

# VAN HUYSSTEENS ORATORICAL FESTIVAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

## 1. General

- 1.1 The Van Huyssteens Oratorical Festival will only be for unprepared speeches.
- 1.2 All correspondence and information regarding the Festival will be per e-mail or published at: [www.vanhuyssteens.co.za](http://www.vanhuyssteens.co.za)
- 1.3 Everyone can join **Facebook - Van Huyssteens Oratorical Festival**. Gielie Hoffmann (the adjudicator coordinator) will keep you company and keep it alive with tips, example topics, points to ponder, etc. Click on "LIKE" if you wish join and to participate.
- 1.4 All learners must study the rules available on the website.
- 1.5 Rules and regulations regarding the Festival are in the sole and absolute discretion of Van Huyssteens Commercial Attorneys.
- 1.6 Changes to the planned programme, rules etc. will only be made by Van Huyssteens.
- 1.7 Participation will be 25 teams and 50 individuals per grade and per language.
- 1.8 Learners may participate all three days but are limited to participate only once per day, and can therefore not participate in the team and individual events on one day.
- 1.9 Schools may register two teams and two individuals per grade and language (also bilingual). Elimination rounds must be held at the relevant schools.
- 1.10 The first three teams and three best individuals per grade and per language (bilingual included) will be invited to participate in the final.
- 1.11 Announcement of the final participants will be made after participation, and will also be published on the firms' website the following day. All previous points awarded will be removed and learners will participate for a first to third place in the final.

## 2. Dates and Venue

- 2.1 The **2012** Oratorical Festival is hosted at **Woodhill College** from **16 to 19 April**. The entire school is available to ensure that learners do not annoy each other during preparation and presentations.
  - 2.1.1 Monday **16 April 2012 – Afrikaans;**
  - 2.1.2 Tuesday **17 April 2012 – English;**
  - 2.1.3 Wednesday **18 April 2012 – Bilingual.**
  - 2.1.4 Thursday **19 April 2012 – The Final** is in the form of a **Gala Evening**. The prize giving will take place after participation in the afternoon/evening during the gala event.

## 3. Time Schedules

- 3.1 The competition will commence at 14:00 and the aim is to finish no later than 20:30 each evening. Time slots are divided into afternoon and evening sessions. Afternoon session from 14:00 – 17:00 and evening session from 18:00 – 20:30.

- 3.2 It is of extreme importance to be at Woodhill before the time as the preparation time commences before the actual start of the programme.
- 3.3 **Preparation time for unprepared speeches:**
- 3.3.1 **1 Hour** for **teams**; and
- 3.3.2 **45 min** for **individuals**.
- 3.4 **Note the schedules** on the website.
- 3.5 Learners must be at Woodhill College 1.5 hours before participation.
- 3.6 **NB** – Learners will receive topics as per the attached timetable/schedule.
- 3.7 **Teams** are not allowed to **speak less than 8 minutes and no longer than 11 minutes**. If time is exceeded they will be stopped after 20 seconds.
- 3.8 **Individuals** are not allowed to **speak less than 3 minutes and no longer than 5 minutes**. If time is exceeded they will be stopped after 20 seconds.
- 3.9 **Penalty** for speaking less than the required minimum time is 10 points per minute or part thereof in the individual category and 50 points per minute or part thereof for teams.
- 3.10 **NOTE:** A full time speech will give the adjudicators only one minute before the next appearance to finalise the points achieved; therefore, they have no choice but to be strict about the maximum time.
- 3.11 Schools will forward the entry forms to the offices of Van Huyssteens Commercial Attorneys containing names and preferred dates and times.
- 3.12 Scheduling will be done in the sole discretion of the firm and published on the website [www.vanhuyssteens.co.za](http://www.vanhuyssteens.co.za) when the team/individual will participate.
- 3.13 **Topics are chosen at the Woodhill College hall as per the schedule.**
- 3.14 **NOTE** – If a learner who received a topic arrives more than 1 minute late at the classroom where he/she has to do his/her speech, he/she will be disqualified. It is advisable to locate the classroom where participation will take place before the topic is so chosen at the Woodhill College Hall. This will give more time for preparation.
- 3.15 **Timing Indications**
- The adjudicator will hold up cards to show the time left:
- 3.15.1 Green card – 1 min. left.
- 3.15.2 Yellow card – 30 sec. left.
- 3.15.3 **Red card** – time has lapsed **stop immediately**.

#### **4. Use of Resources**

- 4.1 Learners are allowed to use all resources of their choice. This includes: books, newspapers, iPad's, Blackberry's, Laptop's with Internet connection etc.
- 4.2 The various Woodhill Computer Centres are available but own resources are always better.
- 4.3 No assistance by third parties (parents, educators etc.,) will be allowed. Notwithstanding this rule, Grade 8 learners (individual and teams) will be allowed one senior learner from the same school to give assistance during preparation. The information of such senior

learner must be included in the entry form for the Grade 8 learner/s. The senior learner may only assist in the research, preparation, coaching etc. and will not be a speaker.

4.4 Note that only speeches are allowed, no electronic and/or other aids will suffice.

4.5 Any team or individual breaking the rules herein will be disqualified.

## **5. Rules of unprepared speeches – Teams and Individuals**

5.1 Withdrawals must be made 24 hours before a session.

5.2 Speeches must be discursive and persuasive.

5.3 At least two to three points of reasoning must be made.

5.4 Proper opening and ending is essential.

5.5 Structure your speech and use research material.

5.6 The aim of the Oratorical Festival is communication and the learners must be taught how to undertake research and attain/gather information in a relative short period of time.

5.7 Facts acquired must be organized into a well-constructed speech by the learner or teams.

5.8 An additional aim of this festival is to enable the learner to develop over time/years to a stage where he/she can express himself/herself competently and confidently in public.

5.9 We understand competitiveness of educators, learners and parents – keep it clean – it remains only a competition.

5.10 Due to the Oratorical Festival 2012 being **unprepared**, topics will be placed in a hat. Participants draw two topics, choose one and place the other back in the hat **within 1 minute**.

5.11 **The topics will be as follows:**

5.11.1 Philosophical;

5.11.2 Contemporary or recent news and interests;

5.11.3 News of the day.

5.12 Unprepared topics are in the sole discretion of Van Huyssteens Commercial Attorneys.

5.13 Van Huyssteens will coordinate and provide topics at the Woodhill Hall per the schedule.

5.14 Per day – 2 x 20 topics (individuals) and 2 x 10 topics (teams) will be placed in a "hat" to be drawn by each learner (only one learner per team).

5.15 Each to draw two topics. If they are the same, the learner will switch one for another.

5.16 The learners will within one min replace one topic and will prepare on the topic in hand.

5.17 Learners to provide own paper, cards, pens, pencils etc.

5.18 Topics must be addressed in an argumentative manner, based on yes or no, true or false.

5.19 Learners who do not address the chosen topic will be penalised.

5.20 Do not mix your language - keep it either Afrikaans or English. This includes the bilingual speeches. For avoidance of doubt - When speaking English do not **"gooi"** in some Afrikaans and vice versa. Do not use slang or colloquial language.

5.21 Notwithstanding the aforementioned, it is acceptable when using a quote in a specific language to use it in the original context and language - do not translate same.

- 5.22 The use of quotes by third parties (industry leaders, academics, philosophers, etc.) is essential and must be used but not over utilised (2 maybe 3 will do). Own opinions and thoughts are of paramount importance.
- 5.23 The source used in quotes is as important as the quote itself.

## **6. Bilingual Rules**

- 6.1 Learners are to keep a balance between English and Afrikaans. Equal time must be apportioned to both languages. Adjudicators will not be nit picking but fair.
- 6.2 **Penalty** for not keeping balance between Afrikaans and English is in the discretion of the adjudicator and will be up to 10 points if the balance is not kept in the individual category and up to 50 points in the team category.
- 6.3 In team participation there may be two learners English and two learners Afrikaans or all of them partly English and partly Afrikaans, as long as balance prevails.
- 6.4 **NOTE - Bilingual winners of the Grade 11 Teams and Individuals** will appear and perform their speeches during the prize giving at the gala evening. They will perform before the audience and be adjudicated by a panel of 5 adjudicators. View the program hereunder for detail.
- 6.5 **Bilingual winners Grade 11 Teams and Individuals** to perform during the final will receive 6 topics per email the afternoon of 19 April 2012 @ 13h00. There are no rules for this participation and preparation and help from third parties are allowed. This is deemed to be **the prestige event** of the Oratorical Festival.
- 6.6 Grade 11 Bilingual Teams and Individuals can prepare anywhere but must be at Woodhill College by 18:00 - 19 April 2012.

## **7. Team sections**

- 7.1 A team must consist of four team members who logically develop a topic.
- 7.2 All four team members must participate in the speeches. Notwithstanding this, there is no time restriction or requirement on how long any of the members may or must speak.
- 7.3 The given topic must be kept in mind throughout.
- 7.4 The structure is left to the discretion of the team and they can follow own initiative. This for example can obviously be practiced at length beforehand.
- 7.5 A good example for the younger learners is as follows:
- 7.5.1 Chairperson: Announces the topic, introduces the other members and functions as the link between each speaker and finally sums up.
- 7.5.2 First speaker: Speaks about one aspect of the theme.
- 7.5.3 Second speaker: Expands on above or discusses another aspect.
- 7.5.4 Third speaker: Approaches another aspect, or expands on the main theme.
- 7.6 The team must attempt to develop a theme and not merely provide information.

- 7.7 Note the balance between providing information and reasoning. Points will be lost if the topic is not reasoned and persuasive.
- 7.8 Each team must provide the adjudicator with the following information:
  - 7.8.1 Name of school;
  - 7.8.2 Theme/topic;
  - 7.8.3 Names of team members in order of speaking.

## **8. Adjudication**

- 8.1 The decisions of the adjudicators are final and no discussion regarding this will take place.
- 8.2 Participants/family members/coaches/educators may not in any way communicate with the adjudicator/s before, during or directly after adjudication.
- 8.3 Time limits must not be exceeded as you will be stopped and adjudicated only on what was said up to that time.
- 8.4 Adjudicators will not disclose percentages, marks or score sheets but will at the end of each session (afternoon & evening) indicate what the various symbols (not percentages) of the learners are.
- 8.5 Percentages will be used (not disclosed) to determine ranking (i.e. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>) and therefore to establish the winning three teams and individuals who will participate in the final.
- 8.6 Adjudicators will be obliged to keep all score sheets and hand them in at the Van Huyssteens counter at the Woodhill College Hall.
- 8.7 Adjudicators will not hand the score sheets to other parties.
- 8.8 Adjudicators will inform Van Huyssteens at the Woodhill Hall which learners (teams and individuals) are the three participants/winners for the final.
- 8.9 Adjudicators will align their thoughts before starting the adjudication.
- 8.10 Note that notwithstanding the fact that one adjudicator may adjudicate a much higher mark than the other; consistency is the major factor to be considered.
- 8.11 Woodhill will provide learners from its student council per classroom to assist adjudicators.
- 8.12 Note the symbols to be awarded as reflected on the score sheets.

## **9. Certificates**

- 9.1 After participation ensure that learners collect their certificates of participation at the Woodhill College Hall. No certificates will be issued other than on the evening.
- 9.2 Certificates will indicate the name of the learner and grade.

## **10. Final**

- 10.1 The final will be held in the form of a gala evening Thursday evening **19 April 2012 at Woodhill College from 16:00.**

- 10.2 The top three teams and top three individual speakers per grade and per language (also bilingual) shall be invited to participate. This will be finalised each evening at the end of the competition.
- 10.3 Schools will be informed per email on the morning after participation of the three winning teams/individuals per grade and per language.
- 10.4 Educators/parents/learners must be aware that high symbols may just mean a place in the final – do not make other appointments for the Thursday afternoon and evening.
- 10.5 Previous points awarded will be erased and the participants will compete afresh for first, second and third place. Rules, regulations and timeframes of speeches remain the same.
- 10.6 Only the winning team or individual per language (also bilingual) and per grade will be appointed and receive trophies.
- 10.7 All parents, teachers, adjudicators, friends, learners are welcome at the gala evening.

## **11. Program Of Final**

### ***Grade 11 Bilingual - Teams and Individuals are adjudicated during the prize giving***

- 16:00 – 18:30 Final per grade and per language (including Bilingual)
- 17:45 Hall – Cheese and wine
- 18:45 Proceedings to start and welcoming - Johann van Huyssteen
- 18:50 Final - Bilingual Individual 1 (Gr. 11)
- 18:55 Announcement Grade 8 winners and prize giving
- 19:05 Final - Bilingual Individual 2 (Gr. 11)
- 19:00 Announcement Grade 9 winners and prize giving
- 19:10 Final - Bilingual Individual 3 (Gr. 11)
- 19:15 Final - Bilingual Team 1 (Gr. 11)
- 19:30 Announcement Grade 10 winners and prize giving
- 19:40 Final - Bilingual Team 2 (Gr. 11)
- 19:55 Announcement Grade 11 winners and prize giving
- 20:05 Final - Bilingual Team 3 (Gr. 11)
- 20:20 Announcement Grade 12 winners and prize giving
- 20:30 Announcement Grade 11 Bilingual winners and prize giving
- 20:35 Closing
- 20:40 Cheese and Wine