

# TALL TALES CONTEST

## JUDGE'S GUIDE AND BALLOT



JUDGING ITEMS		SUGGESTED POINT VALUES																	
		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	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10				
<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 counters)

### Judge's Official Ballot - Tall Tales Contest

Name of Contestant

First Place: \_\_\_\_\_

Second Place: \_\_\_\_\_

Third Place: \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE:** Votes must be cast for first, second and third place or the ballot will be voided.

**PLACE**                      **RANKING POINTS**  
(for counters' use only)

First Place                      3 points

Second Place                      2 points

Third Place                      1 point

\_\_\_\_\_  
(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 consciously avoid bias of any kind in selecting first, second and third place contestants. They will not consider any contestant's club, area, division or district affiliation. Nor will they consider any contestant's age, sex, race, creed, national origin, profession or political beliefs. They will demonstrate the utmost objectivity.
2. Judges will not time the speeches and will not consider the possibility of under-time or overtime when judging a contestant's speech.
3. Judges will support by word and deed the contest rules and judging standards, refraining from public criticism of the contest and revealing scores and ranking only in accordance with official policy.