



GRAND FINAL

CONTESTANT GUIDELINES

Welcome to the FMG Junior Young Farmer of the Year 2025 Grand Final!

Congratulations on qualifying for the FMG Junior Young Farmer of the Year 2025 Grand Final. You're on your way to representing your region in a series of tasks and challenges, so here's a set of guidelines that outlines what to expect at the upcoming Contest, and how you can best prepare!

Expectations

As a Grand Finalist, you're expected to represent yourself, your team, your school, and the Contest to the highest standard. Our events are covered widely in the media, as well as on New Zealand Young Farmers' (NZYF) platforms and the platforms of our sponsors and other stakeholders. We also livestream our events to an online audience.

It's important that you conduct yourself in a manner that always showcases our values and the values of your school. Any misconduct will result in penalisation.

You may be approached by NZYF, our sponsor family, or media outlets for an interview. Use this opportunity to promote yourself and your school/community, as well as the FMG Junior Young Farmer of the Year contest and our sponsors. Please note that your image and quotes will be used for promotional purposes by NZYF.

If you have any questions about this, please contact our Marketing and Communications Manager, Josh Mangos: josh.mangos@youngfarmers.co.nz



SPONSORS

Our sponsors are what make the FMG Junior Young Farmer of the Year series possible. They've had long-standing involvement with the Contest and are invested in your success. We ask that during the Contest you do not wear any clothing or display any products that promote any competitor of our Contest sponsors. If you are unsure if a brand is a competitor or not, please feel free to reach out and confirm with us.

This year's family of contest sponsors are:



THE CHALLENGES

The FMG Junior Young Farmer of the Year Contest is centred around five challenges that are designed to test contestants on their practical and theoretical knowledge of the primary industry. All tasks will be completed in your teams.

Exam

Your first challenge will be a 1 hour written exam where your theoretical skills will be tested.

Modules

In the modules, contestants will complete a series of modules hosted by our sponsors and supporters. Each team will complete seven 15-minute modules for a total score out of 140. You will get a set of tips & tricks to help you prepare for the modules on Friday 13th June. These will be uploaded to the portal

Farmlet

Contestants will have 2 hours to complete a set of practical, hands-on tasks. Your Farmlet time will be split into time slots, so time management is key. You'll be marked on your ability to complete the required tasks, as well as on the quality to which they are finished, but you'll also have a 30 second stand down period for any health and safety infractions. Gear list will be sent out Friday 13th June.

Speech

You will be allocated a 10 minute time slot during your Farmlet to present a 5-minute speech. During the farmlet, teams must deliver a 5-minute speech. You'll be judged on your ability to watch the clock to ensure each team member has equal speaking. We will provide three speech topics on Friday 13th June, from which you can choose one and prepare. There will be no facilities for accompanying presentations, however props are allowed to be used.

Face-Off

The final challenge is the Face-Off – something you're all familiar with! Much like at the Regional Finals, the five teams with the highest scores from the Exam and Practical Day will compete in the Face-Off. As before, all other scores will be added to Face-Off scores, with the highest scoring team being named as our 2025 Champions.

POINTS BREAKDOWN

Section	Points Available
1 Hour Exam	100 Points
Seven 15-Minute Modules (20 points each)	140 Points
2 Hour Farmlet	100 Points
5-Minute Speech	50 Points (25 points per person)
Face-Off	100 Points
Total Points Available	490 TOTAL

TICKETS

All FMG Junior Young Farmer of the Year contestants will automatically have tickets to the Friday Night Awards Evening, but all additional tickets must be purchased. Information on how to register the contestant tickets and purchase additional tickets are found on the contestant portal. Additional tickets are available for purchase Thursday 29th May.

FMG Junior Young Farmer of the Year placegetters from Friday will also receive complimentary tickets to attend the Saturday Night Evening Show, where the FMG Young Farmer of the Year for Season 57 will be crowned. All other tickets for Saturday Night Evening Show will be available to purchase on Thursday 29th May.

CLOTHING

During the Contest you'll need to dress accordingly for the activity or event that you're participating in. This will be either your formal school uniform, practical clothing, or other clothing that represents your school or community.

Bushbuck will be providing tee shirts for all contestants to wear on Practical Day. Please note that these are short-sleeved tees, so layering is crucial – Invercargill in July will can be VERY cold! You will receive these on Thursday at the exam.

Here's a list of appropriate clothing for the different aspects of the contest:

Formal School Uniform

- Opening Ceremony
- Exam
- Face-Off & Prizegiving
- FMG Young Farmer of the Year Evening Show (if you are attending as a placegetter)

Practical Clothing: This is clothing that is warm, comfortable, sturdy, waterproof, and that you can safely complete practical activities. Closed-toed shoes are compulsory, long hair is to be tied back.

- Practical Day
- Community Day

GEAR LIST

You'll be provided with a gear list outlining the gear and tools you will need to complete any of the challenges during the Grand Final. Please let us know if you have trouble sourcing any of the required equipment.

Your gear list will be uploaded to the Portal at least 3 weeks before the contest.

AWARDS

The following awards are up for grabs.

- Champions
- Second place
- Third place
- Exam winners
- Module winners
- Speech winners
- Farmlet winners
- Face-Off winners

Contestant of the Year – this is awarded to the contestant who receives the most nominations throughout the Grand Final contest. Nominations are based on a contestant's attitude towards the challenges, their teammate, fellow contestants, and judges.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Health and safety is a huge part of the FMG Junior Young Farmer of the Year contest, as well as NZYF as an organisation. By competing and therefore representing the contest, you must promote a positive attitude towards health and safety and ensure that you and your teammate use safe practice in all elements of the contest.

You are responsible for your personal safety and the safety of other people. If any person acts in an irresponsible manner that could cause harm to themselves or anyone else, they will face penalisation or in some cases expulsion from the Grand Final contest.

All contestants are required to induct themselves into the Health and Safety Form, this will be available on the FMG Junior Contestant Portal and must be completed before Wednesday 2nd July.

If at any point you do not feel safe or confident completing any task, or you feel that someone else is acting in a dangerous, reckless, or irresponsible manner, it is incredibly important that you speak up – no matter who it is. You must tell an NZYF staff member of any incidents immediately. At the end of the day, it's our number one priority that every person walks away without harm. If any task requires you to wear personal protective equipment (PPE), you MUST use it.

MISCONDUCT

We do not tolerate misconduct in any way. This includes cheating or interference from any supervisor, parent, caregiver, or other spectator. Points will be deducted for any interference or involvement from any person other than the contestants involved with the task, and disqualification may result at NZYF discretion. Offending persons will be asked to leave and will not be allowed back. Interference from other contestants is strictly not allowed and will result in disqualification.

EVENING SHOW

The Evening Show on Saturday night is a very special occasion where the wider New Zealand Young Farmers community comes together to formally celebrate every contestant's achievement and to support the FMG Young Farmer of the Year Grand Finalists as they battle it out in their very last challenge – the Agri-Knowledge Quiz.

We invite the first, second, and third place teams to attend the Saturday Evening Show to represent the FMG Junior Young Farmer of the Year contestants. The first-place team will be invited onto stage to be awarded their trophy, so please make sure you are well presented in your formal school uniform. Please take this into account when booking flights and accommodation.

GENERAL

Please keep a close eye on your emails and the Contestant Portal during the lead up to Grand Final as you'll receive important information from National Office. Make sure you read these guidelines carefully and reach out if you have any questions or need clarification.

If you have any family members involved with the planning of Grand Final or within the NZYF Staff or Sponsor family, please notify Sophie Herriott at sophie.herriott@youngfarmers.co.nz ASAP.