

## Judging

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Three judges and one timekeeper will be used at each level of competition. Judging will be on a 100-point system, broken down into four criterion categories as follows:

1. **PERSONAL QUALITIES & PRESENTATION (0-15 points)**  
Appearance, poise, personality, attitude, voice control, articulation, enunciation, diction, animation, sincerity
2. **APPLICATION OF THE 4-WAY TEST (0-35 points)**
3. **INTERPRETATION OF THE ROTARY THEME (0-35 points)**
4. **EFFECTIVENESS (0-15 points)**  
Overall appeal, impression, persuasiveness.

*Penalty Points* – Any penalty points incurred will be deducted from the point total on each judges score card.

**HOW TO ENTER:** Contact your high school speech coach, principal or any member of the local Rotary Club or District Chair.

## Levels of Competition

1. **Local Club Level** – Contests will be held in all participating Rotary clubs in the no later than April 15th and before their Regional competition. Participants will receive plaques, certificates and/or cash awards at each club's discretion. Winners of local contests will advance to the Regional Level.
2. **Regional Level** – Four Regional competitions will be held early Spring, 2009. Participants will receive recognition certificates. Winners will advance to the District Finals. First runner-up will be the alternate in case the winner is unable to compete at the District competition. *(Note: Each Regional winner and runner-up (if substituting for the Regional winner) must submit a typed copy of his or her speech to the District Chair.*
3. **District Level** – The four Regional winners will compete at the District Assembly on Saturday, May 2, 2009, at Rend Lake College, Ina, IL. In recognition of their accomplishments, and to further their education, the three runners-up will receive \$500 and the District Champion will receive \$1,500.00.



**2008-2009**

**Rotary  
International  
District 6510**

**Blanche Carlton  
Sloan  
4-Way Test  
Speech Contest**

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## Purpose

District 6510 of Rotary International is composed of 48 Rotary clubs in Southern Illinois. Blanche Carlton Sloan served our district in 1996-1997 as our first woman governor. This speech contest will be conducted in her honor to recognize her contributions to Rotary International and our district. The specific goals of the contest are:

- To acquaint a large number of youth with Rotary and, specifically, the tenets of the 4-Way Test.
- To demonstrate and enhance Rotary's commitment to youth.
- To heighten awareness of Rotary among older youth, parents, school officials, and the community at large.
- To recognize, encourage, and reward hard work and accomplishment in our youth.

## Eligibility

Public, private and continuation high school students in Grades 9 through 12 are eligible to enter the contest. No student may be a contestant in more than one local club speech contest in any one year. More than one club may recruit contestants from a high school shared with another club. Winner of the District competition is ineligible to compete in subsequent years.

## TOPICS AND THEME

The theme for 2008-2009 Rotary International President D. K. Lee is "Make Dreams Real," which will also be the theme for this year's Speech Contest. Any topic related to this theme will be acceptable, provided that it is not profane, obscene, unpatriotic, or racist. If a contestant or coach is in doubt about the appropriateness of a topic, he/she should check with the Contest Chair of the local club or the District Chair. The chair's decision will be final. The topic of the speech must be specifically related to the 4-Way Test. This must be done in the body of the speech and is not to be reserved for concluding statements only.

## The 4-Way Test

Of the things we think, say, or do:

1. Is it the **TRUTH**?
2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?

## RULES

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**Length of Speech – Speeches must be no less than 6 minutes in length and no more than 8 minutes in length. Penalty points will be subtracted for time infractions at the rate of 2 points for every 15 seconds over or under the minimum or maximum.**

**Props – No props are to be used. Audience participation will be considered a prop. Penalty points will be subtracted for use of props at the rate of two points per infraction.**

**Speaker Aids – Contestants may use notes at the club level. At the regional level a single 3 x 5 card may be used. Notes may not be used at the District competition. Infractions will result in disqualification.**

**Order of presentation – Determined by lottery. Contestants who arrive after the competition has begun will be disqualified.**

