**WELCOME:**

Welcome to the International Speech contest. In a few minutes you will hear the speakers who are competing to win the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_International Speech Contest and who will go forward to compete in the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 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 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in August.

In order to maintain a quality environment for all, please leave yourself on mute unless you are a contestant or contest official and need to speak at that time.

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.

* The rules have been reviewed with the chief judge and contestants.
* The contestants have been informed of the location and type of the timing signals.

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

Choice: Late attendees will not be admitted. The Zoom Master will admit late attendees during the minute of silence between speakers.

* 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 signals to cue the start and end of the minute of silence.*

Upon completion of all the speeches, ask for silence until the Judges have completed their ballots. The Chief Judge, Judges, Timers and Ballot Counters will be moved to a breakout room. In the breakout room, the ballots will be submitted to the Chief Judge and ballot counters. Timing will be reviewed and ballots counted.

**CONTESTANT INTERVIEWS:**

Invite all the Contestants to unmute and turn their video on.

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 all certificates have been presented, lead a round of applause for the contestants, and request that they again mute themselves.

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?

 **Important Information for Contest Chair:**

If more than one contest occurs within a meeting, these must be run as two separate contests. Awards must be presented at the end of the first contest before you start the next one.

**PRESENTING THE AWARDS:**

Receive the Contest Results from the Chief Judge.

Invite District Leaders to unmute to conduct the trophy or medal presentations.

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

*1. In contests with* ***three or more*** *participants, a third-place winner, a second-place*

*winner, and a first-place winner will be announced.*

*2. In contests with* ***less than*** *three participants, a second-place winner (if applicable)*

*and a first-place winner will be announced.*

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.

Ensure the top three winners have their video on and announce to the audience.

 “The winners of the International Speech Contest.”

Pause briefly for anyone who wants to take photographs or screen shots.

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.