



**Rotary International
in Great Britain and
Ireland**



YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES

Rotary

Youth Speaks 2010

A Public Speaking Competition

**The Rules and Organisational Guidelines for
Competitions leading to the RIBI Finals on**

Saturday 8th May 2010

**Stratford-upon-Avon High School
Alcester Road, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 9DH**

Hosted by Rotary District 1060

Full details of joining instructions and of the venue will be provided
to all Regional Winners prior to the event.

INTRODUCTION TO 2010 COMPETITION

R I B I have for many years run public speaking competitions for young people. Public speaking is an important life skill and is one that Rotarians value. Rotarians are always delighted to celebrate the skills that young people demonstrate.

Each year hundreds of young people take part in events that culminate in the Regional and RIBI finals when participants travel from throughout the British Isles to take part. It is a wonderful celebration of the achievement of those taking part.

As in previous years, there will be two RIBI finals: one will be the Intermediate competition for those aged 11 to 13 years old on August 31st 2009; the other will be the Senior competition for those aged 14 to 17 years old on August 31st 2009.

This document outlines the organisation and rules of the competitions. It has been agreed that these rules will apply, without alteration, for the Rotary Year 2009 – 2010.

The determination of rules is always a problem: there is the need to lay down sufficient detail to give all contestants 'a level playing field' whilst, at the same time, giving space for innovation and creativity that is a feature of young people. It is hoped that these rules and the organisation gives that blend of guidance and flexibility.

It is stressed that these rules apply to the Regional and RIBI finals. It is up to Clubs and Districts to decide their arrangements for their club and district competitions. It is **very strongly** recommended however that they adopt these rules.

It is hoped that all Districts will make every effort to support this exciting initiative as an opportunity for the personal development of many young people and to provide a prestigious event to enhance the profile and awareness of Rotary.

The 2010 RIBI Final will be held on **Saturday 8th May 2010** at Stratford-upon-Avon High School hosted by District 1060 and organised by Rtn. Roy Hawkes and his committee.

Roy's contact details are:

Rtn. Roy Hawkes e-mail: royhawkes@btinternet.com Tel 01789 296041

Target Dates for District and Regional Competitions

The **target date** for completion of all **District competitions** is **1st March 2010**.

The **target date** for completion of the **Regional finals** is **21st March 2010**.

The **target date** for **submitting winning entries** to the organiser of the **RIBI Final** is **1st April 2010**.

Your RIBI Youth Opportunities Committee contact for the Regional Finals and Final of the Rotary Youth Speaks competition for 2009-10 is:

Rtn Lawrie Cooke

E-mail: lawrence.l.cooke@btinternet.com

Tel: (h) 01487 830114

All other enquiries should be addressed to your local participating Rotary Club.

THE RULES

1. Objectives

The competition aims to offer young people:

- ◆ An experience of speaking on a public platform as members of a team.
- ◆ An incentive to formulate ideas on significant subjects.
- ◆ The discipline in dealing with a topic in a limited time.
- ◆ The opportunity of learning and practising high standards of expression, presentation and appearance.
- ◆ The impartial criticism and assessment of performance by experienced adjudicators.

2. Competitors

The competition is open to teams of young people entered by Rotary Clubs from schools, colleges, youth training schemes or youth groups within the geographic area covered by Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland.

There are two categories: Senior and Intermediate.

The **Intermediate Competition** is open to students
aged 11 to 13 years at 31st August 2009.

The **Senior Competition** is open to students
aged 14 to 17 years at 31st August 2009.

Consequently, in the Intermediate Competition some entrants may be aged 14 years and in the Senior Competition some entrants may be 18 years of age.

No entrant may be a member of more than one team.

No team may participate more than once in any qualifying round. Team membership will normally be unchanged for each stage of the competition. In case of illness or other reason why a member of the team cannot participate, then the organisers must be contacted for approval to substitute a member or, at most 2 members.

3. Teams

Each team shall comprise three members: the chairperson, the speaker and the proposer of the vote of thanks.

4. Format

The **Chairperson** has **TWO** minutes to welcome the audience, to introduce the Speaker and to inform the audience of the relevance or expertise of the Speaker to the subject of his/her speech.

The **Speaker** has **SIX** minutes for the address and a maximum of **TWO** minutes to consider and answer a question that will be posed by the Questioner. The Speaker is free to choose any subject approved by the organisers, with the exception of subjects directly concerning party politics, race or religion.

Considerable discretion is urged in the choice of subjects which might be sensitive to members of the audience. The subject selected may however change from round to round.

When the **Speaker** has finished, the **Chairperson** will invite the **Questioner**, who shall NOT be an adjudicator, to put **one question only** to the Speaker.

The **Speaker** shall answer the question. Clarification of the question via the **Chairperson** is permitted, but the **Speaker** will answer without consultation with other team members. After this the **Chairperson** will briefly introduce the **Proposer** of the vote of thanks.

The Proposer of the vote of thanks has **TWO** minutes in which to propose the vote of thanks, remarking on both the content of the address and the response to the question asked by the questioner. The audience should then be invited to show its appreciation of the **Speaker**.

After the vote of thanks and applause, the **Chairperson** will close the proceedings.

The overall time for each team's presentation will be approximately **15** minutes, including the question.

5. Stages in the Competition

It is expected that there will be four stages in the Rotary Youth Speaks Competition:

- **Club Competitions**, which are run by local Rotary Clubs, individually or jointly. Two or more clubs may run a combined event if either has insufficient entries for a single event.
- **District Competitions**, in which winning teams from the Club competitions take part.

Clubs and Districts are **strongly advised** to base their competitions on these rules for the RIBI competition.

It is recommended that a team be allowed to compete in a District competition only when it has first taken part in a Club Competition or, under exceptional circumstances, has been judged to be of adequate standard by the District Youth Opportunities Chairperson or that person's representative.

Districts may decide to hold Area rounds of the competitions or Semi-finals leading up to the District Final.

It is also recommended that one team for every three competing teams go forward to the following stage of the competition at Club and District level.

- **Regional Finals**, in which **one** Intermediate and **one** Senior team from each District will compete in the competition, held in each of the eight Regions within RIBI.

In order to facilitate the arrangements for the RIBI Final, the Regional Finals should be held by 21st March 2010. The division of the 29 RIBI Districts into the 8 Regions is shown on page 8.

The Regional finals will be organised and judged according to the rules in this document.

Please ensure **details of the winning teams from each Regional Final** are forwarded to the organiser of the RIBI Final (Rtn Roy Hawkes) by **1st April 2010**.

- **RIBI Final.** One Intermediate team and one Senior team from each Regional Final will compete in the RIBI Final. The date and location of this year's RIBI Final is **Saturday 8th May 2010 at the Stratford-Upon-Avon High School, Stratford-Upon-Avon.**

6. Uniformity of Procedure

The Regional Finals and the RIBI Finals will be run strictly in accordance with the organisation and rules described in this document. In the interests of the participating teams, it is strongly recommended that the earlier stages of the competition are run along similar lines so that competitors do not find that they are disadvantaged by having to adapt, at short notice, to the RIBI rules and guidelines.

If a District or a Club has alternative arrangements at the earlier stages of the competitions, it is very **important** that its students and their teachers/instructors are made aware of the different rules that will be followed at Regional and RIBI finals.

7. Procedure

Before each competition takes place, a draw will be held to determine the order in which teams will make their presentations. This order will be notified to the teams on the day of the competition.

A system of lights will be provided: **green** to begin, **yellow** as a warning that the time is coming to an end and **red** to signal the end of the speaker's time. It is recommended that the organisers provide a back-up system of coloured cards in the event of an equipment failure.

At the beginning of each event, a Master of Ceremonies (MC), usually a Rotarian, will welcome the participants and guests, introduce the adjudicators and the questioner and outline the procedure. The MC will then invite each team, in order of the draw, to come onto the stage to make its presentation.

The team should be ushered onto the stage by the Chairperson, who should sit down with the Speaker on their right and the Proposer of the vote of thanks on their left. When the team are ready the Chairperson will stand and the green light will show. Once the green light has been given, the timing will run from that point and the Chairperson is in control until the Vote of thanks is complete and the proceedings have been closed.

Chairperson, adjudicators, questioner and audience will be aware of the passage of time by a system of lights used as follows: -

Chairperson:	Green light to start Yellow after 1.5 minutes Red after 2 minutes.
Speaker:	Green following introduction by the Chairperson Yellow after 5 minutes Red after 6 minutes
Proposer - vote of thanks:	Green after introduction by the Chairperson Yellow after 1.5 minutes Red after 2 minutes

8. Question to the Speaker

The **Questioner**, who will have been briefed in advance, will ask a single question. This should be short, sensible and clearly relate to the main theme of the address. The age of the Speaker should be taken into account when framing the question.

The Questioner should choose each question carefully as it could be significant to the success of the team.

9. Adjudication

There will be three qualified adjudicators who will be selected and appointed by the organisers of the particular competition. It is recommended that the Chairperson of the Adjudicators is a person with extensive experience of adjudicating speaking competitions for young people. Adjudicators may be drawn from teachers or lecturers of English, teachers of speech and drama and public speaking societies or 'circles'. The team should display a balance of gender.

It is important that, at every stage, the adjudication is seen to be impartial and fair. Conflicts of interest should be avoided and it is recommended that Rotarians should not be appointed as adjudicators in Club and District competitions.

A Rotarian may NOT be appointed as an adjudicator for the Regional and RIBI Finals.

At Regional and RIBI Final level when assessing each team, the adjudicators will take into account -

The Chairperson's management of the meeting (25 points)

The Speaker's ability to present and develop an argument and to answer the question (50 points)

The quality and courtesy of the Vote of thanks (25 points)

Included within the marking will be the importance of teamwork.

Over-running and under-running of the allotted times will be penalised: one point for every complete 15 seconds of over-run and one point for each complete thirty seconds of under-run for each speaker. The time-keeper will notify the adjudicators.

A marking sheet is provided as part of these rules for the use of the adjudicators.

After all the teams have presented and the performances judged, the adjudicators will comment on the performance of each team and the result will be announced. The adjudicators will not discuss marks or how they have been allotted. The decision of the adjudicators is final. No correspondence or discussion will be entered into following the event.

10. Guidance for participants and adjudicators.

In assessing the presentations, Adjudicators will pay attention to the following:-

All team members

- Effective use of voice, clear enunciation, easy manner, natural gestures.
- Whether the personality of the individual comes over to the audience.
- Humour, in the right context, will be appreciated.

Notes can be used, but they should not be too obvious; simply reading written content will be penalised. Audio-visual aids and props of any description are **NOT** allowed. Use of such items **will lead to disqualification**.

Chairperson

- A business-like, yet courteous, handling of the meeting.
- Attention to the duties specified above.
- The creation of a friendly and receptive atmosphere.

Speaker

- The construction of the address that should include an introduction, the main subject matter and a conclusion.
- The content of the speeches and the logic and weight of the arguments developed will be given great importance. A weak argument, however good the presentation, will not produce top marks.
- The impact created on the audience.
- The answers to the question should be courteous, to the point, full but not unduly wordy.

Proposer of the vote of thanks

- The duty of the Proposer is to express to the Speaker the appreciation of the audience.
- Reference should be made to the content of the address and the answer to the question.
- Finally, the Proposer should invite the audience to express their appreciation of the Speaker.

11. Participation

It is hoped is that every District will participate in this flagship annual event.

Each District Youth Opportunities Chairman is asked to inform the RIBI Youth Opportunities Committee of the intention to enter the competition at Intermediate level, Senior level or both.

12. Regional finals

These are organised by a group of Districts by mutual agreement.

To facilitate the organisation of the RIBI finals, **the Regional Finals should be held before 21st March 2010.**

Region	Districts	Regional Final 2010 hosted by
1	1010, 1020, 1030, 1230	1230
2	1040, 1070, 1220, 1270	1220
3	1080, 1130, 1240, 1260	1240
4	1090, 1120, 1140, 1250	1250
5	1110, 1170, 1200, 1290	1200
6	1060, 1100, 1150, 1210	1100
7	1050, 1180, 1190, 1280	1180
8	1160	1160

The requirements of the Regional finals are to:

- Identify and book a venue, preferably tiered theatre-style.
- Liaise with the participating Districts, teams and the RIBI Committee Contact.
- Offer advice on: 1. Availability of overnight accommodation, where needed. Home hosting may be a possibility. 2. Transportation, including providing a map of the last stage of the journey to the venue.
- Provide refreshment on arrival and at the close of the competition.
- Identify and appoint adjudicators.
- Liaise with the media – regional TV, radio and provincial newspapers of the localities of the event and details of the participating teams.
- Manage the finances. Commercial sponsorship could reduce the costs to sponsoring districts. It is recommended that the participating districts share the costs. There is no RIBI funding for regional competitions.
- Advise the Organiser of the RIBI Finals of the outcome of the Regional finals and provide a 100 word or less pen-portrait of the teams who will participate in the RIBI Finals, this being for publicity purposes.

13. Awards

All participants will receive a certificate at each stage.

At the Regional Final level, there may be an award for the winning teams.

At the RIBI Final, every participant will receive a commemorative gift and a certificate.

The winning team will receive the RIBI Challenge Trophy, which is to be held for one year.

Each member of the winning, second and third teams will receive an individual award.

14. RIBI Finals

The two RIBI Finals, Intermediate and Senior, will take place on one day in one location. Any District wishing to host the Finals in future years are invited to apply to the RIBI Youth Opportunities Committee Contact, as above.

To attract more commercial and media interest and coverage, the title of the competition will continue to be:



15. Transport, subsistence expenses and accommodation

A participating District and/or Club must arrange, at its own cost, the transportation to and from the Regional and RIBI Finals, any overnight accommodation and subsistence costs.

For those reaching the RIBI Finals, the organising district will, on request, assist by providing information about hotels or other accommodation in the locality. A light lunch is normally provided, for each team and its immediate supporters, as part of the event's expenses.

16. Finance

The cost of travel and accommodation (if required) to the Regional competition and to the RIBI Final will not be met by the organisers and it is the responsibility of the sponsoring Club to ensure the entrants are able to attend.



RIBI YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES

“ROTARY YOUTH SPEAKS”

ENTRY FORM

Please read the rules and guidelines before completing IN CAPITALS – Including e-mail addresses - and sending this form to your local participating Rotary Club

COMPETITION YEAR: 2009 - 2010 INTERMEDIATE/SENIOR COMPETITION *
 (*delete as appropriate)

Name of Sponsoring Rotary Club

.....

Name of Rotary Club contact person, Tel numbers – Home and Mobile and e-mail

.....

Name and address of school, college, youth group, other organisation:

.....

Name of teacher/adult responsible for the team, Tel numbers – Home and Mobile and e-mail

.....

Please attach overleaf brief details (100 words) of the school, college, youth group or other organisation for use in press releases, published information and competition programmes

Subject chosen:

.....

Team members

Date of birth

Chairperson:

Speaker:

Proposer:

The parents, guardians or carers of the team members have given permission for the team members to take part in the competition and for photographic records to be taken and used for RIBI publicity purposes.

Name (capitals):

..... *Teacher*

or other adult responsible for the team

Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland has adopted a Policy in respect of its work with children, the elderly, the vulnerable and those with a disability. Dates for rounds leading to Regional and RIBI finals have been noted and it is verified that the team members will be available on these dates.

Signed:

Date:



RIBI YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES

“ROTARY YOUTH SPEAKS” COMPETITION

MARKING SHEET

In completing this sheet, adjudicators should take account of the criteria set out in the rules and procedures.

Adjudicator:

Team:

<u>FUNCTION</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>Max</u>	<u>MARKS</u>
Chairperson		25	
Speaker		50	
Proposer		25	
TOTAL		100	

PENALTY POINTS TO BE DEDUCTED:
(notified by the Time-Keeper) ----- **GRAND TOTAL:**

COMMENTS

Chairperson:

.....
.....

Speaker:

.....
.....

Proposer:

.....
.....

Team:

.....
.....

Signed: **Date:**

Suggested allocation of marks to be used by the Adjudicators.

Name of school

This sheet is for your guidance.
Team work should be taken into account
Please note...No reference should be made to individual marks.
Please write comments on the Adjudicators' Mark Sheets

Member	Aspect	Marks	Points to be considered						
Chair Manages the meeting	Delivery	5	Effective use of voice, clear enunciation, easy manner, natural gestures, expression of personality, humour in the right context.						
	Control of Meeting	10	Business-like, yet courteous handling of the meeting. Maintain a good atmosphere with a calm & courteous manner showing appropriate attention.						
	Process	10	Welcome audience. Explain meeting structure. Introduce the team & the subject. Inform audience of relevance / expertise of Speaker to subject of speech. Act as a conduit for the question & seek clarification if required. Conclude the meeting.						
				SUB-TOTAL					
Speaker Presents & develops an argument and answers a question	Delivery	15	Effective use of voice, clear enunciation, easy manner, natural gestures, expression of personality, humour in the right context. Impact on and ability to involve the audience. Show appropriate attention during the meeting.						
	Subject	10	Content of the speech, logic and weight of arguments developed.						
	Construction	15	Introduction: Get the audience to want to listen to the talk. Body of Talk: Develop the argument and demonstrate clear thinking. Use of, for example, illustrations & rhetorical questions. Conclusion: Draw threads together, summarise, give the final idea, thank the audience for listening, sit down.						
	Answer to the Question	10	Clear, courteous and to the question. Full but not unduly wordy.						
				SUB-TOTAL					
Proposer of Vote of Thanks Express to the Speaker the appreciation of the audience.	Delivery	10	Effective use of voice, clear enunciation, easy manner, natural gestures, expression of personality, humour in the right context.						
	Content	5	Refer to the content of the speech, picking out specific items. Invite the audience to express their appreciation of the Speaker.						
	Reference to Question	5	Comment on the Speaker's answer to the question; include originality.						
	Process	5	Show appropriate attention during the meeting. Give positive comments; give a clear signal for applause.						
				SUB-TOTAL					
			GRAND TOTAL						
			RESULT						