

**Country Week  
Speech & Debating Competition**

**Monday 30 June to Friday 4 July 2025**

**Venue TBC**



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## **Coordinator**

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## **Entering**

**Indicating to School Sport WA that your students will take part in the Speech and Debating Awards *IS NOT AN ENTRY.***

Coordinators will be required to complete the  
**EXCEL SPREADSHEET entry form**  
and  
**return by 5.00pm Friday 4th May.**

**NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED**

The Draft Program will be emailed to coordinators and uploaded to [www.schoolsportwa.com.au](http://www.schoolsportwa.com.au) on Monday 20th May and the Final Program on Monday 27th May.

## WHAT ARE THE SPEECH AND DEBATING AWARDS?

A TEAM (maximum of 8 students per team) event for students who are interested in developing their oral communication skills. The Awards are considered 'one event' for the allocation of points towards both the winning Speech & Debating School and Champion School.

Categories: Debating, Own Composition and Performance Piece.

**Schools entering the debating section of the Awards may enter:**

**One** speech and debating team of up to 4 students who compete in Debating and may also compete in Own Competition and / or Performance Piece.

**OR**

**Two** speech and debating teams (up to 8 students) who compete in Debating and may also compete in Own Competition and / or Performance Piece.

**Schools NOT ENTERING A DEBATE TEAM may enter 1 team ONLY of up to 3 students.**

In the Speech section of the awards, students compete as individuals in each division of each category for medallions for 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> places and for the trophy in each division. They also compete as a team member to score points towards Champion School. Schools which have students in the 3 categories of the event will therefore score higher points towards Champion School.

### Three divisions are offered:

A Division - for the more confident student and/or for students who have had previous public speaking and / or acting experience.

B Division - for less confident speakers.

C Division – for novice speakers.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Medallists in B and C divisions in 2024, if competing in 2025, must move up to A and B divisions respectively.

Otherwise, students should nominate in the appropriate division for their expertise, understanding that competing in the lower division will score less points for Champion School. **PLEASE NOTE** that if there are insufficient teams or individual students competing in a division, the organisers reserve the right to move the team/s &/or student/s to another division.

## SCORING

### Individual Scoring

In each division of the Own Composition and the Performance Piece students will be ranked using the total of the 2 adjudicator scores they receive. The student with the highest combined score will be ranked 1.

**If time permits in the program**, the top ranked competitors in each division of Own Composition and Performance Piece will compete in finals, giving them the chance to

improve their ranking and therefore points earned for their team. The number of Finalists will be decided by the adjudicators after they have collated the results of the initial rounds but may be limited to 6.

The perpetual Speech trophy in each division will be won by the student who has demonstrated consistency. Students will therefore need to rank highly in the same division for Own Composition and Performance Piece to qualify for the perpetual trophy.

### Team Scoring

After the finals, or after the initial presentations if there is no time for finals, points will be allocated to each student based on their combined 2 adjudicator scores for each category in which they compete. Students will be allocated points according to the table below.

	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>
A div	80	78	76	74	72	70	68	66	64	62
B div	60	58	56	54	52	50	48	46	44	42
C div	40	38	36	34	32	30	28	26	24	22

### Division Points

	Adj 1 Points	Adj 2 Points	Total Points	Rank	Points A Div	Points B Div	Points C Div
Stud 1	63	70	133	2	78	58	38
Stud 2	58	60	118	3	76	56	36
Stud 3	91	85	176	1	80	60	40
Stud 4	38	30	68	4	74	54	34

As per the table below, the top 3 adjudicator scores across all divisions for Performance Piece and for Own Composition for each school team will be totalled and averaged by 3 to provide final school ranks. ALL teams will be averaged by three, regardless of the number of competitors.

	A Div			B Div			C Div			Total	/3	Rank
Schl 1	80	78			56	50	22			214	71.33	1
Schl 2	78			60			40			178	69.33	3
Schl 3	76	70	62	50	48					208	59.33	2

### Debate Scoring

1. At the conclusion of the round robins all teams in each division will be ranked.
  - If there is time in the program to run finals the ranks of the teams will determine places for the debate finals.
  - If there is not time to run finals, teams will be ranked in each division (see Competition and Scoring under Debating Competition)
2. Where a school has two debate teams, the rank for the second team will be removed.
3. All teams left will then be ranked with A division teams ranking higher than B Division teams.

See example below.

Division	Final Place	Final Rank
A	1 <sup>st</sup>	1
A	2 <sup>nd</sup>	2
A	3 <sup>rd</sup>	3
B	1 <sup>st</sup>	4
B	2 <sup>nd</sup>	5
B	3 <sup>rd</sup>	6

### Champion School Scoring

The rank for each school in each category of the competition will be totalled to decide the winning Speech and Debating school and to allocate Champion School Points.

Schools which do not participate in all three categories of the awards will be given a rank equal to the number of schools competing in the Awards in the category or categories in which the school does not compete.

For example, 15 schools are competing overall, school D does not take part in debating and school B does not take part in Own Composition.

	Rank OC	Rank PP	Rank Deb	Total	Final Place
Schl A	1	3	4	8	1
Schl B	15	1	3	19	3
Schl C	3	5	1	9	2
Schl D	2	4	15	21	4

Champion School Points will be allocated by School Sport WA according to Final Place.

## **RULES**

1. **No verbal, physical or electronic bullying will be tolerated.** Any person found to be in breach of this rule by the organiser, an adjudicator or a teacher will be disqualified immediately.
2. The decisions of all adjudicators are final. Appeals are not permitted.
3. No prompting, cameras or tape recorders will be permitted as they can distract the presenter.
4. A media person from each school may electronically record presentations by students **FROM THEIR SCHOOL ONLY**.
5. To electronically record a debate, the Teacher in Charge of the school wanting to make the recording must seek written permission from the Teacher in Charge of the opposing team before the commencement of the debate.
6. No movement will be permitted by the media person during filming.
7. At no stage during or after Country Week can any electronic recording clip be used to comment on or to question adjudication results or be circulated on the internet / Facebook or any other electronic social media.
8. No eating or drinking by the audience is allowed during presentations.

## **Duties**

1. To facilitate the efficient running of the Awards, each school will be rostered to various tasks, including but not limited to: timekeeping, door guard, announcing and possibly others. These can be done by teachers or students. The debate adjudicators will perform the duties of announcing and timekeeping.
2. **Duties MUST be carried out. It is the responsibility of each school to provide a team person to undertake rostered duties.** If, for any reason, it is not possible for someone from your school to carry out the scheduled duty at any session, it is your responsibility to arrange a swap with another school.
3. Files for timing and announcing are to be collected from the desk at reception before the first session of the day by the first school rostered for the duty each day and left in the room until the end of the day's presentations, when they must be returned to the reception desk by the last school rostered for the duty each day.

## **Courtesies**

1. During all presentations the audience is to be quiet at all times.
2. Mobile phones are to be turned OFF in all rooms.
3. No food or drink is to be taken into the presentation rooms.
4. No parents, teachers or students may question the ruling or the integrity of the adjudicators. If time permits, adjudicators will be happy to answer questions that are constructive.
5. During debates there shall be no intimidation of the opposition, either verbal or physical. Speakers shall address the opposition as 'the opposition' and not as 'you' and shall address all comments to the audience / adjudicators.
6. Large school groups in an audience can be distracting to all students, even those for whom the group is cheering. Please ensure that all applause and cheering is after each speaker finishes, not as they are introduced or before they start or during their presentation.

## Dates to Note

1. Enter by **FRIDAY 9 MAY** (see excel Entry Form).
2. **Friday 23 MAY** - draft program uploaded to [www.schoolsportwa.com.au](http://www.schoolsportwa.com.au) and emailed to coordinators who have provided a valid email.
3. By **Monday 26 May** - advise Denyse at [speechawards@gmail.com](mailto:speechawards@gmail.com) of omissions and/or clashes for any of their students.
4. **Monday 2 June** - final program uploaded to [www.schoolsportwa.com.au](http://www.schoolsportwa.com.au) and emailed to coordinators who have provided a valid email.
5. **Thursday 26 June**  
A **Speech Coordinator Meeting** will be held via Webex. This will be particularly useful for those new to the Speech and Debating Awards to help them to understand how the week works, will allow for everyone to be advised of any last-minute program changes and for questions to be asked. NOTE: there will not be a Monday morning coordinator meeting.
6. **Before leaving** to travel to Country Week, please make sure that:
  - all students competing in the Performance Piece section have completed the 'Performance Piece Cover Sheet' and have it **STAPLED** to a **TYPED** copy of their script. If the script has been edited, a typed copy of the original script must be stapled behind the edited version and cover sheet. The whole set must be **HOLE PUNCHED** for placing in a D ring folder.
  - all students competing in the Own Composition category must have completed the 'Own Composition Declaration and Copy of Speech Cover Sheet' which must be **STAPLED** to a **TYPED** copy of their speech. The whole set must be **HOLE PUNCHED** for placing in a D ring folder.
7. **Thursday 3 July**  
Presentation of medallions Own Composition and Performance Piece for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> places will take place once the adjudicators have completed their adjudication (if the finals have been able to be fitted into the program).  
  
Otherwise, they will be presented at the end of the presentations on Tuesday and Wednesday.
8. **Friday 4 July** presentation of Debating Medallions  
The presentation of medallions for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> places for debating will take place at the end of each debate.

**The following perpetual trophies will be presented at the Country Week Closing Ceremony at 1.00pm:**

1. Champion Speech Awards school
2. Individual Winners in A, B and C division speech
3. Debating A, B and C

Please ensure that winning students, who are to collect trophies at the Closing Ceremony, are seated so that they can easily move forward to collect their trophy.

**Return of Perpetual Trophies**

Schools which had teams/students win perpetual trophies in 2024 (as below) should return them at the opening ceremony of Country Week.

Debating

A Division	Denmark SHS
B Division	Denmark SHS
C Division	Collie SHS

Speech

A Division	Kim Angus Memorial Trophy – Margaret River SHS
B Division	Christmas Island DHS
C Division	Collie SHS

Champion School	Bunbury SHS
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