

## Frequently Asked Questions

For further particulars please contact your Lions Club, District Chairman, or State Coordinators, or the Quest Chairman for Australia, Bryan Coggle - Email md201yoty@bigpond.com

### Why would I want to enter the Youth of the Year Quest?

The Quest provides tremendous benefits for Youth by providing them with:-

- \* opportunities to develop self confidence,
- \* experience in public speaking,
- \* interview experience,
- \* opportunities to meet and interact with other high achievers,
- \* opportunities to travel,
- \* worthwhile additions to their CVs

People who have entered the Quest find that they are better equipped to deal with interview situations, because they are more confident of their ability and have learned how to handle stress. As a consequence, they perform better, enhancing their chances of getting that elusive job, scholarship or admission to the courses they are after.

### How can I enter the Quest?

1. From your school ( principal or year co-ordinator )
2. The nearest Lions Club
3. By contacting the District Chairman/State Coordinators/National Chairman
4. By contacting the MD 201 Council

### What are contestants judged on?

Leadership	15
Sporting & Cultural	10
Citizenship & Community	10
Personality	15
General Knowledge	20
Academic	10
Public Speaking	
-Impromptu	10
-Prepared Speech	15
-Diction	5
Total	110

Unlike some other competitions, the Quest does not favour any one group such as academics, the sports oriented or the good public speakers. All round ability is what the Quest is looking for. People who are lacking in one area can pick up points in another. Because the Quest is run by the Lions, the largest service organisation in the world, we do look for an attitude that demonstrates a community - mindedness and an interest in what is going on in the world around you, hence the weighting is towards: leadership, sporting and cultural awareness, personality and general knowledge.

### **How is the judging done?**

There are two stages to the judging process.

The first stage is a private judging, where the contestant meets, in private, with the judges. At this stage, the judges are looking to confirm information in your application form. They may ask some questions to determine your level of general knowledge, and to assess your attitude and philosophies on life. It is at the private judging that most (80%) of your points are scored.

The second stage is the public judging. In this section, you are required to answer two two minute impromptu questions on topics chosen for you and one five-minute prepared speech on a topic of your choice. This stage is open to the public (including your friends and supporters). The actual speeches are worth 15% between them (10% for the prepared speech and 5% for the impromptu ) with a further 5% for diction.

### **How many levels of competition are there?**

The following are the levels of competition, with winners at each level proceeding to the next level:

- Club
- Zone
- Region
- District
- State
- National

There could be more than one winner at each level. For example, depending on how many Regional finals there are, there could be two progressing from a Regional final to a District final. Three contestants from the District Final may progress to the State Final. The winner of the State Final will progress to the National Final.

### **Can Powerpoint presentation, overheads, tape recorders or any other type of electrical aid be permitted to be used during the Public Speaking section of the Quest?**

NO electrical aids like, overheads, tape recorders or powerpoint presentations are permitted to be used during the presentation. The Public Speaking section of the Quest is just that, and the only electrical device accepted is the microphone.

### **I am not good at public speaking?**

You don't have to be good at public speaking to do well in the Quest, although it helps. Remember that public speaking accounts for only 20% of the total points scored and of that, 5% is for diction.

Just think of it this way, for the prepared speech, you only have to speak for five minutes on your favourite topic, whatever that may be. This could score you 15%.

Most people are scared of public speaking, including we adults! There is nothing wrong, therefore in candidates finding impromptus daunting. There are two impromptus, of two

minutes each, with each being worth 5%. If you do badly, you can expect to score at least 2 points and even if you do well, you are unlikely to score more than 4, so there is probably a 2 point difference between a good impromptu and a bad one.

Even if you perform badly on both impromptus, you are only likely to lose 4 points - out of 110!. Now, that is not so scary, is it?. One thing we can almost guarantee - your public speaking skills will improve by your participation in the Quest.

### **The Application Form looks too difficult to fill in !**

Yes the entry forms are intimidating, if they are looked at in totality. The trick is to break it down into individual sections.

My advice is to take each section one at a time, to think about anything you have done relating to that section of the form and fill it in. Sometimes you may appear to be duplicating information, but that is inevitable. For example, a person who coaches a junior basketball team has community involvement and is also demonstrating leadership. There is no reason why that information cannot be included in each section.

Just think that the classifications are useful for inclusion in a CV when you are applying for jobs. Thus, by filling in the entry form you are building the base for an impressive CV !

### **Where is my nearest Lions Club?**

Lions Clubs are easy to find.

One way to find your nearest club is to keep your eyes open when you walk down the street. You will often find a Lions Emblem on a post or display board telling you when and where the next Lions Club meeting is

All Lions Clubs in Australia are listed on the [Contact Us pages](#) of the Lions Australia website. You may also try your local council, where it would be listed under Community Service Clubs or Contact National Chairman Bryan Coggle - Email [md201yoty@bigpond.com](mailto:md201yoty@bigpond.com)

### **Do I need to know anything about Lions?**

No, you don't need to know anything about the Lions to enter the Quest, but you will learn quite a bit about them in your journey through the Quest.

You will find out, for example, that Lions have a strong commitment to Youth and that they want to help our Youth become better citizens of the future.

You will learn that Lions are warm, friendly people who are willing to extend a helping hand to those less fortunate than they.

You will meet many people that you will be pleased to have met - and if you learn something about the Lions - well, that is a real bonus!.

### **What sort of prizes can I win?**

Now, that is a hard one!

The prizes depend on the sponsorship obtained by the particular club organising the event and could range from badges to pens, books, gift vouchers and even trips!

Prizes will be awarded to contestants at all levels throughout the Youth of the Year Quest. Lions Clubs International of Australia and Papua New Guinea will award all National finalists, including the National winner and the winner from Papua New Guinea, an organised group tour to a Lions International Youth Camp in New Zealand followed by a group tour to the National Winners home state, total of 21 days duration during the summer holidays. Each state winner will also receive a \$500 scholarship to further advance their studies.

The National winner receives an overseas trip to an International Lions Youth convention in the United Kingdom or a trip of their choice to the value of \$4,000 plus \$1,000 spending money.

The Public Speaking winner receives a trip of their choice to the value of \$2,000 plus \$500 spending money.