



ROSTRUM
CLUBS OF WA

2021 ARTHUR GARVEY SPEAKER OF THE YEAR COMPETITION RULES AND GUIDELINES

Topics

Heats and Semi-finals

- I had reason to believe...
- Growing pains
- It's complicated
- Language Matters
- Things I learnt from...
- As the oldest/middle/youngest/only child I...

Finals

The topics for the final will be released after the conclusion of the semi-finals.

Duration

- Timing is crucial.
- There will be two timers at the heats, semis and final.
- The people time-keeping will not be the people adjudicating. The time-keepers will inform the adjudicators of how long each speaker spoke

Heats and Semi-finals

- Speeches are to be 8 minutes, with warning at 6.
- Speeches must be between 7:30 and 8:30 to not attract a penalty. Speeches 1-15 seconds outside the 30-second leeway will be penalised. Speeches more than 15 seconds outside the 30 second leeway will be ranked last.
- Speakers will be penalised as follows:
7:30-8:30 – no penalty
7:15-7:30; 8:30-8:45 – penalised
Under 7:15, or over 8:45 – ranked last.

Finals

- Speeches are to be 10 minutes with a warning at 8.
- Speeches must be between 9:30 and 10:30 to not attract a penalty. Speeches 1-15 seconds outside the 30-second leeway, will be penalised. Speeches more than 15 seconds outside the 30 second leeway will be ranked last.
- Speakers will be penalised as follows:
9:30-10:30 – no penalty
9:15-9:30; 10:30-10:45 – penalised
Under 9:15, or over 10:45 – ranked last.

Props

- Props are not permitted. If you use props, you will be ranked last. 'Props' is to be interpreted in the widest sense, including costumes, objects, furniture and set pieces. If you are questioning whether it is allowed, it is probably not.

Recording of speeches

Heats and Semi-finals

- Rostrum will not be arranging for recording of speeches in the Heats and Semis. If you would like your speech recorded, please ask a friend/fellow club member to record your speech.

Finals

- All speeches will be videoed and speakers will wear a lapel microphone for the purposes of video recording. The microphone will not amplify your voice. Video lights may be used.

Adjudication

- Adjudicators will consider adherence to the topic as their first consideration and then use the standard Rostrum Adjudication model of 'Impact on the Intellect and Impact on the Emotions'.
- For your guidance, further explanation of the adjudication criteria is found in the *Rostrum Speaking Competition Standard Adjudication Sheet and Guidelines*, included below.

Heats and Semi-finals

- The heats and semis will be adjudicated by a panel of three (3) adjudicators. Contestants will not be informed in advance of the panel.

Finals

- There will be five (5) adjudicators for the finals.