



# Tall Tales Contest

## Tiebreaking Judge's Guide and Ballot

JUDGING ITEMS		SUGGESTED POINT VALUES				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		E X C E L L E N T	V E R Y  G O O D	G O O D	F A I R										
<b>Speech Development</b> Opening, Build-Up, Climax, Organization, Smoothness	C O N T E N T  3 0	30	22-29	13-21	0-12										
<b>Speech Techniques</b> Effective Use of Exaggeration, Irony, Pun, Surprise Twists, Humor, Slapstick, Etc.	D E L I V E R Y	25	18-24	11-17	0-10										
<b>Physical</b> Appearance, Body Language		15	11-14	7-10	0-7										
<b>Voice</b> Flexibility, Volume		5 5	15	11-14	7-10	0-6									
<b>Appropriateness</b> To Speech Purpose and Audience, Good Grammar, Pronunciation and Word Selection	L A N G U A G E  1 5	15	11-14	7-10	0-6										
<b>TOTAL SCORE</b> (100 Points Possible)															

(Detach and submit to chief judge)

### Tiebreaking Judge's Official Ballot – Tall Tales Contest

Name of Contestant \_\_\_\_\_

First Place: \_\_\_\_\_ Fourth Place: \_\_\_\_\_ Seventh Place: \_\_\_\_\_

Second Place: \_\_\_\_\_ Fifth Place: \_\_\_\_\_ Eighth Place: \_\_\_\_\_

Third Place: \_\_\_\_\_ Sixth Place: \_\_\_\_\_ Ninth Place: \_\_\_\_\_

Tenth Place: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of Judge)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Judge's Name; Please Print)

# Judging Criteria

## Content (30%)

**Speech Development** is the way the speaker puts ideas together so the audience can understand them. A good tall tales speech immediately engages the audience's attention, then smoothly builds up to a climax and conclusion.

## Delivery (55%)

**Speech Techniques** refers to the use of various tall tales skills, such as exaggeration, irony, pun, humor and surprise twist. These techniques are the essence of the tall tale, and they must be skillfully incorporated into the tale.

**Physical** presentation of the speech carries part of the responsibility for effective communication. The speaker's appearance should reinforce the story. Body language should support the story through gestures, expressions and body positions.

**Voice** is the sound that carries the message. It should be flexible, moving from one pitch level to another for emphasis, and should have a variety of rate and volume. A good voice can be clearly heard and the words be easily understood.

## Language (15%)

**Appropriateness** of language refers to the choice of words that relate to the speech purpose and to the particular audience hearing the speech. Language should promote clear understanding of thoughts and should fit the occasion precisely. Proper use of grammar and correct pronunciation will show that the speaker is the master of the words being used.

## Judge's Code of Ethics

1. Judges will demonstrate the utmost objectivity. Judges will consciously avoid bias of any kind in selecting all contestants. Judges will not consider any contestant's club, Area, Division, District, or region affiliation. Judges will not consider any contestant's age, sex, race, creed, national origin, disability, profession, or political beliefs.
2. Judges will not time the speeches and will not consider the possibility of undertime or overtime when judging a contestant's speech.
3. Judges will support by word and deed the contest rules and judging standards, refrain from public criticism of the contest, and only reveal participation as a judge, selected scores, and the ranking assigned in accordance with speech contest rules.
4. Judges will not be a member of the same club as any contestant when judging at the Division and District levels.
5. Judges will have no conflict of interest with any of the contestants that would cause bias.