



36th Multiple District 308 Leo Forum Public Speaking Competition

Rules & Guidelines

Please read the following rules carefully. The competition organizing committee is responsible for enforcing the following rules:

1. Name and Format

The competition shall comprise two rounds:

- Round 1 (Prepared speech)
- Finals (Impromptu speech)

2. Entry

(a) To be eligible to compete in the 36th Multiple District 308 Public Speaking Competition, the contestant must be a Leo Club member from Multiple District 308 and registered as a participant of the 36th Multiple District 308 Leo Forum.

(b) All contestants must be registered by 22nd May 2009, duly endorsed by and submitted through their respective District Chairperson for Leo Clubs. The contestants that are interested to participate in the Public Speaking Competition **MUST** send their registration forms to their respective District Chairperson for Leo Clubs for endorsement. After endorsing, the registration forms will only be sent to the Organizing Committee for the Public Speaking Competition by the respective District Chairperson for Leo Clubs.

(c) Only two participants will be selected from each District.

3. Topics

(a) Topics for Round 1 will be announced by Multiple District 308 Council Chairperson for Leo Clubs on the 25th May 2009.

(b) Topics for the Finals will be given to the speakers by drawing any one of five different specific topics in the Final Round itself. After drawing the specific topic, the speakers will be given one minute to prepare for their speech.

(c) The speakers are allowed to talk about anything related to the topic without reference to politics, religion, sex and violence.

4. Timing of the Speeches

The timing of the speeches are as below:

Round One : 7 minutes (warning bell at 6th minute)

Final Round : 2 minutes (warning bell at 2nd minute)

*Contestants will draw lots to determine their speaking order for both rounds.

- Upon being introduced, the speaker shall proceed immediately to the speaking position. Timing will begin with the speaker's first definite verbal or non-verbal communication with the audience.

5. Method of Selecting Winner

- (a) A contestant will be permitted to use notes.
- (b) All judges will be given a score sheet as the judging guideline.
- (c) A timekeeper will be designated who will record the time used by each contestant in delivering his or her speech, noting undertime and overtime, if any, for which deductions will be made.
- (d) When all contestants have finished speaking, each judge will total his or her score on the score sheet for each speech.

6. Scoring Guidelines

- (a) Knowledge of subject:
 - Importance and appropriateness of the subject
 - Accuracy of the statements included
- (b) Organization of materials
 - Organization of the content
 - Language, vocabulary & grammar used
 - Sentence structure
 - Accomplishment of purpose (Conclusions)
- (c) Voice & Speech
 - Quality
 - Articulation
 - Pronunciation
- (d) Stage Presence
 - Personal appearance
 - Poise and body posture
 - Attitude
 - Confidence
 - Ease before audience
- (e) Power of expression
 - Fluency
 - Communicative ability
 - Body language
- (f) Recitation of poetry does not qualify as a public speech; however, a short quote or quotes from a poem as part of the speech is permitted.
- (g) Recitation of a monologue or telling a story written by someone except the member giving the speech is not permitted.

- (h) Speakers may not use visual aids or gimmicks. A gimmick is any device or stunt used to distract the audience, such as clothing, costumes, props, singing a song, using taped music in the background, or leading a cheer or chant. Gestures are acceptable and are defined as a subtle, physical action that is meant to highlight or support a verbal message. It should not distract the audience and at no time should there be audience participation.
- (i) The public speaking committee may disqualify any speaker who has not followed the published rules. This speaker is not eligible to receive an award. If an award has already been presented, it will be forfeited to the next deserving speaker.

7. Judging

- (a) In the event that a tie occurs, an impromptu speak off will be held to break the tie. The tied competitors will speak on the same impromptu topic which is given by the judges.
- (b) Judges will give constructive feedbacks to speakers on comment sheets.
- (c) Judges will receive the speaker's time faults before totaling scores on the score sheets.
- (d) The judges' decision shall be final and binding.

8. General

- (a) For the competition, 3 judges, 1 timer and 2 logistics officers will be appointed.
- (b) The rules and regulations will be made available on the registration form. Judges, timers and logistics officers are briefed on their duties by the organizing committee chairpersons. Speakers will then draw lots to decide on their speaking order with the contest administrators.
- (c) When the time comes for the speaker to be introduced, and if the speaker is not present at the moment, the speaker will be disqualified.
- (d) Whilst the programme, rules & guidelines is correct at the time of publication, the Organizing Committee reserve the right to amend the programme, rules & guidelines as and when deem necessary.