EXPLANATION OF CHANGES TO SPEECH CONTEST RULEBOOK

JULY 1, 2016 TO JUNE 30, 2017	JULY 1, 2017 TO JUNE 30, 2018	EXPLANATION
2. Eligibility A 2 a) Have completed six speech projects in the Competent Communication manual.	 2. Eligibility A 2 a) Have completed six speech projects in the Competent Communication manual or have earned a Certificate of Completion in levels 1 and 2 of any path in the Toastmasters Pathways learning experience. 	Eligibility requirements for contestants and judges have been updated to include the Pathways learning experience.
Eligibility B 2 b) Have completed a minimum of six speech projects in Competent Communication.	2. Eligibility B 2 b) Have completed a minimum of six speech projects in Competent Communication or have earned a Certificate of Completion in levels 1 and 2 of any path in the Toastmasters Pathways learning experience.	
2. Eligibility B 3b) Be at least an Advanced Toastmaster Bronze or Advanced Communicator Bronze.	 2. Eligibility B 3 b) Be at least an Advanced Toastmaster Bronze or Advanced Communicator Bronze, or have completed at least one path in the Toastmasters Pathways learning experience. 	
	2C. All other contest officials and the Evaluation contest test speaker must be paid members.	This revision clarifies these roles must be filled by paid members.
 4. Speech Subject and Preparation D. Contestants must prepare their own speeches, and each must be substantially original. 1. Speeches for International, Humorous, and Tall Tales contests must be certified as such in writing to the chief judge by the contestants prior to the presentation of their speeches using the Speaker's Certification of Eligibility and Originality (Item 1183). 2. Twenty-five percent or less of the speech may be devoted to quoting, paraphrasing, or referencing another person's content. Any quoted, paraphrased, 	 4. Speech Subject and Preparation D. Contestants must create prepare their own speeches, and each must be substantially original. 1. Twenty-five percent or less of the speech may be devoted to quoting, paraphrasing, or referencing another person's content. Any quoted, paraphrased, or referenced content must be so identified during the speech preparation. 	Members have contacted World Headquarters to clarify whether the content for Table Topics and Evaluation contest speeches must be substantially original. Clarifying language has been added so it is clear that all contest speeches must be substantially original.

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or referenced content must be so identified during the speech presentation.	2. Twenty five percent or less of the speech may be devoted to quoting, paraphrasing, or referencing another person's content. Any quoted, paraphrased, or referenced content must be so identified during the speech presentation. Before all Speeches for the International, Humorous, and Tall Tales contests, every contestant must be certified certify as such in writing to the chief judge that the content of their speech is or will be substantially original by by the contestants prior to the presentation of their speeches using the Speaker's Certification of Eligibility and Originality (Item 1183).	

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Evaluation Contest Rules 1.B. Contestants are permitted to make preparatory notes during the test speech using the Evaluation Contestant Notes sheet.	Evaluation Contest Rules 1.B. Contestants are permitted who choose to make preparatory notes during the test speech using must use the Evaluation Contestant Notes sheet.	Members have inquired with World Headquarters whether using the Evaluation Contestant Notes sheet is mandatory due to the use of the word "permitted." Specifying that every contestant must use the Evaluation Contestant Notes sheet if they plan to make notes provides a consistent method for note taking.
Contest Chair's Checklist Preparation 11. Ensure that each contestant is eligible under the contest rules before the contest, and notify contestants of disqualification if necessary. To check contestants' eligibility, contact the Member Services team at World Headquarters by email at speechcontests@toastmasters.org.	11. Ensure that each contestant is eligible under the contest rules before the contest, and notify contestants of disqualification if necessary. To check contestants' eligibility: Check club rosters in District Central (only applies to district director, program quality director, club growth director, division directors, and area directors). a) Club officers and district leaders can use the Eligibility Assistant available in Leadership Central of www.toastmasters.org to determine if a	The Eligibility Assistant is available on the Toastmasters International website under Leadership Central. The tool allows club and district officers to check membership status, club status, and if a member is serving as a district officer. This tool can be used when determining whether or not members are eligible to compete in speech contests.
	contestant is a paid member of a paid club, or a current district leader.	