Gold Merit Competition

June __, 2026

Judge # _____ **Contestant:** _____

Division: Jr Int Teen Sr

Public Speaking

Judging Criteria	Score	Judge Comments
First Impressions - Introduction, attention-grabbing opener	/20	
Overall Speaking Ability - Confidence, eye contact - Memorization (note cards acceptable)	/20	
Volume, Clarity, Speed - Projection, enunciation, cadence	/15	
Relevance to Topic - Topic: "What was the most unexpected lesson learned, or skill gained during your Gold Merit project?"	/10	
Speech Content - Speech follows a main theme/stays on topic. - Supports the speech with stories, examples, facts, etc. - Creativity/Uniqueness/Visual Aids (Not required).	/20	
Time Limit - 1-3 minute- Junior - 3-5 minute- Intermediate, Teen, & Senior - 1 point deduction for every 10 seconds over/under (Maximum of 10 point deducted).	/10	
Appearance - Dress code: Show ring or Professional attire	/5	

Public Speaking Total	/100

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Interview

Judging Criteria	Score	Judge Comments
Communication - Listens to question entirely before responding. - Demonstrates an understanding of the question and/or asks for clarification.	/20	
Knowledge of Speech - Demonstrates an understanding of speech content.	/10	
Body Language - Eye contact - Confidence	/10	

Interview Total	/40

Signature: _____

Gold Merit Competition

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Contestant: _____

Division: Jr Int Teen Sr

Record Book

Judging Criteria	Score	Judge Comments
Follows Guidelines - All record books must use the approved forms and must be placed in a colored folder (3 holes with brads). - Copy of speech included in the folder.	/15	
Completeness of Book - All sections are complete and thorough. - All questions are answered completely and clearly.	/20	
Neatness - Handwritten (Legible) or typed. - Records are organized.	/10	
Accuracy of Costs - Financial entries are accurate and appropriate.	/15	
Grammar - Punctuation, complete sentences, capitalization, etc.	/20	

Record Book Total	/80

Signature: _____

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Public Speaking

Judge 1	Judge 2	Judge 3	Total
/100	/100	/100	/300

Interview

Judge 1	Judge 2	Judge 3	Total
/40	/40	/40	/120

Record Book

TOTAL GOLD MERIT POINTS

Judge 1			Total Points
/80			/500

Signature: _____