

**TOASTMASTERS INTERNATIONAL**  
**Humorous Speech Contest Tiebreaking Judge's Guide & Ballot**

JUDGING CRITERIA		<u>SUGGESTED POINT VALUES</u> 5-Excellent      2-Fair 4-Very Good      1-Poor 3-Good	Speaker →						
			TOTAL ↓	#6	#5	#4	#3	#2	#1
<b>CONTENT</b>	<b>SPEECH DEVELOPMENT</b>	Opening-Engages Immediately; Full Body; Rousing/ Satisfying Conclusion	5						
		Support Material Enhances Message; Logical; Flows; Unified Whole	5						
	<b>EFFECTIVENESS</b>	Achievement Of Clear Purpose (Entertains); Memorable	5						
		Humor Used Effectively (Not a Series of Jokes or a Monologue); Excitement Created, Suspense, The Unexpected Twist, Surprise, Connection of Humorous Events	5						
	<b>SPEECH VALUE</b>	Meaningful; Originality of Thoughts and Material	5						
	<b>AUDIENCE RESPONSE</b>	Audience Understands and Laughs at the Humor; Attentiveness, Interest	5						
<b>DELIVERY</b>	<b>PHYSICAL</b>	Convincing Body Language: Supports Points Through Gestures, Facial Expressions and Body Positioning; Appearance Appropriate To Speech	5						
	<b>VOICE</b>	Flexibility/Vocal Variety (Pace, Pitch, Tone; Volume); Easily Heard / Understood; Effective Pauses	5						
	<b>MANNER</b>	Directness, Assurance, Enthusiasm	5						
<b>LANGUAGE</b>	<b>APPROPRIATENESS CORRECTNESS</b>	Word Choice Promotes Clear Understanding Proper Word Selection, Grammar and Pronunciation; Language Fits Speech and Audience	5						
<b>TOTAL SCORE (50)</b>			50						
<b>Multiply by 2 for score out of 100</b>			100						

Compiled and edited by Ros Hansen, 2010

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 (Detach and submit to Counters)

**Tiebreaking Judge's Official Ballot Humorous Speech Contest**

Humorous Speech Contest

First \_\_\_\_\_

Fourth \_\_\_\_\_

Seventh \_\_\_\_\_

Second \_\_\_\_\_

Fifth \_\_\_\_\_

Eighth \_\_\_\_\_

Third \_\_\_\_\_

Sixth \_\_\_\_\_

Ninth \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of Judge (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 (Signature of Judge)

# JUDGING CRITERIA

## Content (55%)

**Speech Development** is the way the speaker puts ideas together so the audience can understand them. The speech is structured around a purpose, and this structure must include an opening, body and conclusion. A good speech immediately engages the audience's attention and then moves forward toward a significant conclusion. This development of the speech structure is supported by relevant examples and illustrations, facts and figures, delivered with such smoothness that they blend into the framework of the speech to present the audience with a unified whole.

**Effectiveness** is measured in part by the audience's reception of the speech, but a large part is your subjective judgment of how the speech came across. You should ask yourself such questions as "Was I able to determine the speaker's purpose?" "Did the speech relate directly to that purpose?" "Was the audience's interest held by the speaker?" "Was this speech subject appropriate for this particular audience?"

**Speech Value** justifies the act of speaking. The speaker has a responsibility to say something meaningful and original to the audience. The listeners should feel the speaker has made a contribution to their thinking. The ideas should be important ones, although this does not preclude a humorous presentation of them.

**Audience Response** reflects the audience's reaction to the speech. Did the speech hold the audience's interest? Did people understand and laugh at the humor?

## Delivery (30%)

**Physical** presentation of a speech carries part of the responsibility for effective communication. The speaker's appearance should reinforce the speech, whether profound, sad, humorous or instructional. Body language should support points through gestures, expressions and body positioning. The speaker makes effective use of and stays within the designated speaking area.

**Voice** is the sound that carries the message. It should be flexible, moving from one pitch level to another for emphasis, and should have a variety of rate and volume. A good voice can be clearly heard and the words easily understood.

**Manner** is the indirect revelation of the speaker's real self as the speech is delivered. The speaker should speak with enthusiasm and assurance, showing interest in the audience and confidence in their reactions.

## Language (15%)

**Appropriateness** of language refers to the choice of words that relate to the speech purpose and to the particular audience hearing the speech. Language should promote clear understanding of thoughts and should fit the occasion precisely.

**Correctness** of language ensures that attention will be directed toward what the speaker says, not how it is said. Proper use of grammar and correct pronunciation will show that the speaker is the master of the words being used.

## JUDGE'S CODE OF ETHICS

1. Judges will consciously avoid bias of any kind in selecting first, second and third place contestants. They will not consider any contestant's club, area, division or district affiliation. Nor will they consider any contestant's age, sex, race, creed, national origin, profession or political beliefs. They will demonstrate the utmost objectivity.
2. Judges will not time the speeches and will not consider the possibility of under-time or overtime when judging a contestant's speech.
3. Judges will support by word and deed the contest rules and judging standards, refraining from public criticism of the contest and revealing scores and ranking only in accordance with official policy.