



## ROTARY DISTRICT 6710 SPEECH CONTEST

### **DAY OF CONTEST OPERATIONS PACKET**

for

CLUB, SECTIONAL, REGIONAL & FINAL CONTESTS

Rev. 1-28-22

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1. AUDIENCE GROUND RULES -

- a. For fairness, contestants are to be introduced as Contestants A, B, C, (etc) based upon the order of draw.
- b. All cell phones and paging devices should be turned off or set on vibrate during the contest. If anyone in the audience needs to answer a call or text, please postpone or do so discretely.
- c. Audience is requested to not move around, enter or leave the room while a speech is being delivered.
- d. As difficult as it is to follow this request, we ask that members of the audience please hold all applause until all speeches have completed and you are prompted to applaud all the contestants.
- e. We will pause after each contestant's speech until the judges indicate that they have completed their scoring and are ready to move on.
- f. To accommodate those who must leave on time, we will stop the contest briefly to allow you to leave and then resume until complete.
- g. While the final scores are being tallied, students will be asked to introduce themselves, their guests and families, identify their school and sponsoring Rotary Club, provide a little about their backgrounds, interests and future plans, and any thoughts or feelings they may have about the speech contest.
- h. It is intended that Contest Prize Checks be awarded at the time the contest results are announced. In as much as is possible, District Prizes will be provided to the host clubs of advanced contests prior to the advanced contest date.
- i. All Student contestants are asked to remain after the contest in order that pictures may be taken for press releases and inclusion the Rotary District Newsletter.

## 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 read carefully 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. Note carefully 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:

- 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. 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.
- ORIGINALITY:** The manner 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.
- 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.

## 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 use 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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>) be announced.** All other students not finishing in the top three positions should be considered as runners up.

The Rotary District 6710 Speech Contest is now in its 28<sup>th</sup> year. Since its inception, the annual topic for the Speech Contest has been the annual Rotary International President's chosen 'Theme'. This year's RI President Shekhar Mehta, a member from the Rotary Club of Kolkata (Calcutta)-Mahanagar India, has selected the theme for 2021-22, Serve to Change Lives. He states that "Service is the rent I pay for the space I occupy on this earth, and I want to be a good tenant." He asks all Rotarians to help those in need and then teach them to help others. "Together let us make this year the best year of our lives by making it a year to grow more and do more for those in need."

President Mehta urges all Rotarians to dream of new ways in which Rotary can expand its outreach into their community and throughout the world. Rotary is an International Service Club seeking to impact all areas of the world. "Growth in Rotary membership and clubs will result in a much greater impact on other people – and more people To Serve to Change Lives." This is our primary goal for the 2021-22 Rotary year. "More members will enable us to embark on bigger and bolder service projects."

"One element, however, that we can incorporate into all of our initiatives is empowering young women. Rotarians have the power to lead for gender equality all over the world. Empowering women to have greater access to education, better healthcare, more employment, and equality in all walks of life should be embedded in every project we launch."

President Mehta continues "No challenge is too big for Rotarians. Look at what we can do when we take on a colossal challenge, such as eradicating polio. Look at the millions of lives we improve by strengthening access to water, sanitation, and hygiene. Look at what we do every year to promote peace where it seems unimaginable. This year let us challenge ourselves to do more such projects and programs that have national reach and impact. This year let us Serve to Change Lives."

"The biggest gift we are given is the power to touch a life. To change, to make a difference in the circle of life. If we can reach out with our hand, heart and soul, the magic will start to happen as the wheel Begins to roll. Let's all turn the wheel together so all humanity thrives."

We as Rotarians and world citizens have the power and the magic to "Serve to Change Lives"



The District 6710 Speech Contest is open for 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. 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, and three advanced levels – Sectionals in March, Regionals in April, and Finals in May 2021. 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.

Detailed questions may be directed to your local Rotary Club or to the District Speech Contest Coordinators listed on the Rotary District 6710 web site 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.

It's time to get started on your speech. A preliminary schedule is in Informational Speech Packet 1, which is posted on the above referenced web site. Be sure to review all information included in the Packet.



**1 JUDGING AND CORING: -  
READ & SIGN PRIOR TO CONTEST START**

- a. 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.
- b. Judges shall score each speech as indicated on the prepared scoring forms. This includes 1-30 points for Delivery; 1-35 points for Originality; and 1-35 points for Content.
- c. Timekeepers will time speeches, and Tellers will tally scores. Two of each are recommended.
- d. Judges should not be concerned with the time of speech or whether students use notes. The 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 minutes or more than 8 minutes.
- e. 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. Speeches do not have to specifically address Rotary in itself, but they must address this year's topic / theme.
- f. 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.
- g. 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.
- h. 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. 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 come back and change scores at any time before turning them in.
- i. 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.



**SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES**

Judges are to read the rules above and sign below prior to start of 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

\_\_\_\_\_ Fill in Judge's Name

## 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.	<b>DELIVERY</b>	Max. Score						
a.	Enunciation & Pronunciation	1-10						
b.	Expressiveness & Poise	1-10						
c.	Sincerity & Tone	1-10						
d.	<b>PART 1 DELIVERY SCORE</b>	<b>30</b>						
2.	<b>ORIGINALITY</b>	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.	<b>PART 2 ORIGINALITY SCORE</b>	<b>35</b>						
3.	<b>CONTENT</b>	Max. Score						
a.	Related to Subject	1-15						
b.	Logical Development	1-10						
c.	Clarity of Ideas	1-10						
d.	<b>PART 3 CONTENT SCORE</b>	<b>35</b>						
4.	<b>SUBTOTAL JUDGE'S SCORE</b>	<b>100 Maximum Lines 1d+2e+3d</b>						
5.	<b>PENALTIES - Scored by Teller</b>	Point Deducts						
a.	Contestant Used Notes, Cards, or	- 25 Points						
b.	Speech Time less than 5 or longer	- 3 Points per minute or						
6.	<b>TOTAL ADJUSTED SCORES</b>							
7.	<b>CONTESTANT'S FINAL POSITION</b> ( 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> etc.)							

Scoring Sheets to be used for Weighted Scoring to determine winner. See page 4.6 for weighted scoring.


## TIME KEEPER'S SCORING SHEET

1. In the chart below, record the minutes and seconds of each speech. Begin timing after the contestant has addressed the audience or stated the title of his or her speech. If the student begins without addressing the audience or stating the speech title, begin timing immediately.
2. Indicate in the Penalty Box "Yes" or "No" if the contestant's speech time is **less than 5 minutes or exceeds 8 minutes**.
3. There shall be two Time Keepers for each contest.
4. Time Keepers are to turn in this time sheet to a teller after the last contestant has spoken.
5. Weighted Scoring Sheets are to be used by Scorers to determine winner. See page 4.6 for weighted scoring.

CONTESTANT	ACTUAL TIME OF SPEECH		<b>3 Point Penalty</b> Per Minute or Fraction Over 8 minutes or Under 5 minutes	
	Min.	Sec.	Deduct 3 Points Penalty - No	Deduct 3 Points Penalty - Yes
A.				
B.				
C				
D				
E				
F				

1. There shall be TWO TELLERS who shall collect the judges' scores and timers' records.
2. Tellers are to tally the judges' scores, and after deducting any penalties, designate the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place scores earned by the contestants at the bottom of each judge's score sheet.
3. Tellers will then assign a "5" to each speaker who was first on a judge's score sheet, a "3" to each person who was second on a judge's score sheet and a "1" to each speaker who was third on a judge's score sheet.
4. The contestant who has the most points will be declared the First Place Winner. The contestant who has the next most points will be declared the Second Place Winner, and the contestant who has the next most points will be declared the Third Place Winner.
5. In case of a tie for first place, the Speech Coordinator or Chair shall consult with the judges and tellers in order to assist them in declaring a winner. In case of a tie for second place, each tied contestant will be awarded equal shares of the total of the second and third place prize amounts.

WEIGHTED SCORES:  5 Points for FIRST 3 Points for SECOND 1 Point for THIRD	CONTESTANT					
	A	B	C	D	E	F
JUDGE No. 1 SCORE						
JUDGE No. 2 SCORE						
JUDGE No. 3 SCORE						
JUDGE No. 4 SCORE						
JUDGE No. 5 SCORE						
TOTAL SCORE JUDGES 1-5						
FINAL STUDENT STANDINGS (1 st; 2 nd; 3 <sup>rd</sup> )						

	<b>ROTARY DISTRICT 6710 SPEECH CONTEST</b> <b>CONTEST REPORT FORM</b> 5-3-21		<b>PRIZE AMOUNTS</b> 4.9	
			Club: First Second Third Sectional \$ 300; \$ 200; \$ 100 Regional \$ 400; \$ 200; \$ 100 Finals \$ 500; \$ 300 \$ 1,000; \$ 500; \$ 500	
<b>CONTEST LEVEL</b> Please Check or Circle	<b>CLUB</b>	<b>SECTIONAL NO.</b> 1 2 3 4 5 6	<b>REGIONAL</b> West Central East	<b>DISTRICT FINAL</b>

Host Club:	_____	Date of Contest:	_____	Reported By	_____
Location	_____	No. of Contestants:	_____	Email:	_____

FINAL RESULTS	First Place Advances to Next Level		Second Place Alternate for Next Level		Third Place Does not apply to Regional Contests	
Prize Check Information	District Check #	Check Amount \$	District Check #	Check Amount \$	District Check #	Check Amount \$
Student's Name:						
Student's School:						
Sponsoring Club:						
Student's Address:						
Student's Home Phone						
Student's Cell Phone						
Student's E-Mail						
Host Club Contact:			Phone No:		<b>IF ADVANCED CONTEST</b> <b>you must provide Payee Name,</b> <b>District Check No. And Amount</b>	
Host Contact E-Mail:						

Please send this report by E-MAIL within 24 hours to your Regional Coordinator's E-MAIL and to District Contest Chair. See Contest Schedule for contact info.



## NOTICE LETTER TO WINNING STUDENTS

1-28-22

### Note to Club Contest Coordinator's / Chairs:

Each club's speech contest coordinator is requested to issue the letter below to their club contest winner. It is important that this letter be handed to the club winner at the conclusion of the club contest or be mailed or e-mailed to the winner within a week after the contest.

The winning student will need to know where to go next and the Sectional Contest host club will need to know how many students will be competing and how many parents or guests will be accompanying them. The complete contest schedule and dates are posted on the District Web Site at [www.rotarydistrict6710.org](http://www.rotarydistrict6710.org).

In addition to sending out the below letter, please forward the contest results form contained in the speech packet to your Regional coordinator and to the District Speech Contest Chair .

Date:

Dear (Club Winning Contestant's Name),

Congratulations on being the winner of the (insert your club name) District 6710 Rotary Speech Contest.

The next contest level will be the Sectionals, which will be hosted by the (insert Host club name), at the (insert location and address). The Sectional Contest will start at (insert time), but you are requested to arrive at least 15 minutes early. The hosting club will provide a meal for you and up to two guests. Including you, there will be approximately (insert number based on clubs having contests in your Sectional, as provided on Contest Schedule) contestants. Prior to the contest, names will be drawn to determine order of delivery.

In the event you cannot attend the contest, we would appreciate as prompt a notice as possible in order that we may arrange for your sponsoring club's second place contest winner to compete in your absence

If you have any questions please contact (insert your name and phone and/or e-mail address). Your contact at the Sectional Contest host club is (insert name and contact information as provided on the most current contest schedule). If for any reason you may be late or cannot find the contest location, please contact (insert host club contact person name and cell phone number) so the host club will know that you may arrive late and can make adjustments as needed.

Thank you for participating in our annual Rotary Speech contest.

(Your Name , Signature and Contact Information)

cc: *Regional Contest Coordinator*  
*District Contest Chair*  
*Sectional Contest Host Club Chair*

*See Contest Schedule on the District Web Site*  
*[www.rotarydistrict6710.org](http://www.rotarydistrict6710.org)*  
*or Advanced Contests Host Clubs and Contact Info.*