

Rotary District 7390

4-Way Test Speech Contest

Four Way Test Speech Contest Governing Principles and Rules

Subject:

Any topic which a contestant feels is timely, interesting and important may be used for the contest speech as long as it is not profane, obscene, unpatriotic, or racist. If a contestant or coach has any doubts at all, he/she should clear his/her speech with the Contest Chairman for the next level where he/she will speak. The decision of the Chairman is final.

The topic must be specifically subjected to The Four-Way Test, and must be affected throughout the body of the speech and is not to be reserved for concluding statements only.

THE ROTARY FOUR WAY TEST

of the things we think, say or do

1. IS IT THE TRUTH?
2. IS IT FAIR TO ALL CONCERNED?
3. WILL IT BUILD GOODWILL AND BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. WILL IT BE BENEFICIAL TO ALL CONCERNED?

JUDGES AND TIMEKEEPERS

Three judges and a timekeeper will be used at each level of this contest. Club contest chairpersons will select the panels at the club level. The person running the mid-level will select the panel for the mid-levels. The District Contest Chairperson will make the selection for the District Finals. No more than one of the three judges may be a Rotarian. Judges should be limited to judging in one level of our contest each year. All judges should have a good knowledge of public speaking. The FOUR WAY TEST and its application should be furnished to the judges and timekeeper at least two weeks before the contest. These rules may be waived in an emergency if no other qualified persons are available.

GENERAL

Contestants must be currently in attendance at a public or private high school, charter school or home schooled within the Rotary District 7390. No student may be a contestant in more than one club Contest in any one year. More than one club may recruit contestants from a high school shared with another club. Nothing in our rules shall prohibit clubs from developing their own procedures, requirements, and/or guidelines for their contest. This could include asking speakers for a copy of their speech. Contestant Entry Forms must be turned in to Registrar before mid-level contest.

DISQUALIFICATION:

Contestants will be disqualified if they arrive after a contest has begun or if their speech is determined to be profane, obscene, unpatriotic, or racist. Contestants will be disqualified if they use any props. If due to unforeseen circumstances, the contestant is going to be late and calls before the starting time, the mid-level coordinator has the option in delaying the start of the contest up to fifteen minutes.

PRIZES

All prizes are at the discretion of the hosting Club or District. Club and District awards will depend on the money available.

These are the awards we try to provide.

	First	Second	Third	Others
Club Level	UP	TO	CLUB	CLUB CHOICE
MID-LEVEL	TO	BE	DETERMINED	CERTIFICATE
DISTRICT FINALS	\$1500.00	\$1000.00	\$500.00	\$250.00 each

EXPENSES:

Each contestant must be sure they have a understating about what expense, if any, will be paid by his/her sponsoring club. For example, it is traditional for a sponsoring club to pay for two lunches at the District Finals for their contestant. It is the responsibility of the contestant to pay for any addition meals. This and any other expenses should be discussed prior to the contest to keep anyone from embarrassment.

SELECTIONS

First place only, each mid-level contest, will advance to the finals. If there is less than five mid-levels, the Four Way Test Speech Chairperson shall determine the number of contestants who will advance to the finals. The District is divided into 5 groups of clubs and the scores each contestant gets will also be used to determine who advances.

JUDGING:

Judges seat themselves apart from each other and must not communicate about their evaluations of the speakers until the final scoring is made. Speakers must be ranked by first place though the number of speakers in the contest, with no ties. Point judging will be based on the following:

- CONTENT (0-20points)
 - Introduction, originality, organization, conclusion
- DELIVERY (0-20 points)
 - Voice control,articulation, enunciation, diction, body language (gestures, facial expression)
- FOUR WAY TEST (0-30 points)
 - Total integration of Rotary's four-way test throughout the body of speech.
- TOTAL (0-30 points)
 - Overall appeal and IMPACT persuasiveness.

Judges must total points for each speaker in the TOTAL POINTS column, subtract any penalty points, and then enter the NET POINTS. Judges will next rank the speakers. The NET POINTS will be used as a basis for the ranking. THERE MAY BE TIES IN POINTS BUT NOT IN RANK!

Final judging will be as follows: The winner will be decided by rank order. If the contestant has more #1 rankings than any other contestant, he/she is winner. If a winner cannot be chosen in this manner, the tellers will total the ranking earnings and the contestant with the lowest total of ranking earned will be the declared the winner. If a winner can't be chosen by either of these methods, then the decision will be made on the basis of the THE TOTAL NET POINTS. The speaker with the highest total will be declared the winner. If no clear winner can be chosen by the above means, the decision will be made by a vote of the judges. Any contestant receiving a majority vote of the judges will be declared the winner. ANY PROTEST RELATIVE TO THE CONDUCT OF A CONTESTANT, OR THE OPERATION OF A CONTEST, AT ANY LEVEL OF THE CONTEST, MUST BE MADE TO THE CHAIRPERSON OF THAT

PARTICULAR CONTEST BEFORE THE WINNER IS ANNOUNCED. THE DECISION OF THE CHAIRPERSON SHALL BE FINAL.

TIMING:

Each speech must be greater than, or equal to, five (5) minutes in length. In addition, each speech must be less than, or equal to, eight (8) minutes in length. Penalty points will be deducted from the contestants score at the rate of two (2) points for each 15 seconds or fraction thereof that a contestant either runs over in the eight minute maximum or under the five-minute minimum.

SPEAKER'S NOTES:

Speakers may use whatever notes they feel necessary at the school and club level. Only one 3 x 5 card will be allowed for notes at the mid-level contest. Props will not be allowed at the mid-level contest. Notes and props will not be allowed at the District finals. Audience participation shall be considered a prop. Speakers at the District finals must submit written or typed copy of their speeches to the District Chairman prior to the District finals.

SPEAKING AIDS

Lecterns and microphones must be available for the speaker use, if they so choose, at the mid-level and final contests. If a microphone fails to operate properly during the speech the contestant will have the option of starting over, continuing on with the present microphone or starting over using a hand-held microphone located at the podium.

PUNCTUALITY:

Any speaker who does not show up in time for the drawing or speaking position will be the first speaker if he/she shows up before the contest begins. If a contestant appears after the contest has begun, he/she will be disqualified. If the contestant is going to be 15 minutes late, for a valid reason and calls the chairman before the starting time, the mid-level coordinator has the option in delaying the start of the contest up to fifteen minutes. A stay may not be invoked if its use penalizes another contestant.

BALLOT CONFIDENTIALITY:

Ballots of the contest, at each level, must be considered and kept confidential. However, a chairperson may give a coach or speaker his/her scores but not give him/her the scores of any other contestants.

PROCEDURES FOR JUDGES:

1. Make sure that you have an understanding of our rules and scoring and ranking process.
2. Enter points for each speaker
3. Total points for each speaker after each has spoken.
4. The timekeeper will give you any penalty points for the speakers after the last speaker has spoken.
5. Subtract penalty points from total points and enter as that points.
6. Rank speakers after you have determined the net points. You may have ties in points but not in the rank order.
7. Your score sheets will be collected after you have ranked the speakers.
8. SUBJECT: Any topic which a contestant feels is timely, interesting and important can be used for the speech contest speech.
The topic must be specifically subjected to the Four Way Test and must be effected throughout the body of the speech and it is not to be reserved for the concluding statements only.

THE ROTARY FOUR-WAY TEST of the things we think, say or do.

1. IS IT THE TRUTH?
2. IS IT FAIR TO ALL CONCERNED?
3. WILL IT BUILD GOODWILL AND BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4. WILL IT BE BENEFICIAL TO ALL CONCERNED?

Thank you for caring enough to give of your valuable time and ever to perform this worthwhile task. We appreciate your thoughtfulness and concern.