

DISTRICT 7620 of ROTARY INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZING A ROTARY 4 WAY TEST SPEECH CONTEST

The following outline and sample form are provided to facilitate setting up a Rotary 4 Way Test Speech Contest in a local High School.

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT – An announcement of the contest should be sent to the High School(s) with which your Rotary Club will be working. Address the announcement to the Guidance Department, English Department or Speech/Debate Teachers. Include the following information:

- A copy of The 4 Way Test

The 4 Way Test of the things we think, say or do

*I - Is it the **TRUTH**?*

*II - Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?*

*III - Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?*

*IV - Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?*

- Eligibility
 1. Any High School student may compete, except any previous winner of a District 7620 4 Way Test Speech Contest.
 2. Immediate family members of Rotarians are not eligible to compete.
- Contest Rules
 1. Subject: - Application of The 4 Way Test to a topic of the contestant's choice.
 2. Length of Speech – no less than four (4) minutes and no more than six (6) minutes. Penalty points will be deducted from the contestant's score for violation of time constraints.
 3. Speech Content – must be original.
 4. Judging Format – see Evaluation and Judging Sheet on the website

Competition Procedures

Individual Rotary Club Level

1. Approach your local High School(s) to ask for their participation in the contest. Provide posters, registration forms, details, as needed to the school coordinator.
2. Establish a 4WT Speech Contest Committee to set up and coordinate with the participating school(s). Identify judges for your club level contest.
3. Each club level contest must have at least two (2) students participating.
4. Establish an appropriate date for the club contest, agreeable to the school, the participating Rotarians, and appropriate considering student academic schedules. The club contest must be completed by March 10, 2012 in order to meet the District deadline for contestant registration March 14, 2012.
5. The Rotary Club or Club Contest Committee shall identify the club contest winner using the judging guidelines supplied on the website. If a Rotary Club sponsors contests at more than one High School, it shall hold a run-off among the school winners. (Only one contestant may be entered by a Rotary Club in the District Semi-Finals.)

District Semi-Finals

1. The Semi-Finals will be held on March 17, 2012 at Glen Burnie High School.
2. Participants will present their speeches to the assembled group and competition judges.

Each club sponsoring a contestant must provide at least one judge. Judges will not participate in judging the entry from their respective clubs. Additional Rotarians are encouraged to participate in the judging.

3. Judges will select winners using the guidelines supplied at the semi-finals.
4. A maximum of four (4) contestants will be selected for participation in the Finals.

District Finals

1. The Final competition for District Championship will be held at the District Conference at Hyatt Regency in Cambridge on March 31, 2012.
2. The participants will speak to the assembled Rotarians at the session convened for this purpose. All Rotarians present will be allowed to evaluate and judge each speech.

Prizes

1. All prizes will be cash—no savings bonds or other securities.
2. Individual clubs will provide prizes for their club level contests.
3. No prizes shall be awarded for Semi-Finals competition. (Certificates will be awarded to all semi-finalists)
4. A maximum of four (4) prizes will be awarded at the Final Competition: 1st place - \$1,500.00; 2nd place - \$1,000.00; 3rd place - \$750.00; 4th place - \$500.00.

Registration Form

1. Each contestant must complete and submit a Registration Form and Participation Agreement with all required signatures included, by March 14, 2012 to the District 7620 Office. A \$200.00 entrance fee must accompany this registration form.
2. Clubs shall provide registration forms to the schools and/or participating students.

Suggested Contest Procedures

1. Resources

- A. Judges—see procedures above for judges required for each competition level.
- B. Each contest will need a teller to tabulate the judge's score sheets.
- C. Each contest will need an official timekeeper.
- D. A lectern or speaker's dais should be provided.
- E. Score sheets are required for each judge.
- F. A composite/summary score sheet is required for the teller.

2. Contest Set-up

- A. Contestants must arrive at the competition location early enough to check in and to be prepared to address the assembly. Order of presentation shall be determined by lot. Contestants may not attend presentations of other contestants until their own presentation has been completed.
- B. The teller will present the judges with blank score sheets just prior to commencement of the speeches.
- C. The timekeeper will commence timing at the beginning of each contestant's speech. At the conclusion of each speech, the timekeeper shall notify the contestant and the judges if the time constraints were not met (less than four [4] or more than six [6] minutes) and the number of seconds in violation of the constraints. A penalty deduction of either 10 or 20 points will be made do to the severity of the allotted time.
- D. The judges may take a prudent, but not overly long, time to complete each score sheet.
- E. The teller will collect the completed score sheets for each contestant and

distribute blank score sheets for the next contestant's judging. (Alternatively, a multiple contestant score sheet may be used, see enclosed.) The teller shall develop the composite score for each contestant from the judge's individual score sheets.

G. The contestant with the highest composite score shall win the competition. Next highest score shall be second place, etc. The winner(s) shall be presented to the assembly at the conclusion of all speeches and judging, and prizes will be awarded.

The Semi-finals will be held on Saturday, March 17, 2012 at Glen Burnie High School located at 7550 Baltimore-Annapolis Boulevard, Glen Burnie, Maryland 21060. Registration will start at 8:30 a.m., with the contest starting at 9:30 a.m. sharp. The deadline for submission of the Contestant Registration Form, Participation Agreement and registration fee is March 14, 2012.

The Finals will be held at a luncheon at the District Conference on March 31, 2012 which will be held at the Hyatt Regency in Cambridge, Maryland.

If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mike Phennicie at 410-859-7987 (office) 443-386-2542 (cell) or email at mphennicie@bwairport.com.

The following attachments are available for download at the District 7620 website (left-click to view, right click to save):

District 7620 of Rotary International

2012 4 WAY TEST SPEECH CONTEST PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

*Clip and mail by March 10, 2012, with your entry fee (\$200.00), payable to
The District 7620 office*

THE ROTARY CLUB OF: _____

CLUB CONTACT: _____
(The Club Contact listed will be who we contact about all contest details)

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: (H) _____ (B) _____ (FX) _____

E-MAIL _____

_____ WILL ENTER A CONTESTANT (\$200.00 ENTRANCE FEE ENCLOSED; STUDENT
REGISTRATION FORM WILL BE SUBMITTED BY MARCH 14, 2012)

_____ WILL NOT ENTER A CONTESTANT BUT WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A DONATION IN THE AMOUNT OF
\$ _____ TO SUPPORT THE CONTEST

OUR JUDGE (ONE REQUIRED; TWO OR MORE OPTIONAL) FOR THE **MARCH 17, 2012** SEMI-FINALS
AT GLEN BURNIE HIGH SCHOOL, WILL BE:

(1) NAME: _____ TELEPHONE: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

(2) NAME: _____ TELEPHONE: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

**DISTRICT 7620 of ROTARY INTERNATIONAL
THE 4 WAY TEST SPEECH CONTEST
REGISTRATION FORM**

Contestants Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Sponsoring Rotary Club: _____

Rotary Club Contact: _____ Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION AND DISCLAIMER

Understanding that District 7620 of Rotary International (the District) is completely responsible for this contest, and understanding that the District and the aforementioned sponsoring Rotary Club are jointly participating in its conduct, the High School attended by the aforementioned student has no objections to said student's participation in the contest.

High School: _____

Teacher/Councilor: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

STUDENT'S ACCEPTANCE OF RESPONSIBILITIES

I realize and accept that I am responsible to make every effort to attend the semi-finals and finals of this contest, should I qualify to do so.

STUDENT SIGNATURE

Name (please print): _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

**RETURN THIS FORM TO DISTRICT 7620 office
ABSOLUTE DUE DATE – March 14, 2012**