

## **SPEAK-OUT REGULATIONS FOR DISTRICT 41**

### Section 1: Purpose of Contest

To provide an opportunity for high school students to:

1. Think about important issues facing them & their community, State of nation;
2. Organize their thoughts & ideas into a logical sequence, namely a prepared speech; and
3. Express their ideas publicly & defend ideas when questioned.

### Section 2: General Regulations

1. The Lions Club Speak-Out will be co-educational
2. The contest is open to any student who is in full-time attendance (i.e. not a part-time student) in high school.
3. All speeches are to be approximately five (5) minutes in length. Speeches that are shorter than four (4) minutes or longer than six (6) minutes will be penalized one (1) point for each ten (10) seconds or portion thereof; e.g. 2 seconds over (or under) -1 point, 13 seconds -2 points, 33 seconds -4 points, etc.
4. The speeches should in no way indicate where the speaker is from – school, community or state
5. At the Club level, a script may be prepared. Except for quotations, however, the contestants may not read from the script. Points will be subtracted for excessive reading. At the Regional and District levels, the contestant may take only notes to the speaker's stand/podium.
6. Immediately at the conclusion of the speech, each contestant will be asked two (2) questions; one (1) from each questioner. These questions should be worded in such a way that they require not merely recall of information, but rather some reasoning or application of knowledge of the subject. Points will be awarded not only for the answers, but also for the way the contestant handles the questions.
7. A panel of three (3) judges and two (2) questioners will be provided at each level of the Contest.
8. In all contests, speakers will be assigned numbers, which may be drawn by the contestants, by lot just prior to the Contest. Contestants will be introduced by number only. The contestants will be introduced by name & school affiliations after all have spoken and the judges have retired.
9. A score sheet, timekeeper's sheet and summary score sheet, as attached hereto, shall be given to the judges.
10. The suggested dates for the **completion** of the Contests are as follows:

* Club level	end of February
* Regional or Zone level	March
* District level	District Convention

## Section 3: Contest Organization:

At the District level the Speak-Out Contest will be organized by the District Chair or co-Chairs.

Speak-Out Chair or co-Chairs shall:

1. Ensure that appropriate facilities are available for the Contest;
2. Ensure that all contestants are provided the cost of round trip travel from their home to the district speak-out contest (paid at the rate/mile permitted by the then current LCI Rules of Audit allowance for travel mileage);
3. Appoint three (3) judges, two (2) questioners and one (1) time keeper, and ensure that suitable space is available for the judges to meet; and
4. Ensure that all trophies or plaques are available for presentation.

## Speak-Out Purpose & Format

### Purpose

Speak-Out will provide students from many communities an opportunity to think about important current issues, to organize their thoughts & ideas and to effectively present these ideas publicly.

### Format

#### **Club level:**

All Lions Clubs should have an active Speak-Out Committee which will plan, promote and stage the annual Speak-Out in their communities.

Expenses involved are the Lions Club's responsibility and prizes should not exceed the value of the prizes at the Regional level. Suggested money prizes are listed below. Trophies or plaques of appropriate value are acceptable, non-winning contestants should be awarded a Certificate of Appreciation.

1<sup>st</sup> place - \$75.00      2<sup>nd</sup> place - \$50.00      3<sup>rd</sup> place - \$25.00

#### **Regional level:**

The Regional Speak-Out Chair will plan, promote and stage the annual Regional Speak-Out Contest.

All expenses shall be shared equally by participating Lions Clubs of the Region.

Suggested prizes are: 1<sup>st</sup> place - \$150.00    2<sup>nd</sup> place - \$100.00    3<sup>rd</sup> place - \$50.00

Trophies/plaques are optional. Certificates of Appreciation shall be awarded to all non-winning contestants.

Each Regional Speak-Out Chair is responsible for forwarding the name and Speak-Out topic of the Regional winner (and other requested information) immediately upon completion of the Regional Speak-Out level, and no later than three (3) weeks prior to the District Contest, to the District Speak-Out Chair.

**District level:**

A Committee headed by the District Speak-Out Chair(s) will plan, promote and stage the District Speak-Out Contest to be held at the District Convention.

In that contestants will be partially scored on their appearance, they shall be advised prior to the district contest that a minimum dress standard of “business casual,” so-called, will be expected, i.e., pants, not jeans, with a nice top – such as, button down collar for men, a blouse for women that does not show midriff, bare shoulders, bare back or cleavage. Women may opt to wear a dress or skirt; these should not be any shorter than just above the knee and should not show bare shoulders, bare back or cleavage.

Expenses incurred shall be the responsibility of the District. Prizes shall be as follows:

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	\$500.00 cash plus a trophy or plaque
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	\$300.00 cash plus a trophy or plaque
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	\$200.00 cash plus a trophy or plaque
All Others	\$50.00 cash

**GENERAL SUGGESTIONS**

- Judges at all levels should be seated separately
- Contestants should be seated facing the audience
- Provisions should be made to have judges indicate when they are ready for the next speaker
- Questioners should be seated together to avoid repetitive questions
- Time limits & subsequent penalties **must be adhered to** as this is a component of a successful presentation. It is conceivable that time penalties could affect the outcome of a closely contested Speak-Out.
- General positive judging shall be given to all speakers
- Specific judging should be given for the winner and runner-up so that all present may see and understand why they were selected
- At the District finals, the judges should be required to hand in their judging sheet to the District Committee

**REMINDERS**

- It is important that each Club & Regional Speak-Out Chair examine his/her role in this project. With their co-operation, the project can be a successful one
- The Regional Speak-Out Chair should forward the name of the Regional winner to the District Speak-Out Chair as soon as possible following their Regional Speak-Out Contest
- The contestant’s speech will be considered as starting with the first words of their speech and ending with the last words of their speech, not counting any words of welcome or thank you they might include.



# MAINE LIONS DISTRICT 41

## STUDENT SPEAK-OUT CONTEST

### JUDGE'S SCORE SHEET

SPEAKER:	1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>1. Delivery of Speech - 40%</b>	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(a) Voice 8%						
(b) Modulation 8%						
(c) Enunciation 8%						
(d) Pace 8%						
(e) Appearance 8%						
<b>2. Material in Speech - 30%</b>	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(a) Construction 15%						
(b) Lucidity 5%						
(c) Interest 10%						
<b>3. Responses to Questioning - 30%</b>	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
(a) Replies 15% (adequate, logical, etc.)						
(b) Manner of responses: 15% (calm, fluent, etc.)						
<b>SUB-TOTAL:</b>						
Less penalty for use of notes (up to 10%)						
<b>TOTAL SCORES:</b>						

Provide a copy of Speak-Out regulations and this form to each judge prior to the contest.



## MAINE LIONS DISTRICT 41

### STUDENT SPEAK-OUT CONTEST

#### TIMEKEEPER'S WORK SHEET

SPEAKER:	1	2	3	4	5	6
STOP TIME:						
START TIME:						
TOTAL SPEAKING TIME:						
Penalty Points (if any)						

#### Policy on speaking time:

All speeches are to be approximately five (5) minutes in length. Speeches shorter than four (4) minutes or longer than six (6) minutes will be penalized one (1) point for each ten (10) seconds or portion thereof; e.g., 3 seconds = 1 point; 8 seconds = 1 point; 13 seconds = 2 points; 33 seconds = 4 points, etc.

The contestant's speech will be considered as starting with the First Words of the speech – do not count welcome and thank you remarks.

Provide this form to the official timekeeper.

Date of District Convention Speak-Out: \_\_\_\_\_



# MAINE LIONS DISTRICT 41

## STUDENT SPEAK-OUT CONTEST



### JUDGE'S SUMMARY SCORE SHEET

<b>SPEAKER:</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Judge Number 1</b>						
<b>Judge Number 2</b>						
<b>Judge Number 3</b>						
<b>SUB TOTAL SCORES</b>						
<b>Less Penalty Points (Timekeeper)</b>						
<b>TOTAL SCORES:</b>						

<b>FINAL PLACEMENT</b>	<b>SPEAKER</b>
<b>THIRD PLACE:</b>	<b>No.</b>
<b>SECOND PLACE:</b>	<b>No.</b>
<b>FIRST PLACE:</b>	<b>No.</b>

**Provide this form to the judge selected to be the spokesperson.**

**Date of District Convention Speak-Out: \_\_\_\_\_**