



ROTARY DISTRICT 6710 SPEECH CONTEST

SPEECH CONTEST PACKET 3

DAY OF CONTEST JUDGES PACKET

CLUB, SECTIONAL, REGIONAL & FINAL CONTESTS

Rev. 1-18-24

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INFORMATION FOR JUDGES

1-18-24

1. INTRODUCTION

Rotary District 6710 is pleased that you have accepted the responsibility of serving as a judge for one of the component contests of our annual District Speech Contest. It is critical that judging be consistent at all levels of competition. Please carefully read the judging procedure that is outlined below. The suggestions have come about as a result of the input of several individuals, and the desire to obtain continuity at the Club, Sectional, and District Levels. Carefully note the weighted point value assigned to the three sets of criteria for judging. Please become familiar with the score sheet criteria prior to judging.

2. JUDGING CRITERIA:

a. DELIVERY

Enunciation and pronunciation are basic to any good speech and must be fully considered. Overall expressiveness and sincerity of tone add to the delivery. The poise of the speaker is VERY important. **At all advanced contest levels, speeches are to be memorized. They are not to be read, nor are note cards allowed.**

b. ORIGINALITY:

The way in which the content is developed will, in large measure, be determined through its originality. Of major concern will be an approach which is individualistic, imaginative, and has human interest appeal. Personalization of the topic is important. How that is accomplished is up to the speech contestant.

c. CONTENT:

The content must relate specifically to the Speech Topic. Students should be positive in their approach, and their ideas used to address the theme or topic should be presented logically, clearly, and concisely, from opening to conclusion. Students are expected to carefully research the speech topic, to be factually correct regarding Rotary and any references, and to successfully express their own thoughts, ideas, and opinions. Although speeches are not to be self-gratifying, references to personal experiences and personal opinions and mentors are encouraged. Any quotes or sayings by others should be acknowledged.

3. JUDGING PROCEDURE:

Identical score sheets will be used at all levels of competition. Each judge weighs each speech on the basis from 1 to 100 points, with each set of criteria judged as follows:

1-30 points for Delivery; **1-35** points for Originality; **1-35** points for Content

The highest weighted scored speech will be declared the winner. **Tellers are to tally the scores.** In case of a tie for first place, the highest score determined by the judges initial scores will be used to determine the winner. If there is still a first-place tie, judges are to privately reconvene and determine a Contest Winner by whatever means they choose, including total raw points or flip of coin. The decision of the judges is final. Second place ties will result in no third-place finisher, thus the prize money for 2nd and 3rd should be equally divided. If there is a tie for third place, the third-place prize shall be equally divided.

4. CONFIDENTIALITY:

Judges are to initially score on their own without consultation amongst themselves or with others. **Thus, Judges are not to confer during or after speeches until all score sheets are turned in to the tellers. Under NO circumstances should anyone but the THREE WINNERS (1st, 2nd, 3rd) be announced.** All other students not finishing in the top three positions should be considered as runners up.

SPEECH CONTEST TOPIC FOR 2023-24

Create Hope in the World

1-18-24

The Rotary District 6710 Speech Contest is now in its 30th year. Since its inception, the topic for the Speech Contest has been the annual Rotary International President's chosen 'Theme'. This year's RI President R. Gordon McInally has selected the theme for 2023-24 as, **Create Hope in the World**. He imagines a Rotary where members ask themselves how to make their dreams become reality and make the most of their club experiences. He asks all Rotarians to help those in need and then teach them to help others. So, in that spirit, this year's Topic for the speech contest is, "How could you (the student) serve your community to Create Hope in the World?"

President McInally asks all Rotary members to become champions in our effort to illuminate mental needs near and far. This includes helping one another feel more supported, advocating for mental health services, and building bridges with experts in the field to expand access to treatment.

President McInally says, we've grown into an amazing global network of 1.4 million interconnected community leaders – leaders who share a deep commitment to doing good in the world. But what makes Rotary powerful is not just what we do for the communities we serve. We also support and empower each other, by creating a safe space for our members to bring their whole, authentic selves. We show each other comfort and care.

Our worldwide community and foundational value prioritizing Service Above Self makes Rotary a powerful global advocate for mental health. A recent Ohio State University found performing acts of kindness was the only one of three mental health interventions tested that helped people feel more connected to others.

This research suggests what we've known all along – that doing good helps transform not just the communities we serve, but it also transforms us. As we put a greater focus on mental health, let's not think of this effort as something new to Rotary, but rather as something we can do better and as a result have a greater impact on ourselves and the people we serve.

It's time to work together to erase the stigma associated with emotional well-being, raise

awareness of mental health needs, and improve access to preventative and **Create Hope in the World**.

The Rotary District 6710 Speech Contest is open to all Kentucky High School Students who reside within the District's service area, which is basically the western half of the state. Students should prepare their speech by addressing this year's Topic/Theme. This can be applied to the student's personal observations and experiences or to Rotary or other organizations who have similarly engaged and had a significant impact on a personal, local, national, or international level.

Speeches may, but do not have to, reference Rotary and/or its purpose and past accomplishments. The real objective for each speech is for the student to address this year's topic on a personal level. What feelings, memories or insights does the student have from past experiences? What has the student or someone the student knows done that has really made a difference in their life or community? How has that contributed to the betterment and or unity of the world within and without?

Speeches may not be read, although cue cards or notes will be permitted only at the local club level contests. **Speeches must be memorized for all advanced contests.** There will be speeches at the Club level in February/March and three advanced levels – Sectionals in March, Regionals in April, and Finals in May 2024. Prize values increase with each advanced contest. The District Winner will have finished first at all four contest levels with total winnings of \$2,200.

Questions may be directed to your local Rotary Club or to the District Speech Contest Coordinators listed on the **Rotary District 6710 web site www.rotarydistrict6710.org**. There you can find downloadable Speech Contest packets under the Youth Service Speech Contest listing. Any changes in the contest schedule as well as clarifications and corrections will be posted. You will be able to track the contest as it progresses, review any contest clarifications, updated contest schedules, times, locations, prizes and reference links and materials that may be helpful to you as student contestants.

So, let's "Create Hope in the World" – we need it. !!



1-6-24

JUDGING AND SCORING: -

READ & SIGN PRIOR TO CONTEST START

1. Speeches are to be memorized at all contest levels. If contestants use notes or cue cards in advanced contests, they are to be deducted 25 points.
2. Judges shall score each speech as indicated on the prepared scoring forms. This includes 1-3 points for Delivery; 1-35 points for Originality; and 1-35 points for Content.
3. Timekeepers will time speeches, and Tellers will tally scores. Two of each are recommended.
4. Judges should not be concerned with the time of speech or whether students use notes. Tellers will deduct 25 points if notes are used (advanced contests) and deduct 3 points from a contestant's score for each minute or fraction thereof that a speech is less than 5 or more than 8 minutes.
5. Speeches must address the official Contest Topic / Theme. Judges are to down score the content section of the score sheet for those speeches that do not comply.
6. Speeches do not have to specifically address Rotary in itself, but they must address this year's topic / theme.
7. Points need not be deducted for minor mistakes, hesitations or other minor mishaps That may occur in the student's delivery. How well the student recovers from these types of occurrences may more than offset the points that a judge may have deducted.
8. Students are expected to be factually correct, including their statements about Rotary. Thus, judges may deduct points or award less points to the content score if such discrepancies are noted.
9. Judges are to be non-partial, fair, and consistent in how they evaluate and score. Judges are to score without consultation and should only exchange scores and opinions amongst themselves after scoring is completed.
10. It is suggested that the judges score the first contestant to establish a base for other contestants to be scored. This is best accomplished by not scoring the first contestant with 10's. You can change scores at any time before turning them in.
11. There will be no ties for first place, Judges will be "called to task" to decide a single overall winner in the event the scoring ends up in a tie for first place. Then use the overall raw total scores.

Judges are to read the rules above and sign below prior to start of the contest. Your name is requested on the score sheet in case we need to ask you about a score you wrote.

I have read and understand the contest rules,

_____ *Each Judge to Sign*

NOTE TO JUDGES:

Judges are to Score each Contestant for Areas 1-3 below and turn this score sheet over to the Teller who with the Timer will assess any Penalty Points and Total the Scores.

SCORING CRITERIA			CONTESTANTS					
			A	B	C	D	E	F
1.	DELIVERY	Max. Score						
a	Enunciation & Pronunciation	1-10						
b	Expressiveness & Poise	1-10						
c	Sincerity & Tone	1-10						
d	Delivery Score <small>PART 1 DELIVERY SCORE</small>	30						
2.	ORIGINALITY	Max. Score						
a	Positive Approach	1-10						
b	Use of Imagination	1-10						
c	Individualistic Approach	1-10						
d	Human Interest Approach	1-5						
e	Originality Score <small>PART 2 ORIGINALITY SCORE</small>	35						
3.	CONTENT	Max. Score						
a	Related to Subject	1-15						
b	Logical Development	1-10						
c	Clarity of Ideas	1-10						
d	Content Score <small>PART 3 CONTENT SCORE</small>	35						
4.	SUBTOTAL JUDGE'S SCORE	100 Maximum Lines 1d+2e+3d						
5.	PENALTIES - Scored by Teller	Point Deducts						
a	Contestant Used Notes, Cards, or Read Speech (if advanced)	- 25 Points						
b	Speech Time less than 5 or longer than 8 minutes	- 3 Points per minute or fraction thereof						
6.	TOTAL ADJUSTED SCORES							
7.	CONTESTANT'S FINAL POSITION (1 st , 2 nd , 3 rd etc.)							

Weighted Scoring Sheets must be used to determine winner. See page 4.8 for weighted scoring sheet.