

EVENT GUIDELINES

Interpretive Reading

- Each participant will read a passage of fiction or poetry (or a selection of poems), serious or humorous, and of literary merit. Works expressly written to be delivered aloud may not be used, e.g. speeches and plays.
- The use of facial expressions and gestures is encouraged as the competitor feels appropriate but should not distract from the primary emphasis. No props may be used.
- Each reading should be 5 to 11 minutes long, including a brief introduction of 30 to 60 seconds. The introduction should give background of the author and work, and some indication of the particular interest or appeal of the selection.
- A time penalty will be assessed for going under 5 minutes or over 11 minutes.
- Salutation is optional.

Impromptu Speaking

- Each speaker will choose one of three topics, which may be a word, a question, or a phrase—anything not related to current events. S/he/They will speak on it without the use of notes. Wit, humor, philosophy, sentiment, or absurdity are all equally welcome. Judges will be looking for some agility of thought and, above all, for the ability of each speaker to communicate with style and originality.
- Each speaker will have 2 minutes to prepare. Speakers may sit or stand while preparing and may take notes, although these may not be used in the speech.
- Each speaker will have 3 to 5 minutes to speak. A time penalty will be assessed for going under 3 minutes or over 5 minutes.

After-Dinner Speaking

- Each speaker must deliver an address that is designed to entertain as well as to inform.
- Notes must be limited to one 3 x 5 inch card, both sides, and should be used as little as possible. No props.
- The speaker may choose to address an imaginary, identifiable audience.
- The speech should be 6 minutes long with a one minute grace period. A time penalty will be assessed for going under 5 minutes or over 7 minutes.
- Salutation is optional.

Persuasive Speaking

- This speech is designed to persuade and must be on a serious topic.
- A problem + solution approach must be taken.
- Notes must be limited to one 3 x 5 inch card, both sides, and should be used as little as possible. No props.
- The speech should be from 7 to 13 minutes in length. A time penalty will be assessed for going under 7 minutes or over 13 minutes.
- Salutation is optional.

Northfield Mount Hermon Public Speaking Competition

INTERPRETIVE READING

Directions: Please write comments, however brief. These sheets will be returned to the students at the end of the tournament. When the round is over, please give all ballots to the timekeeper.

Scoring Guidelines

70-79: Weak to Average

80-89: Good to Very Good

90-95: Superb

CONTESTANT'S NAME: CONTESTANT'S CODE:

Table with 2 columns: CATEGORY and SCORE. Rows include: Quality and Helpfulness of Introduction [max = 10], Overcoming Manuscript [max = 10], Understanding of Selection [max = 10], Pace and Timing [max = 10], Enunciation and Clarity of Presentation [max = 20], Voice Melody and Rhythm [max = 20], Overall Appeal to Listener [max = 20], TOTAL POINTS: [max = 100]

Length of Speech: _____ Time Penalty (if any): _____
Note: Time penalties will be deducted from total points in the tabulation room; judges should not account for time penalties in total points calculation

Rank in Room: _____

COMMENTS:

Horizontal lines for writing comments.

JUDGE: ROOM: NUMBER OF JUDGES IN ROOM:

Northfield Mount Hermon Public Speaking Competition

AFTER DINNER SPEAKING

Directions: Please write comments, however brief. These sheets will be returned to the students at the end of the tournament. When the round is over, please give ballot to the timekeeper.

Scoring Guidelines

70-79: Weak to Average

80-89: Good to Very Good

90-95: Superb

CONTESTANT'S NAME: CONTESTANT'S CODE:

Table with 2 columns: CATEGORY and SCORE. Rows include: Thoughtful, Logical Organization of Speech [max = 10], Quality of Information [max = 30], Originality of Entertainment [max = 30], Delivery [max = 30], and TOTAL POINTS: [max = 100].

Length of Speech: _____ Time Penalty (if any): _____
Note: Time penalties will be deducted from total points in the tabulation room; judges should not account for time penalties in total points calculation

Rank in Room: _____

COMMENTS:

Multiple horizontal lines for writing comments.

JUDGE: ROOM: NUMBER OF JUDGES IN ROOM:

Northfield Mount Hermon Public Speaking Competition

PERSUASIVE SPEAKING

Directions: Please write comments, however brief. These sheets will be returned to the students at the end of the tournament. When the round is over, please give ballot to the timekeeper.

Scoring Guidelines

70-79: Weak to Average

80-89: Good to Very Good

90-95: Superb

CONTESTANT'S NAME: CONTESTANT'S CODE:

Table with 2 columns: CATEGORY and SCORE. Rows include Analysis of Problem, Knowledge of Topic; Persuasiveness of Solution; Logic, Appeal; Originality of Approach; Delivery; and TOTAL POINTS.

Length of Speech: _____ Time Penalty (if any): _____
Note: Time penalties will be deducted from total points in the tabulation room; judges should not account for time penalties in total points calculation

Rank in Room: _____

COMMENTS:

Multiple horizontal lines for writing comments.

JUDGE: ROOM: NUMBER OF JUDGES IN ROOM:

Northfield Mount Hermon Public Speaking Competition

IMPROMPTU SPEAKING

Directions: Please write comments, however brief. These sheets will be returned to the students at the end of the tournament. When the round is over, please give ballot to the timekeeper.

Scoring Guidelines

70-79: Weak to Average

80-89: Good to Very Good

90-95: Superb

CONTESTANT'S NAME: CONTESTANT'S CODE:

Table with 2 columns: CATEGORY and SCORE. Rows include Adherence to Statement of Topic, Organization, Appeal to Audience, Aptness of Supportive Material, Delivery, and TOTAL POINTS.

Length of Speech: Time Penalty (if any): Note: Time penalties will be deducted from total points in the tabulation room; judges should not account for time penalties in total points calculation

Rank in Room:

COMMENTS:

Multiple horizontal lines for writing comments.

JUDGE: ROOM: NUMBER OF JUDGES IN ROOM: