

Toastmasters Speech Contest Rulebook

Change Summary, 2012 to 2013

Mike Raffety, DTM, PID, 29 Nov 2012

The table on the next two pages summarizes all the changes, other than some slight changes where the item number for various forms was moved to a parenthetical comment, instead of in-line. Additions are highlighted with underlining, deletions are highlighted with a ~~line through~~.

The changes that are most relevant to running a contest are:

1. A member who INTENDS to compete may not serve as a judge (probably to cover club contests where the member hasn't actually competed yet).
2. Contest functionaries may not compete in the contest they're serving in. Did someone try to be a timer or contest toastmaster at an event they were also competing in? Hopefully no one is shocked by this.
3. The rule permitting districts to allow areas with four or less clubs (eight weeks prior to the area contest) to have two contestants from each club is clarified so that the club count refers to clubs in good standing.
4. No more than 25% of the speech may be quoting, paraphrasing, or referencing another person's content. The "substantially original" requirement has not changed.
5. The statement that contestants may only speak from the designated area is removed (though they must still be advised of a speaking area).
6. Requirements for judges representation have been slightly relaxed, requirements at lower level contests are now "unless impractical".
7. Judges no longer have to be a member in good standing since the previous July 1, but for a minimum of six months (makes things more consistent for the two rounds of contests).
8. Judges shall remain anonymous when practical. This was not in the old rulebook at all, though almost everyone followed it.
9. There is now a Judge's Certification of Eligibility and Code of Ethics (Item 1170). The form must be signed and returned to the chief judge.
10. The Chief Judge sends a ranked list of ALL the contestants to the next level, not just the winners.

2012 rulebook (rev 9/2011)	2013 rulebook (rev 9/2012)
Introduction	
Rule changes are made once a year by administrative protocol with the approval of the International President and the Executive Director.	Rule changes are made once a year by administrative protocol with the approval of the International President, <u>the International President-Elect</u> , and the Executive Director.
Eligibility	
a) A member serving as a judge at any level for a contest in which the member is still competing	a) A member serving as a judge at any level for a contest in which the member is still competing <u>or intends to compete</u>
(nothing)	<u>5. Contest functionaries may not compete in the contest at which they are serving as a functionary.</u>
Selection sequence	
B. Eight weeks prior to the area contest, if an area has four assigned clubs or fewer, districts have the option to allow the two highest placed available contestants from each club to compete in the area contest.	B. Eight weeks prior to the area contest, if an area has four assigned clubs or fewer <u>in good standing</u> , districts have the option to allow two highest placed available contestants from each club to compete in the area contest.
1. Should additional clubs charter prior to the area contest, the two highest placed available contestants from each club are permitted to compete.	1. Should additional clubs charter prior to the area contest, the two highest placed available contestants from each club are permitted to compete.
Speech subject and preparation	
2. Any quoted material must be so identified during the speech presentation.	2. <u>Twenty-five percent or less of the speech may be devoted to quoting, paraphrasing, or referencing another person's content.</u> Any quoted, <u>paraphrased, or referenced content</u> must be so identified during the speech presentation.
1. All contestants and judges will be advised of the speaking area before the contest begins. The contestants may only speak from within the designated area.	1. All contestants and judges will be advised of the speaking area before the contest begins.
General procedure	
1. At club contests, a contest chair, chief judge, at least five judges, a tiebreaking judge, three counters, and two timers are appointed, as far as practical.	1. At club contests, a contest chair, chief judge, at least five judges, a tiebreaking judge, three counters, and two timers are appointed, as far as <u>unless impractical</u> .
2. At area contests, there shall be at least five judges or equal representation from the clubs composing the area.	2. At area contests, there shall be at least five judges or equal representation from the clubs composing the area, <u>unless impractical</u> .
3. At division or district contests, there shall be at least seven judges or equal representation from the areas composing the division or district, in addition to a contest chair, chief judge, tiebreaking judge, three counters and two timers; no judge shall be a member of any club in which a contestant is a member.	3. At division contests, there shall be at least seven judges equally representing the areas composing the division, <u>unless impractical</u> . In addition to these judges, a contest chair, chief judge, tiebreaking judge, three counters and two timers shall be appointed. No judge shall be a member of any club in which a contestant is a member. <u>4. At district contests, there shall be at least seven judges equally representing the divisions composing the district, unless impractical. In addition to these judges, a contest chair, chief judge, tiebreaking judge, three counters and two timers shall be appointed. No judge shall be a member of any club in which a contestant is a member.</u>

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2. All judges at area, division, and district speech contests shall have been a Toastmasters member in good standing since the previous July 1 and have completed at least six speech projects in the Competent Communication manual.	2. All judges at area, division, and district speech contests shall: a) Be a Toastmasters member in good standing for a <u>minimum of six months.</u> b) Have completed a minimum of six speech projects in the Competent Communication manual.
(none)	4. Judges at all levels shall remain anonymous when <u>practical.</u>
(none)	f) All judges receive the <u>Judge's Certification of Eligibility and Code of Ethics (Item 1170).</u> The form must be signed and returned to the chief judge.
All judges will judge all contestants.	All judges will judge all contestants, <u>except the chief judge, who does not judge contestants.</u>
2. Once the results have been tabulated and verified, the chief judge records the names of the winners on a separate sheet of paper, which is then provided to the contest chair.	2. Once the results have been tabulated and verified, the chief judge records the <u>ranking of all contestants on the Notification of Contest Winner form (Item 1182), which is submitted to the contest chair of the next level or to World Headquarters in the case of the International Speech Contest at the district level.</u> The chief judge records the names of the winners in reverse order on a separate sheet of paper and gives it to the contest chair.
Table topics contest rules	
4. When the contest begins, all contestants except the first shall leave the room.	4. When the contest begins, all contestants except the first shall leave the room <u>and remain under the supervision of the contest sergeant at arms.</u>
Speech contest checklists	
Use these checklists to ensure speech contest success.	Use of these checklists is not required but is strongly recommended.
Note: Some districts prefer to split the role of the contest chair and use a separate contest Toastmaster for the contest itself. In such cases, the term "contest Toastmaster" should be considered synonymous with "contest chair."	The contest chair may appoint a contest Toastmaster to perform any of the chair's duties listed in the Contest Chair's Checklist. In such cases, the term "contest Toastmaster" should be considered synonymous with "contest chair." <u>A contest Toastmaster and contest chair are both ineligible to compete in the contest in which they are serving.</u>
After the contest	
1. Secure the name, address, and phone number of the first place, second place, and third place contestants. Give this information to the contest chair of the next contest or to World Headquarters for district-level winners of the International speech contest.	1. Provide the contact details for <u>all</u> contestants to the chief judge so he or she can complete the Notification of Contest Winner form (Item 1182). Confirm that the chief judge gives this form to the contest chair of the next level or to World Headquarters in the case of the International Speech Contest at the district level.
Chief judge's checklist	
(none)	3. Encourages all speech contest officials to view the online <u>Speech Contest training at www.toastmasters.org/tlc.</u> (moved from contest chair's checklist)
Speech contest materials	
(none)	(This is a whole new page summarizing the forms.)