# District 35 Sample Speech Contest Script 2022-2023
# Tall Tales and International Speech Contests

## CONTEST TOASTMASTER CHECKLIST

As the Toastmaster of the contest, you will need to know the following to complete this script:

1. Speaking Order for each contest
2. Contestant Names (and pronunciation)
3. Contestant Speech Titles
4. Contestant Profiles (will ask questions during contestant interviews based on the information they provide)

| TIME | Functionary | Script |
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| Start Time | Contest Chair | Call to Order<br>**SMILE** and welcome everyone<br>Share a few comments on the contest or an inspiration<br><br>*Allow time for applause* |
| | Contest Chair | Introduce Contest Toastmaster <Name><br><br>*Allow time for applause* |
| | Contest Toastmaster | Opening Remarks – include a brief personal welcome<br>Warm up the audience (*something humorous usually works well*)<br><br>At this time, I would like to recognize all the dignitaries * attending today's contest:<br>● Area Directors<br>● Division Directors<br>● Trio Members (DD, PQD, CGD)<br>● Past District Directors / Governors<br>● Region Advisors<br>● International Directors<br>● Past International Directors |
| | Contest Toastmaster | Speech contests are an important part of the Toastmasters International educational program. Speech contests provide:<br>1. An opportunity for speakers to gain contest experience and to recognize the best speakers as an encouragement to everyone<br>2. Contests also provide an opportunity to learn by observing the more proficient speakers who have |

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| | | benefitted from their Toastmasters training.<br><br>Before we begin our contest today, let's review a few housekeeping items:<br><br>***<u>In Person Contests:</u>***<br><br>Please give your full attention to the contestants during their presentation and limit distractions.<br><br>There will be one minute of silence between each speaker to allow the judges to mark their ballots.<br><br>When the last speaker has finished, we will observe silence to allow our judges time to concentrate, tally their ballots, and select the contest winners.<br><br>Judges, when you are done, please raise your ballot in the air, and our ballot counters can collect them. When the ballots are collected, our period of silence will end. Ballots will be counted and winners will be announced at the end of the contest.<br><br>Laughing, clapping, or other normal audience responses to the speaker is permitted.<br><br>Entering and leaving the room should be restricted to the minute of silence between contestants or after all contestants have finished. <Name> and <Name> are our Sergeants at Arms and will be stationed at the doors.<br><br>Please turn cell phones, and watches to silent, so they will not distract the speakers. There will be plenty of photo opportunities after the contests are over. Audio or video recording is not permitted without the prior written permission of the contestants.<br><br>Contestants will be introduced by saying their name, the title of their speech, the title of their speech and their name. Each contestant will then reply "Ready" indicating their audio and video equipment is working. This reply does not count in the timing of the speech. The timing will begin when the contestant gives their first word or overt gesture.<br><br>Finally I must inform you of the official Toastmasters **Hybrid Speech Contest Statement:** By attending this remote or hybrid Area, Division, or District speech contest, you agree to the |

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| | | privacy policy of Toastmasters International as well as the unassociated remote hosting service. Some of your personal information, such as name, image, and any shared messages may be shared with other meeting participants and will be recorded by Toastmasters International who may use the recording in the future as it sees fit. Your remote attendance hereby discharges Toastmasters International from all claims, demands, rights, promises, damages, and liabilities arising out of or in connection with the use or distribution of said video recordings, including but not limited to any claims for invasion of privacy, appropriation of likeness or defamation. |
| | | ***Virtual:***<br>1. All attendees are requested to remain on mute for the duration of the contest. Your line will automatically be musted if background noise is observed.<br>2. Contestants should only turn their microphones on when instructed for their speech.<br>3. If you are disconnected from the meeting for some reason, you will not be admitted back to the online meeting room until the minute of silence between speakers.<br>4. Attendees may be on video or off, but whatever method is chosen, should be used for the duration of the contest. Keep in mind that the more videos that are on, there could be a slowdown on the internet bandwidth. Please do not switch back and forth.<br>5. Rename yourself as your first and last name – no contest role unless you have been otherwise instructed – no education designations or club names please.<br>6. Finally I must inform you of the official Toastmasters **Virtual Speech Contest Statement:** By attending this remote or hybrid Area, Division, or District speech contest, you agree to the privacy policy of Toastmasters International as well as the unassociated remote hosting service. Some of your personal information, such as name, image, and any shared messages may be shared with other meeting participants and will be recorded by Toastmasters International who may use the recording in |

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| | | the future as it sees fit. Your remote attendance hereby discharges Toastmasters International from all claims, demands, rights, promises, damages, and liabilities arising out of or in connection with the use or distribution of said video recordings, including but not limited to any claims for invasion of privacy, appropriation of likeness or defamation. |
| | Contest Toastmaster | We will now begin the <Area or Division Name> **Tall Tales Contest.**<br><br>The speaking order will be:<br><br>Contestant 1:<br><br>Contestant 2:<br><br>Contestant 3:<br><br>Contestant 4:<br><br>*Add more or less as needed*<br><br>***Introduce Chief Judge – <Name>***<br><br>Chief Judge, have all contestants, judges, and helpers been briefed?<br><br>**Chief Judge should reply "YES, Let the Contest Begin."**<br><br>Thank you.<br><br>The Tall Tales contest is a three to five minute speech that must be of a highly exaggerated, improbable nature and have a theme or plot. |
| | Contest Toastmaster | Contestant <Name>. (*Lead applause)*<br><br>Please turn on your video and audio. Can you see and hear me? |

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| | | I am confirming I can also see and hear you.<br><br>Name, Speech Title, Speech Title, Name (*Lead applause)* |
| | Contest Toastmaster | *After contestant has finished,*<br>Thank you <Contestant Name>. (*Lead applause)*<br><br>We will have one minute of silence for the judges to mark their ballots. Timer, please let us know when one minute has passed.<br><br>*After one minute, ask next contestant to come to the stage*.<br><br>Contestant <Name> (*Lead applause)*<br><br>Please turn on your video and audio. Can you see and hear me?<br><br>I am confirming I can also see and hear you.<br><br>Name, Speech Title, Speech Title, Name (*Lead applause)*<br><br>Thank you <Contestant Name>. (*Lead applause)*<br><br>We will have one minute of silence for the judges to mark their ballots. Timer, please let us know when one minute has passed.<br><br>*REPEAT as needed for the number of contestants in the contest.*<br><br>*After the last contestant has concluded,*<br><br>Thank you <Contestant Name>.<br><br>At this time, we will have silence until all ballots have been collected. Chief Judge <Name>, please let us know when you have all the ballots. Thank you. |
| | Chief Judge | Mr. / Madam Contest Toastmaster, we have collected all the ballots for the Tall Tales Contest. |

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| | Contest Toastmaster | Thank you, Chief Judge <Name>. (*Lead applause)*<br><br>Let's give another round of applause for all our contestants today! (*Lead applause)*<br><br>At this time, I am concluding the Tall Tales Contest. Winners of this contest and the International Speech Contest will be announced at the end of today's event. |
| | Contest Toastmaster | **SMILE**<br>Let's meet the contestants from today's Tall Tales Contest.<br>*Allow time for applause*<br><br>● *Call each contestant one at a time.*<br>● *Ask them what club they are representing today.*<br>● *Ask a couple questions of your choice (use the speaker profile sheet provided to you from each contestant)  plan for 1-2 minutes per contestant for their interview*<br>● *Give them their Certificate of Participation*<br>● ***If a contestant is competing in both contests, only interview that contestant after the second contest***<br><br>*Allow time for applause after each interview*<br><br>*** Designate a person to take a picture of each contestant for the winner photos to be posted on the District 35 Facebook page ***<br><br>*NOTE: if you have finished interviewing the contestants and the Chief Judge and Ballot Counters have not returned, engage the audience with Table Topics. Do not call on contestants from the other contest or any possible candidates running for District elected positions.* |
| | Contest Toastmaster | *When the Chief Judge and Ballot Counters return:*<br><br>We have the results of the Tall Tales Contest and will announce the winners after the International Speech Contest.<br><br>We'll take a 10-minute break and begin the International Speech Contest at <TIME>. |

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| | | **BREAK** |
| | Contest Toastmaster | We will now begin the <Area or Division Name> **International Speech Contest.**<br><br>The speaking order will be:<br><br>Contestant 1:<br><br>Contestant 2:<br><br>Contestant 3:<br><br>Contestant 4:<br><br>*Add more or less as needed*<br><br>***Introduce Chief Judge – <Name>***<br><br>Chief Judge, have all contestants, judges, and helpers been briefed?<br><br>**Chief Judge should reply "YES, Let the Contest Begin."**<br><br>Thank you. |
| | Contest Toastmaster | The International Speech contest is a five to seven minute speech in which each contestant can choose the topic. |
| | Contest Toastmaster | Contestant <Name>. (*Lead applause)*<br><br>Please turn on your video and audio. Can you see and hear me?<br><br>I am confirming I can also see and hear you.<br><br>Name, Speech Title, Speech Title, Name (*Lead applause)* |
| | Contest Toastmaster | *After contestant has finished,*<br>Thank you <Contestant Name>. (*Lead applause)* |

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| | | We will have one minute of silence for the judges to mark their ballots. Timer, please let us know when one minute has passed.<br><br>*After one minute, ask next contestant to come to the stage*.<br><br>Contestant <Name> (*Lead applause)*<br><br>Please turn on your video and audio. Can you see and hear me?<br><br>I am confirming I can also see and hear you.<br><br>Name, Speech Title, Speech Title, Name (*Lead applause)*<br><br>Thank you <Contestant Name>. (*Lead applause)*<br><br>We will have one minute of silence for the judges to mark their ballots. Timer, please let us know when one minute has passed.<br><br>*REPEAT as needed for the number of contestants in the contest.*<br><br>*After the last contestant has concluded,*<br><br>Thank you <Contestant Name>.<br><br>At this time, we will have silence until all ballots have been collected. Chief Judge <Name>, please let us know when you have all the ballots. Thank you. |
| | Chief Judge | Mr. / Madam Contest Toastmaster, we have collected all the ballots for the International Speech Contest. |
| | Contest Toastmaster | Thank you, Chief Judge <Name>. (*Lead applause)*<br><br>Let's give another round of applause for all our contestants today! (*Lead applause)*<br><br>At this time, I am concluding the International Speech Contest winners will be announced at the end of today's event. |

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| | Contest Toastmaster | **SMILE**<br>Let's meet the contestants from today's International Speech Contest.<br>*Allow time for applause*<br><br>● *Call each contestant one at a time.*<br>● *Ask them what club they are representing today.*<br>● *Ask a couple questions of your choice (use the speaker profile sheet provided to you from each contestant)  plan for 1-2 minutes per contestant for their interview*<br>● *Give them their Certificate of Participation*<br>*Allow time for applause after each interview*<br><br>*** Designate a person to take a picture of each contestant for the winner photos to be posted on the District 35 Facebook page ***<br><br>*NOTE: if you have finished interviewing the contestants and the Chief Judge and Ballot Counters have not returned, engage the audience with Table Topics. Do not call any possible candidates running for District elected positions.* |
| | Contest Toastmaster | *When the Chief Judge and Ballot Counters return:*<br><br>We have the results of the International Speech Contest and will announce the winners after a few announcements.<br><br>First, let me introduce our <District Leader> to share a few announcements |
| | <District Leader> | Closing Announcements<br>1. Division / District Speech Contests<br>2. Spring Conference<br>3. District website<br>4. Introduce any candidates running for elected District officer roles (invite attendees to meet with them after the contest has concluded)<br>5. Other announcements<br>Return control to <Contest Toastmaster> |
| | Contest | Thank you, <District Leader>. |

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| | Toastmaster | At this time, I would like to thank several of our attendees for their time and talents to make today's contest a success.<br><br><Chief Judge> Please accept this certificate of appreciation.<br><br>Ballot Counters and Timers – thank you for your dedication to ensure a smoothly run contest. *(do not need to individually name them)*<br><br>Judges – You know who you are! Thank you for your commitment to listen to our contestants today and judge them objectively on the speeches they presented today. It takes a special talent to listen to the contestants and follow the judging criteria which is quite different from an evaluation that we usually give at a club meeting. Thank you again.<br><br>Thank you <Names> for being our Tech Masters for today's meeting. The technology aspect of holding virtual and/or hybrid contests is one that not everyone is able to assist with, and I greatly appreciate your help today.<br><br>To all our contestants – without you, we would not have had a contest! Thank you for your perseverance to become a better speaker. No matter the results of the contest, you are each a winner for what you have accomplished to get to this level. Thank you and I hope you continue to challenge yourself in future contests.<br><br>And to our audience members – thank you for your support today for all our contestants!<br><br>*Lead round of applause.* |
| | Contest Chair or Contest Toastmaster | It is my pleasure to announce the winners of today's International Speech Contest.<br><br>There was a disqualification due to time / There was not a disqualification due to time.<br><br>In third place, <Name> |

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| | | In second place, <Name><br><br>And in first place, <Name><br><br>*Lead applause.* |
| | Contest Chair | That concludes our event today for both the Tall Tales and International Speech Contests!<br><br>Thank you everyone! |

* ask the Contest Chair to provide the list of attending dignitaries so they may be recognized