

# 2025 NATIONAL JUNIOR PREPARED PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST



## Eligibility:

1. To be eligible to compete in the National Prepared Public Speaking Contest, the individual must be a Junior Member of Holstein Association USA.
2. The contest will be held on June 24, 2025. The completed application form must be received by **May 1<sup>st</sup>**.
3. States with over 1,000 Junior members may enter a total of nine speech contestants. States with over 400 Junior members may enter six contestants in the contest. States with less than 400 Junior members may enter three contestants in the contest. Membership counts will be conducted on January 1 each year. States may choose how they wish to divide their allotted number of contestants among the age divisions. Participants must be between the ages of 9 to 20 years old to participate but have not reached their 21st birthday by January 1 in the year competing. Age division breakdowns are as follows:

<b>Junior:</b>	9 to 13 years old as of January 1 in the year competing
<b>Intermediate:</b>	14 to 17 years old as of January 1 in the year competing
<b>Senior:</b>	18 to 20 years old as of January 1 in the year competing
4. First place winners will not be eligible to compete again in the age division which they have already won. Contestants that have not won a division may participate for as long as they are eligible for competition. It is the responsibility of each state to select their representatives.

## Subject:

Contestants may choose any subject pertaining to Holstein cattle and the Holstein industry. For subject matter we wish to encourage exploration and understanding of all entities of the dairy industries, emphasizing the Holstein's role. Current policies, affairs, and trends in the industry are suitable topics.

## Time Limit:

In the **Senior Division**: Each presentation should be a minimum of eight minutes and a maximum of ten minutes. In the **Intermediate Division**: Each speech shall be a minimum of six minutes and a maximum of eight minutes. In the **Junior Division**: Each speech shall be a minimum of three minutes and a maximum of five minutes. Each contestant will be allowed five minutes in which the judging committee will ask questions relating to his or her speech. Deductions will be made from the score of each

judge for speeches that are under the time limit or over the time limit in length.

**Purpose:**

The National Junior Holstein Association Prepared Public Speaking Contest is designed to develop the ability of all members to express themselves on chosen subjects in the required amount of time. The event will be held in connection with the National Junior Holstein Convention.

**Procedures:**

1. Speaking order will be randomly drawn by event officials. The event officials shall introduce each participant by name and in order of the drawing. All contestants must report to the holding room 5 minutes before speech time.
2. Three competent and impartial judges will be selected by the committee to judge the contest.
3. A contestant will be permitted to use notes while speaking, but deductions in scoring may be made for this practice if it detracts from the effectiveness of the presentation. Applause shall be withheld until all participants have spoken.
4. Senior division competitors will be allowed to use visual aids including posters, display boards, PowerPoint, etc. An LCD projector with remote slide changer and screen will be provided. Contestants may bring either their own laptop with HDMI port or a thumb drive with their presentation in Microsoft PowerPoint. Wireless Internet will not be provided. Contestants will be given a 2-minute time frame to set up audio visual needs. If a contestant goes over the 2-minute set up time frame they will receive a score of zero for delivery.
5. No visual aids will be allowed in the Junior and Intermediate divisions of this contest – this includes posters and costumes.
6. A timekeeper will record the time by each contestant in delivering his or her speech, noting undertime or overtime, if any, for which deductions will be made. The timekeeper will indicate when 30 seconds remain by holding up a timecard.
7. A maximum of five minutes will be allotted at the completion of the speech for judges to ask questions. Each contestant will be scored on his or her ability to answer questions by all judges.

When all contestants have finished speaking, each judge will total their scores for each speech. The three judges' scores combined will determine the final placings.

**Scoring:**

Content	30	Composition	25
Delivery	20	Response to Question	25

**Score Sheet:**

The contest will be judged on the following criteria — number in parenthesis is maximum points possible for each category.

**Content (30)**

- Provides adequate amount of information relating to topic with substantial message
- Material and information presented is factual, understood, and well-researched
- Presented with a purpose to entertain, inform. Persuade or obtain action

**Composition (25)**

- Speech is organized containing an introduction, body & conclusion with main points and transitions
- Correct sentence structure, proper language and grammar used
- Demonstrates creativity & originality
- Material presented developed by the speaker
- Skillful use of facts engaging the audience with examples, descriptions & analogies

**Delivery (20)**

- Style
- Develops a rapport with audience
- Easy to listen to and appealing presentation style
- Conveyance of thought & meaning
- Enthusiasm & conversational attitude
- Articulate, good use of emphasis & volume
- Confident poise & posture, makes eye contact and hand gestures
- Personal appearance
- Appropriate use of visual aids (Senior division only)

**Response to Questions (25)**

- Demonstrates a comprehensive knowledge of subject matter
- Answers questions accurately and demonstrates originality
- quickly organizes thoughts & expresses them clearly

**Time Deductions (20)**

- Contestants will receive a 30 second grace period over or under the allotted time before deductions are taken. Any time over/under 31 to 45 seconds will receive a 10-point deduction. Any time over/under 46 to 60 seconds will receive a 20-point deduction.

**Awards:**

Cash awards will be awarded for first, second, and third place in each age division at the National Junior Holstein Convention: \$200.00, \$100.00, and \$50.00.