



## Combined Evaluation & Humour Contest Script

### Combined Humorous/Evaluation Contest

#### **\*\*\*Opening – Contest Chair\*\*\***

(Note – this opening can be amended to suit the style of the Contest Chair, as long as all items in **bold** are included as part of the opening remarks)

Greetings fellow Toastmasters, and most welcome guests. It is my pleasure to welcome you to the \_\_\_\_\_ Evaluation and Humorous Speech Contest!

Today, we have the opportunity to see some of the (Club/Area/Division/District)'s most proficient evaluators and humorous speakers in action. The winner of these contests will advance to the next level, to be held \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_.

**At this time, we will take a 5 minute break. The Chief Judge will meet with the Judges, Timers and Ballot Counters for both the Evaluation and Humorous Contests, and I will meet with the contestants for both contests.**

**\*\*\* 5 Minute Break – Judges/Timers'/Ballot Counters briefing\*\*\***

**\*\*\*Contest chair briefs contestants; draw for speaking order\*\*\***

**\*\*\*Official Start of Contest\*\*\***

Welcome back to the Evaluation and Humorous Speech contest!

We will start with the Evaluation Contest, and then move right into the Humorous Speech Contest.

Here are some housekeeping details that are common to both contests:

**There will be a 1 minute break between speakers for the judges to mark their ballots. During the 1 minute break, the Sergeant at Arms will prepare the next contestant to speak. I will ask the timer to provide a red signal once 1 minute has elapsed.**

**Once all of the contestants have presented, there will be silence until the Judges have marked their ballots. The ballot counters will collect the ballots after the Evaluation Contest, and return them to the Chief Judge. The Chief Judge will hold the ballots until the conclusion of the Humorous Speech Contest.**

**Please turn off all noisemaking devices, personal electronics, watch alarms and cellular phones at this time.**



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No photography is permitted during the contest, with the exception of personal video recording of their own presentation, as authorized by the contestant.

Evaluation and Humorous Speech Contests are sanctioned by Toastmasters International, and are governed according to the Toastmasters International Contest Rules. Today, our chief judge is \_\_\_\_\_, and is familiar with the Contest Rules. Any and all decisions of the Chief Judge are final and not debatable.

The Chief Judge has briefed the judges, timers and ballot counters, and reviewed the time and light procedure with the timers. The timing lights are hidden from view and are for the benefit of the speakers only.

The Chief Judge has also ensured appropriate seating arrangements have been made to separate judges from contestants. \_\_\_\_\_, are you satisfied with the seating arrangements?

No one may enter or leave the room during the evaluation portion of the evaluation contest, or during the Humorous Speech Contest. You may leave the room during the 5 minute period between the test speaker and the evaluators.

If you must leave the room please do so during the 1 minute of silence between speakers. If you do leave, you will not be permitted reentry until the contest is complete. I will ask the Sergeant at Arms to ensure that doors are secured, and these procedures are enforced.

Now, let's begin the Evaluation Contest:

Some of you may have not seen an evaluation contest before, here is an idea of what to expect:

**A test speaker has been selected to deliver a 5-7 minute speech. The contestants are not to be made aware of any objectives related to the speech, including any manual objectives.**

**All contestants will evaluate the same speech.**

**After the test speech is delivered, the contestants will leave the room. They have 5 minutes to make notes.**



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After 5 minutes have elapsed, the Sergeant at Arms will collect the notes from all speakers, and escort the first contestant into the room. In interest of fairness, the contestants may not be in the room until they have completed their presentation. After their presentation is complete, contestants are welcome to watch the remainder of the contest.

Evaluations will be between 2 and 3 minutes. The speaker will receive a green signal at 2 minutes, a yellow signal after 2 minutes and 30 seconds, and a red signal at 3 minutes. The red light will remain on until the speaker is complete.

Any speaker who speaks for less than 1 minute and 30 seconds, or longer than 3 minutes and 30 seconds will be disqualified. Timing begins at the first verbal or non verbal communication with the audience, and ends after the last word is spoken.

Please help me welcome today's test speaker: Name. Title of Speech. Title of Speech. Name

**\*\*\*\**Test Speaker Presents*\*\*\*\***

Contest Chair: Thank you (name). At this time, I will ask the Sergeant at Arms to escort all contestants from the room for 5 minutes. I will ask the timer to provide a red signal once 5 minutes have elapsed.

**\*\*\*\**Contestants are led out of the room*\*\*\*\***

**\*\*\*\**Contest Chair calls for announcements; interviews test speaker*\*\*\*\***

NB: FIVE MINUTES ONLY – Contest Chair must suspend proceedings once the timer gives the signal

Contest Chair: Thank you. The contestants have prepared their evaluations and are ready to present.

**I will introduce each speaker by saying their name twice. After the speaker is introduced, the Sergeant at Arms may return their notes.**

First Contestant. First Contestant.

**\*\*\*\*SAA returns notes to the first contestant\*\*\*\*** - Repeat for all presentations

After Last Presenter –



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**I ask you to remain silent until the ballot counters have collected the ballots and left the room with the Chief Judge.**

What an excellent Evaluation Contest – but wait, there's more: It's time for the Humorous Speech Contest!

All pre-contest announcements from the evaluation contest are still in effect.

Here are some rules specific to the Humorous Speech Contest:

**Speeches will be between 5 and 7 minutes. The speaker will receive a green signal at 5 minutes, a yellow signal after 6 minutes, and a red signal at 7 minutes. The red light will remain on until the speaker is complete.**

**Any speaker who speaks for less than 4 minutes and 30 seconds, or longer than 7 minutes and 30 seconds will be disqualified. Timing begins at the first verbal or non verbal communication with the audience, and ends after the last word is spoken.**

Contestants may remain in the room during the entire contest.

**After all speakers have presented, I ask that you remain silent until the judges have marked their ballots, and the Chief Judge and Ballot Counters have left the room.**

Let's get on with the contest. In fairness to each speaker, I will announce only their name, the title of their speech, the title of their speech, and their name.

\*\*\*\*Humorous Speech Contest\*\*\*\*

After Last Speaker (if necessary)

**I ask you to remain silent until the judges have marked their ballots, and the Chief Judge and Ballot Counters have left the room**

\*\*\*\*Contestant Interviews – both contests\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*Chief Judge returns with results for both contests\*\*\*\*

**Announce disqualifications, if there were any.**

**For four contestants or less, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place are announced.**

**For five or more contestants, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place are announced.**