

SECTION D

RULES & GUIDANCE FOR TOPICS CONTESTS

Competition topics must be between 2 minutes 45 seconds and 3 minutes 15 seconds long to avoid penalty points. The speaker must therefore finish speaking while the red light is showing.

Whats required?

- The topic for the contest chosen beforehand by the contest chair.
- Usher to bring contestants in one at a time in the pre-determined Order of Speaking.
- A Contestant Supervisor who remains in the room with the contestants until it is time for them to be called into the main room.
- Contestants demonstrating the full range of speaking skills in Section A of The Speakers Guide. Contestants should be aiming for originality of ideas and material of a high quality. No plagiarism of content or delivery is allowed. A greater amount of narrative / storytelling / personal history is permitted in topics than in the speech contest. However these elements must still be a minority part only, must support the speakers purpose and the presentation must remain a speech, not a story.
- Inside the contest room they will be given the topic which will be the same for all Contestants. To make sure the contestant know the topic they should be given a written version on piece of card as they enter, told the topic twice by the contest chair and have it on a piece of card at the lectern.