**District 60 International Speech Contest**

**Script for a Contest Chair**

**WELCOME:**

Welcome to the International Speech contest. In a few minutes you will hear the speakers who are competing to win the Area \_\_\_ International Speech Contest and who will go forward to compete in the Division \_\_\_\_ Speech Contest. And who knows, the winner may finish up winning the World Championship of Public Speaking that will be held at the International Convention in Denver, Colorado in August.

For the safety of others, please keep all aisles clear of obstructions.

Also, as a courtesy to our speakers and other Toastmasters, we ask that you do not take photographs or video during the contest and that you turn off cell phones and all electronic recording devices.

While a speaker is performing, no one is permitted to enter or leave the room.

The Sergeant at Arms will secure the doors when the contestant introduction begins.

Please observe the minute of silence between contestants.

You will be pleased to know that our Chief Judge for this Contest is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Mister/Madam Chief Judge, are we ready to proceed?

**INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKERS:**

 *Do not make preliminary remarks about the speaker or the subject of the speech.*

 *Do not mention the name or location of the speaker’s club or their place of residence.*

Introduce each contest speaker by stating the Contestant’s name, their speech title, their speech title, and their name.

Allow one minute of silence between speeches.

 *Do not comment on the speeches or on any of the contestants.*

 *The timers use timing cards or lights to cue the start and end of the minute of silence.*

Upon completion of all the speeches, ask for silence until the Counters have collected all ballots, and the Chief Judge and the Counters leave for the counting room.

**CONTESTANT INTERVIEWS:**

Invite all the Contestants on to the stage and have them line up in speaking order.

When microphones are being used, the Contest Chair should use the one at the lectern while the portable one is passed along the line of speakers as they are interviewed.

If time permits on the agenda, interview each contestant using the following questions.

Note: Interviews should be limited to 1 to 2 minutes for each Contestant.

Question to ask all Contestants.

 • Name, Club, Area, and Division?

When time is limited, such as in the first half of an agenda that may include both contests, all other questions may be postponed until after the second contest. At this point you may present the Certificates of Participation.

When all certificates have been presented, lead a round of applause for the contestants, and request that they leave the stage.

Additional Questions for the Contestants.

 Contestant #1 What was your motivation for competing?

 Contestant #2 How did you come up with your speech title?

 Contestant #3 Where do you find your inspiration for your topic?

 Contestant #4 How has your club helped you prepare?

 Contestant #5 How has Toastmasters impacted your life?

 Contestant #6 What advice would you give to members who have never competed?

 Contestant #7 How does speaking in front of a larger crowd affect your performance?

 Contestant #8 What made you join Toastmasters?

 Contestant #9 What has been your most memorable experience with Toastmasters?

 Contestant #10 How do you prepare for competing in the contest?

When all certificates have been presented, lead a round of applause for the contestants, and request that they leave the stage.

**PRESENTING THE AWARDS:**

Receive the Contest Results from the Chief Judge.

Invite District Leaders to the stage to conduct the trophy presentations.

*Announce any disqualifications for time. Do not name the disqualified Contestant(s).*

*If there are 5 or more Contestants, you will announce the names of the first three winners.*

*If there are 4 Contestants or less, you will announce the names of the first two only.*

Announce the name of the 3rd. place winner.

 When the Contestant has been presented with the trophy, they will step to one side.

Announce the name of the 2nd. place winner.

 When the Contestant has been presented with the trophy, they will step to one side.

Announce the name of the 1st. place winner.

 When the Contestant has been presented with the trophy, allow them one or two minutes for his or her remarks.

Bring the top three winners to the Centre of the stage and announce to the audience.

 “The winners of the International Speech Contest.

Pause briefly for anyone who wants to take photographs.

Make any announcements that are requested of you by the District Leaders.

In closing thank the Contest Officers and volunteers for all their help, and the audience for their attention and for attending.

Adjourn the meeting.