

Arizona 4-H Prepared Speech Contest Rules

(This contest is a Qualifier for Western National Roundup)

Contestants can prepare a speech on any topic relative to today's youth. Topic is not required to be 4-H related but must be of interest to youth.

Age Divisions:

Junior – 8-10 Years Old

Intermediate – 11-13 Years Old

Senior – 14-19 Years Old

Age Divisions will be determined by age as of 12/31/2023.

Only Seniors may qualify for Western National Roundup

Rules:

- Contestants shall be in Official 4-H dress or Business Casual.
- Contestants may only participate in this contest as an individual.
- No costumes, posters, props or visual aids may be used, including the use of handouts such as bibliographies and pamphlets. Contestants will be disqualified for using any visual aid, including handouts, prior to, during and after the speech.
- Contestants are not allowed to present any items to the judges.
- Contestants may use notes. However, excessive use of notes may be counted against the contestant. This will be at the discretion of the judges.
- A public address system will not be used, but a podium will be provided which may or may not be used.
- During the competition the contestants may introduce themselves by name, club, age and speech topic.
- Only the judge(s) may ask questions of the contestant. Question time will not be counted in the allotted time. Contestant should repeat the question then answer it.
- Contestant order will be determined by a random drawing and announced at the beginning of the contest.
- Ties will be broken by judge(s).
- For educational purposes the management may videotape all speeches with individual consent. No other videography or pictures are allowed except for your own contestant.
- Speeches must be a new topic and material each year.
- The contestants and audience will be present for speeches.

Time Limits:

- Seniors - Speeches must be at least 6 minutes in length, but no longer than 8 minutes.
- Intermediates - Speeches must be at least 3 minutes in length, but no longer than 6 minutes.
- Juniors - Speeches must be at least 2 minutes in length, but no longer than 4 minutes.

- Participants will be given a 30 second reminder before the minimum time is met and a 30 second warning before the end of time period.
- Time for answering questions is not counted in the speech length.
- Two points will be deducted for each 30 seconds over or under the time limit by each of the judges. The speech time limit will begin once the contestant begins to speak after being introduced by the contest superintendent.

Awards:

- Each Contestant will be awarded based on the Danish System. Blue Awards will be given to those who exceed expectations. Red Awards will be given to those who meet expectations. White Awards will be given to those who do not meet expectations.

- Each age division may have one champion.