

# Encouragement For The Contest-Curious

A Message To Take Back  
To Your Clubs

# Premises

1. “Healthy” clubs are better for their existing members and are good at attracting new members.
2. If most-or-all of a club’s members are achieving their Toastmasters goals, the club will be “healthy”.
3. Competing in speech contests helps your members achieve their Toastmasters goals faster than not-competing.

THE MESSAGE:

You should be  
competing in  
speech contests  
whenever you can!

# Who Am I?

- David Levy
- 5 years a Toastmaster
- Humorous Speech Contest
  - twice competed
- International Speech Contest
  - twice competed

# Reasons To Join Toastmasters

- #6: You'll expand your network.
- #5: You'll learn how to think on your feet.
- #4: You'll improve your job interview skills.
- #3: You'll develop stronger leadership skills.
- #2: You'll become a better listener.
- #1: You'll become a better speaker.

# Ways We Become Better Speakers

<b>Toastmasters</b>	<b>Speech Competitions</b>
Confidence	Command
Speech Writing	Speech Editing
Body Language and Vocal Variety	Choreography and Naturalism
Feedback From An Evaluator	Feedback From Many Evaluators
Learn By Doing	Learn By Losing
Find Your Message	Share Your Message

What Else Does  
Competing Do For  
You?



**All the skills learned in  
our respective clubs are  
tested in competition!**

**- Margarita Estrada**

I do fine in front of my own club, the experience of speaking in front of strangers is completely different.

– Aric J. Isom, Sr .

**To have more people  
hear my important idea!  
– Helen Alexander**

**As a bonus you actually  
get multiple hundreds of  
evaluations of your  
speech in preparation as  
you practice at different  
clubs and venues.**

**– Randy Harvey**

**I can't dunk a basketball, hit  
a baseball 400 feet or run  
100 yards in under 10  
seconds, but I can compete  
in a Toastmasters speech  
contest**

**– Steve Burgess**

**One of the reasons I do it is  
to increase the stakes,  
which makes my prep much  
more conscientious.**

**- David Levy**

## Why NOT Compete?

I'm not competitive.

I don't have a topic that is "contest-worthy"?

I have no chance of winning.

One word: NERVES

I want to give others a chance.

Someone needs to officiate the contests.

Too busy to prepare.

Women don't win.

Inconsistent judging.

**WIIIFM?**

**Q&A**