Call meeting to Order

Pledge of allegiance

Draw speaker order

## Welcome to the 87th Annual Lions Student Speaker Contest. The students tonight are continuing a competition that can lead to scholarship prizes. This is the second of 6 levels of competition. Students from all over California are taking this step. The topic for this year’s competition is "FOR A BETTER WORLD, WHAT WOULD YOU CHANGE?”

The purpose of the Contest is:

To provide an opportunity for competitive public speaking among students on a subject of vital interest to the contestants and to the American people as a whole.

To stimulate self-expression and independent thinking.

To present to the public through the Student Speakers Contest the problems surrounding the maintenance of this country as a free nation.

To consider the means at our disposal of meeting the present and future world problems.

**CONTEST RULES – must be read as printed**

1. A late contestant shall not compete if arrival time is after the draw of the speaker order for that contest.
2. No one may enter or leave the room while a contestant is speaking. (Call upon Guards to man the doors.) Entry or departure to the room can be made during the intermissions.
3. **No smoking, food or beverages are allowed during the contest, except during intermissions, with the exception, the speakers may drink water during their speech.**
4. Do not applaud the speakers until after the Judges’ worksheets have been collected.
5. Each speaker will speak for no less than 5 minutes and no more than 10 minutes, or penalty/scoring deductions will be applied; no warning signals shall be given.
6. There will be a quiet three-minute intermission between and after speakers, **and as much time as needed after the final speaker, to allow Judges to complete scoring**. There shall be no conferring with Judges during the contest.
7. No photography, video or audio taping will be allowed during the contest. Only an MD4 video representative will be authorized to record the FINAL CONTEST.
8. All noise-emitting electronic devices such as phones, beepers, etc. must be turned off until the contest is completed.
9. **Any protest relative to the contest must be made to the Chairperson before the winner is announced.**
10. The contest Chairperson shall review and verify the Tellers’ worksheets before announcing the results.

THE FOLLOWING ARE CAUSES FOR DISQUALIFICATION - must be read as printed

1. Use or display of props of any nature.
2. Uniforms or any method of personal identification, including saying name and school.
3. Failure to give reference source of quoted material in manuscript submitted at the Area Level.
4. Use of notes above the club level in excess of one 3x5 card, both sides, or the Braille equivalent. **NOTE: use of any and all notes at the club level is acceptable.**
5. Use of prompters.
6. Publication of speech, except for very brief quotations in print or electronic media (i.e. YouTube, Facebook, Twitter, etc.) prior to completion of the Final Contest.
7. Acceptance of awards other than those approved by the Council of Governors of MD-4.
8. Participation in more than one Lions Club Contest during the contest year.
9. Watches of electronic devices of any kind shall not be worn or used by the contestants during the Contest.

**STOP READING HERE**

**Violation of these rules must result in disqualification of the speaker by the Chairperson, whose decision shall be final. Any protest relative to the contest must be made to the Chairperson before the winner is announced**

Call speakers only by number in order. Remind audience not to applaud individual speakers during the contest. If only one speaker is present, he/she must still speak and be judged.

Introduce speakers and judges only after the Tellers have collected all worksheets and have retired from the room.

Announce the winner first and present the award.

Announce the date, time and place of the next contest.

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Publicize the Student Speaker Foundation.

Close the meeting.