

## **Proposed amendments to District Procedures March 2024**

### **Background**

The board of directors made a decision in January around the way speech contests are to be conducted in the 24/25 programme year and announced that all contests past club level must be held in person. Provision has been made for online clubs to also be able to have contests as follows:

“To provide members with the option to practice competitive speaking in an online setting, a new contest type will be added. The Online Speech Contest will be a contest type similar to Evaluation, Humorous, Table Topics, and Tall Tales that can be selected by Districts. This contest type will be conducted fully online, will follow the rules of the International Speech Contest (insofar as practical), and will not proceed past the District level.”

District 72 would like to give online clubs the ability to participate in contests up to District Level. The proposed alignment for the 24/25 programme year, has grouped the online clubs into one area. This will allow the clubs to compete against each other in an area contest, which would then proceed to the District level.

The annual conference programmes always consist of the annual business meeting, educational sessions, workshops and contests, creating a very full agenda and will now have to schedule time for the online contests. In order to still provide a varied programme we are proposing that we retain in-person contests and add no more than two contests at District level for online clubs. The contest type to be determined at the final District Executive Committee Meeting and District Council meeting each year to rotate the contest type and give online clubs enough time to know which contests will be available at District for the year following.

### **Motion 1**

I move that with effect from the beginning of the 24/25 programme year, District 72 conferences will incorporate two contests in their agenda for online clubs. One prepared speech contest and one other.

### **Motion 2**

I move that the online contests to go to District level in the 24/25 programme year are the humorous and evaluation contests.