



2017 Leader Handbook



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2017 Calendar

March 11 or 12 – Suggested Church Drill Date

March 18 or 19 – Suggested Associational Drill Date

March 30 – Deadline for State/Regional Registrations

April 7-8 – State (CH)/Regional (YT/HS) BGCT Drills/Speakers' Tournament

(**ALLEN** – FBC Allen, **HOUSTON** - Tallowood Baptist Church)

April 16 - Easter

April 21-22 – State (CH)/Regional (YT/HS) BGCT Drills/Speakers' Tournament

GRAND PRAIRIE – (FBC Grand Prairie), **LUBBOCK** – (Calvary Baptist Church), **TYLER** – (Colonial Hills Baptist Church)

April 29 – State Youth/High School Drills/Speakers' Tournament (Dallas - TBA)

Please conduct your associational drills in advance of the March 30 registration deadline for state/regional events. Accurate information by this date helps state staff schedule balanced drills and communicate schedules to you in a timely way for your travel planning.

GENERAL SCHEDULE - State (CH)/Regional (YT/HS) BGCT Drills /Speakers' Tournament

Friday

5:00 pm – Registration opens

6:00 pm – Competition begins

9:00 pm – Friday evening awards session

Saturday

8:00 am – Registration opens

8:30 am – Competition begins

11:30 am – Saturday awards session

BGCT Discipleship Office Contacts

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Offices located at:

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Dallas, Texas 75231-2388

Eligibility Guidelines

In an effort to encourage as many children and youth as possible to be involved in the Bible Drill/Youth Speakers' Tournament program, there are four options for participation:

1. Children's Bible Drillers, Youth and High School Bible Drillers and Youth Speakers' Tournament participants who are members of BGCT churches **are eligible** to participate in all BGCT competitions and receive appropriate recognition. The Youth Bible Drill Winner, High School Bible Drill Winner, and Youth Speaker Winner **will be eligible** to represent the BGCT at the National Invitational Tournament. Eligibility for Bible Drill/Speakers' Tournament scholarships from participating Texas Baptist universities is subject to the guidelines of each university.
2. Participants who are members of Baptist churches that are dually aligned with the BGCT and another convention may participate in all BGCT competitions and **will be eligible** to receive appropriate recognition. If a regional youth participant earns the right to advance to the state finals, they **will be eligible** to represent the BGCT at the National Invitational Tournament. Eligibility for Bible Drill/Speakers' Tournament scholarships from participating Texas Baptist universities is subject to the guidelines of each university.
3. Participants who are members of churches not aligned with the BGCT may choose to participate in BGCT competitions **under the sponsorship** of a cooperative giving BGCT church. However, if a regional youth participant earns the right to advance to the state finals, they **will not be eligible** to represent the BGCT at the National Invitational Tournament. Eligibility for Bible Drill/Speakers' Tournament scholarships from participating Texas Baptist universities is subject to the guidelines of each university.
4. A school (private or Christian) or Home School Association is welcome to participate in BGCT Bible Drill/Speakers' Tournament program. There are two different ways for their students to participate:
 - a. The school or association may participate under the sponsorship of a cooperative giving BGCT church. Their children may participate at all levels of competition and will be eligible for appropriate recognition. The youth, however, may participate in all levels of competition, but **will not be eligible** to represent the BGCT at the National Invitational Tournament. Eligibility for Bible Drill/Speakers' Tournament scholarships from participating Texas Baptist universities is subject to the guidelines of each university.
 - b. The school or association may participate on their own, but will be required to pay a \$500 participation fee. Their children may participate at all levels of competition and **will be eligible** for appropriate recognition. The youth, however, may participate in all levels of competition, but **will not be eligible** to represent the BGCT at the National Invitational Tournament. Eligibility for Bible Drill/Speakers' Tournament scholarships from participating Texas Baptist universities is subject to the guidelines of each university.

Speakers' Tournament and Bible Drill Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is the purpose of Speakers' Tournament?

A: The purpose of Speakers' Tournament (Grades 10-12) is to develop essential skills in selecting and researching a specific topic, write and develop a speech on that topic, and deliver the speech effectively to a group. This process will:

- Encourage growth toward Christ likeness.
- Challenge youth to seriously think about their commitment to Christ.
- Help youth express their faith verbally.
- Stimulate spiritual growth as youth engage in research, study, prayer, preparation and practice for a speech.
- Help youth develop poise and confidence.
- Help youth develop the skills to articulate truth in a way that people will hear and understand.
- Help youth be ready to stand for Christ in their churches, at school, in their work places, and in their communities.

Q: What are the basic guidelines for speeches in Speakers' Tournament?

A: Speakers will prepare a four-to-six minute speech on a topic chosen from the current list of official suggested topics. The suggested topics for Youth Speakers' Tournament are grouped in three cycles. For the next three years the cycles to be used are as follows:

- 2017 – Green Cycle
- 2018 – Red Cycle
- 2019 – Blue Cycle

Topics will be posted each year on the Texas Baptists website at www.texasbaptists.org/bibledrill.

Q: What are the age guidelines for Bible Drill and Speakers' Tournament?

A: Grades of participants are as follows:

- Children's Bible Drill – Grades 4-6
- Youth Bible Drill – Grades 7-9
- High School Bible Drill – Grades 10-12
- Youth Speakers' Tournament – Grades 10-12

*Q: How do participants qualify for an **associational** Bible Drill/Speakers' Tournament?*

A: Your association may add additional qualifications, but here are the basics:

- Children's Bible Drill – Score of 36 or more in church drill (total from all 3 judges)
- Youth and High School Bible Drill – Score of 180 or more in church drill (total from all 4 judges)
- Youth Speakers' Tournament – Score of 65 or more in church tournament (average of 3 judges)

*Q: How do participants qualify for a **BGCT Bible Drill/Speakers' Tournament** event?*

A: Two requirements qualify a participant for one of the BGCT regional/state events:

1. Achieve a score at the association competition as indicated below
 - a. Children's Bible Drill - Score of 48 or more at associational drill
 - b. Youth and High School Bible Drill - Score of 200 or more at associational drill
 - c. Youth Speakers' Tournament - Score of 70 or more at associational tournament
2. Register with the BGCT no later than **March 30, 2017**

Q: What if there is no associational drill?

A: A qualifying score is still required to participate in one of the BGCT regional/state events. If there is no associational drill, the participant's church drill score must meet the BGCT event criteria above in order to register. **If there is an associational drill, participants must compete and qualify at the associational level to qualify for a BGCT State/Regional event.**

Q: How do I register for BGCT Bible Drill/Speakers' Tournament events?

A: After the associational drill, and no later than March 30, the church leader should go online to register those who qualified for the BGCT event. A link will be provided at <http://texasbaptists.org/bibledrill>. Please call the BGCT Discipleship Office immediately if you have questions or problems with online registration (214-828-5286).

Q: What is the difference between a state and regional drill/tournament?

A: The first five drills/tournaments listed in the Calendar section above are state finals for children. However, they serve as regional semifinals for all 7-12th grade competitions.

Q: How do participants qualify for the Youth/High School state event in Dallas?

A: The top six in each region for Youth Bible Drill, High School Bible Drill, and Youth Speakers Tournament (w/score of 75 or higher) will qualify for their state finals on April 29, 2017 in Dallas. If a qualifier is a previous state first place winner, a seventh participant will also qualify from that region.

Q: Who is eligible to receive the Ellen Battles Lighthouse Award?

A: The Ellen Battles Lighthouse Award is given to a student who has participated for 9 consecutive years at the regional level in BGCT Bible Drill/Speaker's Tournament events. These awards will be distributed during our regional/state events based on qualifying students who have registered and who are present to receive them. To register online to receive your Ellen Battles Lighthouse Award in the year you qualify, go to www.texasbaptists.org/bibledrill and mark the 9 consecutive years blank on the regional registration form. Registration deadlines are provided on the registration form, and must be adhered to in order to provide time for the awards to be ordered and produced before recognition.

Q: *What recognition is given at BGCT regional/state events?*

A: All participants are given certificates and seals of achievement as follows:

Children's Bible Drill Scores

- 71-72 – State Winner Perfect and the Bible with which they drilled
- 66-70 – State Winner Superior
- 60-65 – State Winner Excellent
- 48-59 – State Winner Good
- 47 or less – State Winner Honorable Mention

Youth & High School Bible Drill Semi-Finals (regional)

- 300 or above – Outstanding and the Bible with which they drilled
- 289-299 – Superior
- 250-288 – Excellent
- 200-249 – Good
- Below 200 – Honorable Mention

Youth & High School Bible Drill State Finals

- Each participant receives a trophy
- First and second place trophies are awarded
- 300 or above – State Perfect Certificate

Youth Speakers' Tournament Scores

- 90-100 – Outstanding
- 85-89 – Superior
- 80-84 – Excellent
- 70-79 – Good
- 70 or below – Honorable Mention

Q: *Can a participant who previously won state compete again in the same age group event?*

A: Yes – However they will not be eligible for bonus points at the state drill if they advance to that level again in the same age group event. (They may receive bonus points at other levels.) Once a participant moves from Youth to High School Bible Drill, they are once again eligible for bonus points (unless/until they win state at that level). No participant may compete more than once in the same age group event at the National Invitational Tournament.

Q: *What is the NIT?*

A: The NIT is the National Invitational Tournament. The Youth Bible Drill, High School Bible Drill, and Youth Speakers' Tournament winners at the state level become eligible to compete at the national level. The BGCT will provide a stipend to help with travel expenses.

Q: *Where do I find the topics from which to choose for writing my speech?*

A: The Youth Speakers' Tournament Topics may be downloaded at www.texasbaptists.org/bibledrill. Click on the Youth Speakers' Tournament logo for information specific to Speakers' Tournament. Please note that the topics change each year, and make sure you have the list for the upcoming tournament.

Speakers' Tournament Scoring

Each speaker will be judged in the following areas, with a score calculated by averaging the three judges' scores. A sample score sheet may be found in the appendix to this handbook. A tally sheet (used for compiling scores of all speakers) is also included.

- **Content and Composition**
 - **Originality/Related to Subject** – Does the speech deal with the subject? Does the speech seem to reflect the participant's own convictions? Does the speech give evidence of original and creative thinking by the participant? Does the purpose of the speech inform, inspire, persuade or create interest?
 - **Organization/Logical Sequence** – Is the content arranged in such a way that the audience has no difficulty in following the speech? Is the speech designed to develop the content in an orderly way?
 - **Structure/Grammar** – Does the participant use complete sentences and are the sentences grammatically correct?
 - **Purpose Accomplished** – Does the speech do what it is intended to do as evidenced by the subject and content?
 - **Choice of Resources and Credit for Quotations** – Are a variety of good sources used? When using resources, do they reflect an adequate understanding of the various facets of the subject? Are resources used in ways that add strength to the content of the speech? Does the delivered speech indicate that the material used is being quoted?
- **Delivery**
 - **Eye Contact With Audience** – Does the speaker smile, use appropriate facial expressions and maintain good eye contact with the audience?
 - **Articulate and Expressive Voice** – Does the speaker use good vocal energy and enunciate clearly? Does the speaker speak loudly enough for the audience to hear without straining? Does the speaker speak in a clear, conversational manner? Does the speaker speak with directness and sincerity?
 - **Poise and Confidence** – Is the speaker convincing, interesting and understandable? Does the speaker appear to be composed and at ease? Does the speaker appear to believe in himself and his message? Does he/she speak with passion?
 - **Posture/Movement/Gesturing** – Are the movement and gestures of the speaker appropriate and support the purpose of the speech? Are the posture, movement and gestures distracting and take away from the speech?
 - **Delivered from Memory** – Does the speaker rely on notes? Does the speaker require prompting?

- **Time** – Speeches must be 4-6 minutes. (The Tournament Conductor is responsible for keeping time and scoring this area. Other Judges do not score based on time.) Time penalty will be assessed as follows:
 - Over 6 minutes - 2 points will be deducted for each 10 seconds
 - Under 4 minutes - 2 points will be deducted for each 10 seconds

Speakers' Tournament Rules

- Speakers will prepare a four-to-six minute speech on a topic chosen from the current list of official topics. Speeches must be the work of the individual speaker. Plagiarism or having the speech or any major portion of it written by someone other than the speaker is grounds for disqualification. The purpose of the speech may be to inform, inspire, persuade, or create concern.
- Speakers' Tournament focuses on the speaking ability of students. Music and drama are not considered "speech" and should be avoided. It is appropriate to quote part of a song, poem, or play, but not to perform these. Speakers should strive to be creative in their speeches, using tools such as stories, vocal variation, clever phrasing, and personal experiences.
- All speech manuscripts turned in to the Conductor should include footnotes **or** endnotes, **plus** a bibliography of original sources used. Three to five scripture references and quotes are appropriate for the four to six minute speech. While written manuscripts do not contribute to a speaker's score in BGCT events, we do want to encourage proper credit for sources and minimize unintentional plagiarism.
- Gestures and movement on stage are appropriate if they support the purpose of the speech. Movement that is distracting or overly dramatic should be avoided.
- Good taste should be used in clothing. Casual clothing is acceptable, however; jeans and t-shirts are discouraged. Costuming for the speech is not appropriate.
- A manuscript of the speech is to be presented to the person conducting each tournament. Speakers will not be judged on their ability to recite their speech word for word. The purpose of the manuscript is to provide an accurate script for the judges. The manuscript should be a complete transcript of the speech, not just an outline.
- Use of a microphone is acceptable; however use of pulpit, notes, props, charts, or diagrams should be avoided. If a speaker chooses to use notes, he or she should not be tied to those notes. Speakers should strive for an extemporaneous delivery of the speech (that is, a comfortable, conversational tone)

Resources for Developing Speeches

Many Speakers' Tournament participants ask for help and feedback from high school or university speech teachers. Your pastor may also be a good source for training youth in public speaking. ***Speaker Power: How to Get It and Use It*** is a booklet for Speakers' Tournament participants available for purchase through the Discipleship Team of the BGCT. This resource provides help for speech development and delivery.

Special Needs

Accommodations can be made for special needs participants in Bible Drill and Speakers' Tournament. Please contact your associational Bible Drill leader and the BGCT Discipleship Office well before associational and state drills to discuss the best way to help your participants.

Beginning Bible Drill/Speakers' Tournament in My Church

These suggestions will help you get started. Please feel free to contact your BGCT Discipleship Office, your associational Director of Missions, and a nearby church who has already been involved in Bible Drill/Speakers' Tournament. We would love to help you!

1. Enlist someone to lead the Bible Drill/Speakers' Tournament program who will organize and lead this strategic ministry and is passionate about discipling children and youth.
2. Enlist your pastor's support and ask him to encourage participation from the pulpit.
3. Create a team effort with all leaders of children/youth in your church to involve members and prospects in their Sunday School classes, music, and missions programs. Include these leaders and the pastor in the orientation meeting.
4. Work through the existing outreach ministry of your church to involve unchurched children/youth in Bible Drill/Speakers' Tournament.
5. Make note of the dates for BGCT State competition and registration deadline in the Calendar section of this handbook.
6. Contact your associational office for the associational competition date and registration procedures.
7. Set the date for the church drill/tournament. (The church drill should be held 1-2 weeks before the associational drill.)
8. Set a schedule for your Bible Drill training. Many churches begin at about the time schools begin for the fall semester. Others begin in January. Speakers' Tournament participants will need an orientation meeting and checkpoints/practice sessions along the way, but may not meet weekly like Bible Drill participants.
9. Decide when and where you will meet for training. Meet with church staff and reserve these times and places on the church calendar. Be sure to set a time that will allow for the most children to participate. This could be Sunday afternoon, Wednesday evening, Saturday morning, or any day of the week.
10. Advertise when Bible Drill/Speakers' Tournament will begin.

11. Promote Bible Drill/Speakers' Tournament in your church's newsletter, Sunday worship guide, Sunday School/small groups, and website.
12. Send letters or text messages to potential participants, explaining Speakers' Tournament and inviting them to participate.
13. Schedule and conduct an orientation meeting with interested youth and their parents.
 - Invite your pastor, staff and other youth ministry leaders to attend.
 - Provide refreshments.
 - Explain the purpose of Bible Drill/Speakers' Tournament.
 - Give attendees a copy of the upcoming year's speakers' topics. (This list is available for download on the Bible Drill/Speakers' Tournament pages of the BGCT website.)
 - Provide copies of this handbook and explain the details of preparing for Youth Speakers' Tournament.
 - Discuss any anticipated costs with parents. These may include travel expenses for associational and state events.
 - Provide a handout including your training date/time/place, church/associational/ state competition dates and locations.
14. Hold a special kick-off for Bible Drill/Speakers' Tournament.
15. Meet regularly for coaching, writing help, and practice (consider speaking to adult Sunday School classes).
16. Hold the church competition.
17. Attend the associational competition.
18. Attend the state/regional competition.
19. Recognize all who participated in Bible Drill/Speakers' Tournament in your church newsletter, your church service, and hometown newspaper.

Conducting Your Church Speakers' Tournament

Each church is responsible for planning and implementing their church Speakers' Tournament. The following suggestions will help the Speakers' Tournament Coordinator plan for the tournament. The coordinator should also be familiar with information in the Speakers' Tournament Leader Handbook available for download from www.texasbaptists.org/bibledrill.

Preparation for Your Speakers' Tournament

- Choose a Tournament Room with few distractions such as heavily decorated walls, loud noise nearby, etc. Close blinds on outdoor windows, and cover interior windows (in doors, hallways) with paper.
- Choose a nearby Ready Room for your preparation meeting with participants.
- As you enlist the three Judges for your Speakers' Tournament, find at least two who have knowledge and experience in speech, drama or English at the high school or college level. A pastor or minister of education is also recommended to help judge the theological content of the speech.
- Enlist all volunteers at least one week prior to your drill, and provide them a copy of the Speakers' Tournament score sheet and a job description for the job they will perform. Detailed **job descriptions** are included in this handbook, and may be downloaded separately from www.texasbaptists.org/bibledrill for:
 - Registration Secretary (may be same one as for Bible Drill)
 - Conductor
 - Three Judges
 - Two Tally Room Assistants (may be same ones as for Bible Drill)

Materials Needed

- Score sheets (download from www.texasbaptists.org/bibledrill)
- Tally sheets (download from www.texasbaptists.org/bibledrill)
- 3x3 inch numbered squares of paper, one for each participant, with spaces on the back for Name and Grade (These are to be worn on the clothing of the participants, who should be referred to by number and not name during the tournament.)
- Pins or tape to attach numbers
- Pencils for Judges and Tally Room Assistants
- Stop watch for Conductor
- Each participant must furnish one copy of his/her speech. Distribute manuscript to judges as needed or requested by a judge.

Training Session for All Volunteers (With Bible Drill volunteers, led by Church Coordinator)

- Schedule approximately 1 hour for the training session prior to your tournament.
- Joint session with all volunteers (5-10 minutes):
 - Prayer
 - Personal introductions
 - Review schedule
 - Dismiss to age group sessions (if multiple sets of judges are used)

Training Session for Speakers' Tournament Judges (Led by Conductor)

- Emphasize the purpose of Speakers' Tournament as a program for youth in grades 10-12, is designed to stimulate growth toward Christian maturity. It challenges youth to think seriously about their Christian commitment and equips them to articulate that commitment clearly.
- Review the Speakers' Tournament Conductor Job Description in this handbook, which may also be downloaded at www.texasbaptists.org/bibledrill.
- Give each judge a copy of the Speakers' Tournament score sheet and explain each area to be judged. Be sure each one understands that each of the points you have discussed should be judged on a scale of 1 to 10. Explain that the score (1 to 10) should be placed in the appropriate point value column for each item. Emphasize that each speaker's number is to be written in the appropriate place on their score sheet.
- The judge is not to fill in a score in the time allotment or inappropriate dress. The conductor will be responsible for these 2 areas.
- Remind judges that they need to write constructive comments on the score sheets.
- Instruct judges to be seated where they are comfortable as long as they are able to clearly hear and see all speeches. Tables or clipboards should be provided for judges.

Tournament Procedure

- **In the Ready Room**

- Meet with all speakers in the Ready Room at least 15 minutes prior to the first speech.
- Ask participants to take one of the 3x3 numbered squares to determine the order in which they will speak. Ask speakers to fill in the requested information on the back (name and grade). Pin or tape the number to each driller's left shoulder.
- Have each speaker give you their speech manuscripts and write their number on the manuscript in pencil.
- Invite questions. Have prayer.
- Ask speakers to remain in the Ready Room until they are called to the Speech Room to present their speech.

- **In the Speech Room**

- Select a volunteer door keeper from the audience. No one is to enter or leave the room after the tournament begins except in an emergency. Place a sign outside the door to this effect.
- Distribute manuscripts to judges as needed or requested by a judge.
- After all participants have spoken, collect numbers from speakers, clip the number of the participant to their score sheets, and write in any deductions for time or inappropriate dress, if applicable.
- Introduce each speaker and return their manuscripts.
- State when you will post or announce those speakers who will advance to the regional semi final tournament. Remind them that they or their sponsor will need to register with the BGCT Discipleship Office by the registration deadline.
- Close with prayer.
- The conductor will take all score sheets of each participant to the tally room. The tally room personnel will complete the tallying of the scores.

Speakers' Tournament Scoring

- **Content and Composition**

- **Originality/Related to Subject** – Does the speech deal with the subject? Does the speech seem to reflect the participant's own convictions? Does the speech give evidence of original and creative thinking by the participant? Does the purpose of the speech inform, inspire, persuade or create interest?
- **Organization/Logical Sequence** – Is the content arranged in such a way that the audience has no difficulty in following the speech? Is the speech designed to develop the content in an orderly way?
- **Structure/Grammar** – Does the participant use complete sentences and are the sentences grammatically correct?
- **Purpose Accomplished** – Does the speech do what it is intended to do as evidenced by the subject and content?
- **Choice of Resources and Credit for Quotations** – Are a variety of good sources used? When using resources, do they reflect an adequate understanding of the various facets of the subject? Are resources used in ways that add strength to the content of the speech? Does the delivered speech indicate that the material used is being quoted?

- **Delivery**

- **Eye Contact With Audience** – Does the speaker smile, use appropriate facial expressions and maintain good eye contact with the audience?
- **Articulate and Expressive Voice** – Does the speaker use good vocal energy and enunciate clearly? Does the speaker speak loudly enough for the audience to hear without straining? Does the speaker speak in a clear, conversational manner? Does the speaker speak with directness and sincerity?
- **Poise and Confidence** – Is the speaker convincing, interesting and understandable? Does the speaker appear to be composed and at ease? Does the speaker appear to believe in himself and his message? Does he/she speak with passion?
- **Posture/Movement/Gesturing** – Are the movement and gestures of the speaker appropriate and support the purpose of the speech? Are the posture, movement and gestures distracting and take away from the speech?
- **Delivered from Memory** – Does the speaker rely on notes? Does the speaker require prompting?
- **Time** – Speeches must be 4-6 minutes. (The Tournament Conductor is responsible for keeping time and scoring this area. Other Judges do not score based on time.) Time penalty will be assessed as follows:
 - Over 6 minutes - 2 points will be deducted for each 10 seconds
 - Under 4 minutes - 2 points will be deducted for each 10 seconds

Speakers' Tournament Rules

- Speakers will prepare a four-to-six minute speech on a topic chosen from the current list of official topics. Speeches must be the work of the individual speaker. Plagiarism or having the speech or any major portion of it written by someone other than the speaker is grounds for disqualification. The purpose of the speech may be to inform, inspire, persuade, or create concern.
- Speakers Tournament focuses on the speaking ability of students. Music and drama are not considered "speech" and should be avoided. It is appropriate to quote part of a song, poem, or play, but not to perform these. Speakers should strive to be creative in their speeches, using tools such as stories, vocal variation, clever phrasing, and personal experiences.
- Speakers are encouraged to use a variety of sources for their research. Brief quotations are appropriate with the author and location of the quotations cited in the speech. Information (quoted or not quoted) gleaned from any source must be footnoted (endnotes or parenthetical reference are acceptable) in the final manuscript. A bibliography for all consulted resources is required.
- Gestures and movement on stage are appropriate if they support the purpose of the speech. Movement that is distracting or overly dramatic should be avoided.
- Good taste should be used in clothing. Casual clothing is acceptable, however; jeans and t-shirts are discouraged. Costuming for the speech is not appropriate.
- A manuscript of the speech is to be presented to the person conducting each tournament. Speakers will not be judged on their ability to recite their speech word for word. The purpose of the manuscript is to provide an accurate script for the judges. The manuscript should be a complete transcript of the speech, not just an outline.
- Use of a microphone is acceptable; however use of pulpit, notes, props, charts, or diagrams should be avoided. If a speaker chooses to use notes, he or she should not be tied to those notes. Speakers should strive for an extemporaneous delivery of the speech (that is, a comfortable, conversational tone)

After the Church Tournament

- The church coordinator or sponsor with speakers advancing to an associational drill must contact their Associational Office to register for the Associational Drill.
- After the Associational Tournament, those advancing from the Associational level for the state regional semi-final tournament must be registered with the BGCT Discipleship Office. Registration will be online at www.texasbaptists.org/bibledrill.
- **Registration deadline for all BGCT Regional Tournaments is Thursday, March 30, 2017.**

APPENDIX A

YOUTH SPEAKERS' TOURNAMENT JOB DESCRIPTIONS

Youth Speakers' Tournament

Job Descriptions

These job descriptions are written for the BGCT State/Regional events. Churches/ Associations may adapt as needed for their event.

Conductor Responsibilities

1. Set up tournament room

- Please note: Your speech room should be set up prior to the judges' training session.
- If there are windows, use paper to block the view of outside spectators.
- Arrange chairs so participants and observers do not face doors (especially doors with windows)
- From supply box provided by event coordinator, provide score sheets and pencils for each judge.
- Find stop watch in supply box, which you will use to keep time.
- Place the participant numbers and pencils in the ready room.

2. Lead judges' training session

- Three judges will be enlisted by the event coordinator.
- Meet with the judges at the appointed time for the training session.
- Open with prayer.
- Introduce the judges.
- Review the schedule for the event.

Speakers speaking on Friday will meet in the ready room at 5:45 pm and will begin speaking at 6:00 pm. Speakers speaking on Saturday will meet in the ready room at 8:15 am and will begin speaking at 8:30 am.

- Hand out expense forms and personnel information cards - Please remind judges to put last four digits of social security number on the expense form and the personnel card. Remind judges to put home address on/and sign the expense form. The conductor will give expense form and personnel card to coordinator during the competition.
- **Carefully review the score sheet with judges, along with the Rules and Scoring information below.**
 - Explain that speakers will be judged on the basis of 100 points. Content/Composition will count 50 percent and Delivery will count 50 percent. Each item on the score sheet will receive a number score from each judge, one being the lowest and ten being the highest score.
 - Judges do not put a score in the Time Allotment or Appropriate Dress. The conductor will be responsible for these 2 areas.
 - Remind judges that they need to write constructive comments on the score sheets.

- Suggest that in the actual speech competition, judges be seated where they feel comfortable as long as they are able to hear clearly all speeches.

3. Conducting the Tournament

- Meet with all Friday night speakers in the ready room at 5:45 p.m., and all Saturday speakers at 8:15 a.m. (15 minutes before speeches are to begin.)
- Introduce yourself to the participants.
- Have participants draw a number (1-?) to determine the order in presenting their speech.
- Have participants fill in all information on the number and attach the number on their left shoulder.
- Receive your copy of manuscripts from each participant.
- Write each participant's number on their manuscript.
- Have prayer with participants.
- Go to speech room with speaker #1. Other speakers should remain in the ready room.
- Remind parents, sponsors and spectators that entering or leaving the speech room is not allowed while a speech is in progress. Be sure a sign to this effect is on the outside of the door.
- Remind everyone that no pictures and/or videos may be taken during the speech.
- Distribute manuscripts to judges.
- Announce each speaker by number and speech title.
- The conductor is responsible for timing the speech.
- At the end of each speech, allow time for judges to write comments on the score sheets. Collect score sheets. The conductor will fill in a score in the Time Allotment or Appropriate Dress areas.
- Return to the ready room to get the next speaker. Bring them to the speech room and announce their speech.
- Return manuscripts to participants after all have spoken.
- When all speeches are complete, take score sheets with numbers of each participant to the tally room.
- When score sheets have been tabulated by the tally room personnel, please make copies of all score sheets. Be prepared to give each participant copies of their score sheets at the end of the awards session on Friday night or Saturday.

Judge Responsibilities

1. Attend the Judge's training session prior to the tournament.
2. Judge each participant's speech.
3. Write constructive comments on the score sheets.
4. At the end of the competition and if time permits, give verbal critique to the participants in regards to their speech presentation.

Speakers' Tournament Rules

- Speakers will prepare a four to six minute speech on a topic chosen from the current list of official topics provided by the BGCT Discipleship Office. The purpose of the speech may be to inform, inspire, persuade, or create concern.
- Speeches must be the work of the individual speaker. Plagiarism or having the speech (or any major portion of it) written by someone other than the speaker is grounds for disqualification.
- Speakers' Tournament focuses on the speaking ability of students. Music and drama are not considered "speech" and should be avoided. It is appropriate to quote part of a song, poem, or play, but not to perform these. Speakers should strive to be creative in their speeches, using tools such as stories, vocal variation, clever phrasing, and personal experiences.
- Speakers are encouraged to use a variety of sources for their research. Brief quotations are appropriate with the author and location of the quotations cited in the speech. Information (quoted or not quoted) gleaned from any source should be footnoted (endnotes or parenthetical references are acceptable) in the final manuscript. A bibliography for all consulted resources is strongly encouraged.
- Gestures and movements on stage are appropriate if they support the purpose of the speech. Movement that is distracting or overly dramatic should be avoided.
- Good taste should be used in clothing. Casual clothing is acceptable; however jeans and t-shirts are discouraged. Costuming for the speech is not appropriate.
- A manuscript of the speech is to be presented to the tournament conductor. Speakers will not be judged on their ability to recite their speech word for word. The purpose of the manuscript is to provide an accurate script for the judges. The manuscript should be a complete transcript of the speech, not just an outline.
- Use of a microphone is acceptable; however use of pulpit, notes, props, charts, or diagrams should be avoided. If a speaker chooses to use notes, he or she should not be tied to those notes. Speakers should strive for an extemporaneous delivery of the speech, using a comfortable, conversational tone.

Content/Composition

- **Originality/Related to Subject** – Does the speech deal with the subject? Does the speech seem to reflect the participant's own convictions? Does the speech give evidence of original and creative thinking by the participant? Does the purpose of the speech inform, inspire, persuade or create interest?
- **Organization/Logical Sequence** – Is the content arranged in such a way that the audience has no difficulty in following the speech? Is content developed in an orderly way?
- **Structure/Grammar** – Does the participant use complete sentences, and are the sentences grammatically correct?
- **Purpose Accomplished** – Does the speech do what it is intended to do as evidenced by the subject and content?
- **Choice of Resources and Credit for Quotations** – Are a variety of good sources used? When using resources, do they reflect an adequate understanding of the various facets of the

subject? Are resources used in a way that adds strength to the content of the speech? Does the delivered speech indicate that the material used is being quoted?

Delivery

- **Eye Contact With Audience** – Does the speaker smile, use appropriate facial expressions and maintain good eye contact with the audience?
- **Articulate and Expressive Voice** – Does the speaker use good vocal energy and enunciate clearly? Does the speaker speak loudly enough for the audience to hear without straining? Does the speaker speak in a clear, conversational manner? Does the speaker speak with directness and sincerity?
- **Poise and Confidence** – Is the speaker convincing, interesting and understandable? Does the speaker appear to be composed and at ease? Does the speaker appear to believe in himself and his message? Does he/she speak with passion?
- **Posture/Movement/Gesturing** – Are the movements and gestures of the speaker appropriate, and do they support the purpose of the speech? Are the posture, movements and gestures distracting, and do they take away from the speech?
- **Delivered from Memory** – Does the speaker rely on notes? Does the speaker require prompting?

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YOUTH SPEAKERS' TOURNAMENT SCORE SHEET

Speaker # _____ Date _____ Location _____ Judge _____

Reminders:

- Judge *content* and *delivery* independently of each other.
- Deduct 2 points for each ten (10) Seconds the timekeeper says a speech is under 4 minutes or over 6 minutes.
- Deduct points for inappropriate dress *only if instructed to by the Competition Coordinator*.

Scoring System									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Poor		Fair		Average		Good		Excellent	

CONTENT	Judge's Notes	Score
1. Originality/Related to subject		
2. Organization/Logical sequencing		
3. Structure and grammar		
4. Purpose accomplished		
5. Use of resources and proper credit		

DELIVERY		
1. Eye contact with audience		
2. Articulate and expressive voice		
3. Poise and confidence		
4. Posture/Movement/Gesturing		
5. Delivered from memory		

Content and Delivery SUBTOTAL	
Points Deducted for inappropriate dress	
Points Deducted for over/under time limit	
TOTAL SCORE	

SPEAKER FEEDBACK

Speaker's Name _____ Date _____

Title of Speech _____

CONTENT

<p>Things the speaker did well:</p>	<p>Things that could be improved:</p>
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DELIVERY

<p>Things the speaker did well:</p>	<p>Things that could be improved:</p>
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YOUTH SPEAKERS' TOURNAMENT TALLY SHEET

Speaker #	Time	Judge 1	Judge 2	Judge 3	Total	Average (Divide Total by 3)	Award
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							
10							
11							
12							

YOUTH SPEAKERS' TOURNAMENT TALLY SHEET

Speaker #	Time	Judge 1	Judge 2	Judge 3	Total	Average (Divide Total by 3)	Award
13							
14							
15							
16							
17							
18							
19							
20							
21							
22							
23							
24							