

Salutations Area Governors, Club Presidents & Contest Coordinators,

Please read & share all the attached documents with Clubs. Work together to set up the date, time, location and contact info for Round 1 Club & Round 2 Area Speech Contests. Then insert this information into the contest poster before distribution. Contest Poster list contest deadlines, prizes and information on District Round 3 & 4.

Key Speech Contest Points:

1. Every Contest Registration Form needs to be readable and filled out with all the contact information for the contestant, school and sponsoring Rotary Club. This information is essential.

2. Download and Review the attached 2024-2025 Speech Contest documents, especially understand concern for fair, consistent and equitable treatment for every student within each task and activity.

Take note of new counting ballot instruction sheet. Judge scoring is confidential and their sheets should be shredded after ballots are tallied and awards have been decided. Counters only use the lower portion of the Judge Score Sheet where judges have written which contestant is 1st-2nd-3rd Places. Counter then convert 1st-2nd-3rd Place notations into 6-3-1 Values for tallying. (see instruction sheet).

Save the composite score sheet until after Round 3, do not save the judge scoring sheets.

3. Clubs should keep the original registration form and provide their AG with copies of the registration form and speech for their 1st place and 2nd place winners for Area Round 2 Contests. AG needs to pass on registration forms and copies of the speeches for each Area Round 2 Winner & Runner-Up to me for Round 3. Every year at least a couple Area Round 2 Winners cancel and I'm scrambling to find contact info for their Runner-Up replacement to compete at Round 3 Contest.

4. If there is ONLY One Contestant for Club Round 1 or for Area Round 2, there must still be a full Contest held with judges & timer completing score sheets. Judges must confirm that the speech is on topic, content appropriate, and is within the 4-6 minute range. All Contestants are to have the same number of contests and speaking opportunities.

5. No Ties. Round 1 & Round 2 can only have One Winner, one 2nd, one 3rd place awarded. Chief Judge must decide the winner if the tallied scores are the same.

6. Round 3 will be at District Assembly on April 12, 2025, location to be announced. See attached Contest Poster for contest topic, prizes & deadlines.

7. Contact me with your questions, either by this Email; Call or Text 802.229.1111.

I prefer a phone conversation to discuss more subtle details. Send me times you're available and/or invite me to your club to talk about holding a contest, review documents and rules.

Best wishes for dynamic, interesting, and meaningful speeches.

Cheers,

- Dona

Dona Bate, District Speech Contest Chair

Call or Text 802.229.1111 Email dbatespeaking@gmail.com