**D112 ONLINE INTERNATIONAL SPEECH CONTEST SCRIPT 2020-2021**

Contest Chairman:

Ladies and Gentlemen, welcome to the Online International Speech Contest.

(Please note that as referred to at the start of this conference, this contest is being recorded (if it is).  Please refer to the declaration regarding your attendance which is currently on display on the chat screen.)

Please note it is important that apart from our designated audience members, who have specifically been asked to keep their videos on, **we require the remaining audience to keep their videos off, and sound muted, at all times while speeches are being delivered.**

Speech contests are an important part of the Toastmasters education program. They provide an opportunity for Toastmasters to gain speaking experience, as well as an opportunity for other Toastmasters to learn by observing proficient speakers.

**Eligibility:**

It has been confirmed that all contestants are eligible. To be eligible to compete, a member must:

a. Be a paid member of the Club, Area, Division, and District in which he or she is competing; The club must also be in good standing,

b. Not presently be an International, District or Area officer, nor be a candidate campaigning for elected positions for the term beginning the upcoming 1 July.

c. Have completed six speech projects from the Competent Communication manual or earned certificates of completion in Levels One and Two of any Path in the Toastmasters Pathways learning experience or be a member of a club that chartered within this Toastmaster's year.

**Originality:**

1. Contestants must create their own speeches, and each must be substantially original, any quoted material must be identified during the speech presentation.

2. Contestants who refer to another contestant’s speech may be disqualified.

I have briefed all the contestants on the rules of the contest and have confirmed that all contestants are eligible.

**Timing**:

The timing of the International Speech Contest must be from five (5) to seven (7) minutes. A contestant will be disqualified if their speech is less than four (4) minutes and 30 seconds or more than seven (7) minutes and 30 seconds.

The timing will be indicated by the timer using Virtual Colour Backgrounds. The speakers have been advised to ‘pin’ the timer and to also have their own timing device in the room with them. The timekeeper completing the timekeeper’s sheet will be the official time record for this contest.

Timekeepers, please display the GREEN signal at five (5) minutes, the YELLOW signal at six (6) minutes, and the RED signal at seven (7) minutes. There will be no further indication of time and the RED signal will remain displayed until the contestant concludes their presentation.

Timers can we please test the lights now.

Judges have been instructed **not** to consider time in their ranking of the speakers.

Timing will begin with the contestants first definite verbal or nonverbal communication with the audience. This usually starts with the first word uttered by the contestant, but would include any other communication such as sound effects, a staged act by another person, etc.

The speaker should begin speaking within a short time of arriving at the speaking area and is not permitted to delay the contest unnecessarily.

If a contestant’s internet drops during the contest, either the Chief Judge or Contest Chair can stop the contest to allow the contestant to re connect and we will wait five minutes for the contestant to establish a reconnection. Once reconnected, the contestant will start from where he or she dropped off – the contestant may ask the Contest Chair to advise of his or her last sentence prior to the internet dropping. The contestant will have an extra 30 seconds added to their time to compensate for this.

There will be one (1) minute of silence between speakers so the voting judges and the tie breaker judge may complete their forms. A red virtual background will be displayed once a minute has passed.

Once the last contestant has finished speaking, the judges will be asked to turn off the volume on their devices so that they may complete their deliberations. We will then proceed with contestant interviews. The tally counters and Chief Judge will move to a breakout room or another platform to tally the judges’ ballots.

Chief Judge, please confirm that all judges have been briefed and are qualified to judge this contest. There is also a secret tie breaker judge known only by the Chief Judge.

The judges have been requested to not take the impact of speaking online, such as lighting and sound quality into consideration.

Protests are limited to eligibility, originality, and reference to another contestant’s speech and must be lodged by voting judges and / contestants. Any protest must be lodged with the Chief Judge and or / Contest Chair prior to the announcement of the winner(s) and alternative(s)

The Contestants and Judges have been provided with the Chief Judge and Contest Chairs contact details for this purpose.

Announcement of the contest winners is final unless the list of winners is announced incorrectly, in which case the Chief Judge, ballot counters, or timers are permitted to immediately interrupt to correct the error.

Other than the virtual background timer, Chief Judge, Contest Chair and current Speaker, everyone else’s microphones must remain muted.

Contestants may not use digital or other such devices during the contest to gain an unfair advantage.

All decisions of the voting judges and qualifying judges are final.

Running the Contest:

Are there any questions?

The order of the contestants was randomly selected before the start of this meeting, and is as follows:

|  |
| --- |
| **Contestant #** |
| Contestant 1: |
| Contestant 2: |
| Contestant 3: |
| Contestant 4: |
| Contestant 5: |
| Contestant 6: |
| Contestant 7: |
| Contestant 8: |

At this time, I will ask the Sergeant at Arms to invite any contestants to the breakout room that wish to leave the meeting until their time to present their speech.

Thank you.

(Never say ‘last’ or ‘final’ contestant for the final speaker.)

(Say the next contestant or Contestant Number.)

***(Check audio and video with the contestant prior to introduction.)***

*Before contestant starts, please confirm with contestant: “****Please advise whether you are able to see the timekeeper (Time-keeper please make a sound so that the contestant is able to find you on the screen – in case the contestant is unable to pin you on the screen)***

***Can you see me? Are you ready?”***

Then introduce the Contestants:

I shall introduce each contestant by announcing the contestant’s name,

speech title, speech title, and contestant’s name.

(Lead the applause)

Ladies and Gentlemen, please welcome Contestant No 1:

Name…………………., Title………………………………………………………

Repeat title…………………., Repeat name…………………………………….

One minute of silence please. Timer to indicate with a red virtual background

Ladies and Gentlemen, please welcome Contestant No 2:

Name…………………., Title………………………………………………………

Repeat title…………………., Repeat name…………………………………….

One minute of silence please. Timer to indicate with a red virtual background

Ladies and Gentlemen, please welcome Contestant No 3:

Name…………………., Title………………………………………………………

Repeat title…………………., Repeat name…………………………………….

One minute of silence please. Timer to indicate with a red virtual background

Ladies and Gentlemen, please welcome Contestant No 4:

Name…………………., Title………………………………………………………

Repeat title…………………., Repeat name…………………………………….

One minute of silence please. Timer to indicate with a red virtual background

Ladies and Gentlemen, please welcome Contestant No 5:

Name…………………., Title………………………………………………………

Repeat title…………………., Repeat name…………………………………….

One minute of silence please. Timer to indicate with a red virtual background

Ladies and Gentlemen, please welcome Contestant No 6:

Name…………………., Title………………………………………………………

Repeat title…………………., Repeat name…………………………………….

One minute of silence please. Timer to indicate with a red virtual background

Ladies and Gentlemen, please welcome Contestant No 7:

Name…………………., Title………………………………………………………

Repeat title…………………., Repeat name…………………………………….

One minute of silence please. Timer to indicate with a red virtual background

Ladies and Gentlemen, please welcome Contestant No 8:

Name…………………., Title………………………………………………………

Repeat title…………………., Repeat name…………………………………….

(If this is the final contestant then asks the judges to turn the sound off on their devices, remain muted and keep video turned off to enable them to complete their ballots.)

Ladies and Gentlemen, please remain silent until the Chief Judge and Ballot Counters have left the room to the breakout room.

Zoom master please confirm that the Chief Judge and Tally Counters have left the room and are in the breakout room.

Judges, please ensure that your ballot is valid by printing and signing your name and listing the first three place getters and submitting them to the Tally Counters and Chief Judge.

(After the Chief Judge & Tally Counters have gone to a breakout room:)

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Candidate Interviews | |  | |
| Let us find out more about our Contestants.Which Club / Area / Division do you represent?Refer to Speech Contestant Profile sheet for questions to askLimit time to 2 minutes per contestant | | *Interview contestants and thank them for taking part. Please keep the contestant interviews short and to the point.* | |
| Announcing the Results Ladies and Gentlemen, I have received the results from the Chief Judge and Congratulations to all our contestants today.  (Select the appropriate from the following and DO NOT name any disqualified contestant/s.)  I am pleased to announce there were no time disqualifications. Or  Unfortunately, there was /were disqualification/s due to time. ***Do not name them or give times.***  The 3rd place winner is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  The 2nd place winner is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  The 1st place winner is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Congratulations to the winner of (Club / Area / Division) Evaluation Contest who will represent us at  Area Contest on  Or Division Contest on  Or District 112 Contest in May, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | | *This is where you note if there were any time* disqualifications | |
| *Acknowledge and thanks to our Contest Officials, Judges, our contestants and to you, our audience.* | |  | |