



Judges Training

East Ridge Speech



Who Are We? - Coaches

Meghan Roeser

- 1st season coaching with East Ridge
- Drama and Duo (acting)
- Alum of ERHS, 2019
- Alum of UW-Eau Claire, 2023
- Primarily interpretation categories



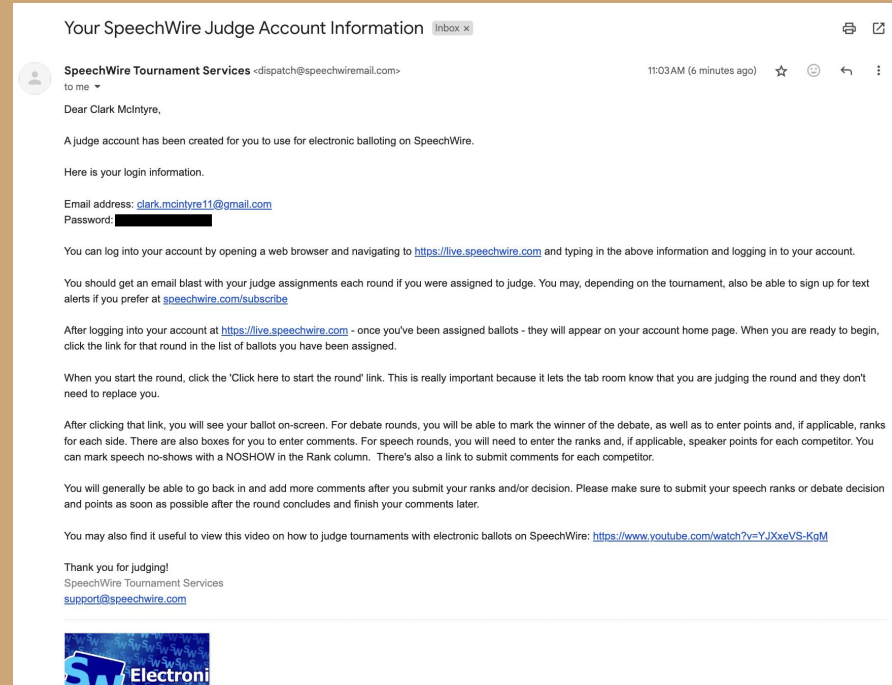
Clark McIntyre

- 2nd season coaching with East Ridge
- Extemp Speaking and Discussion
- Alum of ERHS 2021
- Mainly public address events



Signing Up

1. Sign up for a judging slot at erhsspeech.com
2. For new judges, you will get an email with your account information for SpeechWire (sent to the email you used to sign up for a judging slot)
3. Log in to [SpeechWire](https://www.speechwire.com)
4. Watch for the judging information email the Thursday before the tournament!



Types of Speeches/Events

Interpretation Events

(Acting)

- Creative Expression
- Drama
- Duo
- Extemporaneous Reading
- Humorous
- Poetry
- POI
- Prose
- Storytelling

Public Address Events

(Public Speaking)

- Discussion
- Extemporaneous Speaking
- Great Speeches
- Informative
- Original Oratory

Limited Preparation/Draw Events

Extemporaneous Reading | Storytelling | Extemporaneous Speaking

- In these events, students do not know what they will be performing or speaking about until 30 minutes beforehand
- Students are allotted 30 minutes of prep time, and are each given 7 minutes total to perform
- For example, if the round starts at 9am it is as follows
 - 8:30am draw, 9am speak
 - 8:37am draw, 9:07 speak
 - 8:44am draw, 9:14 speak

What to Look For: Interpretation VS Public Address

Things to Look For in ALL Interpretation Categories

Did the speaker...

- Have a brief teaser or excerpt for a preview
- Set the theme, mood, and scene with a moral/lesson in the introduction
- Verbally cite the performed speech
- Create distinct voices for characters, both verbally and physically
- Vary fluency and pace accordingly
- Portray believable characters fitting the scene
- Establish and convey a definite mood
- Choose a piece with literary merit (appropriate for speaker and audience)

Script use is optional except for storytelling (memorization required) and extemporaneous reading (use of book required)

Things to Look For in ALL Public Address Categories

Did the speaker...

- Deliver with sincerity, pleasantness, and conviction throughout
- Take steps at suitable points to ensure a smooth flow and distinguish transitions
- Employ gestures that amplify the meaning of the speech
- Demonstrate involvement, concern, enthusiasm, etc., through facial expressions

More
information
on each
category
can be
found here!

Judges Training
Handbook

Tournaments

What Do I Bring for a Tournament?

- Your phone or a timer
- A device (laptop or tablet) to enter your online ballot
- Some scratch paper/notebook and a pen/pencil to take notes if desired

Also consider bringing:

- A charger for your device(s)
- A water bottle
- A book to read or something to work on between rounds
- Money and/or food to eat during lunch

What Do I Do When I Get There?

1. Text Coach Tammy (or whichever coach is listed in the email)
2. Head to the judges lounge
3. Log in to your SpeechWire account and watch for a ballot (you may need to refresh your page every few minutes)
4. If you have been assigned a round, take note of the category and proceed to the room. However, if you haven't been assigned a round, please remain available. There is a possibility that you may be needed to substitute if another judge fails to show up.

Judging a Round

Starting the Round

- Sit in the middle and toward the back of the room if possible
- Open SpeechWire and click on your ballot
- Once a majority of the students are there and you are ready, click the yellow button that says “Click here to start the round”
- Welcome the students and check if any are double entered (double entries get priority to speak first so they can go to their other round, otherwise, students speak in the assigned order)
- Call the first speaker's name (or code) and clap to welcome them to the front of the room
- Ask the speaker if they would like any time signals (take note if you might forget)
- Nod or make eye contact with the speaker to indicate you are ready
- Start the timer when they begin speaking

Completing the Round

- You should be writing comments as the student is speaking, but make sure to look up and look engaged by smiling, nodding your head, or laughing when appropriate
- Give the student the appropriate time signals throughout their speech
- When the student is done, stop the timer and applaud
- Write the total speech time, some final comments, and click the button labeled “Save Comments” (only take a minute or two for this)
- Call on the next speaker, and repeat the process until all speakers are done
- After the last speech, thank the students and wish them good luck in their next rounds, but DO NOT provide any feedback whatsoever
- Take a few minutes to finish your thoughts, give the ranks/speaker points, and submit your ballot
- Once you’ve submitted your ballot, you can head to the judges lounge!



Electronic Ballots

Time Signals

Most categories will ask for time signals in a countdown format, typically at 2 minutes remaining, 1 minute, and then 0 seconds. Extemporaneous Speaking may ask for additional signals at 30 seconds, 15 seconds, etc.

If you are ever unsure, it is always best to ask the student to explain/demonstrate what they are looking for.

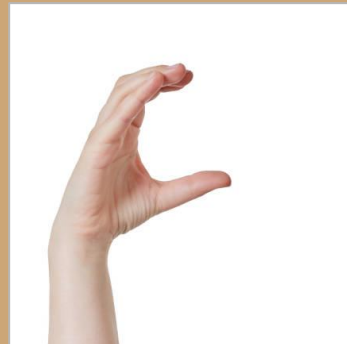
Common Signals



2 Minutes Left



1 Minute Left



30 Seconds Left



0 Seconds Left

Speaker Points

- Students can receive up to 100 speaker points
 - Think of it like 100% (like a grade)
- There should only be about a 1-2 point distinction between each speaker
 - In rounds with more than 5 speakers, it is vital to ensure the speaker points are distinct so they can rank
- You should NOT be giving students anything lower than an 85

Ranks

- Students are given a rank of 1 to 5
 - 1 is the highest (first place)
 - 5 is the lowest (fifth place)
- Even if there are more than 5 students, you cannot give them a rank lower than 5

Questions?

Contact Info

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