



Speech Contest Rulebook

Explanation of Changes

JULY 1, 2025, TO JUNE 30, 2026	JULY 1, 2026, TO JUNE 30, 2027	EXPLANATION
<p>Introduction</p> <p>Note: Rule changes are made once a year by administrative Protocol with the approval of the International President, the International President-Elect, and the Chief Executive Officer. Changes are highlighted by a mark (◆) in the left margin.</p>	<p>Introduction</p> <p>Note: Rule changes are made once a year by Modifications to rules shall only be made through the administrative Protocol review process, with the approval of the International President, the International President-Elect, and the Chief Executive Officer. Changes are highlighted by a mark (◆) in the left margin.</p>	<p>The introduction to the <i>Speech Contest Rulebook</i> outlines the process for rulebook changes. However, the wording in this section did not match that in Policy 6.0, Section 5, which also outlines the administrative Protocol review process.</p> <p>The wording in the introduction of the <i>Speech Contest Rulebook</i> has been updated to exactly match the wording used in Policy 6.0, Section 5. Toastmasters International will continue to review the <i>Speech Contest Rulebook</i> and associated feedback on an annual basis.</p>
<p>General Rules for All Toastmasters Speech Contests</p> <p>2. Eligibility</p> <p>E. All other contest officials and the Evaluation Contest test speaker must meet all eligibility requirements outlined below: be paid members.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Be paid members. 2. Be physically present at the contest for which you are serving. (Exceptions: contest officials for the Online Speech Contest.) 	<p>General Rules for All Toastmasters Speech Contests</p> <p>2. Eligibility</p> <p>E. All other contest officials and the Evaluation Contest test speaker must meet all eligibility requirements outlined below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Be paid members. 2. Be physically present at the contest for which you are serving, beyond the club level. (Exceptions: contest officials for the Online Speech Contest.) 	<p>General Rules for all Toastmasters Speech Contests, Section 2.Eligibility, E states that in addition to being paid members, all contest officials must also be physically present for the contest which they are serving. The only exception is if they are an official in the Online Speech Contest.</p> <p>This section did not specify whether or not contest officials can be present online at the club level. The wording in 2.Eligibility E has been updated to match 2.Eligibility C.10 (which relates to contestants), to clarify that physical presence is required of contestants and contest officials beyond the club level.</p>

For more information, please refer to the [minutes](#) of the December 11, 2025, Board of Directors meeting.