



Rotary District 6890  
2020 Speech Contest Rules

- Who** Contestant may be a freshman, sophomore, junior, or senior (9-12 grade) enrolled in a public, private, or home school, and may have competed and won in previous years.
- Length** Five to seven minutes with a fifteen second leeway (five points off for going over or under time).
- Delivery** Notes may be used but are discouraged at local Club Level; reading is also discouraged. Notes will not be allowed at Group Level or District Finals competitions. Memorized speeches are impressive and will earn points.
- Topic** Material must be original in content and apply to the current Rotary theme, Rotary Connects the World. Contestants should prepare a speech with facts, statistics, stories, examples, and quotations. Humor and personal touches may be added, but contestants must not mention their name, school, or city. At the District Finals, the sponsoring Rotary Club may not be mentioned in the speech.
- Scoring** Speeches will be scored based upon the following criteria, with associated point values:

<b>Content</b>	
10 pts	Originality, creativity, imagination
10 pts	Human interest and relevant examples from peer group
<b>20 pts</b>	Incorporation of Rotary theme, Rotary Connects the World
<b>Organization</b>	
10 pts	Effective introduction and establishment of theme
10 pts	Orderly, logical body, clear points and transitions, vivid illustrations
10 pts	Brief overview/summary at ending, persuasive and logical conclusion
<b>Delivery</b>	
10 pts	Diction, pronunciation, enunciation
10 pts	Vocal clarity, projection
10 pts	Body language, posture, gestures, eye contact, purposeful movement
<b>100 Total Points</b>	



At District Finals, the “Most Firsts” method will be used in tallying results with multiple judges. For example, two “firsts” and a “sixth” wins over three “seconds.” Ties will be decided by actual scores. Previous District winners may compete again with a new speech.

**Timekeeping** During Club Level competition, please designate a Timekeeper, whose primary responsibility is keeping the time of the contestants’ speeches. Speeches are to last between five and seven minutes. Please see additional timekeeping procedures: Timekeeper’s Instructions.

**Audience** The audience for the Club Level contest is usually 10 to 100+ adults at a breakfast or lunch meeting. At the Group Level competition, the audience will likely include parents, coaches, judges, and other contestants. The finalists will present their speeches at the Rotary District 6890 Speech Contest Finals on April 13, 2020 (location TBD).

**Prizes**

Club Level	1 <sup>st</sup> = \$150, 2 <sup>nd</sup> = \$100, 3 <sup>rd</sup> = \$75
Group Level	1 <sup>st</sup> = \$250, 2 <sup>nd</sup> = \$150, 3 <sup>rd</sup> = \$100
District Finals	1 <sup>st</sup> = \$1,000, 2 <sup>nd</sup> = \$500, 3 <sup>rd</sup> = \$250