

Guidelines for Judges

1. The speech length is 5 minutes. Speakers will be penalized if their speech is more than 30 seconds too long/short. Use of audio-visual equipment and/or materials is prohibited.
2. The following information was given to the contestants for them to prepare their speech. You should use this to judge content:
 - a. I will speak on the topic: **“Together We Open Opportunities”**
 - b. Each year, the Rotary International President chooses a theme. This year’s President, Mark Daniel Maloney, has chosen the theme “Rotary Connects the World”. Our membership connects us to a global community through our projects and programs. Our service connects us to people who share our values and who want to take action for a better world.
 - c. **Our speech contest topic is “Together We Open Opportunities”**. The main emphasis is to be on how this topic applies to you and your life as your future dreams and plans unfold through pursuit of education and involvement in community service. **You must include in your speech Rotarians’ accomplishments with regard to Rotary Connects the World.** You are encouraged to begin your research at www.rotary.org.
 - d. My speech will be of a persuasive or informative nature and not a dramatic interpretation. Use of audio/visual equipment and/or materials is prohibited.
3. Speeches will be judged on:
 - a. Inclusion of Rotary in the speech
 - b. Quality of thought
 - c. Organization of thought
 - d. Vocal delivery
 - e. Physical delivery
 - f. Overall effectiveness
 - g. Length of speech
4. Please do not confer with your fellow judges regarding the speaker’s scores.
5. After each speaker, look to the timer for the points to be awarded for “Timing”. (0, 5, or 10.)
6. Following each speaker, please complete the scoring and write down the total points that you have given to the speaker.
7. After the final speaker, review your scoring – see who scored highest – and assign your 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners. There may be ties on the numerical scores, but there can be no ties in awarding the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.
8. In tallying the scores of all judges it is possible that there may be a tie which must be broken. If so you may be asked to meet with the tally committee.