**Speech Contest Script: Humorous**

Rule Book - <https://www.toastmasters.org/resources/2022-2023-speech-contest-rulebook-english>

| **Area** | **Script Wording** |
| --- | --- |
| **Welcome & Housekeeping** | * Welcome to all Toastmasters and guests (to location) and contest (level and type) * The following are the housekeeping rules for this contest   + As a courtesy to our contestants please ensure your mobile phone is on silent   + Once the contest has begun, the Sergeant at Arms will secure the doors, members of the audience are asked to refrain from leaving or entering when anyone is speaking.   + No photography is permitted. |
| **Speaking Order** | The order of the contestants was randomly selected before the start of this contest and is as follows.  first speaker – full name,  second speaker – full name etc  *(advise your audience to also refer to the agenda)*  *(at area level and above – no reference to the members club can be made)* |
| **Briefings confirmed** | I have briefed all contestants on the rules of the contest and confirmed that all contestants are eligible.  The chief judge has reviewed the rules of the contest with officials.  There will be one minute of silence between speakers so the judges may complete their ballot sheets.  Protests are limited to originality and reference to another contestant’s speech and can only be lodged by contestants or voting judges. Announcement of contest winners is final unless announced incorrectly.  Please note each contestant selects their own speech topics. Some of the content may be personal in nature and contain language, ideas, or beliefs that some audiences may consider sensitive. |
| **Rules of Contest**  ***Optional*** | *Contest Chair this may not be necessary for your speech contest if your audience are experienced toastmasters and familiar with contest rules.*  The rules for this contest are   * The subject for the Humorous Contest speech must be selected by the contestant * The speaker must avoid potentially objectionable language, anecdotes, and material. * The speech must be thematic in nature (opening, body, and close), not a monologue (series of one-liners). |
| **Start Contest** | “We will now begin the Humorous Speech Contest. I will read the purpose of the contest as defined by Toastmasters:   1. To provide an opportunity for speakers to improve their speaking abilities and to recognise the best as encouragement to all 2. To provide an opportunity to learn by observing the more proficient speakers who have benefited from their toastmasters training. 3. To recognise the value of humour in speaking. |
| **Contestant Introduction and Topic** | Now I will introduce  Contestant #, their name, speech title, speech title and their name. *(number used not first or last etc)*  *After the speech*  There will be one minute silence for judges to fill out their ballots. Timer, please time the one minute and confirm once time is reached  *After one minute*  Thank you. Now I will introduce contestant # (*same order as previously)* |
| **End of contest** | *Once all contestants have spoken*  Could we please have silence until the judges have completed their  ballot sheets.  *(remain silent until the chief judge and tally counters have left the room. This could take 3-5 minutes)* |
| **Interview Contestants** | Could I invite all our contestants to come forward for interview questions?  This a great opportunity to get to know our contestants better.  Timing will be 1 to 2 minutes. (green 1, amber 1.30, red 2 mins).  *Present the Participation Certificate to the contestant which has been prefilled. Refer to Speech Contestant Profile sheet for questions to ask.*  *All contestants must be given the same equal time for interview questions regardless of when the results maybe received.*  *If there is another contest to be held – adjourn this contest and the contest chair for the next contest to start proceedings for that contest.* |
| **Announcing the Results**  **New Rule**  **M4 page 13 Multiple Contests at one event** | *At the end of the event, announce the first contest winners, followed by the second contest etc.*  Congratulations to all our contestants.  There were no time disqualifications OR there were time disqualifications.  The 3rd place winner is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  The 2nd place winner is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  The 1st place winner is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  *(if fewer than 3 contestants only announce 2nd (if applicable) and 1st Place)*  Congratulations to the winner of (Club/Area/Division) Table Topics Speech Contest who will represent us at our Area/Division Contest on (date x)  Or District 112 Contest on (date May).  *(Allow photo opportunities if required)*  Thanks to contest officials, our contestants and to you, our audience.  I declare the contest closed. |

**Resources for Contest Chair**

Humorous Speech Contest Kit <https://www.toastmasters.org/resources/humorous-speech-contest>

Rule Book - <https://www.toastmasters.org/resources/2022-2023-speech-contest-rulebook-english> see Contest Chair Checklist page 21

Suggestion – For a warm-up instead of a prepared speech or a series of jokes, run the “Game of 3” in the audience for a few minutes. The Toastmaster/Chair starts it with 3 words (e.g.: Water is good”) someone adds three (and only three) words. Then the person next to them adds the next three words and so on and so on.