



**ROSTRUM**  
CLUBS OF WA

# 2022 ARTHUR GARVEY SPEAKER OF THE YEAR COMPETITION RULES AND GUIDELINES

## Topics for the Heats and Semi-finals

- Tipping point
- Hey Google, or hey Siri
- So there I was
- Knowledge is power
- A lucky break
- A secret no one knows

## Duration

- Timing is crucial.
- There will be two timers at the heats, semis and final.
- The people timekeeping will not be the people adjudicating. The timekeepers will inform the adjudicators of how long each speaker spoke

## Heats and Semi-finals

- Speeches are 8 minutes, with warning at 6.
- Speeches must be between 7:30 and 8:30 to not attract a penalty. Speeches 1-15 seconds outside the 30-second leeway will be penalised. Speeches more than 15 seconds outside the 30 second leeway will be ranked last.
- Speakers will be penalised as follows:  
*7:30-8:30 – no penalty*  
*7:15-7:30; 8:30-8:45 – penalised*  
*Under 7:15, or over 8:45 – ranked last*

## Finals

- Speeches are 10 minutes, warning at 8.
- Speeches must be between 9:30 and 10:30 to not attract a penalty. Speeches 1-15 secs outside the 30-second leeway will be penalised. Speeches more than 15 seconds outside the 30 second leeway will be ranked last.
- Speakers will be penalised as follows:  
*9:30-10:30 – no penalty*  
*9:15-9:30; 10:30-10:45 – penalised*  
*Under 9:15 or over 10:45 – ranked last*

## Props

- Props are not permitted. If you use props you'll be ranked last. 'Props' are interpreted in the widest sense, and includes costumes, objects, furniture and set pieces. If you're questioning whether it's allowed, it probably isn't.

## Recording of speeches Heats and Semi-finals

- Rostrum will not be arranging for recording of speeches in the Heats and Semis. If you would like your speech recorded, please ask a friend/fellow club member to record your speech.

## Finals

- All speeches will be videoed and speakers will wear a lapel microphone for the purposes of video recording. The microphone will not amplify your voice. Video lights may be used.

## Adjudication

- Adjudicators will consider adherence to the topic as their first consideration and then use the standard Rostrum Adjudication model of 'Impact on the Intellect and Impact on the Emotions'.
- For your guidance, further explanation of the adjudication criteria is found in the *Rostrum Speaking Competition Standard Adjudication Sheet and Guidelines*, included below.

## Heats and Semi-finals

- The heats and semis will be adjudicated by a panel of three (3) adjudicators. Contestants will not be informed in advance of the panel.

## Finals

- There will be five (5) adjudicators for the finals.