## Idaho State 4-H Impromptu Speech Contest Rules

## **Superintendent:**

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## **Eligibility**

- A. A county is allowed three entries in the Impromptu speech contest.
- B. Entries not officially entered will not be permitted to participate for any reason.
- C. An individual may enter a State 4-H competitive event in a specific program area only once.
- D. The eligibility requirements to enter a State 4-H Competitive Event are:
  - a. Contestant must already have passed his or her 14th birthday, and may not have reached his or her 19th birthday, as of January 1 of the year in which the State 4-H Competitive Event is held. However, the State 4-H Leader may grant a special authorization to compete for youth with developmental disabilities who exceed the upper age limit.
  - b. All contestants must be members of 4-H in the county they are representing during the year in which the State 4-H Competitive Event is held.
  - c. The contestant and his or her county 4-H staff member must certify as follows on the application form or an accompanying memo:

"This contestant has not participated in post-secondary coursework in the subject area of the state 4-H competition, nor has he or she participated in training for post-secondary competition in the subject are of the national 4-H competition." Violation of this will result in forfeiture of any awards or recognition, which have been won in the State 4-H Competitive Event.

#### **Contest Rules**

- 1. Contestant will select a topic for their speech by randomly drawing three questions from a pool of questions. They will select one question and return the other two. A maximum of one minute will be allowed for this process. Questions will be relative to today's youth and may include current events, and/or social issues. Examples of type of questions include:
  - a. If I were an author, I would write about....
  - b. One issue facing teenagers today is...
  - c. If I could describe my personality as a tree, which tree would I be?
  - d. What has being involved in 4-H taught me?
- 2. Questions will be at the discretion of the superintendent. Only the superintendent will know the questions prior to the contest. No two contestants will speak on the same topic.
- 3. Contestants may not use any costumes, posters, visual aids, or props for their presentations.
- 4. Contestants are not allowed to present any items to the judges.
- 5. Contestants will be allowed 3 minutes to organize their thoughts before beginning their presentation. Time will begin when they select their question.
- 6. Each speech will be timed and must be between 3-5 minutes in duration. Two points will be deducted for each 30 seconds over or under the time limit.
- 7. Contestants will be allowed to organize their thoughts on a 5x7 blank note card (supplied). However, excessive use of notes may be counted against the contestant. This will be at the discretion of the judges.
- 8. A public address system will not be used, but a podium will be provided.
- 9. Contestant order will be determined by random drawing and announced at the morning assembly on Tuesday of Teen Conference or sent out prior to the contest.
- 10. The judges will break ties.
- 11. Judges will use the Idaho State 4-H Impromptu Speech Score Sheet.

#### **Awards**

1. Awards will be given to the top three (3) presentations.

# Idaho State 4-H Impromptu Speech Contest Score Sheet

SPEAKER'S NAME		
TOPIC	 	

BASIS FOR SCORING	MAXIMUM POINTS	SCORE
General Appearance:	5	
Posture, Appropriate Dress, Visible Distractions		
Introduction:	10	
Attention Getting, Opening Introduced Purpose and		
Subject		
Body:	25	
Main points logically arranged and relevant,		
Important points were easy to follow, Appropriate		
supporting information		
Projection to Audience:	10	
Eye Contact, Body Control, Gestures, Head Movement,		
Facial Expressions		
Voice Control:	10	
Pitch, Tempo, Inflection, Emphasis, Articulation,		
Volume		
Pronunciation and Enunciation	15	
Language Effectiveness:	10	
Appropriate Words, Skill in using Meaningful Quotes		
Summary:	10	
Stresses important points, Has definite closing		
Overall Quality:	5	
Originality, Skill in Use of Notes, Topic Coverage		
Total	100	

**Judges Comments to Support Score:** 

Minutes	Seconds
	Minutes 

Time limit is 3-5 minutes. Participants will be given a 30 second warning before end of time period. Penalty of 2 points for each 30 seconds over or under on time.