

Chief Judge Briefing Script

Intro: Hello judges. I would like to thank you for saying yes to being a judge in this contest today. You are anonymous to the participants but not to me. I appreciate your time and talent in this role.

Without you, the contestants would not have a fair competition and a deserving winner would not be chosen. After all, the purpose of this contest is to choose the best candidate for the Spring Conference in May. AND eventually the World Champion of Public Speaking

We have three things to discuss for this contest so that your role to be successful.

First: The Process

Second: The Rules we go by

Third: The Ballot

The Process:

- Each of you has one ballot for each contest; Table Topics and International Speech. After each contestant, you are given 1 minute of silence to give a point value to each segment on the ballot and to add the points up. If you do not complete the addition, wait until the end of the contest segment, when you will have an indefinite amount of time to add the points up.
- I suggest that you write the names of the contestants on the ballot from right to left along the top, leaving a row or two between them. Then after you have written the point values for the first contestant, fold the ballot over and get ready to list to the next contestant. Keeping your ballot clear of numbers assures that you will make a fresh vote for each contestant.
- After all contestants have competed, during your indefinite silence, check your point value totals and place the contestant that received the highest points in the First place position, then second, then third. Fill in all the places, 1st – 3rd.
- Each contestant is a STAND ALONE contestant. You should not compare any contestant to another in the contest. Each contestant is judged against the ballot criteria and given points equivalent to their ability to match those criteria.

- It is NOT ADVISED to change your first impression of the points after all the contestants have finished. Your first impression is best.
- Tear off the ballot portion from the worksheet and fold it over. Then hold it up to be collected by the ballot counters.
- Take the top portion of the ballot with you when you leave the contest venue. Do not dispose of it on the premises.

The Rules are simple. You are here to select the best speaker at this contest and on this day, as a winner

- BIAS
 - You are not to judge based on sex, age, or political position
 - Demonstrate the utmost objectivity. Consciously avoid bias of any kind in selecting first, second and third place contestants.
 - Bias can include timing, speaker position in the contest and personal preferences
 - Personal preferences include marking the speaker down for not addressing Mr. Toastmaster, fellow toastmasters, and guest
 - Personal Preferences can be anything not on the ballot
 - Other Biases are giving a speaker more points because they deserve to win, have never won, or reducing points because someone has won before and others should be allowed to win.
- Protests and Disqualifications
 - Protests are limited to eligibility and originality and shall only be lodged by voting judges and contestants. Any protest shall be lodged with the chief judge and/or contest chair prior to the announcement of the winner and alternate(s).
 - Contestants must prepare their own speeches, and each must be substantially original.
 - Twenty-five percent or less of the speech may be devoted to quoting, paraphrasing, or referencing another person's content. Any quoted, paraphrased, or referenced content must be so identified during the speech presentation.
 - Before a contestant can be disqualified on the basis of originality, the contestant must be given an opportunity to respond to the voting

judges. A majority of the voting judges must concur in the decision to disqualify.

- The contest chair can disqualify a contestant on the basis of eligibility.
- All decisions of the voting judges and qualifying judges are final.
- The Ballot: You have two ballots today. One is for the International Speech Contest and one is for the Table Topics Contest.

The Ballots are divided into three sections:

1. Content
2. Delivery
3. Language

Content: 50% of the vote- Can be motivational, but it is not a criteria.

3 sub-sections:

- Speech Development: opening, body and conclusion, engages the audience and moves toward a conclusion
- Effectiveness: audience's reception of the speech; your perception of the speech, Was the purpose clear?
- Speech Value: speaker has made a contribution to audience's thinking

Delivery: 30%

- Physical: speaker's appearance should reinforce the speech, speaking area (does not disqualify)
- Voice: understandable? Variety?
 - Variety is pitch and vocal changes
- Manner: confidence. Is the speaker connected to their material? Does it sound memorized?

Language: 20%

- Appropriateness: Choice of words to the speech.
- Correctness