

INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION 2020

Conduct of
Rounds



ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION
discovering voices

CONDUCT OF ROUNDS

Structure of Competition

All participants will be required to compete in two heats: a prepared speech heat and an impromptu speech heat.

The prepared speech heats are the first competition stage, and all participants will be randomly allocated into six heats of around 9 participants each. After hearing all speeches in that heat, the judges will rank every participant in the heat from 1st-9th. Each participant is therefore given a unique ranking within that heat. These rankings will be used to draw the impromptu heats. Only those finishing in the top 5 of each prepared speech heat will be eligible for the main route to the grand final (see diagram pg 10).

All participants will then be drawn into six impromptu heats, with the top six from each prepared speech heat deliberately being kept apart. You will also be the only participant with your unique ranking in that particular impromptu heat. (E.g. if you ranked 3rd in the prepared speeches, you will not be drawn against anyone else who ranked 3rd.)

After each participant has performed their 3 minute impromptu speech, the judges will again rank all participants from 1st-9th. The top ranked participant in an impromptu heat **that also** finished in the top 5 in their prepared speech heat will automatically go through to the final. Those ranked outside of the top 5 in their prepared speech heat will only be eligible to advance to the Grand Final via the Wildcard route.

Wild cards are those who ranked outside of the top 5 in the prepared speech round and then were ranked first in their heat in the impromptu speech round. There will be a maximum of 2 wild cards allowed entry to the grand final. In the event of more than 2 participants meeting the criteria to be a wild card, the prepared speech ranking will be used to split participants. In the unlikely event that participants are still level, the ESU's Director of Education will review video or audio footage of the tied potential wild cards' prepared speech performances and judge which 2 extra participants should proceed to the grand final.

Rankings from both sets of heats will not be made public during the week of IPSC itself. However, the top 5 ranked participants from every prepared speech heat and every impromptu speech heat will be informed of their ranking digitally in the weeks following the competition.

Heats – Prepared Speeches

The prepared speech heats are the first stage of the competition.

Participants are randomly assigned to one of six heats (determined by the IPSC Convenor).

Participants speak in a random order (determined by the IPSC Convenor).

Participants deliver their five-minute prepared speech (which must be connected with the prepared speech heats theme, *"Think globally, act locally"*). The speech must be wholly original and must be different from the content prepared for the speech then given at the Grand Final, should the participant reach that stage. If the ESU has reason to believe a speech, or sections of it, have been used more than once, we reserve the right to disqualify the participant from the competition.

A timekeeper gives an audible signal at 4 minutes and 30 seconds (to indicate that 30 seconds remain), at 5 minutes (to indicate that the participant's time is up), and at 5 minutes and 30 seconds (at which point the participant must conclude their speech immediately).



Participants who speak for fewer than 4 minutes and 30 seconds or more than 5 minutes and 30 seconds may be penalised by the adjudicators.

The speech is immediately followed by a 3-4-minute question period.

Questions may come from members of the audience or members of the adjudication panel and participants should respond to each question individually.

Audience members who are connected with a participant (e.g. a family member or an accompanying guest) may not ask questions of that participant.

No visual aids, props or amplifying microphones may be used (recording devices may be used with prior permission from the IPSC Convenor).

The adjudicators judge the participants in the heats in accordance with the adjudication guidelines and the marking scheme for prepared speeches, and the speaker scale, contained in this handbook.

Participants may seek feedback from the adjudicators, but only after the decision has been announced.

The adjudicators' decision is final.

A ranking will be given to each participant based on the speaker scale. This ranking, along with the impromptu heat ranking, will determine which speakers go on to perform in the grand final.

Heats – Impromptu speeches

The impromptu speeches are the second stage of the competition. Participants are assigned to one of six heats (determined by the IPSC Convenor).

Participants speak in a random order (determined by the IPSC Convenor).

Participants deliver a three-minute impromptu speech on a new topic. Participants choose their topic from a list of three, which they receive 15 minutes before they must deliver their speech.

During the 15-minute preparation period:

- participants are given a quiet room in which to choose their topic and prepare their speech;
- participants may not use any printed or electronic resources for the purpose of research;
- dictionaries and writing materials (blank paper, palm or cue cards, pens, pencils etc.) are made available to participants.

A timekeeper gives an audible signal at 2 minutes 30 seconds (to indicate that 30 seconds remain), at 3 minutes (to indicate that the participant's time is up) and at 3 minutes and 30 seconds (at which point the participant must conclude their speech immediately).

Participants who speak for fewer than 2 minutes 30 seconds or more than 3 minutes 30 seconds may be penalised by the adjudicators.

The impromptu speech is not followed by a question period.

No visual aids, props or amplifying microphones may be used (recording devices may be used with prior permission from the IPSC Convenor).

The adjudicators judge the participants in the impromptu speech heats in accordance with the adjudication guidelines and the marking scheme for impromptu speeches, and the speaker scale, contained in this handbook.

Participants may seek feedback from the adjudicators, but only after the decision has been announced.

The adjudicators' decision is final. A ranking will be given to each participant based on the speaker scale. This ranking, along with the prepared speech heat ranking, will determine which speakers go on to perform in the grand final.



Grand Final

Participants speak in a random order (determined by the IPSC Convenor).

Participants deliver their five-minute prepared speech on the theme of *“Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced”*. This speech must be wholly original and must be wholly different in content to the speech given at the heats stage of the competition.

The rules relating to timing, questioning and adjudication apply to the grand final exactly as they apply to the prepared speech heats (see above).

No visual aids or props may be used. Amplifying and/or recording microphones may be used at the discretion of the IPSC Convenor.

The adjudicators select a winner and a runner up, both of whom receive an award.

Fig. 1

- The chairperson introduces the speaker, giving their name, nation/region and the title of their speech. After the speech, the chairperson invites questions from the audience and the adjudicators. Questions must be addressed to the chairperson.
- The timekeeper records the length of each speech for the adjudicators and gives audible signals indicating how much time has elapsed for each speech.
- The chairperson and the timekeeper sit together at the front or at the side of the room in view of the speaker, the adjudicators and the audience. The speaker stands at the front of the room, in view of the adjudicators and the audience.
- The adjudicators (adjudication panel) sit at the back of the room, behind the audience.

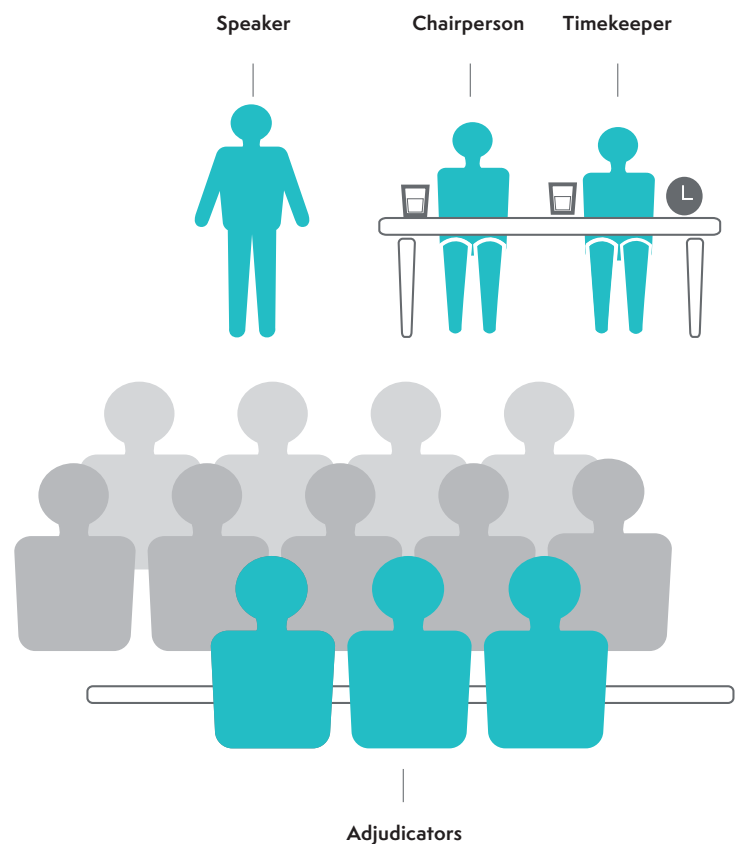


Fig 2. How participants can reach final of IPSC

