

Rules and Regulations

1. All participants should speak in English only.
2. Any quotation or copyrighted material used in the speech must be identified verbally during the presentation of the speech with the original author's name.
3. The time allotted will be neither less than 4 minutes 30 seconds nor more than 7 minutes 30 seconds.
4. Participants going over or under the allotted time will not be cautioned and will be penalized one point for each 15 seconds or fraction of over or under allotted time.
5. The penalty will be determined by the official timekeeper.
 - A green light will be displayed at five minutes to the allotted time and will remain displayed for one minute.
 - A yellow light will be displayed at six minutes to the allotted time and will remain displayed for one minute.
 - A red light will be displayed at seven minutes to the allotted time and will remain displayed until the conclusion of the speech.
6. Timing will begin after the official topic is expressed. Timing will stop when the participant finishes.
7. Protests at any level (Originality, Plagiarism, Eligibility) should be lodged to the chief judge prior to the announcement of prizewinners. The decision of the adjudicating panel will be final and binding.
8. Participants will be assessed on the following criteria:
 - 8.1 Content**
 - Speech development (20 marks)
 - Effectiveness (15 marks)
 - Speech value (15 marks)
 - 8.2 Delivery**
 - Physical (10 marks)
 - Voice (10 marks)
 - Manner (10 marks)
 - 8.3 Language**
 - Appropriateness (10 marks)
 - Correctness (10 marks)
9. Participants who fail to appear on time as per the scheduled date and time according to the fixtures will be deemed to have withdrawn from the competition.
10. The Council shall reserve the right to propose any amendments to the present rules and regulations that might be necessary in the best interest of the competition.