THE AMERICAN LEGION
High School Oratorical Scholarship Program

“A Constitutional Speech Contest”

CHAIR’S GUIDE
Forward

The Post Chair’s manual will aid the Post Oratorical Chair in organizing and conducting an effective oratorical contest. Chairs involved at all levels of competition should be familiar with these rules and information.

To be successful in promoting the Oratorical Contest in local schools, it is crucial that contact is made with school staff. This visit should be made by a post member who can best relate to school officials, students and has thorough knowledge of the Oratorical program. In order to increase student participation, our program should be offered to all public, parochial, private and home schooled students. More than one school visit is suggested in order to accomplish these goals. Good rapport with school officials must be developed and the benefits of the Oratorical contest be promoted.

Every post is encouraged to sponsor one contestant in the Oratorical contest. The chances of securing participants will be greatly increased if several people are “spreading the word” in the community and actively promoting participation.

It is the hope of The American Legion, Department of Wisconsin that every high school will provide the opportunity for its students to participate in this citizenship education program. However, it is the local post that has to provide the initiative to make this program work.
**SELECTION OF POST, COUNTY AND DISTRICT CHAIR**

Appointment of the Oratorical Chair should be based on interest, availability and qualifications. The Chair chosen should be on a one-year basis. This practice will generate greater program knowledge and understanding to a greater number of qualified members contributing to ongoing involvement and growth of the program.

**POST CONTEST**

Contestants in the Post contest may be selected from one or more high schools, including home school, within the Post area. This contest will be under the direction and supervision of the Post Commander or representative. Each Post may certify one (1) contestant into the County level of competition.

**Location:** Contests may be held at the Post Headquarters or at the site chosen by the Post Chair.

**Date:** Set a date and time for your specific contest, making sure that all concerned Legionnaires and contestants are notified. Post contest must be concluded before mid-December.

**Responsibilities:** The Post Oratorical Chair should contact high school staff in their jurisdiction at the beginning of the school year to promote the contest and encourage participation. Schedule contest dates and location of contest. The Chair is to obtain three (3) qualified Judges, Two (2) Timekeepers and Three (3) Tabulators. The Oratorical Chair will forward to the County Commander the name, address, judges score card and tally sheets of all contestants that participated at the Post level. Immediately upon conclusion of the contest, the certification form of the winner must be completed and signed by the Post Commander or Oratorical Chair and mailed to the next level. (See *Certification Form, Page 11 of this manual*).

**COUNTY CONTEST**

The County Contest shall be limited to one (1) contestant from each Post in the County. This contest will be under the direction and supervision of the County Commander or representative. Each Post may certify one (1) contestant into the District level of competition. Immediately upon conclusion of the contest, the certification form along with the judging sheets must be completed and signed by the County Commander or Oratorical Chair and mailed to the next level. (See *Certification Form, Page 11 of this manual*).

**Location:** Contests may be held at a site chosen by the County Chair. However, the site must not be held in the same community or post territory in two consecutive years. The goal is to change locations each year to promote greater participation in the contest and eliminate any appearance of partiality.

**Date:** Set a date and time for your specific contest, making sure that all concerned Legionnaires and contestants are notified. County contests must be concluded before the first week in January.

**Responsibility:** County Commanders or their representative are to follow up with every Post Commander, on a monthly basis, to insure the program is correctly launched. Each County Commander or their representative is to provide monthly progress reports to Department Headquarters (October, November, and December) to ensure that every possible Post participates. (Each month report Posts which have committed to holding contests, and provide names, addresses and school names of all contestants at County competitions to Department Headquarters.) The County representative is to obtain five (5) judges, two (2) Timekeepers and three (3) tabulators (in extreme circumstances the contest may continue with a minimum of three (3) judges).

**DISTRICT CONTEST**

Every County, in its respective District, may enter one (1) contestant. The District Commander or their representative will conduct the District Contest. Each District may certify one (1) contestant into the Regional/State level of competition.

**Location:** Contests may be held at a site chosen by the District Chair. The site must not be held in the same county, community or post territory in two consecutive years. It is essential for publicity purposes, greater participation, and elimination of any implied partiality that these contest locations be held in as many locations as possible from year to year.
**Date:** Set a date and time for your specific contest, making sure that all concerned Legionnaires and contestants are notified. The District Commander or Chair must notify the County Commanders and Department Headquarters of the date of their contest. District contests must be concluded before the last week in January.

**Responsibilities:** District Commanders are asked to ensure that the names, addresses, and school names of all participants of the District Contests are forwarded to Department Headquarters for permanent recording. The County representative is to obtain five (5) judges, two (2) timekeepers and three (3) tabulators (in extreme circumstances the contest may continue with a minimum of three (3) judges). Immediately upon conclusion of the contest, the certification form along with the judging sheets must be completed and signed by the District Commander or Oratorical Chair and mailed to Department Headquarters at P.O. Box 388, Portage, WI 53901. (See Certification Form, Page 11 of this manual)

**NOTE: A contestant may participate in only ONE County and District Contest in the same year.**

**REGIONAL/STATE CONTEST**

The Department Oratorical Chair will announce the date and time of the Regional/State Contest. The Regional and State Final contests will be conducted on the same day and at the same location. The 12 Districts will be divided into three (3) Regional contests. The first-place winners from the Regional contests will advance to the State Finals.

Due to the educational nature of the program, participating Posts are encouraged to open their contest to the general public without admission charges, and without the conducting of any sales offer for fundraising program in connection with the contest.

Arrangements for contests leading to the Department Finals shall be the responsibility of each Department of The American Legion. For those levels of competition prior to the Department Finals, or at any level in the Department Contests, if the winner is unable to proceed to the next level of competition, the 1st runner-up may be substituted. The rules set forth in the National Rules Brochure shall be followed. All Department Finals Contests shall conform to the National Contest procedures, rules and regulations.

The National Headquarters of The American Legion will pay travel costs of Department winners as they progress in National competition. In the event the winner requires a companion or chaperone, travel costs will be met by the National organization.
Rules and Regulations

Eligibility

Eligible participants in The American Legion National High School Oratorical Contest shall be citizens or lawful residents of the United States.

All contestants must be bona fide students, herein described as any student under the age of twenty (20) years on the date of the national finals contest, who is presently enrolled in a high school or junior high school (public, parochial, military, private or state accredited home school) in which the curriculum of said high school is considered to be of high school level, commencing with grade nine (9) and terminating with grade twelve (12). Students must be enrolled in high school or junior high school during the time of participation at any level of The American Legion National High School Oratorical Contest. Students must be residents of the State of Wisconsin.

High School students that graduate early during the school year are eligible to compete if they are not enrolled in a college, university, trade school or other institution of higher learning at the time of the Department finals contest.

Contestants participating in a Post contest may not compete or represent another post at any level. Each Post may certify one contestant to move on to the next level of competition.

Dress

Uniforms are not permitted. Appropriate business attire is required by all contestants. Contestants are not permitted to wear awards and medals from previous competitions.

The Prepared Oration

The subject in the prepared oration portion of the contest must be about some phase of the Constitution of the United States, emphasizing the duties and obligations of a citizen to the United States government. The prepared oration must be the original effort of each contestant and must be 8-10 minutes in length. All contestants at each contest level are required to speak in the English language.

Contestants shall draw numbers for the order in which they will appear. The drawing is to be conducted by the Chair who will introduce the contestants by number. The contest Chair may not use the contestant’s name when announcing each oration. At any level of competition, the names and hometowns of contestants may not be revealed until the judges have turned over their completed scorecards to the Tabulators, but must be announced prior to the announcement of the winner. The Chair will request the audience to refrain from applause until the judges have made their decision.

The use of notes, amplification, lectern or speaker’s stand by contestants or prompting in any manner is NOT permitted. Prompting in any manner will disqualify the contestant at any level of competition. Props are NOT permitted.

The use of any type of electronic/digital data gathering and/or receiving device, pager, beeper or cell phone is prohibited by contestants or audience members.

The contest Chair names an official timekeeper who keeps an accurate time record of each contestant. The timekeeper is located on the main floor in full view of the contestants and will begin timing each contestant at the start of the prepared oration. The timekeeper should have a stopwatch and time cards displaying the numbers 8, 9 and 10 for the prepared oration. When eight minutes have gone by, the time warning card with the number 8 is placed in full view of the speaker, followed by 9 and 10 accordingly.
The same procedure is used during the assigned topic discourse with cards bearing 3, 4 and 5. A penalty of one (1) point will be imposed for speaking for less than or more than the prescribed time in each category. The contest Chair will announce the time each contestant uses for the prepared oration and the assigned topic immediately after each contestant speaks in front of the judges.

Until their turn to speak, contestants must remain in a private room where other speakers’ discourses cannot be heard. The contest Chair will appoint an individual to supervise each contestant. Contestants may have in their possession a copy of their prepared oration in the first holding room. They may consult the copy of their prepared oration until they exit the holding room to begin the contest, at which time the copy of the prepared oration will be surrendered to the contest official that is monitoring the first holding room.

As the contestants conclude their prepared orations, they must return to a soundproof waiting room. Speakers who conclude their assigned topic discourse may not associate with contestants who have not finished speaking.

**Assigned Topic Discourse**

The assigned topic discourse must not consume less than three (3) minutes or more than five (5) minutes for delivery. The purpose of the assigned topic discourse is to test the speaker’s knowledge of the subject, the extent of his or her research, and the ability to discuss the topic as related to the basic principles of government under the Constitution.

Prior to the final contestant coming on stage to give his/her prepared Oration; the Chair will have four (4) index cards with each one of the assigned topics written with the actual words of the Article or Amendment to the Constitution of the United States. One (1) assigned topic will randomly be drawn in full view of the audience. The Chair will make known to the audience the assigned topic selected. Approximately five (5) minutes before the start of the assigned topic discourse, the first contestant will be informed of the assigned topic drawn. All contestants, at each contest level, are required to speak in the English language on the same assigned topic. He or she retires to privacy under the direction of an individual appointed by the contest Chair. It’s this individual’s duty to see that the contestant doesn’t consult any text matter or notes with any connection to the subject. Contestants may only reference the actual words of the topic provided on the card drawn. Each succeeding contestant will be called upon in the order that he or she previously appeared. He or she will also, in turn, be informed of the topic of the assigned topic discourse and shall then be escorted to the same privacy provided for the first contestant. These Articles and Amendments can be found in the National Official Rules for the year of the contest.

In Post, County, District, Regional and State contests, judges shall render their decisions after the delivery of the prepared oration and assigned topic.

Following competition and the naming of a winner, the name and /or photograph of the winner may be released for publicity purposes, as well as information regarding the location, date, and time of the next level of competition.

**Selection of Judges**

Proper selection of judges is vital to the oratorical competition. It is very important to acquire the best qualified candidates for judge. Each judge selected must be an experienced professional who uses their oratorical skills in performing their job. Examples are: clergy, attorneys, judges, broadcasters, media professionals and teachers with no involvement with any contestants.

Judges’ decisions are fundamental during any oratorical competition. Impartial judging of all contestants is crucial to fairness and success of the contest. The utmost professionalism must always be paramount and any pretense of partiality must be avoided.
JUDGES MAY NOT SERVE AT MORE THAN ONE CONTEST LEVEL. Judges names should not be made public until the conclusion of the contest.

Judging

The Chair will meet with the judges prior to the contest and should provide them with a copy of the National Rules brochure well in advance of a contest. The purpose of this meeting is to make certain that the judges have a thorough understanding of their responsibilities and have the necessary materials for the contest. Judges should carefully study and understand all aspects of the scorecard and scoring system. The same scorecard will be used in all contests with the omission of the assigned topic scoring at the Middle School or Junior High level. A judge having any questions should consult with the contest Chair prior to the contest.

During the contest, the judges will be seated in different locations in the room where the contest is being held and shall render a decision on a scorecard furnished by The American Legion, Department of Wisconsin. Each judge shall render his/her final decision without consultation with other judges or any other person.

If a tie exists in the total point scores on a judge’s scorecard, the judge must go back and make adjustments in their scoring of the tied contestants so that no two contestants have the same total point score. The judge must be able to rank one contestant above the other in the Record of Choice column.

Scoring

Judges will be advised that a lack of emphasis in the prepared oration and the assigned topic discourse on the duties and obligations of a citizen to our government must result in their downgrading the contestant involved. Judges are permitted to downgrade a contestant up to a maximum of ten (10) points for failure to speak on the Constitution. The contest Chair will announce any violation of time for each contestant. A penalty of one (1) point for each minute, or fraction thereof, shall be assessed against the contestant’s total score. Judges should first score each contestant an a “Scratch Tally Sheet”, one for each contestant on the prepared oration and one for the assigned topic, then transfer results to the combined “Judges Scorecard”.

The judges, timekeepers, tabulators and the contest Chair, following the last assigned topic discourse, must have access to a private room for review and tabulation of scorecards. Each judge shall insert the total number of points credited to the contestant and also insert in the Record of Choice column his/her choice of placement of each contestant in accordance with the highest total point scores. After a winner has been determined, Judges and Tabulators will return to the contest room.

Tabulators

The contest Chair will appoint no fewer than two tabulators for the contest. It's their responsibility to review the judges' scorecards to be certain they are fully tabulated and signed before being submitted for final tabulation. The judges' scorecards will then be numbered in the upper right-hand corner. Utilizing the tabulation card provided, enter the judge’s record-of-choice for each contestant (by speaking order). When this is accomplished for all judges’ scorecards, total the contestants’ score. The contestant receiving the low score when totaling the tabulation card will be declared the winner. (EXAMPLE: If one contestant receives two firsts, two seconds, and a third on the judges' scorecards and tabulation card, their total record-of-choice points will be nine; if the second contestant receives two firsts, two seconds and a fourth, their total record-of-choice points will be ten. Even though the second contestant receives two firsts, their total record-of-choice point score ten will place them second).

TIEBREAKER: If, after tabulation of the Judges' Record-of-Choice, two contestants receive the same placement point score total, the tie shall be broken by comparing the Record-of-Choice scores of the five judges for the two contestants. One of the contestants will be the winner over the other by a majority of the Judges' Record-of-Choice when only the placement of the tied contestants is considered.
(EXAMPLE: Consider that contestants No.1 and No. 2 are tied. If Judge's Card No.1 reflects Record-of-Choice for Contestant No. 1 as 3 and Contestant No.2 as 4, then it is considered that this judge ranks Contestant No. 1 ahead of contestant No.2. Use the procedure for all judges' scorecards and a majority of the judges will break the tie and determine the winner.)

If, after tabulation of the Judges' Record-of-Choice, three or more contestants receive the same placement point score total, the tie shall be broken by reference to final Total Points on the Judges' Scorecards. Only in this instance will the contestant with the largest Final Total Points be declared the winner. In the case of a tie on the Final Total Point basis, the judges will then meet, compare their scores, and discuss all features of the contest in order to arrive at a final choice. The decision of the judges shall be final.

*NOTE - TABULATORS, ALONG WITH JUDGES, WILL RETIRE TO A PRIVATE ROOM FOR DELIBERATIONS.*

Two-Way Tiebreaker

If, after tabulation of the Judges’ Record of Choice, two contestants receive the same placement point score total, the tie shall be broken by comparing the Record of Choice scores of the five judges for the two contestants (note circled numbers on illustration). One of the contestants will be the winner over the other by a majority of the Judges’ Record of Choice when only the placement of the tied contestants is considered.

Three-Way Tiebreaker

If, after tabulation of the Judges’ Record of Choice, three or more contestants receive the same placement point score total, the tie shall be broken by reference to Final Total Points on the Judges’ scorecards. Only in this instance will Final Total Points decide the contest’s outcome.

In the case of a tie on the Final Total Point basis, the judges will then meet, compare their scores and discuss all features of the contest in order to arrive at a final choice. The decision of the judges shall be final.

![Tiebreaking Example](image-url)
Prizes and Awards

It has been established through The American Legion, Department of Wisconsin, State Superintendent of Schools and the WIAA that “amateur” status of a contestant is in no way jeopardized by the acceptance of a gratuity in any form from participation in The American Legion, Department of Wisconsin Oratorical Contest.

Department Awards
The Department winner will be awarded a scholarship in the amount of $2,000. Additional awards are as follows: first runner-up will be awarded a scholarship in the amount of $1,500; second runner-up will be awarded a scholarship in the amount of $1,000.

Regional Awards
The winner will receive a $1,000 scholarship. Each of the other Department Regional Contestants will receive $600 scholarships. Each District winner will receive an Oratory Medal, which will be furnished to the District Commander by the Department of Wisconsin. Any other prizes awarded at the District level are at the expense of the District (suggested: no less than $200).

Posts and Counties may award prizes of their choosing, but are awarded at their own expense (suggested: Post - $50, County - $100).

National Awards
(See National Rules brochure)

Duplication of Forms
A sample of all required forms for use in The American Legion, Department of Wisconsin Oratorical Contest at all levels is included. The cost for reproduction of forms required for use at the Post, County and District levels is to be paid by the sponsoring level.
SUGGESTED SCRIPT FOR CONDUCTING A HIGH SCHOOL ORATORICAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Good morning/evening, ladies and gentlemen, and welcome to the _______ contest of The American Legion, Department of Wisconsin High School Oratorical Scholarship Program.

Before we begin the contest, I will ask that Legionnaires uncover and everyone please rise for the invocation given by _______.

Will you please join _______ in reciting the pledge of allegiance?

This is the ___ annual American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship Program and this morning/evening you will be hearing _ speakers. I have several introductions, but I will save them until after the contest has been concluded. You will notice that the Contestants are not on stage at this time. Throughout the contest, they will appear on stage only to deliver their orations.

In all fairness to the speakers, I would ask that you do not applaud until the contest is completed. I would ask that you refrain from taking pictures, do not smoke or leave your hair while a contestant is speaking. In addition, if anyone in the audience is carrying a pager, beeper, or cellular phone of any kind, please make sure that it is turned off. Our speakers will be introduced by number only.

Each speaker is about to deliver an eight (8) to ten (10) minute prepared oration on some phase of the United States Constitution. They are not allowed to use notes, podium or a sound system. The contestants will be shown a time card after the eighth, ninth, and tenth minute marks of their oration. If there is a violation of the time requirement, a penalty of one point for each minute, or fraction thereof, shall be assessed against the Contestant’s total score.

There will be a slight delay between contestants in order to allow the judges’ time to complete their score cards.

Before introducing the last speaker, I will ask ___ to draw an assigned topic from the four provided. All contestants will then speak on the same subject. When the last contestant has spoken for five (5) minutes on his/her prepared oration, Contestant Number 1 will be taken to a private room, given the topic card, and allowed five (5) minutes to prepare his/her assigned topic. I will read the assigned topic subject to you before Contestant Number 1 is introduced.

If everyone is ready, I will call for Contestant Number 1. The title of his/her oration is (speech). The time of Contestant Number 1’s oration is ____ minutes and ________ seconds.

(Follow the same procedure for remaining contestants, draw assigned topic immediately before the last prepared oration is given)

➢ After each contestant has finished, ask the official timer for the time of the oration, and then repeat this to the audience. Continue this procedure through the contestants for prepared oration and assigned topic orations.
➢ Introduce the guests and the people you want recognized during the time the tabulators are compiling the results.
➢ After the contest is completed, introduce contestants and judges by name, city and state.
➢ Announce the winners and present awards.
➢ You may close the contest with a prayer if desired.
THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN
ORATORICAL PROGRAM

CERTIFICATION OF
POST – COUNTY – DISTRICT – REGIONAL WINNER

This certification is to be completed and signed by the Post, County or District Commander, or their Oratorical Chair, or by the State Vice Commander for the Regional contests. Certification for Post and County contests, along with the judging sheets, are to be mailed to the next level Oratorical Chair or Commander. Certification and judging sheets for the District contests are to be sent to Department Headquarters who, in turn, will forward them for the next contest.

***********************************************************************

This is to certify that the following Contestant won the Oratorical Contest for:

(Post, County, District)

NAME __________________________________________________________

STREET _________________________________________________________

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____________________________________________

TELEPHONE NUMBER (_________) ________________________________

EMAIL ADDRESS _______________________________________________

AGE _______ GRADE ___________ BIRTHDATE ________ / _____ / _____

TITLE OF PREPARED ORATION ___________________________________

NAME OF HIGH SCHOOL __________________________________________

CERTIFIED BY _________________________________________________

(Post, County, District Commander, Department Vice Commander or Department Commander)

SPONSORING POST _______ LOCATION _____________________________

Name, Address and Telephone Number of Contestant’s Escort: (Legionnaire from Sponsoring Post)

______________________________________________________________

Name

______________________________________________________________

Phone Number

This information will be used in the event that the contestant cannot be and contact must be made through the sponsoring Post.

______________________________________________________________

Address

______________________________________________________________

City and Zip
Chair’s Checklist

☐ Confirmed date of contest: ____________________  ____________________  
              (Date)                                           (Time)

☐ Confirmed location of contest: ____________________________  
                                   (Location)

☐ The following people have agreed to be Judges:

1. ________       4. ________
2. ________       5. ________
3. ________       6. ________

☐ The local news media has been contacted regarding the contest.

☐ All contestants, high schools and officials have been notified of the time, location and date of contest.

☐ The following people will assist in the program in the following capacities:

  Timekeeper: ________       Tabulator: ____________________
  Timekeeper: ________       Tabulator: ____________________
  Escort: ____________        Tabulator: ____________________
  Escort: ____________        Others: ____________________
  Escort: ____________        Others: ____________________
  Escort: ____________        Others: ____________________
  Escort: ____________        Others: ____________________
  Escort: ____________        Others: ____________________
  Escort: ____________        Others: ____________________
Middle School / Junior High Oratorical Chair’s Guide

Overview
This guide will assist Posts interested in organizing and conducting an effective Middle School / Junior High School Oratorical contest. To achieve success, conduct the program as outlined in this guide.

We want to make this a learning opportunity for our youth with less stringent requirements than that of the High School Oratorical Scholarship Program. There is evidence that oratorical programs introduced to Middle School/Junior High students promotes an awareness, understanding and desire to compete at the High School level.

Scope
The scope of such programs should be limited to a single specific community, school district or in some communities a specific middle or junior high school. There is no intent or design to extend further competition to any further level, such as county, district or state.

Rules
The rules for the Middle School oratorical should be consistent with The American Legion High School Oratorical Program Official Rules guide with the following exceptions:

1. A prepared single main topic essay about the U.S. Constitution 6 to 8 minutes in length.
2. No assigned topics are required.
3. 6th grade students will compete separate from 7th and 8th grade students.
4. 7th and 8th grade contestants will be combined into one competition.
5. All contests should be held on the same day.
6. Students must submit written drafts of their essays.
7. School officials, teachers and legion members will review written essays and select no more than 8 oral semi-finalists.
8. Multi semi-finals should take place at the same time.
9. Students selected as semi-finalists will deliver their oration in front of all contestants and guests in an auditorium.
10. No monetary awards will be given.
11. Certificates should be awarded to all oral participants.
12. Certificates indicating winner, 1st runner-up, second, third and fourth runner-up should be presented at the final’s ceremony.
13. Separate awards for the sixth grade winner and the combined 7th and 8th grade’s first four finalists should be given, following participation awards, to all semi-finalist competitors.
14. A separate judging team should be selected for each semi-final and final competition using professional community guidelines from national rules.

Marketing
Initial meetings should be made with the school principal ONLY!
CONTEST FLOORPLAN

Side entrance to stage for contestants.

If possible, use only one entrance for audience to enter and exit.
THE AMERICAN LEGION
HIGH SCHOOL ORATORICAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM - "A CONSTITUTIONAL SPEECH CONTEST"

JUDGE'S SCORECARD

NAME OF JUDGE: 

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A. CONTENT</th>
<th>Contestants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Was the speech original, fresh, and direct, applying the student's knowledge?</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepared Oration 12 points</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assigned Topic 4 points</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Did the student skillfully select examples, descriptions, analogies, and specific data?</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepared Oration 12 points</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assigned Topic 4 points</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Was the speech logical, well organized, and developed?</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepared Oration 12 points</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assigned Topic 4 points</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Did the student show a comprehensiveness of knowledge of the subject matter?</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepared Oration 16 points</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assigned Topic 6 points</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>B. SPEAKING SKILLS</th>
<th>Contestants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Did the student use volume, rate, pitch, and diction effectively?</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepared Oration 6 points</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assigned Topic 4 points</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Rate the speaker's style: language use, word arrangement and selection, and transitions.</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepared Oration 6 points</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assigned Topic 4 points</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Were body actions -- poise, eye contact, posture, gestures, facial expressions -- appropriate?</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepared Oration 6 points</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assigned Topic 4 points</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUB-TOTAL</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PENALTIES: 1 point for each minute or fraction thereof over or under allotted time</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prepared Oration</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assigned Topic</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-10 points for failure to speak on the Constitution</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Final Total Points                                                        |             |

Position Number - 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
(Highest Points = 1st place, second highest points = 2nd place, etc.)

Score all contestants - NO TIES PERMITTED

Judge's Signature: ____________________________
THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN
High School Oratorical Scholarship Program

**TIMEKEEPER RECORD CARD**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contestant</th>
<th>Time Consumed Prepared Oration</th>
<th>Time Consumed Assigned Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
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*Note: Both timekeepers signatures are required below:*

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The American Legion National High School Oratorical Contest

This contest is for students who Welcome Learning

For the student who looks for an academic challenge and an opportunity to gain scholarship monies, The American Legion’s National High School Oratorical Contest is a natural fit.

Strive for Excellence

Compete for Scholarship Monies

Embrace Your Country’s Constitution

- Develop Leadership Qualities
- Ability to Think and Speak Clearly and Intelligently
- Prepare for the duties, responsibilities, rights and privileges of American citizenship.

For more information, talk with your Administrator or Guidance Counselor, look on The American Legion National web site www.legion.org (Programs Section) contact your local American Legion Post, or wilegion.org

The American Legion, Department of Wisconsin
P.O. Box 388, Portage, WI 53901

Phone: 608-745-1090 Email: info@wilegion.org