

EXPLANATION OF CHANGES TO SPEECH CONTEST RULEBOOK: 2013 to 2014



Global Changes

Voting Judges

General references to “judges” have been clarified by adding the type of judge the provision applies to. The term “voting judge” is now included in provisions that apply to judges who vote.

World Championship of Public Speaking

References to the “International Speech Contest Finals” have been changed to “World Championship of Public Speaking” to reflect the name of the event.

Specific Changes

2013 Rulebook	2014 Rulebook	Explanation
2. Eligibility A	2. Eligibility A	
4. The following are ineligible to compete in any Toastmasters speech contest: a) A member serving as a judge at any level for a contest in which the member is still competing or intends to compete	4. The following are ineligible to compete in any Toastmasters speech contest: a) A member serving as a chief judge, voting judge or tiebreaking judge beyond the club level for a contest in which the member is still competing or intends to compete	The provision has been rewritten to make it easier to find judges at the club level. Now, only members who serve as chief judges, voting judges and tie-breaking judges beyond the club level are ineligible to compete in the same contest type.
g) District officers or announced candidates for the term beginning the upcoming July 1	g) District officers or announced candidates for elected positions for the term beginning the upcoming July 1	The provision regarding announced candidates is included because the level of exposure candidates have affords them an unfair advantage if they were to compete. Candidates for appointed positions do not have a high enough level of exposure for them to have an unfair advantage over other contestants.

2013 Rulebook	2014 Rulebook	Explanation
<p>5. Contest functionaries may not compete in the contest at which they are serving as a functionary.</p>	<p>5. Contest chairs, chief judge, voting judges, timers, counters, sergeants at arms and test speakers may not compete in the contest at which they are serving.</p>	<p>The term “contest functionaries” was added to the rulebook last year without clearly defining which roles qualify as a contest functionary. Contest functionaries include contest chairs, chief judges, voting judges, timers, counters, sergeant at arms, and test speakers. The provision has been rewritten to list the functionary roles.</p>
<p>5. General Procedure B</p>	<p>2. Eligibility B</p>	<p>The eligibility requirements for judges was moved from the General Procedure section of the rulebook to the Eligibility section, so all eligibility requirements are included in the same section.</p>
<p>4. Judges at all levels shall remain anonymous when practical.</p>	<p>4. Voting judges at all levels shall remain anonymous when practical.</p>	<p>This provision only applies to voting judges.</p>

2013 Rulebook	2014 Rulebook	Explanation
<p>5. General Procedure A</p> <p>2. At area contests, there shall be at least five judges or equal representation from the clubs composing the area, unless impractical. In addition to these judges, a contest chair, chief judge, tiebreaking judge, three counters, and two timers shall be appointed.</p> <p>3. At division contests, there shall be at least seven judges equally representing the areas composing the division, 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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>5. At the semifinals for the International Speech Contest, there shall be at least nine judges or equal representation from the districts; no judge shall be a member of any club in which a contestant is a member. In addition to these judges, a contest chair, chief judge, a tiebreaking judge, three counters, and two timers are appointed.</p>	<p>5. General Procedure A</p> <p>2. At area contests, there shall be an equal number of voting judges from each club in the area, or a minimum of five voting judges. In addition to these voting judges, a contest chair, chief judge, tiebreaking judge, three counters, and two timers shall be appointed.</p> <p>3. At division contests, there shall be an equal number of voting judges from each area in the division, or a minimum of seven voting judges. In addition to these voting judges, a contest chair, chief judge, tiebreaking judge, three counters and two timers shall be appointed. No chief judge, voting judge or tiebreaking judge shall be a member of any club in which a contestant is a member.</p> <p>4. At district contests, there shall be an equal number of voting judges from each division in the district, or a minimum of seven voting judges. In addition to these voting judges, a contest chair, chief judge, tiebreaking judge, three counters and two timers shall be appointed. No chief judge, voting judge or tiebreaking judge shall be a member of any club in which a contestant is a member.</p> <p>5. At the semifinals for the International Speech Contest, there shall be an equal number of voting judges from each district, or a minimum of nine voting judges. In addition to these voting judges, a contest chair, chief judge, a tiebreaking judge, three counters, and two timers are appointed. No chief judge, voting judge or tiebreaking judge shall be a member of any club in which a contestant is a member.</p>	<p>The provisions about equal representation and the minimum number of judges required are included to ensure one club, area, or division does not have an unfair advantage at an area, division, or district contest. Members expressed difficulty in understanding the language detailing the required number of judges for each contest level. To make the requirements easier to understand, the provisions have been rewritten.</p>

2013 Rulebook	2014 Rulebook	Explanation
<p>6. At the finals for the International Speech Contest, there shall be at least nine judges or equal representation from the districts; no judge shall be a member of any club in which a contestant is a member. In addition to these judges, a contest chair, chief judge, five qualifying judges, tiebreaking judge, three counters, and two timers are appointed.</p>	<p>6. At the World Championship of Public Speaking, there shall be one voting judge representing each region. In addition to these judges, a contest chair, chief judge, five qualifying judges, tiebreaking judge, three counters, and two timers are appointed. No chief judge, voting judge, qualifying judge, or tiebreaking judge shall be a member of any club in which a contestant is a member.</p>	<p>Since 2010, when the International Speech Contest Semifinals were first held, a judge from each region has been selected to serve in the World Championship of Public Speaking. In order to match the rules to this practice, the provision about the number of voting judges needed for the World Championship of Public Speaking was changed to one voting judge from each region.</p>
<p>5. General Procedure K</p>	<p>5. General Procedure K</p>	
<p>3. The chief judge personally collects the tie-breaking judge’s ballot, which must contain all contestants ranked in order by the tiebreaking judge.</p>	<p>3. The chief judge personally collects the tie-breaking judge’s ballot, which must contain all contestants ranked in order by the tiebreaking judge.</p> <p>a) The top portion of the ballot is not provided to the chief judge and must be discreetly discarded by the tiebreaking judge after the contest.</p>	<p>The provision has been added to clarify that the tiebreaking judge, like other voting judges, does not submit the top portion of the ballot.</p>

2013 Rulebook	2014 Rulebook	Explanation
<p>7. Protests and Disqualifications</p>	<p>7. Protests and Disqualifications</p>	
<p>A. Protests concerning eligibility and originality are limited to judges and contestants. Any protest shall be lodged with the chief judge and/or contest chair prior to the announcement of the winner and alternate(s).</p> <p>B. Before a contestant can be disqualified on the basis of originality, the contestant must be given an opportunity to respond to the judges. A majority of the judges must concur in the decision to disqualify.</p> <p>C. The contest chair can disqualify a contestant on the basis of eligibility.</p> <p>D. All decisions of the judges and qualifying judges are final.</p>	<p>A. Protests are limited to eligibility and originality and shall only be lodged by voting judges and contestants. Any protest shall be lodged with the chief judge and/or contest chair prior to the announcement of the winner and alternate(s).</p> <p>B. Before a contestant can be disqualified on the basis of originality, the contestant must be given an opportunity to respond to the voting judges. A majority of the voting judges must concur in the decision to disqualify.</p> <p>C. The contest chair can disqualify a contestant on the basis of eligibility.</p> <p>D. All decisions of the voting judges and qualifying judges are final.</p>	<p>The provision regarding protests was rewritten to clarify that protests are limited to eligibility and originality. Only voting judges and contestants may lodge protests.</p>

2013 Rulebook	2014 Rulebook	Explanation
Contest Chair's Checklist	Contest Chair's Checklist	
<p>Preparation</p> <p>1. Determine the budget for the contest, remembering that contest income and expenses should break even. Allow for such expenses as awards, contest material, deposits, meals, printing, postage, etc.</p>	<p>Preparation</p> <p>1. Determine the budget for the contest, remembering that contest income and expenses should break even. Allow for such expenses as awards, contest material, deposits, meals, printing, postage, etc.</p> <p>Note: If there is an entry fee for the contest, that fee must be waived for contestants. Contestants cannot be charged a fee to compete.</p>	<p>A contestant cannot be charged to compete in a speech contest. Requiring a contestant to pay a fee adds an eligibility requirement, which violates the rulebook.</p>
<p>7. Select the chief judge. See the General Procedure section in this rulebook for guidelines for selection of judges.</p>	<p>7. Select the chief judge. See the Eligibility section in this rulebook for eligibility requirements for a chief judge.</p>	<p>This point has been updated to reflect the new placement of eligibility rules for judges.</p>
Chief Judge's Checklist	Chief Judge's Checklist	
<p>Checklist Judges' Briefing Checklist</p> <p>1. Distribute the following to each judge:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ List of contestants in speaking order ▶ Judge's Guide and Ballot ▶ Speech Contest Rulebook (Item 1171) 	<p>Checklist Judges' Briefing Checklist</p> <p>1. Distribute the following to each voting judge:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ List of contestants in speaking order ▶ Judge's Guide and Ballot ▶ Speech Contest Rulebook (Item 1171) ▶ Judge's Certification of Eligibility and Code of Ethics (Item 1170) 	<p>The Judge's Certification of Eligibility and Code of Ethics (Item 1170) is another form voting judges receive at the Judges' Briefing.</p>
<p>During the Contest</p> <p>3. Resolve any protests that may arise due to judge or contestant concerns over eligibility or originality.</p>	<p>During the Contest</p> <p>3. Resolve any eligibility or originality protests that may arise.</p>	<p>This point has been updated to reflect the clarified language in the Protests and Disqualifications section of the rulebook.</p>

2013 Rulebook	2014 Rulebook	Explanation
<p>Contestant's Checklist</p>	<p>Contestant's Checklist</p>	
<p>Before the Contest</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For International, Humorous, and Tall Tales contests, select a topic and prepare your own substantially original speech. 2. Attend the Contestant's Briefing. 3. Review Speaker's Certification of Eligibility and Originality (Item 1183). By signing this form, you certify that you have read and understand the rules regarding eligibility and originality. 4. Attend the Speaker's Rehearsal and take note of the speaking area. 	<p>Before the Contest</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For International, Humorous, and Tall Tales contests, select a topic and prepare your own substantially original speech. 2. Attend the Contestant's Briefing. 3. Inform the contest chair of any props you plan to use. 4. Review Speaker's Certification of Eligibility and Originality (Item 1183). By signing this form, you certify that you have read and understand the rules regarding eligibility and originality. 5. Attend the Speaker's Rehearsal and take note of the speaking area. 	<p>How to handle the use of props was added to the contestant's checklist to help contests run smoothly.</p>