

Judge's Briefing

- ❖ You cannot judge a contest in which you're still competing or are the first or second place winner.
- ❖ Your purpose is to pick a winner. Remember, you are not evaluating contestants.
- ❖ If you're judging two contests today, be sure to use the correct form for each contest - Table Topics or Humorous Speech Contests in the Fall, or Evaluation and International Contests in the Spring.
- ❖ Briefly review the judging criteria on the back of the judging form - the criteria differs from contest to contest.
- ❖ Read the Code of Ethics on the back of the judge's ballot.
- ❖ Be objective. Be especially careful to avoid showing any bias.
- ❖ Don't sit next to a contestant.
- ❖ Keep your ballot covered so it's not visible to others near you.
- ❖ Do not consider timing.
- ❖ You will have one minute of silence between contestants and two minutes of silence after the last contestant to complete your ballot.
- ❖ Your ballot must be fully completed, including your signature plus Club/District information and date if requested on the form. You may sign the ballot before the contest.
- ❖ All judges must judge all contestants.
- ❖ There can be no ties on your ballot or your ballot will be disqualified.
- ❖ Write the first and last names of the contestants for 1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.
- ❖ You may file a protest with the Contest Chairman or Chief Judge if you believe that a speaker is NOT eligible or if the Humorous Speech or International Speech is not original.
- ❖ It is your responsibility to keep all information pertaining to the contest confidential. Destroy the top portion of the judging form after you leave the contest or return the top portion to the Chief Judge.