



## Combined Tall Tales and International Contest Script

Greetings fellow Toastmasters, and most welcome guests. It is my pleasure to welcome you to the \_\_\_\_\_ Tall Tales and International Speech Contests!

Speech contests are an important part of the Toastmasters educational program. They provide an opportunity for Toastmasters to gain speaking experience, as well as an opportunity for other Toastmasters to learn by observing proficient speakers.

Today, we have the opportunity to see some of the (Club/Area/Division)'s most proficient prepared speakers in action. The winners 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 Tall Tales and International 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 Tall Tales and International Speech contest!

We will start with the Tall Tales Contest, and then move right into the International 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. 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 Tall Tales Contest, and return them to the Chief



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Judge. The Chief Judge will hold the ballots until the conclusion of the International Speech Contest.

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

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

Tall Tales and International 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. Tall Tales contest speeches shall be from three to five minutes. The speaker will receive a green signal at 3 minutes, a yellow signal after 4 minutes, and a red signal at 5 minutes. The red light will remain on until the speaker is complete. A contestant is disqualified if the speech is less than two minutes thirty seconds, or more than five minutes thirty seconds. Timing begins at the first verbal or nonverbal communication with the audience, and ends after the last word is spoken.

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 Tall Tales contest, or during the International Speech Contest.

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.



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Now, let's begin the Tall Tales 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.

Our first contestant: Name \_\_\_\_\_, title of speech \_\_\_\_\_, title of speech \_\_\_\_\_, name \_\_\_\_\_.

After each contestant, ask for a minute of silence for the judges.

After Last speaker –

I ask you to remain silent until the ballot counters have collected the ballots.

What an excellent Tall Tales Contest – but wait, there's more! It's time for the International Speech Contest!

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

Here are some rules specific to the International 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 finished.

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.

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.



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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.

\*\*\*\*International 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.