

## MEMORANDUM

February 17, 2013

To: Area Assistant District Governors

From: Jo Anne Settles  
District 5930 Four Way Test Speech Competition Chair

Area Assistant District Governors should have started setting up dates for the club and area level contests. Be sure to have a meeting with judges and time keepers before the contests begin. The local contests need to be held before the District contest which will be on **Saturday, May 4, at the District Conference in Rockport**. We always have to be careful not to conflict with their UIL competition schedules.

Again this year the District will be supplying the first place trophy for all area contests.

The club that sponsored the winner of the area contest is responsible for providing transportation for the student to the District contest.

On the next section you'll find a section called "Rules" which must be followed. All of the other information items that are included are just **suggestions** to try to make the contests as homogenous as possible throughout the District.

I have also attached some forms that could be tailored and used by the clubs.

You can send any questions or concerns to [joanne.settles@victoriacollege.edu](mailto:joanne.settles@victoriacollege.edu)

Thanks everyone – this is always a fun time at all levels and lets us see what great youth we have around us !

### **RULES**

1. Participants must be enrolled in an area High School. All grade levels can compete.
2. The speech must be between 5 and 7 minutes in length. Even one second out of that range will disqualify the contestant.
3. The speech must relate to Rotary's Four Way Test.
4. Contestants will be allowed note cards. The speeches do not have to be memorized.

5. Any contestant that does not place first at one club can continue participating at subsequent contests in the area.
6. Past District First place winners are ineligible to compete.
7. Contestants are allowed to change speeches when competing at different clubs.

### **SELECTING JUDGES**

Club Level: Three Judges are suggested. Past Presidents and members with a background in Education particularly English and Drama are recommended.

Area Level: Three Judges are suggested. Try to get Past Presidents or experienced judges from the general membership whenever possible.

It is strongly suggested that the area have a meeting with all of the club's judges to make sure that scoring will be as uniform as possible throughout the different clubs contests.

It is suggested that judges not sit together and not be introduced until the competition is over.

District Level: There will be five judges. Our intention is to have all judges who have had previous experience in the 4-Way Test Speech Competition.

### **TIME KEEPER**

It is very important to have a time keepers at all levels of competition communicate with the contestants on a consistent basis. The District level contest will use letter sized placards with the numbers 2, 1 and ½ to indicate the time left. It is very important to adhere to the time requirements. A second too short or a second too long will disqualify the contestant. The speeches must be between five and seven minutes.

### **AWARDS/SCHOLARSHIPS**

Awards at the club and area levels should be determined by each club and area. Some are:

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	\$300	or \$200
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	200	or \$100
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	100	or \$ 75
4 <sup>th</sup> Place	50	or 25

It should also be considered to give every contestant that shows up to the area contest some monetary award. The District will be providing plaques for the students that place 1<sup>st</sup> at area. The expenses at the area level should be divided among the area's clubs.

District level awards:

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	\$1,500
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	1,000
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	750

All other participants at the District level will receive \$250 for attending and competing.

### **HANDLING OF SCHOLARSHIPS**

It is suggested that each club/area use whatever method it prefers. If you are holding awards until graduation, consider giving your winners a certificate and letter they can use to claim the award then.

Awards at Area may be given to each club that sponsored the winner or to the winner directly.

**The District awards will be sent to the sponsoring Rotary Club to disburse.**