

Agricultural Mechanics – Career Development Event Sponsor: Southern Motorsports



Purpose: Technological advances in America continue to influence the way students must prepare for their futures. Students entering the workforce need a strong knowledge base and the ability to comprehend the interaction of complex systems. An agricultural mechanics education is comprised of strong technical content and complimented by the development of practical, hands-on skills.

Background: Agricultural Mechanics, or as often called in Tennessee ‘Skills’, is one of the oldest Career Development events. This CDE varies between regions in the state and from district to national in content. Although the events are different, all have the following goals:

- Mastery of the subject matter and skills common to the area.
- Effective communications skills.
- Superior problem solving techniques.

- An understanding of modern technology.
- The ability to function as team members working together and as individuals working alone.

Students compete on the district, regional, and state level before advancing to the national CDE in Agricultural Mechanics. West Tennessee CDE is divided into two events, one for freshmen students and one for upperclassmen. Members advance as a team. In Middle and East Tennessee, students advance on an individual basis before a winning team is determined to advance to the state. The top two teams from each region advance to the state competition. Teachers and professionals in the field judge the competitions. Teams of four students compete at the state and national levels.

Visibility: The sponsor of this award will be recognized in the following ways:

- Immediate press release recognizing the new partnership.
- Statewide recognition at the state FFA convention in front of 2,600 FFA members.
- Statewide recognition through press releases in agricultural publications.
- Name of business on plaques received by FFA members.

Budget: The annual cost of this three-year commitment is \$1,250.00. This amount of support each year will provide the award plaques with sponsor’s name on each of three regional levels and the state level, CDE expenses on the state level, and travel expenses for the winning team to the National FFA Convention.

Expected Results: This partnership will generate added interest and excitement in this award area. Through this increased interest more students will focus their skill development in the area of agricultural mechanics.