

RESOLUTION

Resolution No. 13

Subject Change in National Oratorical Contest Format

Referred to Convention Resolutions Committee

WHEREAS, The American Legion has been conducting a program known as “The American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship Program – A Constitutional Speech Contest” which has provided over \$3,000,000.00 in scholarships; and

WHEREAS, contestants participate from all the Departments of The American Legion in the final series of contests held in Indianapolis, Indiana; and

WHEREAS, these contests are divided into three rounds, a Quarter final round consisting of nine contests with six contestants in each contest. A second round, known as the Semi-Finals, which is made up of the winners from the Quarter Final round, a total of three contests of three contestants each, and the National Finals contest made up of the winners from the Semi-Final Rounds, a total of three contestants; and

WHEREAS, by using current format 83% of the contestants are eliminated in the first round depleting the program of some very talented contestants; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the National Organization of The American Legion consider changing the aforementioned format to include the First and Second Place winners of the Quarter final contests to advance to the Semi-Final contest which then would consist of three contests of six contestants each, and the First Place winners of these contestants would advance onto the National Finals contest; now, therefore, be it further

RESOLVED, that if this resolution is approved by the National Organization that one of two proposals attached to this resolution be used for the scholarship awards; now, therefore, be it further

RESOLVED, By The American Legion, Department of New York in Convention assembled July 19th-21st, 2018 in Rochester, New York that it encourage the National Organization to institute this format change for the betterment of the Oratorical Program and the youth of our Country; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That, if adopted, this resolution be forwarded to the National Organization in Convention assembled August 24th-30th, 2018 in Minneapolis, Minnesota, for their action.

FOR CONVENTION COMMITTEE USE	
Approved _____	Rejected _____
Approved with Amendments <u> X </u>	
Consolidated with _____	
Referred to Standing Committee on _____	
Received and Recorded _____	
Other Action _____	
Signature _____ (Chairman)	

Adjutant Signature

County

Below section to be completed when resolution is submitted from another authorized source.

John B. Sampson, Chairman

Name

Department Resolutions Committee

Title

CURRENT MONEY DISPERSEMENT

Quarter Final Round

9 Contests of 6 Contestants each, Total of 54 Contestants
1 from each contest moves on to Semi-Final round

54 contestants at \$1,500.00 each	Total	\$81,000.00
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Semi-Final Round

3 Contests of 3 Contestants each, Total of 9 Contestants
1 from each contest moves onto the National Finals Contest

6 contestants at \$1,500.00 each	Total	\$ 9,000.00
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National Finals Contest

3 Finalists with awards of \$18,000.00; \$16,000.00; and \$14, 000.00	<u>\$48,000.00</u>
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Total Amount of Awards	<u>\$138,000.00</u>
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PROPOSAL # 1
NO CHANGE IN MONEY

Quarter Final Round

9 Contests of 6 Contestants each, Total of 54 Contestants
2 from each contest moves on to Semi-Final round

54 contestants at \$1,250.00 each	Total	\$67,500.00
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Semi-Final Round

3 Contests of 6 Contestants each, Total of 18 Contestants
1 from each contest moves onto the National Finals Contest

15 contestants at \$1,500.00 each	Total	\$22,500.00
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National Finals Contest

3 Finalists with awards of \$18,000.00; \$16,000.00; and \$14, 000.00		<u>\$48,000.00</u>
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Total Amount of Awards		<u>\$138,000.00</u>
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PROPOSAL # 2
CHANGE IN MONEY

Quarter Final Round

9 Contests of 6 Contestants each, Total of 54 Contestants
2 from each contest moves on to Semi-Final round

54 contestants at \$1,250.00 each	Total	\$81,000.00
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Semi-Final Round

3 Contests of 6 Contestants each, Total of 18 Contestants
1 from each contest moves onto the National Finals Contest

15 contestants at \$1,500.00 each	Total	\$22,500.00
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National Finals Contest

3 Finalists with awards of \$18,000.00; \$16,000.00; and \$14, 000.00		<u>\$48,000.00</u>
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Total Amount of Awards		<u>\$151,500.00</u>
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Total amount needed for Proposal # 2	\$151,500.00
Original Scholarship Awards	<u>\$138,000.00</u>
Total additional money needed	<u>\$ 13,500.00</u>