

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION, ONTARIO COMMAND

PUBLIC SPEAKING

RULES & REGULATIONS

The following information outlines the rules and regulations for the Provincial Public Speaking Contest:

1. The speakers may select their own topics. All speeches are to be the original work of the speaker. **The topics chosen by the individual speakers do not necessarily reflect the views or opinions of the Royal Canadian Legion.** The speaker will credit authors and sources of material, if referring to another person's work. Speeches that repeat verbatim another person's original work will not be accepted.
2. Visual aids, props such as notes, cue cards, lecterns, etc., may be used to support the speech, notwithstanding the fact that judges may add or subtract marks according to the manner in which they are used.
3. **Speakers are not allowed to use "Power Point or a Projector" as a method of presentation or as a tool during presentation.**
4. The assistance of persons other than the Chair (or an appointed person) is not permitted at any level of the contest.
5. English and French speakers will compete within the same contest at all levels. Bilingual judges must be used when necessary. Speakers must compete in English or French and must continue to speak in their chosen language throughout all levels of the competition.
6. A speaker can only compete at one branch. If the speaker did not win at the branch, the speaker is not allowed to compete again at another branch, even though it is under the same zone or district.
7. The speakers must progress through all levels of the competition: Branch, Zone, District, Area and Provincial, using the same speech. The speaker must compete at branch level first, before moving on to zone or district. There is no skipping of levels.
8. A penalty of 5% of the total marks received from each judge, shall be imposed to a speech that is either short or in excess of the time limit for that level, before the total scores are compiled. This penalty will be imposed by the Timekeeper and applied by the Scrutineer. No penalty will be levied for Grades 1 – 3.
9. A penalty of 5% of the total marks received from each judge shall be imposed to any contestant who freezes. A contestant who freezes may continue but all speaking time used will count. This penalty will be imposed by the Timekeeper and applied by the Scrutineer.
10. **No person, including press photographers, shall photograph, videotape, or use any audio devices during the contest.**

11. A microphone may only be used by a “Special Need” student. This student will require a certificate from a medical practitioner. The Chair must be informed of the need before the competition begins.
12. The provincial public speaking contest will be held on the first Saturday in May, of any given year.
13. Speakers may not identify themselves, except by first name, during the contest.
14. Speakers who are late for registration without “**just cause**” will be disqualified from the contest.
15. All wall clocks will be covered or removed during the contest.
16. All cell phones and other electronic devices are to be turned off during the competition. Such devices cannot be used for any reason during the contest.
17. If you need to leave the room, please do so between speeches or at the break. Do not enter or leave the room during a speech.
18. Coaching of any kind from the audience will not be permitted.
19. Any violation of the above rules and regulations will result in a penalty being imposed by the Chair and may include disqualification from this or any future competitions.
20. Judges will break their own ties. Judges will render a decision on all speakers without consultation with other judges or any other person. The judges’ **decision is final**.
21. Standing Ovations are not allowed at any level of the competition.
22. At each level of the competition the branch is to read the following disclaimer to the audience prior to the commencement of speeches: Subject matter of speeches may not be suitable for all audiences.

PROVINCIAL AWARDS

<u>DIVISION</u>	<u>TIME</u>	First Place (Gold Medal)	Runner-up (3) (Silver Medal)
Grades 1 – 3	3 to 5 minutes	\$200.00	\$75.00
Grades 4 – 6	3 to 5 minutes	\$300.00	\$100.00
Grades 7 – 9	3 to 5 minutes	\$500.00	\$150.00
Grades 10 – 12	5 to 7 minutes	\$1000.00	\$200.00

The winning student and one parent in each division from the four Legion Areas will be offered an all-expense paid trip to the site of the provincial finals.