

2020 Virtual Speech Contest

Prepared Speech Announcement: June 11

Prepared Speech Deadline: June 18

Winners Announced: June 25 or at awards ceremony at NJS

Prepared Speech Contest

1. Contestant must be a member of the NJSA.
2. Senior (17-21), Intermediate (13-16), Junior (9-12), and Novice (8 and younger) contestants are eligible. The intermediate and senior divisions will be combined, as will the novice and junior divisions.
3. Contestants must send a recorded version of their prepared speech in an MP4 format by email submission to nicole@nationalswine.com by Thursday, June 18th that also includes the following:
 - Name
 - Division
 - Speech Recording
 - a typewritten, double-spaced speech manuscript
4. Each speech must be between three to six minutes in length
5. Contestants must include in email submission a typewritten, double-spaced speech manuscript. The manuscript must be the result of the contestant's own efforts. A title page including the title of the speech, the speaker's name, hometown, and birthdate, must accompany the manuscript.

The Speech

1. Any subject pertaining to the swine industry is acceptable. Exploration of all phases of the industry is encouraged. Current issues, policies and trends are good topics, too.
2. The speech must be the result of the contestant's own efforts.
3. Each speech must be three to six minutes long. Deductions of one-half point per ten seconds will be taken from the score by each judge for speeches under or over the specified time frame.

Method of Judging

1. The NSR Vice President of Operations and the NSR Director of Education and Outreach will oversee selecting three competent and impartial judges to evaluate the contestants.
2. Contestants will be permitted to use notes. Excessive reference may result in a deduction of the contestant's score.
3. The use of visual aids (charts, slides, signs, etc.) is NOT permitted.
4. Judges shall receive copies of the manuscripts prior to judging speeches so the general idea of the speeches may be reviewed before they view prepared speech presentations.
5. The contestant will be scored 40 percent on speech content and organization, and 60 percent on presentation.

6. Upon completion of all speeches, and without consultation, each judge shall total his/her score of the manuscript and presentation for each speaker. Contest officials will then collect the score sheets, deduct points if necessary, for time violations and rank the contestants in numerical order based on each judge's scores. (Highest scores first, lowest scores last).

7. The rankings, not the score, of the three judges shall be added for each speaker, and the final placings will be determined by the lowest composite rankings. Actual scores will be used only to break ties.