

# Rotary Provincial Spelling Bee

## RULES

- 1) Students participating in the *Rotary Provincial Spelling Bee*:
  - a) in the 12 & under category must not have reached the age of 13 on or before July 8, 2008
  - b) in the 10 & under category must not have reached the age of 11 on or before July 8, 2008
  - c) in the 8 & under category must not have reached the age of 9 on or before July 8 2008
  - c) must be a permanent resident of Prince Edward Island
- 2) The *Rotary Provincial Spelling Bee* shall be an oral competition with eliminations on a Amiss and out basis.
- 3) Words shall be selected from a list prepared by the *Rotary Provincial Spelling Bee* Word Committee.
- 4) Words shall be chosen from the Gage Canadian Intermediate Dictionary (Updated Edition).
- 5) In competition, the Pronouncer will give the speller a word, the definition of the word and will use the word in a sentence. The speller will be encouraged to pronounce the word before spelling it and after spelling it. However, no speller will be eliminated for failing to pronounce a word.
- 6) The speller may ask the Pronouncer to pronounce the word again.

The speller may also ask the Pronouncer to define the word again.

The speller may ask the Pronouncer to use the word in a sentence again.

The Pronouncer shall grant all such requests until the Judges agree the word has been made reasonably clear to the speller.
- 7) The judges will disqualify any speller who fails to begin spelling a word within 30 seconds of being given the word or its definition. The Timekeeper will announce time has expired by saying: Time. If the Timekeeper says Time before the speller has begun spelling a word, the speller will be disqualified.

- 8) Having started to spell a word, a speller may stop and start over but cannot change the letters or their sequence from those first used by the speller. If letters or their sequence are changed in the re-spelling, the speller will be eliminated.
- 9) The competition shall be conducted in rounds. Each speller remaining in the competition at the start of a round shall spell one word in that round.
- 10) Upon missing the correct spelling of a word, a speller immediately drops out of the competition except as provided in Rule 11. The next word on the Pronouncer=s list is given to the next speller.
- 11) If none of the contestants remaining in the competition at the start of a round spells a word correctly during the round, all shall remain in the competition for the next round.
- 12) All spellers eliminated in the same round will be tied for the same place.
- 13) If only one of the spellers remaining in the competition at the start of a round spells a word correctly during that round, that speller shall be declared the winner.
- 14) The competition will begin with the 8 & under category. Following the determination of a winner, the competition will continue with the 10 & under category followed by the 12 & under category.
- 15) The Gage Intermediate Canadian Dictionary shall serve as the final authority for the spelling of words. If more than one spelling is listed for a word, any of these spellings will be accepted as correct. If a spelling is not listed in the dictionary being used, it will not be accepted.
- 16) If a word has one or more homonyms (words that sound the same but have different meanings), the Pronouncer will indicate which word is to be spelled. If the listed word is not properly identified, either by defining it or distinguishing the homonyms, any correct spelling will be accepted.
- 17) Each speller must be accompanied by an Official Escort at the time and place of registration the day of the competition and must be present throughout the Spelling Bee or until such time as the Escort's speller has been eliminated from competition.

An Official Escort may appeal the Judges' decision regarding the elimination of his/her speller by filing an Appeal Form with the Director. Appeal Forms will be given to the Official Escorts at the registration desk the day of the competition. The deadline for filing an appeal is before the speller affected would have received his/her next word had he/she stayed in the competition. No appeal will be entertained after that word has been given to another speller.

When only five spellers remain, an oral appeal must be made immediately, that is before the speller affected would have received his/her next word had he/she stayed in the competition.

An Official Escort is anyone over the age of 18 who declares him/herself to the Director at the time of registration the day of the competition.

- 18) The judges are in complete control of the competition. Their decision shall be final on questions.
- 19) All spellers and official escorts are required to attend the Mandatory Assembly for Spellers and Official Escorts on July 8, 2008 at 9:30 am at Credit Union Place in Summerside. This Assembly will be held one half hour prior to commencement of the competition in order to ensure every speller and official escort is familiar with the rules. Failure to attend may result in disqualification prior to the start of competition.