

Country Week

Speaking and Debating Awards

Monday 29 June to Friday 3 July 2026

At Bendat Stadium and HPC



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Coordinator

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Expression of Interest and Entering

SSWA is currently calling for Expressions of interest at -
<https://www.schoolsportwa.com.au/shs-country-week/>

Your Expression of Interest to SSWA will need to be
FOLLOWED BY SUBMITTING AN ENTRY FORM
for the Speaking and Debating Awards
(available on request or at www.schoolsportwa.com.au)
by 5.00pm Friday 24th April.

NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED

The Draft Program will be emailed to coordinators
and uploaded to www.schoolsportwa.com.au on
Monday 18th May
and the Final Program on Friday 5th June.

THE SPEAKING AND DEBATING AWARDS are a TEAM event for Senior High School students who are interested in developing their oral communication skills. The Awards are considered 'one event' for the allocation of points towards both the winning Speaking and Debating School and Champion School and comprise 3 categories.

- Category 1: Debating. Where a school enters 2 debate teams, the result of the team in the highest division will be used to calculate Champion School scores.
- Category 2: Own Composition
- Category 3: Performance Piece

Schools may enter up to 8 students comprising 2 debate teams of 4 student. Schools may not enter the two teams in the same division, in line with other sports at CW. **As this is a team event, only schools ENTERING A DEBATE TEAM MAY ENTER.**

Two of the 4 students in each debate team may take part in Own Composition and the two in Performance Piece. If a debate team has three students, one of the students may take part in both OC and PP.

PLEASE NOTE: Students may not present or perform an Own Composition or a Performance Piece they have previously presented, at Country Week Speaking and Debating.

The 4 members of the debate team may take part in the debate preparation, and the 4th team member may sit at the debate table to pass notes during the debate to support their team members.

If any of the 4 debate students choose to not take part in either the **Own Composition** or the **Performance Piece** categories of the awards, the student/s will score the number equivalent to the number who could have competed in each category in which they do not participate (8 debate teams = 16 students who could compete. If only 12 compete, all of those not competing will be awarded 16). In the case of a three-member team, if one of the team does not take part in both the Own Composition and Performance Piece, they will also be ranked as per the number of students who could have competed.

Debate teams and students compete for medallions for 1st – 3rd places in each category and division of Debating, Own Composition and Performance Piece. They also compete as a team to score points towards Champion School.

The Kim Angus Memorial Trophy will be won by the student who has demonstrated consistency by ranking highly in 2 categories of the Awards i.e. Debating and Own Composition OR Debating and Performance Piece.

Three are divisions:

A Division - for the more confident student and/or for students who have had previous public speaking and / or acting experience.

B Division - for less confident speakers.

C Division - for novice speakers.

STUDENTS MUST COMPETE IN THE SAME DIVISION FOR EACH CATEGORY OF THE AWARDS.

PLEASE NOTE that if there are insufficient teams / students competing in a division, the organisers reserve the right to move team/s / students to another division **BASED ON 2025 RESULTS.**

SCORING

Individual Scoring

In each division of Own Composition and Performance Piece, students will be ranked using the total of the 2 adjudicator scores they receive. In each division the student with the highest total score will be ranked 1 and will be placed first.

If time permits in the program, the top ranked students in each division of Own Composition and Performance Piece will compete in finals, giving them the chance to improve their ranking and therefore points earned for their team. The number of finalists will be decided by the adjudicators.

The Kim Angus Memorial Trophy will be won by the student who has demonstrated consistency by ranking highly in 2 categories of the Awards i.e. Debating and Own Composition OR Debating and Performance Piece.

In debating, the scores for Matter, Manner and Method will be used to identify the top debate student. Each student's scores for the first three debates in which they participate will be totalled and averaged by 3. A student must participate in at least three debates to be eligible for top debate student. The highest averaged score will be first.

Team Scoring

In Own Composition and Performance Piece each student will be given a score, as per the table below, based on the rank they achieve.

Student Rank	A Div points	B Div points	C Div points
1	100	80	60
2	98	78	58
3	96	76	56
4	94	74	54
5	92	72	52
6	90	70	50
7	88	68	48
8	86	66	46
9	84	64	44
10	82	62	42
11	80	60	40
12	78	58	38
13	76	56	36
14	74	54	34
15	72	52	32
16	70	50	30

The 2 highest points scores for each school across all the divisions in which the school participates, will be totalled and averaged by 2 to provide each school's final rank in each of Own Composition and Performance Piece. For example:

Team Scoring OC / PP	1 st Rank across all divs	2 nd Rank across all divs	1 st Rank Pts	2 nd Rank Pts	Total / 2	Rank for Ch Schl
Schl A	1A	4A	100	94	87	1
Schl B	2A	7B	98	68	83	2
Schl C	5C	6B	52	70	61	3

DEBATE SCORING

At the conclusion of the initial rounds / round robins all teams in each division / pool will be ranked.

If there is time in the program to run finals the ranks of the teams after the initial rounds will determine placings for the next debates.

If there is not time to run finals, the ranks in each division at the end of the competition will be the final ranks for Champion School points.

Where a school has two debate teams, the rank for the second team will be removed. All teams left will be allocated points as per the example below:

	A Deb Rank	B Deb Rank	C Deb Rank	A Deb Pts	B Deb Pts	C Deb Pts	Ch Schl Rank
Schl A	3	0	0	96			2
Schl B	2	N/A but 3rd	0	98			1
Schl C	0	2	N/A but 1st		84		3

CHAMPION SCHOOL SCORING

The ranks for each school in each category of the competition will be totalled to decide the winning Speaking and Debating School and to allocate Champion School Points, as per the example below:

	Rank OC	Rank PP	Rank 1 st Deb team	Total	Final Place
Schl A	1	3	2	6	2
Schl B	2	1	1	4	1
Schl C	3	2	3	8	3

Champion School Points will be allocated by School Sport WA according to Final Rank.

RULES

1. **No verbal, physical or electronic bullying will be tolerated.** Any person found to be in breach of this rule by the organiser, an adjudicator or a teacher will be disqualified immediately.
2. The decisions of all adjudicators are final. Appeals are not permitted.
3. No prompting, cameras or tape recorders will be permitted as they can distract the presenter.
4. A media person from each school may electronically record presentations by students **FROM THEIR SCHOOL ONLY.**
5. To electronically record a debate, the Teacher in Charge of the school wanting to make the recording must seek written permission from the Teacher in Charge of the opposing team before the commencement of the debate.
6. No movement will be permitted by the media person during filming.
7. At no stage during or after Country Week can any electronic recording clip be used to comment on or to question adjudication results or be circulated on the internet / Facebook or any other electronic social media.
8. No eating or drinking by the audience is allowed during presentations.

DUTIES

1. To facilitate the efficient running of the Awards, each school will be rostered to various tasks, including but not limited to timekeeping, door guard, announcing and possibly others. These can be done by teachers or students. The debate adjudicators will perform the duties of announcing and timekeeping.
2. **Duties MUST BE CARRIED OUT. It is the responsibility of each school to provide a team person to undertake rostered duties.** If, for any reason, it is not possible for someone from your school to carry out the scheduled duty at any session, it is your responsibility to arrange a swap with another school.
3. Files for timing and announcing are to be collected from the desk at reception before the first session of the day by the first school rostered for the duty each day and left in the room until the end of the day's presentations, when they must be returned to the reception desk by the last school rostered for the duty each day.

COURTESIES

1. The audience is to be quiet during all presentations.
2. Mobile phones are to be turned OFF in all rooms.
3. No food or drink is to be taken into the presentation rooms.
4. No parents, teachers or students may question the ruling or the integrity of the adjudicators. If time permits, adjudicators will be happy to answer constructive questions.
5. During debates there shall be no intimidation of the opposition, either verbal or physical. Speakers shall address the opposition as 'the opposition' and not as 'you' and shall address all comments to the audience / adjudicators.
6. Large school groups in an audience can be distracting to all students, even those for whom the group is cheering. Please ensure that all applause and cheering is after each speaker finishes, **not as they are introduced or before they start or during their presentation.**

DATES TO NOTE

1. Enter by **FRIDAY 24 April** (see Excel Entry Form).
2. **MONDAY 18 MAY** - draft program uploaded to www.schoolsportwa.com.au and emailed to coordinators who have provided a valid email.
3. By **MONDAY 25 MAY** - advise Denyse at speechawards@gmail.com of omissions and/or clashes for any of their students.
4. **FRIDAY 5 JUNE** - final program uploaded to www.schoolsportwa.com.au and emailed to coordinators who have provided a valid email.
5. **THURSDAY 25 JUNE**
A **Speech Coordinator Meeting** will be held via Webex. This will be particularly useful for those new to the Speaking and Debating Awards to help them to understand how the week works, will allow for everyone to be advised of any last-minute program changes and for questions to be asked. NOTE: there will not be a Monday morning coordinator meeting.
6. **Before leaving** to travel to Country Week, please make sure that:
 - students competing in Performance Piece have completed the 'Performance Piece Cover Sheet' and have it **STAPLED** to a **TYPED** copy of their script. If the script has been edited, a typed copy of the original script must be stapled behind the edited version and cover sheet. The whole set must be **HOLE PUNCHED** for placing in a D ring folder.
 - students competing in Own Composition must have completed the 'Own Composition Declaration and Copy of Speech Cover Sheet' which must be **STAPLED** to a **TYPED** copy of their speech. The whole set must be **HOLE PUNCHED** for placing in a D ring folder.
7. **THURSDAY 2 JULY**
Presentation of medallions for Own Composition and Performance Piece for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places will take place once the adjudicators have completed their adjudication (if the finals have been able to be fitted into the program).

Otherwise, they will be presented at the end of the presentations on Tuesday and Wednesday.
8. **FRIDAY 3 JULY** presentation of Debating Medallions
The presentation of medallions for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places for debating will take place at the end of each debate.

The following perpetual trophies will be presented at the Country Week Closing Ceremony at 1.00pm:

1. Champion Speech Awards School
2. Kim Angus Memorial Trophy
3. A division Debating, B division Debating, C division Debating

Please ensure that winning students are seated so that they can easily move forward to collect the trophy.

2026 TROPHIES

There will be:

- 1 perpetual trophy for Speaking and Debating Champion School
- 1 perpetual trophy for each of A, B and C division debating
- the Kim Angus Memorial Trophy will be awarded to the individual winning speaker, whose combined rank over the 2 categories in which they participate, (either Debate plus Own Composition or Debate plus Performance Piece) is the lowest, with the rank of 1 being the best.

RETURN OF PERPETUAL TROPHIES from 2025

Schools which had teams/students win perpetual trophies in 2025 (as below) should return them at the opening ceremony of Country Week.

Debating

A Division	Denmark SHS
B Division	Hope CC
C Division	Bunbury CC

Speech

A Division	Kim Angus Memorial Trophy – Bunbury CGS
B Division	Christmas Island DHS

Champion School	Manea SC
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