

Planning a Successful Club Speech Contest

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District 4 Toastmasters

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Agenda

- Why ~ Why contests?
- When ~ Contest Season 2019
- Who ~ Key players
- What ~ Resources
- Next Steps & Action Items



Why Contests?

Who benefits?

Why Contests?

- Contestants ~ Stretch and grow as speakers; develop material
- Functionaries ~ Leadership, teamwork and collaboration skills
- Audience ~ Learn and be inspired by contestants
- Guests ~ See the potential of Toastmasters in a fun and low-pressure setting
- EVERYONE ~ Give contestants feedback and support

District 4 Contest Season Spring 2019

- Club Contests ~ February
- Area Contests ~ March
- Division Contests ~ April
- District 4 Spring Contest ~ May 18
at the Crowne Plaza Foster City



District 4 International Speech trophy

Contest Categories: Evaluation

Objective

- Give classic Toastmasters Evaluation based on a Test Speech.
- Timeframe: 2-3 minutes.

Eligibility

- Must be a member in good standing of a club in good standing.
- Must not be an officer at the District level or higher (Area Director, Region Advisor, etc.) or candidate for one of these roles.

Contest Categories: International Speech

Objective

- Give a speech on ANY topic.
- Timeframe: 5-7 minutes.

Eligibility

- Same requirements as Evaluation Contest, AND must have completed at least:
 - 6 CC speeches
 - OR Pathways Level 2
- Education requirement is waived for charter members of clubs that chartered less than 1 year before Area Contest date.



Why “International” ?

International Speech: Above and beyond

- District Contest May 18, 2019
- Region Quarterfinals (by video)
- Semifinals Aug. 21-24, 2019 in Denver, CO



District 4 International Speech Contestants, 2018

World Championship of Public Speaking



August 2019 in Denver, CO

Ramona J. Smith, World Champion of Public Speaking 2018

*If you had 5-7
minutes to
speak to the
world...
what would
you say?*



People

- Contestants
- Test Speaker
- Chief Judge
- Voting Judges
- Ballot Counters
- Timer
- Contest Chair
- Toastmaster
- Sergeant at Arms
- Audience

Contestants

Job Description

- Compete in the contest!

Qualifications

- Meet eligibility requirements to compete

Test Speaker

Job Description

- Special role seen only during Evaluation Contest
- Non-competing speaker who gives 5-7-minute speech for Evaluation Contestants

Qualifications

- Someone contestants do not know and have never heard speak before
- Intermediate-level speaker
- Receptive to feedback

How do you find a Test Speaker?

- Arrange a trade with a neighboring club
- Ask Area Director for suggestions
- Request speakers via Speakers4StageTime Google Group:
 - San Francisco: <http://groups.google.com/group/sfspeakers4stagetime>
 - Peninsula and Silicon Valley: <http://groups.google.com/group/speakers4stagetime>

Qualities of ALL Contest Functionaries

- **IMPARTIALITY**

- Give all contestants fair and equal treatment

- **DISCRETION**

- Handle sensitive information responsibly

Chief Judge

Job Description

- Brief Judges, Timers, Ballot Counters and Audience
- Work behind the scenes to coordinate functionaries and paperwork
- Ensure fair and impartial contest

Qualifications

- Familiar with contest rules
- Thorough understanding of Chief Judge role
- Strong leadership and time management skills

Voting Judges (5)

Job Description

- Evaluate and rank contestants on ballot
- Keep ballot confidential

Qualifications

- Member in good standing
- Not competing in contest
- Can evaluate contestants fairly
- Need one Tie-Breaker Judge – from outside club (if possible)

Ballot Counters (3)

Job Description

- Collect Judges' ballots
- Count votes and complete tally sheet

Qualifications

- Discretion
- Basic arithmetic skills
- Attention to detail

Timers (2)

Job Description

- Time and signal contestants
- Report results to Chief Judge

Qualifications

- Experienced with Timer role
- Ability to stay focused

Number of club contest functionaries

- 5 Voting Judges + Tie Breaker
- 3 Ballot Counters
- 2 Timers

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...unless impractical

Contest Chair

Job Description

- Coordinate overall event (venue, refreshments, promotion, etc.)
- Recruit participants
- Delegate tasks and lead participants

Qualifications

- Strong organizational skills
- Strong teamwork, collaboration and motivational skills

Toastmaster

Job Description

- Brief contestants
- Lead contest
- Introduce and interview contestants

Qualifications

- Experienced Toastmaster
- Unbiased, flexible and spontaneous
- Lets the contestants shine!

Sergeant at Arms

Job Description

- Call to order
- General housekeeping announcements (silence phones, etc.)
- Wrangle Evaluation Contestants

Qualifications

- Attention to detail
- Can follow contest script

Before the Contest

- Promote your contest!
- Prepare script and agenda
- Collect paperwork from contestants and judges
- Determine speaking order

During the Contest

- USE and FOLLOW the contest script
- Keep printed copy of the Contest Rulebook on hand for reference

After the Contest

- Report contest results to Area Director
- Recognize and appreciate participants
- Give champion(s) constructive feedback
- Plan to support champion(s) at the next level!
- Volunteer at your Area and Division Contests!



District 4 Table Topics & International Speech Champions, 2018

Contest Resources

- D4TM Contest Resources Page (includes script and all contest forms):

<http://d4tm.org/index.php/events/speech-contests/contest-materials.html>

- Speech Contest Rulebook:

<https://www.toastmasters.org/~media/3117F77BBF4D430B8A403ECECDD5F99F.ashx?la=en>

- Toastmasters International Contest Tutorials:

<https://www.toastmasters.org/leadership-central/speech-contests/speech-contest-tutorials>

Action Items

- Set a date
- Promote, promote, promote
- Recruit contestants and functionaries

Judge and Chief Judge Training

Visit

<http://d4tm.org>
to register



Webinar:

**How to Judge
Speech Contests**

January 28, 2019 at 6:30 PM
Hosted by District 4 Toastmasters