

Online District Humorous Speech Contest Script

Sergeant at Arms 2:

(Smile, look at the audience and then proclaim:)

"Fellow Toastmasters and distinguished guests, it is time for the District 29 Humorous Speech Contest."

(Rap the gavel once.)

"My name is _____ and I am the Sergeant at Arms for today's contest. As a reminder, please keep your audio muted and turn off your video. Please do not chat during contest proceedings. If you need technical assistance, please chat privately with Zoom Host or any Zoom Co-hosts Privately.

At this time, I would like to welcome our host, Program Quality Director, Distinguished Toastmaster, Chalese Gilmore."

(Mute your audio and turn off your video.)

Program Quality Director:

{PQD recognizes dignitaries from the Protocol List and makes remarks regarding the contests}

"Now I will pass control to our Contest Master, _____ to get our Humorous Speech Contest started."

Mute your audio and turn off your video.

(Note: Once the Contest Master is introduced, any contestants who arrive after this point are disqualified from the contest.)

Contest Master:

"Fellow Toastmasters and guests, welcome to the District 29 Humorous Speech Contest. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all the contestants who entered our virtual contest today and have proceeded successfully through Club, Area and Division Contests.

Here is a brief explanation of the Humorous Contest procedures:

- All of the contestants are permitted to stay in the room during the contest.
- I will introduce each speaker by stating their name, the speech title, the speech title again, and their name again
- After each contestant, there will be one minute of silence for the judges to mark their ballots.
- When the last contestant has finished, the judges will be given as much time as they need to complete their ballots and have them collected by the Ballot Counters."

"Following is the speaking order of the contestants:

(Give the speaking order slowly and repeat it, as the judges need to write the contestants names on their ballots. This will need to be repeated for each area participating.)

Following is the speaking order of the contestants:

1st _____

2nd _____

3rd _____

4th _____

5th _____

6th _____

7th _____

“Now it is time to introduce our Chief Judge, _____ to go over the contest protocol.”

Mute your audio and turn off your video.

Chief Judge:

“Thank you, Contest Master.

First let me explain how the Humorous Speech Contest is judged. During the Humorous Contest the contestants will be judged on the following criteria:

- Content - 55%
- Delivery – 30%
- Language – 15%

All the contestants, judges, and contest officials have been fully briefed.

All the contestants are eligible to compete.

Now for the Rules of Common Courtesy:

Please keep your audio muted and your video turned off.

No photographing or recording of the video and/or audio is allowed while contestants are speaking unless they have given advanced approval. This includes the use of cell phones, screen captures or any other form of recording any images, video, or audio. If a contestant has received

approval to record themselves, they will be able to record themselves by clicking on the record button just

before they start. It is their responsibility to ensure that their screen is setup appropriately to record.

Are there any questions? If you do have any questions, you may enter them in the chat box now addressed to everyone.”

(Wait 10 seconds for questions to be posted in chat. Address any questions posted or spoken. If no questions, then say the following.)

“Mister/Madam Contest Master, let the contest begin.”

(Mute your audio and turn off your video)

Contest Master:

“Thank you, Mister/Madam Chief Judge!

Contestant number____, please turn on your video, unmute your audio and when you are ready spell your first name to verify your video and audio are working.

(Name) _____

(Speech Title) _____

(Speech Title) _____

(Name)_____.”

(Mute your audio but remain visible while the contestant is speaking.)

(When the contestant is finished, say:)

“We will now have one minute of silence while the judges mark their ballots. Mister/Madam Timer, please provide a green signal at one minute.”

(During the minute of silence **lead** the silence. The audience will take their cue from you. When the minute is up, introduce the next contestant.)

(Repeat the above process until all contestants are done. After the last contestant, say the following:)

“The judges, timers, ballot counters and the chief judge will be sent to a breakout room. The judges will be given as much time as they need to complete their ballots and have them collected by the Ballot Counters. Would the Zoom host please let me know when all the officials are in the breakout room.”

(When the Zoom host notifies you all officials are in the breakout room, then it will be time to interview the contestants.

“Let’s welcome our contestants back. Would all the contestants that have not yet been interviewed please unmute your audio and start your video

(Interview the contestants in their speaking order. Ask them how long they have been a Toastmaster and what club they are representing. If there is time, ask one additional question of each contestant—you can use their “Contestant Profile” to generate interview questions.)

(After each interview, thank the contestant, present their Certificate of Participation on camera, and give them a gesture of appreciation. Read only the first Certificate that is presented to the first contestant in its entirety. Subsequent certificates should be presented with just the name of the contestant.)

(At this time, turn the contest over to the District 29 Program Quality Director)

“We have completed the District 29 Humorous Speech Contest. Please welcome to the stage our District 29 Program Quality Director, Distinguished Toastmaster, Chalese Gilmore.”

Program Quality Director:

(The PQD will make any final announcements, recognize members who assisted in the contest, and announce the results.)

(The PQD will be sent the contest results by the chief judge via private chat and/or email and/or text. The results should be **read exactly as presented**. The announcement of contest winners is final unless the list of winners is announced incorrectly, in which case the Chief Judge, Ballot Counters, or Timers are permitted to immediately interrupt to correct the error.)

“For the District 29 Table Topics Speech Contest

- “There were “x” time disqualifications.” OR “There were no time disqualifications.”
- “Third place is _____.”
- “The second place winner is _____”
- “The first place winner is _____.”

“For the District 29 Humorous Speech Contest

- “There were “x” time disqualifications.” OR “There were no time disqualifications.”
- “Third place is _____.”
- “The second place winner is _____”
- “The first place winner is _____.”

(After the winners have been announced, the PQD will turn the floor over to the Sergeant at Arms who will close the contest.)

Sergeant at Arms 2:

“The District 29 Humorous Speech Contest is now adjourned.”

(Rap the gavel once).