Original Oratory Information Sheet

Description of Event: Original Oratory is a public speaking event in which the contestant writes, memorizes and delivers his or her own material, which is persuasive in nature.

Rules:
1. No visual aids are allowed. The contestant may use <u>only one</u> index card (not larger than 4"x6") as an aid to memory.

2. The speaking time will be no less than 5 minutes and no more than 8 minutes. If the contestant violates this rule, the judge <u>must deduct 2 points</u> from the score.

3. The speech should be presented from memory with minimal assistance from the note card (if used).

4. Topics are to be researched and sources should be used to support the arguments made. All sources should be verbally cited within the speech.

5. The orator is given free choice of subject and the speech is judged solely on the effectiveness of the development and presentation.

   *Violations of time or rules of the event should result in a flat 2-point deduction, regardless of the number of violations. It is up to the judge's discretion as to how this will affect the final ranking.

Criteria for Judging:
   1. <u>Organization:</u> Does the speech follow a clear, logical outline with a beginning, middle and end?

   2. <u>Content:</u> Was the speech persuasive in nature? Did it have a clear purpose?

   3. <u>Delivery:</u> Did the speaker use appropriate techniques to enhance the effectiveness of their speech?

   4. <u>Total Effectiveness:</u> Did the speech effectively fulfill its intended purpose?

ORIGINAL ORATORY

TIME:_____

Room_____   Round_____   **LIMIT: 5-8 minutes**

Contestant Code_____

Name_____

ORGANIZATION (Speech follows a clear, logical outline with a beginning, middle and end)
• Introduction points the way
• Main points of body were clearly designated
• Speaker does not digress
• Conclusion is satisfactory and definite
• Transitional devices are used effectively

CONTENT (Speech is persuasive and has a clear purpose)
• Speech shows sufficient investigation
• Speech is written in an interesting and relevant manner
• Speaker makes effective use of cited material
• Word choice and usage was appropriate for the topic.
• Topic is interesting, compelling and appropriate for the audience

DELIVERY (used appropriate techniques to enhance the effectiveness of the speech)
• Speaker is sincere and convincing
• Speaker makes effective use of eye contact and facial expression
• Speaker makes effective use of gestures and bodily action
• Speaker's variety in pitch, rate, volume and tone
  contributes to the persuasiveness of the speech
• Articulation is clear; pronunciation is correct
• Speaker was poised and confident

TOTAL EFFECTIVENESS (The speech effectively fulfilled its intended purpose)
• Speech flowed smoothly
• Speaker presented adequate logic
  and support for their argument

POOR	**BELOW AVERAGE**	**GOOD**	**EXCELLENT**	**OUTSTANDING**
1-8	9-14	15-19	20-22	23-25

TOTALS AFTER 2 ROUNDS
Red Ribbon: 40-45
Blue Ribbon: 46-50

Judge Code_____   Score_____

Judge Name_____   Time/Criteria Violations (-2)_____

                                         Final Score_____

                                         Ranking_____