



FOUR-WAY TEST SPEECH CONTEST

Rotary District 6600

Saturday, April 8th, 2017

Event starts promptly at 9:30am

Niswonger Performing Arts Center of Northwest Ohio
10700 State Route 118 South Van Wert, OH

Please direct all questions to the District 6600 Speech Contest Chair:

Stephen Hosler
(440) 458-4980 · sthosler@mehco.com

Is it the TRUTH?

Is it FAIR to ALL concerned?

Will it build GOOD WILL & BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?

Will it be BENEFICIAL to ALL concerned?



SPEECH CONTEST TIMELINE

Between now &

February 1, 2017: Organize your local contest and contact area schools.

February 1, 2017: Deadline for Club Speech Chairs to inform the District Contest Chair of their club's contest date and location.

March 17, 2017: Deadline to complete all club contests. Submit the District 6600 Contest Registration Form for club winners to the District Contest Chair.

April 8th 2017: District 6600 Speech Contest – Niswonger Performing Arts Center of Northwest Ohio, 10700 State Route 118 South Van Wert, OH

The District 6600 Competition prize money is:

First Place - \$500

Second Place - \$300

Third Place - \$200



ROTARY FOUR-WAY TEST SPEECH CONTEST RULES

- Contestants must be high school students in grades 9, 10, 11, or 12.
- Students being schooled at home in a program recognized by their school district or the State of Ohio are allowed to enter.
- A student may compete in only one Rotary District 6600 club contest.
- Any prior year's winner at any level may compete again at the club level, as long as they are otherwise eligible, so long as they enter with a new speech.
- Material must be original in content and center around applying the Rotary Four-Way Test to an important issue in our everyday relationships. The test asks the following four questions:

Is it the TRUTH?

Is it FAIR to ALL concerned?

Will it build GOOD WILL & BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?

Will it be BENEFICIAL to ALL concerned?

- The speech must be at least 5 minutes, but not more than 7 minutes in length with a 15 second leeway. Points will be deducted for going over or under. Contestants should prepare a speech with facts, statistics, stories, examples and quotations. The speech should be memorized. Notes may be used, but reading directly from them is discouraged.
- In the event that a club winner becomes unable to compete at the next level, the runner-up can be offered a chance to compete in the District Contest.
- The District 6600 Competition prize money is:
First Place - \$500 Second Place - \$300 Third Place - \$200
All other contestants will be considered Fourth Place winners and be given a participation award.



HELPFUL SUGGESTIONS FOR CLUB SPEECH CHAIRS

- Confer with last year's Club Speech Chair for valuable suggestions and materials.
- Set date for contest and the amount of prize money to be awarded
- High School aged kids appreciate money. Consider giving checks or cash opposed to savings bonds
- Contact schools early and stay in touch periodically throughout the school year. Send copies of all materials, including Rules and Judges' Score Sheet, to the appropriate teacher(s).
- Encourage juniors and below to enter the club contest. They are less likely to lose enthusiasm in the spring semester as the contest approaches.
- If applicable, participation of Interact Clubs is suggested and encouraged.
- Microphones are not required at the club contest, as they will not be used at the District contest.
- In the event that multiple clubs solicit contestants from the same high school, any given student may enter only one club contest.
- Contests held as part of a club meeting will generally result in better attendance by club members. Make sure to schedule a date for your contest with your Program Chair.
- Arrange in advance for three judges, two tellers and a timekeeper. Deliver a copy of the Score sheet to judges before the day of the contest for their familiarization. Representatives from the participating schools *should not* be used to judge.
- Arrange for newspaper/media coverage.
- Confirm number of participants and parents attending. Make food arrangements (at your club meeting, if applicable) for the contestants and parents.



HELPFUL SUGGESTIONS FOR CLUB SPEECH CHAIRS (cont.)

- Arrange with the Club Treasurer to have checks for winners (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.). If your club plans to use plaques or trophies in addition to monetary awards, order them in advance.
- Complete and return the Registration Form, no later than the March 17, 2017 deadline, to the District Speech Contest Chair. All club winners are eligible to compete at the District Competition held at the District Conference.

CONDUCTING THE CLUB LEVEL CONTEST

- Greet the contestants, and their teachers and parents if they are attending the event.
- Introduce them to each other but not to other Rotarians or guests.
- Seat the contestants in the same row of chairs or at the same table.
- Seat the teachers and parents separate from the contestants.
- Contestants may observe the other contestants deliver their speeches.
- When all speech contestants have arrived, have each one pick a number from 1 to the total number of contestants to determine the order in which the contestants will deliver their speeches.
- Do not publicly introduce students, parents, teachers, or coaches before the contest begins.
- If your club contest occurs as part of your regular meeting, be prepared for several minutes of open time following each speaker as the judges complete their forms, and a longer period of time after the final speaker for the tellers to verify all the calculations and determine the winners. These periods can be used for announcements, fines, Rotary minutes, and the like.
- A brief introduction of the judges and their qualifications before the first speaker will reassure the spectators that qualified judges have been selected.
- Welcome the contestants, but not by name.



CONDUCTING THE CLUB LEVEL CONTEST (cont.)

- Read pertinent rules to refresh the contestants' memory and to inform the audience.
- Request the audience to remain seated during each contestant's speech and to hold all applause until after the last contestant finishes his/her speech.
- Ask the judges, timekeeper, and tellers if they are ready. When they are all ready, call the first contestant to the podium.
- When the judges, timekeeper, and tellers are ready for the next speaker, continue the contest by calling the next contestant in numeric order.
- The judges should retain their score sheets until all speeches have been completed.
- After the last contestant has finished speaking, ask for applause.
- At this time, the judges and timekeepers should complete their respective sheets and turn them in to the tellers.
- Ask the contestants to introduce themselves in numeric order and to tell the audience their year and high school. Ask each student to introduce his or her teachers, parents and guests.
- When the tellers have reached a decision, obtain the results from them.
- Announce the fourth place winners first. All contestants who do not place first, second, or third are deemed to have placed fourth.
- If your club gives participation certificates, give each one a fourth place certificate.
- Announce the third, second and first place winner in that order and present applicable award.
- Thank the judges, timekeeper and tellers.



DISTRICT 6600 SPEECH CONTEST REGISTRATION FORM

(Return no later than March 17, 2017)

Contestant's Name: _____
(Last) (First) (Middle)

Mailing Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Email (required): _____

The above named individual has been chosen to represent _____ High School in
the Four-Way Test Speech Contest for the Rotary Club of _____.

Local club contact: _____ Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Email: _____

High School Representative Signature

Rotary Club Contact Signature

Date

Date

DISTRICT 6600 SPEECH CONTEST RELEASE FORM

By signing this release, I indicate my willingness to have my speech reproduced in any form and to have my picture used in media releases.

Contestant Signature

Date

Return to District 6600 Speech Contest Contact Stephen Hosler via email, fax or mail at:

Mail: Mehco Custom Printing, Inc
38007 Butternut Ridge Rd.
North Ridgeville, OH 44039

Email: sthosler@mehco.com
Fax: 440-458-4983



INFORMATION FOR JUDGES

Rotary District 6600 is pleased that you have accepted the responsibility of acting as a judge in its annual Speech Contest. To ensure continuity in the judging process of the contests at the club and district levels of competition, please read carefully the judging procedure outlined below. Please note carefully the weighted point value assigned to the three sets of judging criteria and become familiar with the score sheet prior to the contest.

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. Animation, humor, holding interest, and power of persuasion are attributes of a winning speaker.

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 that is individualistic, imaginative, and has human interest.

Content

The content should relate specifically to the subject. Students should be positive in their approach, and ideas used to develop the theme or topic should be presented logically, clearly, and concisely from opening to conclusion.

JUDGING PROCEDURE

Identical score sheets will be used at all levels of competition. Each judge weighs each speech in the range of 1 to 100 points within the three sets of criteria listed below.

Delivery	1 to 40 points
Originality	1 to 30 points
Content	1 to 30 points

In the case of a Tie Score, the contestant with the highest scores for Expressiveness & Poise, Imaginative, and Clarity of Ideas will be declared the winner.

The decision of the judges is final.

Please Note: Judges must not confer during or after a speech. After all score sheets have been given to the tellers, then the judges may confer. Under no circumstances should anyone but the three winners be announced. All contestants not in the first three places are considered to tie for fourth place.



JUDGES' SCORE SHEET

Contestant Number _____

Judge _____

Delivery (Maximum Score 40)

- Enunciation and Pronunciation (1-10) _____
- Expressiveness and Poise* (1-10) _____
- Sense of Humor (1-10) _____
- Sincerity and Tone (1-10) _____

Originality (Maximum Score 30)

- Uniqueness (1-10) _____
- Engagement of Interest (1-10) _____
- Imaginative* (1-10) _____

Content (Maximum Score 30)

- Relevance to Subject (1-10) _____
- Logical Development (1-10) _____
- Clarity of Ideas* (1-10) _____

*Criteria to be used as tie-breakers

TOTAL _____

Judge's Name (print): _____

Judge's Signature: _____

Date: _____



Advice Letter from an Experienced Judge

One of the more difficult issues is managing to score all the speakers on the same scale. The person who speaks first tends to be at a disadvantage, in part because the judges have no reference quality or score to judge him or her against, and there's a natural tendency to be more impressed by a good speaker who goes near the end.

The judges aren't allowed to confer once the speaking contest begins, but it's helpful before things start to agree on a starting score you would give a speaker who is mediocre. Is it 4 or 5 or 6 or 7, for instance. You each decide on your own what is "mediocre," but it puts your scoring all on the same level. That matters because the winner is chosen by point total, and if someone thinks very good merits an 8, and someone else thinks it's a 9, the person giving the 9's will have more influence.

On the same point, it's often more fair if you all agree to start on the medium lower end. That way if someone is very, very good, there's room to go up, and if the first person turns out to be the best, there's room to go down. Often, it's suggested that judges think about giving a solid first speaker a 7, but we've found that shouldn't be the rule. If the first speaker turns out to be the worst, there isn't a lot of room after that, and distinctions between the other speakers get muted because they're all playing in the 8's and 9's and 10's. Having said all that, you do need to go by feel, too. It's just that someone who opens with 9's or 2's doesn't leave a lot of room for the others, and that's also why it helps if you all are working in the same range.

Another issue that often comes up is the one of substance vs style. The scoring sheet is weighted a bit toward style. A speaker with a very good presence and style has an advantage over someone with a very substantive speech who may not present quite as well. This is completely a judgment call for each judge, but you do have option to make the substance matter just as much by downplaying the presentation scores, as long as you're fair about it. However, if you think the value of presentation outweighs the substance, that's your call, too.

And on that point, we've noticed over the years the speakers tend to start strong and finish strong, but the whole speech is what matters. So it's helpful to ask yourself how complete and consistent the speech was.

Finally, there's actually a lot of pressure on the judges, so don't forget to take the time to appreciate the experience and these kids. At this level, they are all something special, and it makes judging them a privilege. Have fun and good luck.

Rick Kushman
Columnist, The Sacramento Bee



TIMEKEEPER'S INSTRUCTIONS AND RECORD SHEET

On the sheet below, record the minutes and seconds of each speech. Begin the timing of the speech after the contestant has addressed the audience or stated the title of his or her speech. If the contestant begins without addressing the audience or stating the title, begin timing immediately.

Check "YES" below if the contestant's speech is less than five minutes or over eight minutes. There is a 2 point penalty for each minute or fraction thereof when the speech length is less than 5 minutes or more than 8 minutes. Calculate and write in the "Amount of Penalty".

Give this sheet to the Teller after the final contestant has completed his or her speech.

Contestant	Time of Speech	Penalty?	Amount of Penalty
1	Minutes: _____ Seconds: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	_____
2	Minutes: _____ Seconds: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	_____
3	Minutes: _____ Seconds: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	_____
4	Minutes: _____ Seconds: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	_____
5	Minutes: _____ Seconds: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	_____
6	Minutes: _____ Seconds: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	_____
7	Minutes: _____ Seconds: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	_____
8	Minutes: _____ Seconds: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	_____
9	Minutes: _____ Seconds: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	_____
10	Minutes: _____ Seconds: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	_____
11	Minutes: _____ Seconds: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	_____
12	Minutes: _____ Seconds: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	_____

Timekeeper's Name _____

Timekeeper's Signature _____

Date _____



TELLERS' INSTRUCTIONS

1. There shall be at least two tellers.
2. After all contestants have spoken, the tellers receive the Judges' Score Sheets, and recheck the math.
3. After the final contestant has spoken, collect the Timekeeper's Records and recheck the math.
4. Tellers are to deduct any time penalties and designate the First, Second and Third place scores.
5. The contestant who has the most points will be declared the winner. The contestant with the next highest total of points will have earned second place, and the contestant with the next highest point score will be the third place finisher
6. In case of a tie for first place, the contestant having the highest score for Expressiveness & Poise, Imaginative, and Clarity of Ideas will be declared the winner. The same rules will apply in the event of a tie for second or third place.
7. All contestants that did not place First, Second or Third are considered Fourth Place Winners.