring of the apps for Nationals. American Degrees will be approved by the National FFA Board of Directors during their meeting the first week of August. States will be notified immediately followed. We have 3 finalists in National Stars: Agriscience, Placement, Agribusiness. Proficiency, National Chapter and Agriscience results/finalists will be announced the first week of August.

Area Concerns

- Area 1: Thank you to AET, looking at rejected lonestars. They would have liked a list of what to judge in proficiencies, ie. “you are responsible for judging these four categories”.
- Area 2: Thought the process went smoothly.
- Area 3: The online process has smoothed things out really well. Can we make a video of what to look for when reviewing and scoring all applications?
- Area 4: Had a concern about adding comments on applications on AET. If someone left a comment and a new person would add a comment, the previous comment would be wiped out. They suggest bringing the apps on paper and still scoring online.
- Area 5: Everyone liked doing the online version. A lot of people from the area were asking what justifies/qualifies a proficiency app for gold, silver, bronze rankings. Additionally, they had concerns about the cost of AET.
- Area 6: Still like the online process. One concern was Ryan Mott and John Justin. If a student needed to update the application they would have to rewrite the whole application. Additionally, they had trouble saving those two applications.
- Area 7: Area 7 voted that the hybrid version is what they prefer for degree check. Concerns about Lonestars that get rejected, if the staff could clarify why one would be rejected. Suggested for Texas FFA to adopt or create a list available of what they are looking for to receive a lonestar degree- in addition to the general requirements. Is there a way to only look at the things that are on the list when judging applications? When scoring Stars online, there were issues with online access to applications which led to plagiarism. Had to create a new app when updating an app for the current year. Is there a way from information from the previous app to roll over? Can we look into making all of the SAE Award apps the same/consistent?
- Area 8: How the application submission deadline of May 15 will affect those that have area deadlines prior to that deadline.
- Area 9: No one was present.
- Area 10: Have concerns about if we continue to have the virtual and do not have someone teaching younger advisors about the applications, how are those advisors going to learn? They suggest that Texas needs to align ourselves with Nationals in terms of community service on degrees. (Example: Lonestars and Americans)

- Area 11: If a chapter wants to purchase plagiarism check on the chapter level from AET is it possible? Could we put the community service clarification on AET? Clarification on what is acceptable on rent on applications?
- Area 12: No concerns.

Brent Kiefer moved that we go hybrid for the 2022 degree check. It was seconded by Raymond Ramirez and passed.