

Speech Adjudicator Guidelines



Thank you for your willingness to evaluate development of speaking skills among middle level students. To ensure each contestant receives as fair an evaluation as possible, please review these expectations.

1. Acquaint yourself with the rules for the categories you will adjudicate. Ask questions of the coach who hired you (or festival staff) about any rules you do not understand.
2. Attend the adjudicator meeting held before the festival begins. Specific instructions applicable to each individual festival will be given at that meeting.
3. Check your adjudication schedule. If you are a coach, make certain you are not adjudicating your own students. If you are a parent, make sure you are not adjudicating your own child.
4. Report to your adjudication room(s) early. Being there to greet students and make them feel comfortable will likely improve the quality of performances you will hear.
5. Smoking is prohibited in all schools.
6. Write contestants' code numbers and/or names on the evaluation sheets. You may only have six contestants in your room, but when those sheets get back to headquarters, their numbers have multiplied and the names and codes are important.
7. Circle the level number and round number.
8. Follow instructions at the top of the evaluation sheet in writing your evaluation. Be certain to write *constructive* comments helpful to the students.
9. Sign the evaluation sheet with your name and code number. If a master ballot is provided, be sure to complete and sign this as well.
10. Return evaluation sheets to festival headquarters. At the Level 1 or Level 2 festival, **do not give evaluation sheets to the students**. Each festival will have specific guidelines for you to follow. Please honor these.
11. Understand the evaluation system. Guidelines are found on the reverse side of this page.
12. THINK AND ACT POSITIVELY! Your attitude will be reflected in the students' performance.

Evaluating Performances

Level 1		Level 2	
A+	Represents a practically flawless presentation, where contestant(s) may have only one or two "fine tuning" comments, or there is little to nothing the contestant(s) should do to improve the presentation.	A	Outstanding example of what a performance in this category should be. It exceeds the mere expectations for the category.
A	Performance meets expectations for category well and contestant(s) should definitely have an opportunity to perform again.	A-	Excellent presentation with only minor flaws, and meets expectations for the category.
A-	Performance indicated enough potential to give contestant(s) an opportunity to continue work and perform again.	B+	Solid, but a few major areas need more polish.
B+	Presentation has potential, but needs improvements and does not display quality necessary to advance to the next level.	B	Adequate, yet still developing, only fulfilling basic requirements.
B	The presentation shows evidence of effort and attempt to meet evaluation criteria.	B-	Efforts are appreciated and hope you continue your forensic participation.
B-	The contestant(s) should evaluation criteria more closely, and more thoroughly prepare.		