

What is Speech Contest?

- All day competition - PARENTS ARE WELCOME!
- Scheduled events - Please arrive AT LEAST 15 minutes BEFORE scheduled performance time!
- Three levels
 - Districts (one judge; must get a I rating to move on) - all groups will be performing
 - State (three judges; must get a nomination to move on) - only groups that earned a one rating at Districts will be performing
 - All-State - only performance nominated groups will be performing (Large Group in Ames; Individuals in Cedar Falls)

What does a contest look like?

- Organised chaos!
- Home base in gym- look for the 'Sea of Red'
- Lots of students, lots of performances
- Performances are in classrooms (sometimes choir/band rooms)
- A little overwhelming...
- Exciting! The kids work so hard- and it's all being shown THAT DAY!
- We go to work- we support each other, and treat our day as work (then play)

Rating System

- All ratings are posted at the contest (usually on the wall in the gym, sometimes online as well)
- We will post ratings on Twitter (@NSSpeeEch) or Facebook as they are posted
- Districts:
 - For all events (except One-Act) there is one Judge; this judge will give a rating that decides if a group moves to State Contest
 - Judges may also give verbal comments at Districts in addition to their written critique
- State:
 - All events have three judges who give three written only critiques; there are no verbal comments
 - Along with a rating, judges also nominate groups to perform at All-State
 - Who performs and who earns honors is decided by the All-State committee based on these nominations
- What the ratings mean:
 - I Rating - Excellent - Must earn a I rating to move from Districts to State
 - II Rating - Good
 - III Rating - Fair
 - IV Rating - Disqualification. A rule was broken, and the group is disqualified

What should I do if I have a question about a judge or a rating?

- ALL QUESTIONS REGARDING JUDGES OR RATINGS SHOULD BE TAKEN TO YOUR COACH
- Parents/Spectators are not allowed to talk with contest hosts, judges, or other coaches; you MUST talk with your coach, who will take it to the appropriate person

Am I allowed to talk to the judges at contest?

- NO. Judges will give verbal comments at DISTRICTS ONLY to PERFORMERS ONLY; performers may answer direct questions, then respond with 'thank you'
- NOBODY is allowed to speak with judges apart from the District Officers

Some basics:

- All North Scott apparel must be covered; we are not allowed to 'share' what school we are from
- Scheduling is tough- always allow a window of time (even if the itinerary says your student is performing at 10:00...they could go later...(or earlier)
 - Half hour before (in case of drops)
 - May run behind
- Itineraries are your LIFELINE- all information is there
 - Money needed
 - Clothing needed
 - Leave time
 - Home time
 - All performance times
- Itineraries are printed AND sent on email- all students can show you
- Itineraries are linked on Google Calendar

Large Group:

- Districts, State, All-State
- Itineraries will have times for all groups- allow for a window of start time when coming to watch performances

Individuals:

- Districts, State, All-State
- Itineraries will have times for all performers- allow for a window of start time of AT LEAST a half hour when coming to watch performances

Website: nshslp.com/speech-team