

# Contest Toastmaster Script Humorous Speech Contest

Author: Clare Horan, DTM



Ladies and Gentlemen, welcome to the Humorous Speech Contest.

*(Optional - Add a personal spiel acknowledging the hard work of the contestants – 100 words maximum.  
Should the program be behind schedule, keep to the script.)*

Speech contests are an important part of the Toastmasters educational program. They provide an opportunity for Toastmasters to gain speaking experience, as well as an opportunity for other Toastmasters to learn by observing proficient speakers.

The Speech Contest Rulebook is protocol and applies to all official Toastmasters speech contests.

Each contestant must be a member of good standing in a club of good standing and all contestants have confirmed their eligibility and originality in writing to the Chief Judge. Contestants may remain in the room while the other contestants are speaking.

The subject for the Humorous speech shall be selected by the contestant. The speech must be thematic in nature contain an opening, body, and close, and not be a series of one-liners. The contestants are to present their speeches in a time of five to seven minutes and the timing begins with their first verbal or non-verbal communication with the audience. A contestant will be disqualified if their speech is less than four minutes and 30 seconds or more than seven minutes and 30 seconds.

Timers, please display the green signal at five minutes, the yellow signal at six minutes and the red signal at seven minutes. There will be no further indication of time and the red signal will remain displayed until the contestant concludes their presentation.

All contestants have been made aware of the speaking area and how the timing device will work.

Protests are limited to eligibility and originality and shall only be lodged by voting judges and contestants. Any protest shall be lodged with the chief judge and/or contest

toastmaster prior to the announcement of the results. Members of the audience, please ensure your mobile devices have been either turned off or are on silent with the vibration mode disabled. Please refrain from moving around the room while the contestants are delivering their speeches.

There will be one minute of silence between contestant speeches, during which the voting judges will mark their ballots. If you leave the room during this time AND do not return before the next contestant is announced, you will not be permitted back into the room until that contestant has completed their presentation.

The taking of photographs is not permitted during the contest, but there will be photo opportunities later.

**The speaking order as drawn by the contestants is as follows:**

*(Ensure you spell the contestant's name.)*

Contestant No. 1 will be:
Contestant No. 2 will be:
Contestant No. 3 will be:
Contestant No. 4 will be:
Contestant No. 5 will be:
Contestant No. 6 will be:
Contestant No. 7 will be:
Contestant No. 8 will be:

I shall introduce each contestant by announcing their name and the title of their speech and that's when the audience will supply the thunderous applause as the contestant arrives within the speaking area.

I will then repeat the title of their speech and their name. There shall be no further applause and the contestant shall begin their presentation.

*(Once the formalities are out of the way, tell your warm up joke and when the laughter dies down, commence the contest.)*

**Chief Judge, are we ready to proceed?**

**Ladies and Gentlemen, now that you're all warmed up, please welcome:**

*(Announce the contestant's name and their speech title, applaud, shake hands, repeat the speech title and the contestant's name. E.G. Ladies and gentlemen, please welcome contestant number one John Citizen with his speech titled "John's Groovy Speech". Applaud, shake hands, then proceed by saying: "John's Groovy Speech", John Citizen.)*

<i>Contestant No 1:</i>
<i>Speech Title:</i>
<i>One minute of silence, please.</i>
<b>Ladies and Gentlemen, please welcome <i>Contestant No 2:</i></b>
<i>Speech Title:</i>
<i>One minute of silence, please.</i>
<b>Ladies and Gentlemen, please welcome <i>Contestant No 3:</i></b>
<i>Speech Title:</i>
<i>One minute of silence, please..</i>
<b>Ladies and Gentlemen, please welcome <i>Contestant No 4:</i></b>
<i>Speech Title:</i>

<i>One minute of silence, please.</i>
<b>Ladies and Gentlemen, please welcome <i>Contestant No 5:</i></b>
<i>Speech Title:</i>
<i>One minute of silence, please.</i>
<b>Ladies and Gentlemen, please welcome <i>Contestant No 6:</i></b>
<i>Speech Title:</i>
<i>One minute of silence, please.</i>
<b>Ladies and Gentlemen, please welcome <i>Contestant No 7:</i></b>
<i>Speech Title:</i>
<i>One minute of silence, please.</i>
<b>Ladies and Gentlemen, please welcome <i>Contestant No 8:</i></b>
<i>Speech Title:</i>
<i>One minute of silence, please.</i>

Please remain silent until the Chief Judge and Ballot Counters have left the room. Judges, please ensure that your ballot is valid by printing and signing your name and listing the first three place-getters. Put your ballot into the envelope, and then hold it up for the Ballot Counters to collect.

Ballot Counters, once all the Judges' envelopes have been collected please leave the room with the Chief Judge.

*(After the Chief Judge has left the room with the Ballot Counters, invite the contestants to return to the speaking area, lead the applause. Ask them to assemble in speaking order.)*

## **Questions:**

*Above club level, please ask each contestant as appropriate:*

- *(Area level) Which Club they are representing*
- *(Division level) Club and Area*
- *(District level) Club, Area and Division*

*(Time awareness! In order to allow a photograph opportunity and to have the contestants seated prior to the Chief Judge returning with the results, allow no more than one minute per contestant.*

*After the contestant interviews and photograph opportunity ask Contestants to return to their seats to await the results. Invite the audience to talk quietly amongst themselves until Chief Judge arrives with the results and alert the Area/Division/District Director to be ready to assist with presentation of certificates and trophies. )*

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**Ladies and Gentlemen, I have received the results from the Chief Judge and . . .**

*(Select the appropriate from the following and DO NOT name any disqualified contestant/s.)*

☐ I am pleased to announce there were no time disqualifications.

☐ Unfortunately, there was/were \_\_\_\_\_ time disqualification/s.

It now gives me great pleasure to announce the following:

In third place, please congratulate: \_\_\_\_\_

In second place, please congratulate: \_\_\_\_\_

And *(Include one of the following as appropriate.)*

1. To represent \_\_\_\_\_ Toastmasters Club at the Area \_\_\_\_\_ Conference,  
*(where and when)* \_\_\_\_\_

2. To represent Area \_\_\_\_\_ at the \_\_\_\_\_ Division Conference,  
*(where and when)* \_\_\_\_\_

3. To represent \_\_\_\_\_ Division at our District Conference,  
*(where and when)* \_\_\_\_\_

4. Our District 69 \_\_\_\_\_ *(year)* Humorous Speech Champion . . .

Please congratulate: \_\_\_\_\_

*(Invite the audience to take photos - taking care to note the correct positions for the place getters - thank everyone involved in the contest and hand control back to the MC/Contest Chair.)*

