PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST

Time Requirements:
(For prepared, extemporaneous and technology assisted speeches)
Junior (ages 8-11)    3-5 minutes in length
Intermediate (ages 11-13) 4-6 minutes in length
Senior (ages 14-19)   5-7 minutes in length

- **Prepared Speaking**
  This is the “traditional” category
  - Notes on index cards are acceptable. However, no propos or visual aids may be used.
  - Speech must have original work, written by the person giving the speech.
  - Topic and content of the speech must be age appropriate.

- **Extemporaneous Speaking**
  An extemporaneous speech will not be planned until shortly before it is delivered.
  - Speakers will be given three topics to choose from and select one.
  - Each speaker will have 15 minutes to prepare their speech.
  - Notes on index cards are acceptable. However, no propos or visual aids may be used.
  - Speech must have original work, written by the person giving the speech.
  - Topic and content of the speech must be age appropriate.

- **Technology Assisted Speaking**
  Technology assisted speeches are subject to the same rules and guidelines as prepared speeches but allow for the use of presentation software (such as PowerPoint). It is not intended that speakers use power point as an aid like they would a demonstration. Technology should enhance the presentation.

- **Interpretation**
  All interpretations are limited to 5 minutes each with a minimum time of 3 minutes.

  Interpretations are memorized performances that take place without music or other external sound effects. Visual aids, such as posters, are not permitted, but special makeup and clothing may be worn as the contestant deems appropriate to the content of the interpretation.

  - **Dramatic**
    An oral interpretation of a serious selection of narrative or dramatic work. The source material may come from literature, a monologue, a theatrical production or poetry.

  - **Humorous**
    A memorized oral interpretation of a humorous selection (or a humorous interpretation of an oral selection. Source material may come from plays, prose, literature, poetry, or other performance pieces.)
• **Horse Public Speaking**
  Senior speeches should be 7-10 minutes in length. Three points will be deducted from the total score on each judge's score sheet for every minute (or fraction of a minute) under 7 minutes or over 10 minutes. No points will be deducted from Junior speeches for time.
  - Subject must pertain to the horse industry. Speeches, not appropriately related to the horse industry, can be disqualified at the discretion of the judge(s).
  - No visual aids may be used.
  - Contestants may use notes.
  - Contestants should cite their major references after the conclusion of their speech. This time will not be counted in the allotted time.

• **Business Pitch**
  Speeches are to be 3-5 minutes in length for Juniors (ages 8-10), Intermediates (ages 11-13) and Seniors (ages 14-18).
  A business pitch quickly generates interest and energetically demonstrates knowledge and persuasion to motivate the listener to reach a decision or act immediately on the information presented.

  Examples may include:
  - a “Shark Tank” TV show-style pitch by an entrepreneur about a 4-H-made product or service, or
  - a sales presentation made to prospective buyers of a 4-H-raised animal or livestock project

  Business pitch speeches follow the same rules and guidelines as prepared and technology assisted speeches. They allow for the use of presentation software (such as PowerPoint) by the speaker.

  The business pitch speech must be an original work, created and written by the person giving the speech. Topics must be appropriate for the standards of a 4-H event and appropriate for all ages.

  Notes on index cards are perfectly acceptable. The only other prop that may be used (besides a slide presentation) is a sample 4-H project—a product, or prototype of a product, that is the subject of the speech—this is optional.)