

## GUIDELINES FOR CONTESTANTS

### Rotary District 6670 Four-Way Test Speech Contest 2025-2026

#### The Rotary Four-Way Test

Is it the TRUTH?

Is it FAIR to all concerned?

Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?

Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

#### RULES OF COMPETITION:

- A. **Topic:** Leadership, Service and the Four-Way Test. The contestant must apply the Rotary Four-Way Test to the concepts of leadership, service to others and life experience. Any speech that does not present all aspects of the Rotary 4 Way Test will be disqualified.
- B. **Delivery:** The speech is to be presented from memory without the aid of lectern, notes, displays or props.
- C. **Length:** The speech must be no less than four minutes and no more than six minutes. Any speech that falls outside either of these limits will be disqualified.
- D. **Content:** The speech given by each contestant must be the work of the contestant alone. No more than 75 words may be quoted.

#### PROCEDURE:

- A. Each contestant should review this document and prepare a four- to six-minute speech based on the Guidelines.
- B. It is suggested that contestants draw numbers to determine the order in which they will present their speeches at the club contest.
- C. The local club competition may be held in one round. Subsequent rounds may be held at the club's option. Presentation before a live audience is essential in preparing the contestant who is selected for the District competition.
- D. The District competition will be held on **Sunday, February 22, 2026, at Noon** at Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio. The District first place winner is expected to attend the District Conference in April. If the first-place winner cannot, a 48-hour notice is expected unless an unknown circumstance occurs.
- E. The District contest is conducted using the format of forensic speech competitions. Each student will give his/her speech twice to different sets of judges. The judges, who will be Rotarians and non-Rotarians, may be faculty and students from the Wright State University Communications Department. The judges will have been trained in the concepts of the Rotary Four-Way Test. The four contestants with the highest scores at the district contest will give their speeches in the final round. Contestants will be judged on content and delivery in applying the principles of the Rotary Four-Way Test.

**PRIZES:** Four District prizes will be awarded:

First Place – Fourth Place: \$400/\$300/\$200/\$100