



Winners' Circle Speech

Purpose

To provide a challenge to high achievers. Through participation in this event, students participate with the best of their age group.

Event Participation

1. Grades 4-12 are involved in the Winners' Circle Speech event.
2. All first place speech winners from all previous L2L Conventions will participate with other first place winners in the following divisions:
Grades 4-6 Grades 7-9 Grades 10-12
3. **In addition to their prepared speeches, participants in grades 10-12 will also draw a topic and present a 1.5-3 minute impromptu/extemporaneous speech. The topics will be chosen from the following chapters from the current year's Pearls Study Guide, *Not Ashamed to Lead*, which may be purchased from the [L2L Online Store](#).**

Chapter 4 - I Am Answerable to God and to Society by Dr. Joe Wells

Chapter 7 - I Am Responsible for My Agreements and Obligations by Phillip Hines

Chapter 14 - Why You Should Not Be Ashamed by Roy and Brenda Johnson

Students will be awarded from 0-20 points based on their understanding and effective presentation of their selected topic. These points will be added to the score from the prepared speeches.

Procedures for impromptu/extemporaneous speeches:

After all participants in the room have presented their prepared speeches, and the judges have finished going over the evaluation sheets, all participants will go into the hallway outside the event room with one of the judges. They should line up in the same order as their first speeches. The first participant will draw a topic and **have three minutes to make notes on an index card that they will be given at that time** to prepare for presenting the impromptu speech. They may use their Bibles (printed or electronic) during this time of preparation. It is allowable for participants to use a tablet or other electronic device for looking up scripture for their speeches. At no time, should they be sending or receiving text or email messages. Students should not have pre-written speeches for this part of the event. Remember, notes prepared before-hand will NOT be allowed when the impromptu speech is being given.

In an effort to have the impromptu speech portion of grades 10-12 Winners' Circle Speech truly be impromptu, we will no longer allow any prepared notes to be brought to the Winners' Circle Speech room. This ONLY applies to the impromptu speeches. Students may still have notes as needed for their prepared speeches. We encourage the students to study the assigned chapters of the Pearls book and be ready to make notes during their three-minute preparation time before presenting their impromptu speeches. Students will be given a note card at the start of their preparation time when they receive their topic. They may make any notes they like on that card, but they may not use any previously prepared notes at this time. Students may use their Bible (printed or electronic), but they will be monitored to make sure that they do not look at any prepared notes. For their impromptu speech presentations, they may only bring the note card given to them for this purpose and their Bible (printed or electronic) to the front with them.

When participant one enters the room to present his/her speech, number two will draw a topic and begin preparation. During the speech, the judge in the room that is keeping time will give visual notifications of time remaining starting at two minutes and then each 30 seconds after that. When time is called at the end of three minutes, the participant may finish the sentence that they are on but must stop after that. Number one will exit the room and number two will enter to present his/her speech. Number three will draw a topic and begin preparation. This process will continue until all participants have presented their impromptu/extemporaneous speeches.

Specific to the impromptu/extemporaneous speeches, there will a 5 point time penalty for being under the 1.5 minute minimum. This penalty will be subtracted from the points assigned for the impromptu/extemporaneous speech. This point total will then be added to the score of the prepared speech.

4. Participation in Winners' Circle events requires that a student place first at a previous year's L2L convention. For new convention sites, there will not be a Winners' Circle category the first year, but it will be in place the second year and following.
5. Winners' Circle participants will not participate in the regular speech event.
6. If after 2-3 years in Winners' Circle, a student is not benefiting from the experience and is getting discouraged, he or she may return to regular Speech.
7. All students should study the *L2L Speech & Debate* book and lessons 4 & 5 in the *Field Book of Leadership: Revised* to develop their public speaking skills. Both may be ordered from the [L2L Online Store](https://www.lads2leaders.com). It is very important that participants, parents, coaches, and judges watch the Event Training and Judging Videos on the L2L website: <https://www.lads2leaders.com/training/>
8. Refer to the Evaluation Forms section of this rulebook to see the forms that will be used by the judges in this event. This will help the student in preparation for the event to see exactly what the judges will be looking for.

Event Rules and Guidelines

All Official Rules for Speech will apply in full to this event.

Awards

First, second, and third place awards will be given in each boys' and girls' division.

For grades 10-12 only, there will not be any Finalists if there are more than 12 participants. Instead, the top three from each room will receive 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place trophies. It will function like Puppet Theater where there would be, for example, Blue and Blue-White divisions rather than having two rounds with Finalists.

Winners' Circle events may or may not run simultaneously with the regular Speech event. **Check the convention schedule for specific information.** For convention locations with multiple color divisions, there may be a need to combine participants in some or all grade divisions in order to have a sufficient number for participation. See the final convention schedule for room assignments.

No males will be allowed in the rooms where girls are participating in Winners' Circle Speech. See page 95 of this rulebook for more information on this L2L Policy. This policy does NOT restrict a mother from bringing her infant or toddler son into a girls' event room. Filming is allowed in this event so that family members and others may view them later. L2L reserves the right to withhold permission of filming in certain cases such as sensitive debate topics where the participant is giving the negative argument. Use of camera or cell phone cannot be disruptive to the event. Filming of other participants is prohibited unless permission is granted beforehand from the parents/guardians of the participant.