

RULES FOR ALL PRE-CONVENTION EVENTS

1. **All items must be postmarked no later than the Pre Convention Deadline.**
2. **Each submission must be mailed to the appropriate Event Director.** Church Number and Team Numbers need to be included on submissions, if available prior to mailing. See Cover Page (last page of this section).
3. A 3-point deduction is allowed for failure to provide complete submission information as instructed.
4. In a team event a participant may move up to a higher grade division, but an older participant may not move down to a lower grade division. Each team in each event will participate at the grade division of the highest grade member. All team events will consist of more than one person.
5. Each individual award winner and each member of a winning team will receive an engraved plate for his/her participant's plaque.
6. Judge's score sheets and Awards will be placed in congregational packets to be picked up by the Church Coordinator at the end of convention.
7. Participants must be registered in their respective events and send in the registration fee to Registration on or before the Registration Deadline, whether they will be attending the CTLTC Convention or not in attendance. Do NOT send checks to event directors.
8. Church Coordinators will have until two weeks after the convention to apply for awards, corrections or updates. Any awards needed after this deadline will have to be secured by the Church Coordinator from a local business.
9. Copyrighted material received as an entry will not be judged. It will not be accepted for any event and will be returned to the sender.
10. A list of Pre-Convention Event Directors and information will be available on the CTLTC website (<http://www.clttc.net/>).

Brenda Slatton, Pre-Convention Coordinator (current information listed @ <http://www.clttc.net/>)

CHRISTIAN ESSAY RULES

PURPOSE: To improve written communication skills in conveying Biblical ideas. Written communication has always been an important means of teaching and admonishing Christians. From the time that inspired authors gave instruction up to the journals and publications of today, ideas skillfully and clearly presented have made lasting impressions on the hearts and minds of those who wish to put God's will into practice. The event must challenge people to use the written word to communicate God's Word. Their writing content, style, and message should reflect a respect for the importance and value of communicating God's Word in written form.

PROCESS: Each participant shall:

- Read and follow Rules for All Pre-Convention Events on Page 35 of manual.
- Write an article with the content addressing the current year's CTLTC theme
- Mail **THREE (3)** copies of the essay to the Event Director on or before the Mail-in Deadline.
- Include one cover sheet following the format given below.
- Include a self-addressed, stamped postcard if you wish to receive confirmation of receipt

The Event Director shall:

- Send a confirmation of receipt of essay if requested.
- Organize the essays for judging.
- Provide a critique sheet on the essay.
- Report results to the Awards Committee.

RULES:

1. Failure to comply with any of these rules will result in a point deduction from the scores for each rule violated.
2. The essay length shall be 250 to 500 words
3. The essay format shall be as follows for students 7-12 grade:
 - Typewritten
 - Double-spaced
 - Font: Arial or Times New Roman
 - Size: 12 to 14
4. For students sixth grade or younger, handwritten work is admissible; however, an adult may type it as long as the student's work is not changed. All work must be neat, legible, and dark enough to be read easily.
5. The essay shall start with the title of the essay, followed by the text.
6. Copies of an oratory speech will not be accepted as an essay.
7. Essays should provide information not personal testimonies. Specific scriptures should be included.
8. A cover sheet shall be on the front of each entry. The format of this cover sheet is explained under "Submission of Essays" on the next page.
9. There are three grade divisions in this event: Grades 3-6, 7-9, 10-12
Each higher grade division should demonstrate more effective use of the written word.

SUBMISSION OF ESSAYS:

Typed cover sheet shall follow this format (see Cover Sheet on last page of this section):

<u>Format:</u>	<u>Example:</u>
Name	A. Christian
Grade	9th Grade
Congregation	Anywhere Church of Christ
Group Leader	B. Saved
Congregation Address	1234 Church Street
City, State, Zip	Any City, State 00000
Congregation Phone No.	512-555-1212
Title of Essay	"YOUR TITLE HERE"

AWARDS:

There are three ratings available in each grade division. Ratings and awards will be given to those who score 75 points or better.

Gold -- 95-100 points, Silver -- 85-94 points, Bronze -- 75-84 points

JUDGING CRITERIA:

- ___ (20 pts) **Use of Assigned Theme** -- The essay will be rated on the use of the assigned theme. The essay should blend your creativity with the ideas of the theme.
 - ___ (20 pts) **Use of English Language** - The essay will be rated on the proper use of the English language, word usage, spelling and punctuation.
 - ___ (20 pts) **Structure** - The essay will be rated on its structure as an essay. The current year's CTLTC theme should be clearly introduced in the beginning of the paper. The thesis statement should be clearly seen. This main idea should be supported by three to five points in the body of the article. The essay should be closed by a conclusion supported by the previous materials.
 - ___ (20 pts) **Readability** - The essay will be rated on readability. This concerns relevance to today, correct use of paragraphs, pagination, absence of typographical errors, and the ability to hold a reader's interest. Specific scriptures should be included.
 - ___ (20 pts) **Overall Mood** - The overall mood of the writing will be rated. Proper use of humor, personal stories, and illustrations will be evaluated as to their relevance to the theme. The theme, points, and conclusion should be enhanced by such usage. The work should clearly be seen as the writer's thoughts and expression rather than a collection of the thoughts of others.
- (3 pt Deduction) **Format/Submission:** A 3 point deduction will be made should the participant not have followed instructions for formatting and submitting the entry.

___ (100 pts) **TOTAL**