

Toastmasters Contest Local Customs from District 8

Although Toastmasters contest organizers must follow the official and current TMI rule book, most Clubs, Areas, Divisions, and Districts develop local customs and ways of doing things that make their events special.

Here are some ideas to consider when planning your Perfect Contest:

Local Customs from TM District 8

1. Always introduce any District Officers and Officials starting in order from highest ranking to lowest at your contests. Ask the highest ranking official to join you for the award presentation at the end of the contest.
2. Allow the District Official to make any announcements about upcoming district training, contests, etc.
3. Many contests have organized a food and drink table with all functionaries bringing something to the contest. I have seen spreadsheets completed with very elaborate food and drink and others with simply water and cookies.
4. To recognize contest champions, plan a place in the room for a Winners' Circle and sign up photographers (Vice Presidents of Public Relations - VPRs - are great for this recognition task) to document the momentous occasion after awards are given out and before everyone leaves the building. Try to include a Toastmasters banner or other insignia in the background.