



Australian Rostrum Council

Notification Regarding National Online Speaking Competition 2026

- When:** Saturday 7 November 2026
- Time:** The Competition will commence at:
- 2:00 PM EDST (NSW, ACT, Vic, Tas)**
 - 1:00 PM EST (Qld)**
 - 1:30 PM ACDT (SA)**
 - 11:00 AM AWST (WA)**
- Who:** One nominee from each Zone
- Hosted by:** Rostrum Clubs of WA

Zone Responsibilities:

Names and contact details (email AND phone number) of Competitors and Adjudicators to be advised to Competition Organiser, Mathew Lane, via email (president@rostrumwa.com.au) no later than Thursday 29 October 2026.

Adjudicators:

Each Zone is asked to nominate one suitably qualified Adjudicator who is available at the time of the Competitions (1.30-3.45 PM Eastern) on 8 November; a panel of five adjudicators will then be randomly selected, with the sixth being asked to be a reserve in case of emergency.

Competition Parameters:

Each Competitor will speak prepared for **8 minutes** on ONE of the topics listed below. There is a 30 second tolerance on speeches. The Timekeeper will only announce the speech duration if the speech is shorter than 7' 30" or longer than 8' 30".

The Adjudication Criteria are:

Speech Content (50%)

Speech Delivery (50%).

The Adjudicators' decision will be final.

It is each Competitor's responsibility to ensure that they have a stable Zoom connection, with working audio and video.

A speaking order will be randomly derived and advised to Adjudicators and Competitors in the 24 hours before the Competition.

The Zoom link will be provided by the Competition Organiser to Competitors, Adjudicators, Zone Presidents and Zone Secretaries in the week before the competition.

Topics:

Competitors should address one of the following topics in their speech:

Why Me?

It was the end of the line

I turned the key and ...

Back Then

I didn't recognise them at first

It just wouldn't stop

Please direct any queries to:

Mathew Lane

President

Rostrum Clubs of WA

president@rostrumwa.com.au