

# Delaware Jaycees Individual Competitions Manual

The Delaware Jaycees Individual Competition Program is designed to help promote the skills of its members in the areas of speaking, writing, debating and interviewing. These competitions help members become more confident in presenting themselves both verbally and in written format; skills that can be transferred to a member's personal and professional life.

## General Eligibility Requirements

Contestants must be fully registered to attend the Delaware Year-End Meeting or Annual Meeting prior to the time of competition. Competitors must be of Jaycee age (18-40) at the time of state competition, or their dues must still be current. Each competitor must also be a Jaycee in good standing and a member of a recognized Jaycee chapter.

Each competitor must complete a Competition Registration Form and submit \$2 per competition entered (Except for Jaycee Debate where one form is submitted per team along with a \$10 per team registration fee) by the registration deadline. Members can compete in multiple events.

### Other Specific Eligibility Factors:

1. Current or past National officers, National staff officers, National Award Committee Chairs and current and past State Presidents are **not** eligible to compete in any of the competitions.
2. National Award Committee members are not eligible to compete for a period of three years after leaving the committee.
3. Unless otherwise specified, current State Officers (elected or appointed), local chapter presidents and ineligible State chairpersons/program managers are **not** eligible to compete. (See separate section below listing ineligibility requirements for state chairpersons/program managers)
  - **“Current”** is defined as “having served during any portion of the year on which judging is based.”
  - **“State Officers”** are defined as: President, Vice Presidents, Regional Directors and District Directors.
4. Competitors are allowed to compete once at the Year-End Meeting and once at the Annual Meeting in a given competition. After a member has competed in the same competition at both the Annual Meeting and Year-End Meeting, the member is no longer eligible to compete in that competition. The member is eligible to participate in other competitions providing that he or she still meets all of the qualifications of the competition, as well as the General Eligibility requirements.
5. Once a member has placed first in competition in a national competition, (US Jaycees Year-End or Annual Meeting), he or she is no longer eligible to compete in that particular competition again on the state level.

## Judges

Chapters must supply at least 1 judge per every 5 competitors. A \$25 proxy fee may be paid in lieu of supplying a judge. You can judge and compete, just not in the same competition.

## **Speak-Up**

Speak-Up competition is held in Delaware twice each year (Year-End Meeting and Annual Meeting) to determine the most outstanding speakers in the Delaware Jaycees for that year. It is not the intent of this award to recognize professional speakers. The first-place winner must deliver his or her winning prepared speech at the general assembly meeting following the announcement of winners. The first place Speak-Up winner at the Delaware Year-End Meeting and Annual Meeting are eligible to represent the Delaware Jaycees nationally at the U.S. Junior Chamber Year-End Meeting and Annual Meeting. (See U.S. Jaycees National Awards Manual for details)

### **Additional Eligibility Requirements**

- Past state Master's Speak-Up winners are not eligible. All other eligibility criteria listed under "General Eligibility Requirements" also apply.
- Members who are employed in a profession in which public speaking is required, is not eligible to participate. "Employed" is defined as a position from which at least 25% of their income is derived.

### **Judging Procedure**

The first round of competition will consist of a previously prepared speech, five to seven minutes in length. The topic of the speech shall be given to the competitors approximately ten days prior to the state competition. Under no circumstances will the prepared topic be published or released to the competitors until after the deadline passes for all competitors to register for competitions with the Delaware Jaycees. All competitors shall compete in this initial round and shall speak on the same topic. A second round of competitions known as "Finals" or "Call Backs," will be held for the competitors receiving the highest scores on their prepared speech. The finalists will compete against one another on the same impromptu topic. That topic will be announced to each candidate individually just prior to his or her speech. All competitors will be given the exact same amount of time (1 minute) to prepare for the impromptu speech. The length of the impromptu speech will be three to five minutes. The winners of the Speak-Up Award will be determined solely by the scores received in the final (impromptu) round.

The contestants will be judged on the basis of their delivery, speech content, salesmanship and continuity. All judges will utilize the same speech evaluation sheet. Contestants should take care **not** to identify their chapter or state in either their prepared or impromptu speeches.

## **Master's Speak-Up**

The Master's Speak-Up competition is held in Delaware twice a year (Year-End Meeting and Annual Meeting) and provides eligible state officers and local chapter presidents the opportunity to compete while in office. The format and judging procedure for this competition is the same as for the "Speak-Up" competition, including minimum and maximum times for the prepared and impromptu speeches. The topic for the prepared speech shall also be released in advance; however, it will not be the same topic that used for the "Speak-Up" competition. The first-place Master's Speak-Up winner must also deliver his or her speech at the general assembly meeting following the announcement of winners. The first place Master's Speak-Up winner at the Delaware Year-End Meeting and Annual Meeting are eligible to represent the Delaware Jaycees nationally at the U.S. Junior Chamber Year-End Meeting and Annual Meeting. (See U.S. Jaycees National Awards Manual for details)

### **Additional Eligibility Requirements**

Only current (the year on which judging is based) state officers and local chapter presidents are eligible to compete in Master's Speak-Up. Past state (Speak-Up) winners are eligible to participate in Master's Speak-Up. All other eligibility restrictions on current or past national officers, state presidents, National Awards Committee members and ineligible Program Managers also apply to this competition.

## **Write-Up Award**

Write-Up competition is held in Delaware twice each year (Year-End Meeting and Annual Meeting) to determine the most outstanding writers in the Delaware Jaycees for that awards year. It is not the intent of this award to recognize professional writers. A “professional writer” is defined as a member who is currently or previously employed in a profession in which writing or publishing is required. “Employed” is defined as an occupation from which at least 25% of their income is derived. The winning essay from the competition at each Meeting will be published in the official newsletter of The Delaware Jaycees. The first place Write-Up winner at the Delaware Year-End Meeting and Annual Meeting are eligible to represent the Delaware Jaycees nationally at the U.S. Junior Chamber Year-End Meeting and Annual Meeting. (See U.S. Jaycees National Awards Manual for details)

### **Judging Procedure**

Write-Up competition will take place in two rounds. Unlike Speak-Up, the Write-Up topics are not release in advance and no submissions are prepared in advance. All contestants will participate in the first round of competition. Everyone shall be sequestered in the same room. A topic will be revealed to the competitors at the beginning of the competition. Each contestant will have 30 minutes to complete an essay on the same topic. The entry will be judged on the basis of the comprehension and clarity of the topic, format of presentation (logic), development of the entry (creativity), and mechanics (spelling neatness and correct use of grammar). Contestants should take care not to identify their chapter or state in their essays. All essays will be hand-written. Nothing to assist the writer (dictionary, thesaurus, reference materials, etc.) will be permitted to be used or even brought into the room. Competitors judged as receiving the highest scores on their essay will participate in the second round of competitions known as “Finals” or “Call Backs.” Write-Up competition for finalists will be conducted the same competition day, later in the afternoon. The same procedure used in the initial round of competition will be followed for the finalists' competition. The finalists will again have 30 minutes to complete an essay on a new topic. Winners of the award will be determined strictly by final round scores. Sorry, spectators are not allowed in the competition room during any portion of the Write-Up competition.

## **“Jaycee Jeopardy” Award**

Jaycee Jeopardy is a question-and-answer contest dealing mainly with the history of the Junior Chamber organization, its officers, goals and activities. The competition is held in Delaware twice each year (Year-End Meeting and Annual Meeting) to determine the most outstanding historians in the Delaware Jaycees for that year. Sources of information may include The Jaycee Book, USJC Website, Jaycees Magazine, A Legacy of Leadership (the 75th anniversary history book), Annual Meeting program book, National Programs and TOYA program book. The first place Jaycee Jeopardy winner at the Delaware Year-End Meeting and Annual Meeting are eligible to represent the Delaware Jaycees nationally at the U.S. Junior Chamber Year-End Meeting and Annual Meeting. (See U.S. Jaycees National Awards Manual for details)

### **Judging Procedure**

The contestants will be judged on the number of correct answers given. For the preliminary round, a written questionnaire will be given to all contestants at the beginning of the competition. Each contestant will have 30 minutes to answer the questions. Competitors with the highest scores will advance to the final round, also known as “Call Backs.” The finalists' competition is an oral round, "Jeopardy" style. Spectators are not allowed during the written test portion of the competition, but are encouraged to watch the final round.

## Jaycee Debate

The Jaycee Debate competition is held in Delaware twice each year (Year-End Meeting and Annual Meeting) in Delaware to determine the most outstanding debate team in the Delaware Jaycees for that year. It is not the intent of this award to recognize debate professionals, including but not limited to litigators, mediators and lobbyists. The first, second and third place winning debate teams will be recognized during the awards ceremony. The first place Jaycee Debate team at the Delaware Year-End Meeting and Annual Meeting are eligible to represent the Delaware Jaycees nationally at the U.S. Junior Chamber Year-End Meeting and Annual Meeting. (See U.S. Jaycees National Awards Manual for details)

### Additional Eligibility Requirements

A Jaycee Debate team must include three (3) members: a "Captain" and two speakers. All three members must be from the Delaware Jaycees, but do not have to be from the same chapter. **One** member of the team may be a current State officer or local chapter president. "Current" is defined as "having served during any portion of the year on which judging is based." "State Officers" are defined as: President, Vice Presidents, Regional Directors and District Directors. Both of the remaining two members of the team **must** meet the same eligibility criteria for all other competitions listed under "General Eligibility Requirements."

### Competition Procedure

Competition will be on a single-elimination basis with winning teams moving on to the next level of competition. Depending on the number of teams competing and the combined score from previous rounds, the top 3 or 4 finalist teams will face off in "head to head" style competition or a "round-robin" style competition. The winners of the Debate competition shall remain secret until reveal at the awards ceremony. Audiences are invited to witness the Debate Competition throughout all rounds.

Teams will argue opposite sides of the topic. A coin toss prior to the announcement of the topic will be used to determine which team will be able to choose their preferred side. The team winning the coin toss will be provided with 30 seconds to make their decision to choose either "for" (the Pro side) or "against" (the Con side). Each team will be given the topic fifteen minutes prior to the start of the debate. Both teams are provided with the topic at the same time. Different topics, chosen via random drawing, will be used for each round of competition. The topics may be either Jaycee or non-Jaycee related. Speakers should take care **not** to identify their chapter or state (or that of their opponents) at anytime during their arguments.

During the Debate, speakers will adhere to the following **speaking order** and **time limits**:

**Captain** FOR the motion (PRO): **2 minutes**  
**Captain** AGAINST the motion (CON): **2 minutes**  
**1st Speaker** FOR the motion (PRO): **3 minutes**  
**1st Speaker** AGAINST the motion (CON): **3 minutes**  
**2nd Speaker** FOR the motion (PRO): **3 minutes**  
**2nd Speaker** AGAINST the motion (CON): **3 minutes**  
**Captain** FOR the motion (PRO): **2 minutes**  
**Captain** AGAINST the motion (CON): **2 minutes**

The "Captains" for each team will be responsible for the team's "introduction" of their point of view and "summary" or "closing argument" for their point of view. **NO NEW MATERIAL MAY BE INTRODUCED** during the closing arguments; the speaker may only restate their point of view and rebut material already presented.

## **POINT OF INFORMATION**

Only a participating speaker can give a Point of Information. Substitutes, supporters, members of the audience cannot offer or answer Points of Information. A point of information may be made only during the second and third minutes of the first or second speaker's time. A Point of Information is not permitted anytime while the Captain is speaking.

Following are the procedures for giving and accepting Points of Information:

- a) If giving a Point of Information, raise your hand or place your hand over your head, stand up and address the speaker at the podium, saying, "On A Point Of Information."
- b) Wait for the speaker to indicate whether he or she will listen to your point. If the speaker says "No, thank you", or indicates by way of a gesture that the point will not be taken, or continues with their speech without yielding the floor, then sit down.
- c) If the speaker indicates that he or she will take the point, then deliver it clearly and briefly and then sit down. Do not retort to the speaker's reply. At no point should the speakers engage in a conversation with each other.
- d) If speaking, and an opponent offers a Point of Information, you can accept it right then, you can refuse to accept it, or you can indicate you will deal with it in a moment when you are finished with the point you are making.
- e) When replying to a Point of Information, be brief, humorous if possible, and then return to your speech.
- f) The time used to ask and answer the question (or Point of Information) counts against the current speaker's time. Thus it is important that the speaker keep control of his/her allotted time.

## **TIMEOUTS**

- (a) Each team is allowed a quantity of one (1) time-out, one-minute in length, during the debate.
- (b) A timeout may be taken at any time during the debate as long as it is called in between speakers.
- (c) The team captain shall indicate to the Chairman that his/her team wishes to use their timeout, at which time the Chairman will ask the Timekeeper to inform them when the minute is up.