

## **CONTEST CHAIR SCRIPT - HUMOROUS SPEECH CONTEST**

Thank you TM \_\_\_\_\_ for that very kind introduction.

Chief Judge TM \_\_\_\_\_, Respected Panel of Judges, Contest officials, Contestants, Fellow Toastmasters and Distinguished Guests. Good morning/ (afternoon) and a very warm welcome to each one of you.

*A 50-70 word humorous opening or story*

The purpose of the Humorous Speech contest is

- To provide the participants an opportunity to improve their humorous speaking skills
- To provide an opportunity to learn by observing the more proficient speakers who have benefited from their toastmasters training
- And to recognize the value of humour in speaking.

### Some rules related to the Humorous Speech Contest

All the contestants have met the eligibility criteria, which is “to be a member in good standing of a club of good standing”. All contestants have been briefed about the rules and timings of the contest.

All contestants can remain in the room throughout the contest. Should they choose to leave the room during the contest; the SAA will escort contestants back into the room once their time to speak has arrived.

Other than contestants, no one will be allowed in or out of the room once the contest has begun.

The Speaking order of the contestants has been determined and the Speaking Area defined.

The speaking order is:

1. \_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_ spelling of name, repeat name \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_ spelling of name, repeat name \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_ spelling of name, repeat name \_\_\_\_\_

I will welcome each contestant on stage and at that time, you may applaud. I will then announce the speech title, the speech title again and the contestant’s name.

Timing will begin with the Contestant’s first definite verbal or non-verbal communication with the audience.

The time allotted is 5 to 7 minutes. There will be a grace period of 30 seconds. Contestants who speak for less than 4 minutes 30 seconds or more than 7 minutes 30 seconds will be disqualified.

- The green card will be displayed at five minutes and will remain displayed for one minute.
- The Yellow Card will be displayed at six minutes and will remain displayed for one minute.
- The Red Card will be displayed at seven minutes and will remain displayed until the speech has concluded.
- No signal will be given for the overtime period.
- In case of a fault in the timing device, an additional 30 seconds will be allowed for the speaker.

There will be a one minute interval between speeches for the judges to mark their ballots.

After all the contestants have finished their speeches, a three minute silence will be observed, to enable the judges to total their scores and hand over their ballots to the ballot counters.

Announcement of the contest winners is final unless the list of winners is announced incorrectly, in which case the chief judge, ballot counters or timers are permitted to immediately interrupt to correct the error.

And now, Timers, please check your timing devices one last time.

Dear audience I request you to kindly switch off all noise making devices or put them on silent mode in case you've not already done so.

Are we ready? I wish all the Contestants the very best.

*Ask* Chief Judge.... Are all the officials in the room and have they been briefed?

Let us start the Humorous Speech Contest *[applause]*

Contestant #1

TM ..... speech title.....speech title..... TM.....

We will now have a minute of silence for the judges to mark their ballot.

Contestant #2

Contestant #3

*(Once all contestants have spoken)*

*[NEVER SAY "LAST CONTESTANT". SAY "CONTESTANT NO.4/5/etc.]*

We will now have 3 minutes silence for the judges to total their scores and hand them over to the ballot counters.

**Wait for the CJ and Ballot Counters to leave the room**

May I now invite all the Humorous Speech Contestants to come forward in their speaking order to receive their Certificate of Participation and for a group photograph.

**Interview (if there is time, ask questions from the contestant's profile)**

Ladies & Gentlemen – It was a fabulous contest and I thoroughly enjoyed being the Humorous Speech contest chair today. I hope you enjoyed the contest too!! I'd like to thank all the contestants and contest officials for an excellent job, and you, our wonderful audience, for being so appreciative.  
I now hand over control to \_\_\_\_\_.

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**While announcing the result later**

**I'd now like to present the contest results for Humorous Speech Contest. Before the results are announced, I'd like to say congratulations to all of our contestants for competing!**

**There was 1/2 disqualification due to time / There were no disqualifications on the basis of time**

**The 3<sup>rd</sup> place winner is:\_\_\_\_\_**

**The 2<sup>nd</sup> place winner is \_\_\_\_\_**

**The winner of the Humorous Speech Contest .....[club/ area/division].....and who will represent us at \_\_\_\_\_ Level on \_\_\_\_\_ [date]\_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_.**