

ARIZONA JUNIOR LIVESTOCK ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST

PREPARED SPEECH RULES

Objectives:

- To develop character, leadership, and public speaking skills of young people while expanding their knowledge of the selected topic
- To stimulate and promote interest among industry youth in Arizona's beef industry
- To project Arizona's beef industry in a positive image

Eligibility:

- Any youth who is a member of the Arizona Junior Livestock Association (AJLA) is eligible to participate. Youth may pay annual dues and join AJLA at the time they enter the Speech contest.
- Participants will be divided into groups at the contest by the advisor. Every attempt will be made to adhere to the age classifications below; *however*, it will ultimately depend upon the number of participants in the contest:
 - 7 and younger: Youth
 - 8-11 years old: Junior
 - 12-15 years old: Intermediate
 - 16 and older: Senior

Topics:

Each contestant may choose any subject pertaining to the beef industry or agriculture. Exploration and understanding of any and all phases of the industry are suggested as speech topics. Current policies, affairs, and trends in the industry or agriculture in general are good ideas. Some suggestions are "Why Growing Food is an Important Job", "How our Family Business Works", and "Why Ranchers and Farmers are True Environmentalists". Trade magazines are a good resource too.

Requirements of Speech:

- The speech must be an original of the speaker. Advice and coaching of parents, teachers, 4H leaders, etc. may be sought when writing and practicing the speech.
- The **minimum** amount of time for the speeches are as follows:
 - Youth: 1 minute
 - Junior: 3 minutes
 - Intermediate: 4 minutes
 - Senior: 5 minutes
- There is no maximum time limit on any speech.
- Each contestant may prepare notes or a brief outline, but the speech should **NOT** be read word-for-word.
- The judges will question each contestant after they deliver their speech. This questioning session will not exceed 5 minutes.
- Visual aids are **highly encouraged**. These should be prepared by the contestant at home and brought to the contest.

Judging:

- Three competent and impartial judges will be selected to evaluate the contestant's speeches.
- Drawing numbers prior to the contest can determine speaking order.
- Excessive reference to notes may result in scoring deductions.
- Scoring will be a point system based on the following criteria:
 - Content: 35 points
 - Importance and appropriateness of subject
 - Accuracy of statements
 - Knowledge of subject
 - Delivery: 35 points
 - Eye contact
 - Volume level
 - Use of notes

- Speed of delivery
- Clarity
- Questions: 10 points
 - Ability to respond to the questions asked by the judges
- Visual Aid/Props: 10 points
 - Enhance presentation by use of charts, pictures, photos, etc.
- Time Requirements: 10 points
 - Speech met required length

Awards:

- Certificates and/or ribbons may be awarded to all contestants.
- Medals will be given to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners in each age division.
- Monetary awards of \$15 for 1st place, \$10 for 2nd place, and \$5 for 3rd will be given in each age division.
- All winners will be recognized at the ACGA Awards Luncheon at the annual summer convention. One first place winner will be invited to deliver his/her speech at the Awards Luncheon.

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