DEMOLAY
WASHINGTON

- Ritual -
Basic Competitive Rules

Revised September 1, 2026

GENERAL DEFINITIONS

AUTHORITY:
In all matters concerning this competition, the following shall be deemed the sole, absolute and final authorities:

1. The "Primary Authority" shall include the Ritual of Secret Works, Fifteenth Edition
2. These Basic Competitive Rules and that authority as described in the specific rules for each contest.
3. Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary, G & C Merriam Company Publishers, Springfield, Massachusetts, in so far as it does not conflict with the Primary Authority.
4. The rulings and decisions of the Evaluation Panel and its members, individually.

COMPETITIONS:

	DEMOLAY
Individual Ritual Competitions:	Preceptor Parts, Veteran & Novice Divisions(1-7) Magnificent 7 Chaplain Orator
Team Ritual Competitions:	Chapter Proficiency A Chapter Proficiency B Nine O'clock Interpolation Preceptor Corp Initiatory Degree A

Initiatory Degree B
Obligating New Members
DeMolay Degree, 1st Section (Drama)
DeMolay Degree, 4th Section

Certifications: Ceremony of Light
Flower Talk

Proficiency Examinations: Initiatory Degree Obligation, Veteran & Novice Divisions
DeMolay Degree Obligation, Veteran & Novice Divisions

DEMOLAY and SQUIRES

Non-Monitorial: Arch of Steel – Compulsory
Arch of Steel – Freestyle

SCORING:

The Washington DeMolay Ritual Competition Rules presume that all competitors will perform the ceremony correctly. Therefore, it is more logical to penalize the relatively few errors, than it is to reward the multitude of correct actions. The scoring system, therefore, is predicated upon penalty point subtraction from a "perfect score" of 1,000 points. The 1,000 points are divided among three evaluation categories:

Direction 250
Ritual 375
Performance 375

Total possible 1,000

Penalties exceeding the total assigned points in any category shall not be assessed against points in any other category.
For Competitions that only include Performance and Ritual categories, a "perfect score "of 750 points will be used. With the exception of the DeMolay Degree, where a "perfect score" will remain 1000 Points

FOCUS OF SCORING:

The three evaluation categories – Direction, Ritual, and Performance – should not be viewed as separate stand-alone areas of judging. The goal of the Washington DeMolay Ritual Competition is to foster excellence in Ritual. Excellence is more than knowing the "part" word-for-word perfect, or knowing where to stand and move according to the dictates of the Ritual or Monitor, or delivering the "part" with sincerity, emotion, and heart-felt conviction. The competition seeks to honor those DeMolays who achieve excellence by melding direction, ritual, and performance into a presentation wherein the DeMolay competitor presents the "part" in such a manner as to radiate the true meaning and vision of the ceremony, based on a delivery which is both meaningful and displays personal conviction of the competitor, all the while remaining true to the written word and direction of the authors of the ceremonies being performed. For that reason, all three evaluation categories

should be given nearly equal weight, with ritual and performance accorded a slight edge in tie situations with direction.

TIME LIMIT:
Competitors must complete the Required Work within the time limit specified for each contest. Penalty: TEN POINTS if the last word of the Required Work has not been spoken before the TIME LIMIT expires, plus TEN POINTS per minute or portion thereof until the last word is spoken. The TIME LIMIT for each competition is shown on the sheet describing that Ceremony. Each Competitor and/or Chapter must set-up the room, and clear the room of paraphernalia within the TIME LIMIT.

REQUIRED WORK:

Every Competitor must perform every portion of the Required Work specified for each competition.

QUALIFIED PERSONNEL:

DeMolay Ritual
Every competitor must be a member in good standing of a Washington DeMolay Chapter, under 21 years of age, and a registered full-time participant at the event at which the ritual competition is being held. He must also be a member of the DeMolay Chapter he represents in the competition. No competitor, whether a dual member or not, may be allowed to enter competition as the representative of two chapters. Elected State Officers (State Corps) are permitted to compete in any individual competition they desire, adhering to the appropriate Veteran or Novice distinction if competing in such a competition; they are also allowed to compete in team competitions of their home chapter if they desire. Every competitor must be able to document his membership in good standing by having on his possession and by displaying to the Evaluators at the time requested:

1. Valid membership card in the Chapter he is representing.
2. His own full-time participant identification badge for the event of which the competition is a part.

Non-Monitorial Competitions: Every competitor must be a member in good standing of a Washington DeMolay Chapter or Squire Manor, under 21 years of age, and a registered full-time participant at the event at which the ritual competition is being held. He must also be a member of the DeMolay Chapter or Manor he represents in the competition. No competitor, whether a dual member or not, may be allowed to enter competition as the representative of two Chapters and/or Manors. Every competitor must be able to document his membership in good standing by having in his possession and by displaying to the Evaluators at the time requested:

1. Valid membership card in the Chapter and/or Manor he is representing.
2. His own full-time participant identification badge for the event of which the competition is a part.

Note: Nothing in this section shall prohibit the Competition Ritual Director from granting dispensation to members of a DeMolay Chapter and/or Squires Manor who, otherwise being unable to compete, to form a composite team under the name of the DeMolay Chapter and/or Squires Manor providing the majority of competitors for that competition. In such instances, the competitors may not compete in that same competition again under another Chapter or Composite team.

REQUIRED PERSONNEL / PARTS:

The competitor must either fill all the Required Parts or provide at least the minimum number of Required Personnel specified for each competition unless specific authorization is granted by the Competition Ritual Director. All Required Personnel must meet the qualifications as outlined in these rules. Each team must provide for each required part in any given competition. FIFTEEN POINTS PENALTY for any team not providing for a required part, in addition to all word and penalty points due to a missing part.

INTERPRETATION:

Reasonable latitude shall be given for all interpretations of the ceremony, so long as the interpretation is, in the Performance Evaluator's opinion, logical, consistent, and in good taste.

***NOTE**: This provision is particularly applicable to the DeMolay Degree competition, in which there is no direction category and competitors are encouraged to be creative and imaginative in their presentation.*

MUSIC, MAKE-UP, COSTUMING, AND LIGHTING:

Except as otherwise stated in these rules, use of music, make-up, costuming, and lighting shall be optional and within the discretion of the competitor. If used, music and special lighting need not be that suggested in the Required Works, nor need it follow the suggested music or lighting cues. Music and lighting will be scored on whether or not they enhance the presentation, are logical and are in good taste. Costuming and make-up applied primarily, but not exclusively, to the DeMolay Degree Competition, and will be scored, in the opinion of the Performance Evaluators, on their enhancement of the presentation and whether or not they are consistent with the chosen interpretation. The ineffective use of music, lighting, make-up, and costuming may result in point penalties.

***NOTE**: The use of DeMolay Robes (capes) in competitions is optional on the part of the competitors.*

PROTESTS:

All protests will be heard and resolved by a three (3) person Board of Review, appointed by the Competition Ritual Director. The basis of the protest must not be covered by any of the Basic Competition Rules and must not be directly within the Evaluation Panel's province to resolve.

To be eligible for consideration, a protest must be logged with the Competition Ritual Director within twelve (12) hours of the announced release time of the evaluation sheets to the competitors. A written statement citing the basis for the protest must be delivered in person to the Competition Ritual Director or his designate within forty-eight (48) hours of the release time of the evaluation sheets. Any protest not meeting these exact requirements will be ineligible for consideration.

DOORKEEPERS:

All team competitors must provide a doorkeeper per door so as to avoid any interruption during the actual competition. Evaluation Panels will provide doorkeepers for individual competitions. For each interruption of a team competition, the competitor will be penalized TEN POINTS.

THE EVALUATION PANEL

COMPOSITION:

The Evaluation Panel shall consist of the number of evaluators designated by the Competition Ritual Director for each category for that particular competition. Decisions and opinions of the individual evaluators concerning their assigned evaluation category shall be deemed those of the entire Evaluation Panel.

PANEL CHAIRMAN:

One of the Evaluators assigned to the Performance Category shall also be designated as Chairman of the Evaluation Panel. His/her duties shall be to:

1. Serve as the official spokesperson for the Evaluation Panel.
2. Maintain order and decorum in the entire competition area.
3. Caution spectators to maintain silence and to remain in their seats throughout the
4. competition.
5. See that the Basic Competitive Rules are fully, strictly, fairly, and impartially enforced.
6. Announce the type (team or individual) and name of the competition, and the name of the Competitor.
7. Answer permissible questions from Competitor, making certain that all Panel Evaluators are aware of the questions and the answers.
8. Inform the Competitor of the official Time Limit for the competition and when the Timer's Clock is started. The Timer will announce to the entire room the time started with "Time On is Time," and the time ended with "Time Off is Time."
9. Answer the permissible questions from other Evaluation Panel members when such questions are properly asked.
10. See that the members of the Evaluator's Panel are adequately equipped with all the necessary equipment and supplies, and that all necessary judging are properly distributed and collected. A copy of the Competitive Rules should be in the competition area and available to the Evaluation Panel.
11. Temporarily suspend competition upon his own prerogative or at the signal of any other Evaluator for:
    a. Silence of the spectators.
    b. Disqualification of the competitor.
    c. Emergency consultation by the Evaluation Panel.
    d. Illness of an Evaluator, Competitor, or Spectator.
    e. Any other reason, which in his opinion justifies such suspension.

TIMER:

The Performance Evaluator not serving as Panel Chairman shall serve as Timer. He/She shall be responsible for:

1. Keeping the correct time for each competition and competitor.
2. Assessing the appropriate point penalties for exceeding the permissible Time Limit.
3. Announce to the entire room, the Time Started with "Time On is Time." And the Time Ended with "Time Off is Time."

CONSULTATION WITH EVALUATION PANEL:

Spectators are strongly discouraged from addressing members of the Evaluation Panel upon any matter during the entire competition. Competitors may direct questions concerning the Basic Competition Rules, interpretations of the Primary Authority, and variations in direction imposed by physical limitations of the competition room/area, or equipment, to the Panel Chairman. Competitors are specifically forbidden to question the Panel Chairman or the other members of the Evaluation Panel on any matter concerning the competition, especially its outcome, until after the results are officially announced.

EVALUATION SHEETS:

No evaluator may assign any penalty without stating his reason for doing so.
Evaluators will also note any constructive criticism they can offer on the evaluation sheets.

1. Constructive criticism does not necessarily result in a point penalty.
2. Competitors are urged to claim their evaluation sheets after the results are officially announced.
3. The Evaluation Panel Chairperson will be available to clarify reasons for any point penalties and to discuss the evaluator notations and criticisms with the Competitors.

FINAL SCORE:

Each Competitor's final score shall be a composite of the average of the final scores awarded by the Evaluators in each category, less the penalties for missing and/or unqualified personnel, and for exceeding the Time Limit.

TIE SCORES:

All ties in the final score for first place shall be decided by a review of the competitors' Ritual scores. The competitor with the least number of ritual point penalties shall be awarded first place. If after reviewing the competitors' ritual scores, there is still a tie, then the competitors' Performance scores will be reviewed. The competitor with the least number of performance point penalties shall be awarded first place. If after reviewing the competitors' performance scores, there is still a tie, then the competitors' Direction scores will be reviewed. The competitor with the least number of direction point penalties shall be awarded first place. If after reviewing the competitors' direction scores, there is a tie, then first place shall be awarded jointly to the vying competitors.

PROMPTS:

If a competitor needs a prompt, he must say the word “Prompt.” The designated Ritual Evaluator will give the next single word. The prompt will be charged as a Ten Point Performance Penalty. Saying the word “Prompt” will not result in a Ritual point penalty. Each additional prompt will be assessed an additional Ten Point Performance Penalty and no Ritual point penalties.

DRESS:

In all competitions, with the exception of the DeMolay Degree competition, the dress code shall be “business attire,” as outlined in the Washington State DeMolay Dress Code. Robes in any competition are optional. Costuming for the DeMolay Degree is within the discretion of the competitor in carrying out the competitor’s interpretation.

POSTURE:

Proper posture is expected during competitions. It is suggested that a competitor’s posture be: Sitting: hips well back in the chair, back and head erect, both feet flat on the floor, hands resting in the lap or on the knees. Standing: feet side by side, hands either clasped in front, right hand over left, or held at the side of the body. Different uses are allowed, but the posture employed will be scored on how well it enhances the competitor’s presentation.
In Team Competitions, there should be consistency in the Posture of the team. A judge may deduct points if different team members are sitting or standing differently than the other members of the team.

“A” AND “B” COMPETITONS

In competitions which provide for both an “A” and “B” competition classifications, a chapter must elect to compete in either the “A” or “B” class. A chapter may not compete in both an “A” and “B” classification in the same competition. A chapter may not, as well, enter more than one team in a competition class, unless the rules for that specific competition permit such.

PRECEPTOR(S) and OBLIGATION(S) - VETERAN & NOVICE CLASSES

All individual competitions under this section are divided into Veteran or Novice class. To be eligible for Novice class a competitor may not:

- Have Not Been in the Organization more than 1 year.
- Be or have been a Junior, Senior or Master Councilor in any chapter.
- Have placed first place in the competition in which he is competing at any previous Washington DeMolay Ritual Competition.

Any competitor not fitting the criteria for Novice must enroll as a Veteran. There are no limits in the Veteran class in regards to rank, office or previous placement in competition. If a competitor is competing as a Veteran in 1st Preceptor due to placing first the previous year, but is also competing for the first time in 2nd Preceptor, and if he is or has not been a councilor, he may compete as a Novice in 2nd Preceptor.A person who places 1st place in the Magnificent 7 Competition is still eligible to compete in any individual Preceptor competition as a Novice unless one of the above

rules applies to the competitor.

OVERALL RITUAL TROPHY:

All ritual competitions are assigned to one of five (5) ritual competition levels.
Assignment of a competition to a level is determined on:

1. Importance of the ceremony, whether it is a team or individual competition,
2. The number of Required Parts needed,
3. The amount and difficulty of memorization needed, and
4. The amount and difficulty of floor work, costuming, paraphernalia needed.

These levels determine the assignment of points to winning competitors; both team and individual, for the purpose of determining which Chapter shall be awarded the Overall Ritual Trophy for the Ritual Competition.

The levels are:

Level 1:	Chapter Proficiency A
	Initiatory Degree A
	DeMolay Degree
Level 2:	Chapter Proficiency B
	Initiatory Degree B
	4th Section—DeMolay Degree
Level 3:	Magnificent 7
	Flower Talk*
	Ceremony of Light*
	Preceptor Corps
	Obligating New Members
Level 4:	Nine O'clock Interpolation
	DeMolay Orator
	Chaplain
Level 5:	Preceptors
	1st Degree Obligation
	2nd Degree Obligation

Assigned Points for each Level:

Level	**1st Place**	**2nd Place**	**3rd Place**
1	25	20	15
2	15	11	7
3	9	6	3
4	6	4	2
5	3	2	1

*Ceremony of Light and Flower Talk are certifications. First place points will be awarded to each competitor who certifies. Double first place points to those who receive "Best Performance" will be awarded.

Placing

If there is only one competitor in a certain category, this does not guarantee 1st Place. A minimum score is required to place. 1st Place requires a score in the top 15%, 2nd requires a score in the top 30% and 3rd place a score in the top 45%. If a competitor scores an 830/1000 on his individual preceptor part but was the only one to compete; since he did not place in the top 15% (850+), he will be awarded 2nd Place. If a Chapter scores 530/1250 on the DeMolay Degree, they will not be awarded a prize as they did not score in the top 45%. If a Chapter scores 980/1250 on the Initiatory A Competition but were the only ones to compete, since they scored in the top 30%, they will be awarded 2nd Place. Total points possible can vary depending on the number of judges and categories being judged.

PERFORMANCE CATEGORY

GENERAL:

The Performance Category deals with the manner, in which the Ceremony is presented, and the effect of and the impression created by the presentation.

SPECIFICS:

The Performance Category includes, but is not necessarily restricted to the following specifics:

1. Competitor's ability to deliver his part with appropriate expression, sincerity, conviction, and emotion.
2. Competitor's appropriateness of appearance (including uniformity where applicable) or use of costume.
3. Competitor's ability to conduct the Ceremony and to deliver parts at such a pace As to maintain their essential character without losing impetus or meaning.
4. Competitor's ability to perform part without balks (unmotivated pauses).
5. Where applicable, competitor's ability to perform as a team, and competitor's use of stagecraft.
6. Competitor's ability to perform without upstaging himself or others. ("Upstaging" is misdirection of attention from its natural or intended focus, to the detriment of the performance).
7. Competitor's freedom from unsanctioned communication. (Any communication whatsoever with any person, competitor, spectator, or evaluator during the competition, which is not sanctioned by the Primary Authority, or which is not an inherent part of logical staging or characterization.)
8. Competitor's personal conduct and decorum.
9. Competitor's freedom from referring to a written part or notes from the Primary Authority.
10. Competitor's ability to create an excellent and effective over-all impression.
11. Any other infraction or deviation, which by its nature, would fall within the scope of the Performance Category, but which is not specifically cited or described herein, shall be

proportionately penalized by point deduction at the option and discretion of the Performance Evaluator.

Note: While a Performance Evaluation may dislike or disagree with the "interpretation" chosen by the competitor, such dislike or disagreement shall not be the basis for penalty point deductions. Instead, the Performance Evaluator will score based on competitor's adherence to the chosen "interpretation" and ability to execute it.

EVALUATORS:

Out of the total number of Evaluators specified for a particular competition, up to two (2) may be assigned to the Performance Category. Their responsibilities shall include, but are not necessarily restricted to the following:

1. Serve as Panel Chairman and Timer, as described in the Evaluation Panel section.
2. Comment, offer constructive criticism and record all actions on Evaluation sheets, as described in the section on Evaluation Sheets.
3. Perform all other duties, which by their nature, would fall within the scope of the Performance Category.

NOTE: Reasonable latitude shall be given competitors in their interpretation and presentation of the DeMolay Degree in competition. The spoken text of the degree must be followed to the "letter". No words may be added or deleted from those printed in the Primary Authority. Stage directions placed in italics and in parentheses in the Primary Authority are not required and no penalty point deductions may be made for any deviation by the competitor from these directions.

RITUAL CATEGORY

GENERAL:

The Ritual Category deals with the intelligible and meaningful audible portion of the ceremony - words, knocks, raps, gongs, and other sounds inherent to the ceremony. Sound effects (music, murmurs, etc.), signals prescribed, but to what exact means are not specified (verbal command, snap of fingers, rap, etc.) and characterization sounds (groans, sighs, laughs, etc) are not subject to Ritual Judging. The burden is on the competitor to make the words clear, audible, and intelligible to the Ritual Evaluators.

SPECIFICS:

The Ritual Category includes, but is not necessarily restricted to the following specifics:

1. Competitor's ability to speak the appropriate part exactly, word for word, as it appears in the Primary Authority. Penalty: One Point for every word that deviates in any way from the Primary Authority – mispronounced, omitted, inserted, or substituted.
2. Competitor's ability to use prescribed sounds – raps, gongs, etc. – exactly as indicated in the Primary Authority. Penalty: One Point for every sound that deviates in any way from the Primary Authority – incorrectly used, omitted, or inserted. Note: Prescribed sounds indicated for the DeMolay Degree in the Primary Authority are not subject to judging in the DeMolay

Degree Competition. Their use is within the discretion of the competitor in carrying out its interpretation of the ceremony.

3. Other infractions, which by their nature, would fall within the scope of the Ritual Category, but which are not specifically cited or described herein, shall be proportionally point penalized within the sound discretion of the Ritual Evaluators.

EVALUATORS:

Out of the total number of Evaluators specified for a particular competition, up to two (2) may be assigned to the Ritual Category. Their responsibilities shall include, but are not necessarily restricted to the following:

1. Prior to the starting of the Timer's Clock, one of the Ritual Evaluators shalmake him/herself known to the competitor or the spokesperson for the competitor and the competitor's designated Ritual Advisor, and shall escort and introduce these individuals to the Evaluation Panel Chairman.
2. In the absence of a Direction Evaluator, the Ritual Evaluator shall obtain from the Evaluation Panel Chairman the appropriate entry form, and then check the credentials of each competitor against the competitor's entry form, certifying to the Evaluation Panel Chairman, the competitor's compliance with the Personnel Requirements, Parts Requirements, and the Qualified Personnel Requirements, assessing any required point penalties.
3. Record all ritual deviations from the Primary Authority and assess point penalties on the Judging Sheets.
4. Perform all other duties, which by their nature would fall within the scope of the Ritual Category or which may be assigned by the Evaluation Panel Chairman.

NOTE: Reasonable latitude shall be given competitors in their interpretation and presentation of the DeMolay Degree in competition. The spoken text of the degree must be followed to the "letter". No words may be added or deleted from those printed in the Primary Authority. Stage directions placed in italics and in parentheses in the Primary Authority are not required and no penalty point deductions may be made for any deviation by the competitor from these directions.

DIRECTION CATEGORY

GENERAL:

The Direction Category deals with instructions given by the Primary Authority. The competitor either complies with the instructions or does not comply.

SPECIFICS:

The Direction Category includes, but is not necessarily restricted to the following specifics:

1. The competitor's compliance with those portions of the Primary Authority in which instructions are given as:
    a. To the arrangement of the room,
    b. The manner of use and placement of equipment and paraphernalia,
    c. The manner of floor movements and activities of the competitor, and

d. The coordination of required movement and activities with required speeches.

2. Any other infraction or deviation, which by its nature, would fall within the scope of the Direction category, but which is not specifically cited or described herein, shall be proportionately penalized by point deduction at the option and discretion of the Direction Evaluator.

Note: While a Direction Evaluator may dislike or disagree with the "interpretation" chosen by the competitor, such dislike or disagreement shall not be the basis for penalty point deductions. Instead, the Direction Evaluator will score based on competitor's adherence to the chosen "interpretation" and ability to execute it.

EVALUATORS:

Out of the total number of Evaluators specified for a particular competition, up to two (2) may be assigned to the Direction Category. Their responsibilities shall include, but are not necessarily restricted to the following:

1. Prior to the start of competition, the Direction Evaluator shall obtain from the Evaluation Panel Chairman the appropriate entry form, and then check the credentials of each competitor against the competitor's entry form and certify to the Evaluation Panel Chairman the competitor's compliance with the Personnel Requirements, Parts Requirements, and the Qualified Personnel Requirements, assessing any required point penalties.
2. Record all direction deviations from the Primary Authority and assess point penalties on the Judging Sheets.
3. Perform all other duties, which by their nature would fall within the scope of the Direction Category or which may be assigned by the Evaluation Panel Chairman.

NOTE: Reasonable latitude shall be given competitors in their interpretation and presentation of the DeMolay Degree in competition. The spoken text of the degree must be followed to the "letter". No words may be added or deleted from those printed in the Primary Authority. Stage directions placed in italics and in parentheses in the Primary Authority are not required, and no penalty point deductions may be made for any deviation by the competitor from these directions.

RULES FOR SPECIFIC COMPETITIONS

DeMolay Chapter Proficiency "A"

Primary Authority: Ritual of Secret Works, 15th Edition

Required Work:

Initiatory Degree Opening Ceremony, and DeMolay Degree Opening Ceremony -

1. The room is set according to Diagram One (Page 129 of the Primary Authority), with the exception that the only officer stations necessary are those of the Required Parts.

2. When kneeling in the triangle, the parts do not respond “Amen” to the MC’s “Amen.”
3. The officers enter and form the Triangle (Diagram Two & Three - Primary Authority).
4. The officers take their stations from the Triangle, Diagram Four, Primary Authority.
5. The Welcoming Address for Visitors shall be included in this competition.
6. Omit actions and words concerning “lost word” and for “large number of brethren.”
7. The “Word of the Day” is “ritual.”
8. Words and grips are collected from the Standard Bearer, Chaplain, Marshal, Senior Steward, and Junior Steward only.
9. All Required Parts, except the Standard Bearer, speak the “Official Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.”
10. The competitor’s chapter name is inserted in all appropriate blanks for the ceremony.

9 O’clock Interpolation

1. Upon completion of the DeMolay Degree Opening Ceremony, the 9 O’clock Interpolation Ceremony will be performed.
2. The gong shall be struck 9 times and the lights are dimmed
3. All members of the team will kneel as described in the Primary Authority

Closing Ceremony -

1. The prayer used at closing should be the actual closing prayer found on page 34 of the Primary Authority.
2. The officers reform the Triangle and retire from the Triangle as dictated in Diagram Five and Six of the Primary Authority.
3. When kneeling in the Triangle, the parts do not respond “Amen” to the MC’s “Amen.”
4. The competition will end when the last Officer has retired.

Required Parts:

A total of 11: MC, SC, JC, SD, JD, SS, JS, Marshal, Chaplain, Standard Bearer, and Sentinel.

Minimum Team Members:

A chapter may not compete with less than 6 team members in this competition.

Time Limit:

Total Time allotted, including set-up and clean-up, is 45 minutes

Team Limit:

One team allowed per chapter

DeMolay Chapter Proficiency ‘B’

Primary Authority: Ritual of Secret Works, 15th Edition

Required Work:

I**nitiatory Degree Opening Ceremony and DeMolay Degree Opening Ceremony -**

1. The room is set according to Diagram One (Page 129 of the Primary Authority), with the exception that the only officer stations necessary are those of the Required Parts.
2. Required Parts are seated in respective stations at the beginning of the Ceremony.
3. The Welcoming Address for Visitors shall be included in this competition
4. Omit actions and words concerning "lost word."
5. The "Word of the Day" is "ritual."
6. Words and grips are not collect (including from the Chaplain). The Senior Deacon, however, will walk through the floor work described in the Primary Authority.7. All Required Parts, except the Senior Deacon, speak the "Official Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America."
8. The competitor's chapter name is inserted in all appropriate blanks for the ceremony.

9 O'clock Interpolation

1.Upon completion of the DeMolay Degree Opening Ceremony, The 9 O'clock Interpolation Ceremony will be performed.
2.The gong shall be struck 9 times and the lights are dimmed
3. All members of the team will kneel as described in the Primary Authority

Closing Ceremony -

1. The actual closing prayer is to be used.
2. The competition will end without the officers retiring.

Required Parts:

A total of 5: MC, SC, JC, Chaplain and SD
Parts for missing officers will be read aloud by a Ritual Evaluator.

Minimum/Maximum Team Members:

This competition requires a minimum of 5 team members to compete. No chapter will be allowed to compete with less than the minimum.

If a Chapter desires, additional team members may be added, up to 3 additional. I more than 3 additional parts are added; the chapter should compete in the A Competition.
Speaking parts, usually read aloud by the Ritual Judge, for the additional parts can be performed by the team members, with consultation of the Judging Panel.

Time Limit:

Total Time allotted, including set-up and clean-up, is 30 minutes

Team Limit:

1 team per chapter

DeMolay Initiatory Degree "A"

Primary Authority: Ritual of Secret Works, 15th Edition

Required Work:

Initiatory Degree -

1. The room is set-up according to Diagram One (page 129 of the Primary Authority.
2. The open Bible is placed in the center of the Altar.
3. The School Books are placed in the northeast corner of the Altar.
4. The "Head Candle" is the candle nearest the East as depicted in Diagram One of the Primary Authority.
5. Omit the instructions for handling large classes of initiates.
6. The officers form the Shield, Diagrams Seven and Eight, Primary Authority.
7. The "candidate" makes all verbal responses, including "I" and speaking his own name, but should not repeat the Obligation.
8. In saying the Obligation, the MC omits the pauses for a candidate's responses. Only the MC speaks the obligation.
9. The officers break from the Shield and return to their stations, Diagrams Seven and Eight, Primary Authority.
10. The 1st Preceptor rises as the SD (holding the Crown of Youth) passes directly in front of him. Each Preceptor, in turn thereafter, rises as the SD passes in front of him. Each Preceptor should be seated when the next Preceptor in line rises.
11. Each Preceptor says the first full sentence of the part before placing his jewel in the Crown of Youth.
12. At the end of the Degree, the MC says, "Brother Senior Deacon, you will escort the new Brothers to their seats." The SD and Stewards will do so, then go to their respective stations, and remain standing.
13. The competition ends when the MC raps the gavel to seat the SD and Stewards.

Required Parts:

A total of 20: MC, SC, JC, Scribe, SD, JD, SS, JS, Orator, Standard Bearer, Marshal, Chaplain, 7 Preceptors, and only 1 candidate. The candidate may either be an actual candidate or a stipulated stand-in.

Minimum Team Members:

This competition requires a minimum of 11 team members to compete. No chapter will be allowed to compete with less than 11.

For any missing team members, a 15 points deduction shall be taken per missing member. Additionally, if the missing team members parts have speaking parts, the Ritual Judge shall deduct the point value of the missing parts. The Direction Judge shall deduct points if the Primary Authority call out specific movements for that missing part.

No member may perform more than one part.

Time Limit:

Total Time allotted, including set-up and clean-up, is 60 minutes.

Team Limit:

One team allowed per chapter.

DeMolay Initiatory Degree "B"

Primary Authority: Ritual of Secret Works, 15th Edition

Required Work:

Initiatory Degree -

1. The room is set-up according to Diagram One as if the chapter is open for degree work (page 129 of the Primary Authority.
2. The open Bible is placed in the center of the Altar.
3. The School Books are placed in the northeast corner of the Altar.
4. The "Head Candle" is the candle nearest the East as depicted in Diagram One of the Primary Authority.
5. The competition will begin with the Required Parts in their respective stations.
6. Omit the instructions for handling large classes of initiates.
7. The officers form a modified Shield. The Marshal will assume the Chaplain's position in the Shield.
8. There is no "candidate."
9. The MC in saying the Obligation will begin by saying "I, speak your name and repeat after me."
10. In saying the Obligation, the MC omits the pauses for a candidate's responses. Only the MC speaks the obligation.
11. The officers break from the Shield and return to their stations.
12. The Preceptor parts are eliminated in this competition.
13. After receiving the Crown of Youth from the MC, the Senior Deacon will make one complete circuit of the room, and then go directly to the JC.
14. At the end of the Degree, the MC says, "Brother Senior Deacon, you will escort the new Brothers to their seats." The SD will return to his station.
15. The competition will end when the SD is seated.
16. In the case where a non-represented part is necessary for a vocal response, the part will be given by a Ritual Evaluator.

Required Parts:

A total of 5: MC, SC, JC, SD, and Marshal.

Minimum Team Members:

This competition requires a minimum of 5 team members to compete. No chapter will be allowed to compete with less than the minimum.

If a Chapter desires, additional team members may be added, up to 5 additional. I more than 5 additional parts are added; the chapter should compete in the A Competition.

Speaking parts, usually read aloud by the Ritual Judge, for the additional parts can be performed by the team members, with consultation of the Judging Panel

Time Limit:

Total Time allotted, including set-up and clean-up, is 35 minutes.

Team Limit:

One team allowed per chapter.

DeMolay Degree – 1st Section (Drama)

Primary Authority: Ritual of Secret Works, 15th Edition

Required Work:

DeMolay Degree, First and Third Sections -

1. There is no mandatory layout or set-up for this competition. Evaluators and competitors will disregard the instructions concerning Stage Productions, Page 55-56 of the Primary Authority.
2. There is no requirement that competitors follow the Stage Directions contained in the Primary Authority for this degree. Competitors are free to develop their own interpretations.
3. Additional characters are optional, but must be Qualified Personnel and they will be evaluated as other optional parts are. One point shall be awarded for each additional character utilized beyond the Required Parts.
4. Competitors will be evaluated on their use of costumes, not the costumes themselves. Costumes need not be in keeping with the proper historical era, but should be in keeping with the competitor's interpretation.
5. Reasonable latitude shall be given to competitors in their interpretation and presentation of the DeMolay Degree in competition. The spoken text of the degree must be followed to the "letter;" no words may be added or deleted from those printed in the Primary Authority. Stage directions placed in italics and in parentheses in the Primary Authority are not required and no penalty point deductions may be made for any deviation by the competitor from these directions.
6. There is no Direction Evaluation Category and competitors are encouraged to be creative and imaginative in their presentation. The evaluators need not "like" the interpretation, but must evaluate the competitor on its success in carrying out its chosen interpretation. Bonus Points may be awarded for uniqueness of the competitor's interpretation and/or its effectiveness in carrying out its chosen interpretation.
7. The use of music, make-up, and lighting shall be optional and within the discretion of the competitor. If used, music and special lighting need not be that suggested in the Primary Authority, nor need it follow the suggested music or lighting cues. Music and lighting will be evaluated on whether or not they enhance the presentation, are logical and are in good taste. Costuming and Make-up will be evaluated, in the opinion of the Performance Evaluators, on their enhancement of the presentation and whether or not they are consistent with the chosen interpretation. The ineffective use of music, lighting, make-up, and costuming may result in point penalties.

Required Parts:

A total of 9: Orator, Master Inquisitor, Senior Inquisitor, Junior Inquisitor, Jacques DeMolay, Geoffrey De Charney, Marshal of the Commission, Senior Guard, and Lord Constable.

The Candle Lighter, Scribe, Chamber and Prisoner Guards, Hughes de Peralde and Godfrey de Goneville are not required and may be omitted. However, the competitor, for the purpose of Ritual evaluation, shall proceed as if Hughes de Peralde and Godfrey de Goneville are present.

In cases where a non-represented vocal part is required, the Ritual Evaluator shall speak the required ritual.

Minimum Team Members:

This competition requires a minimum of 7 team members to compete. No chapter will be allowed to compete with less than the minimum.

Time Limit:

Total Time allotted, including set-up and clean-up, is 60 minutes.

Team Limit:

One team allowed per chapter.

DeMolay Degree – 4th Section

Primary Authority: Ritual of Secret Works, 15th Edition

Required Work:

DeMolay Degree—4th Section -

1. The room is set-up according to Diagram One (page 129 of the Primary Authority.
2. The open Bible is placed in the center of the Altar.
3. The School Books are placed in the northeast corner of the Altar.
4. The "Head Candle" is the candle nearest the East as depicted in Diagram One of the Primary Authority.
5. The competition will begin with the Required Parts in their respective stations.
6. Omit the instructions for handling large classes of initiates.
7. The MC stands to the East of the Altar during the obligation.
8. There is no "candidate" required.
9. The MC in saying the Obligation will begin by saying "I, speak your name and repeat after me."
10. In saying the Obligation, the MC omits the pauses for a candidate's responses.
11. At the end of the Degree, the MC says, "Brother Senior Deacon, you will escort the new Brothers to their seats." The SD will return to his station.
12. The competition will end when the SD is seated.
13. In the case where a non-represented part is necessary for a vocal response, the part will be given by a Ritual Evaluator.

Required Parts:

A total of three: MC, SD, JD.

Optional Parts: SC and JC

Minimum Team Members:

This competition requires a minimum of 3 team members to compete. No chapter will be allowed to compete with less than the minimum.

Time Limit:

Total Time allotted, including set-up and clean-up, is 20 minutes.

Team Limit:

One team allowed per chapter.

The 15th Edition of the Ritual allows for the Master Councilor's part prior to the obligation be broken up and performed by the MC and/or SC and JC. This may be done in any combination following the recommendations of either the MC or SC performing the 1st Paragraph and either the MC and JC performing the second paragraph. The competitor should inform the judging panel if their intentions prior to competition start.

Nine O'clock Interpolation:

Primary Authority: Monitor of Public Ceremonies and Ritual of Secret Works, 15th Edition

Required Work:

Nine O'clock Interpolation -

1. The Chapter room will have an Altar, with a Bible placed in the center, and School Books placed in the northeast corner of the Altar.
2. The Chaplain will perform floor work unescorted.
3. The competition will begin with the required parts in their respective seats, and end with the same.
4. The Chaplain will speak "Amen," followed by the Master Councilor and Chaplain speaking the line "God Bless Mother, God Bless Father, God Bless the purposes of the Order of DeMolay."

Required Parts:

A total of 2: Master Councilor and Chaplain

Minimum Team Members:

This competition requires a minimum of 2 team members to compete. No chapter will be allowed to compete with less than the minimum.

Time Limit:

Total Time allotted, including set-up and clean-up, is 8 minutes.

Team Limit:

2 Teams per Chapter, no competitor may compete on multiple teams.

Preceptor Corp

Primary Authority: Ritual of Secret Works 15th Edition

Required Work:

The Initiatory Degree Preceptors

1. The Chapter room will have an Altar, with a Bible placed in the center, and School Books placed in the northeast corner of the Altar. Seven Candlesticks are placed per Diagram One of the Primary Authority
2. The Competitor may provide a Crown of Youth, if desired.
3. The Competitors must deliver the 7 Preceptors in order (1-7).
4. The team can use the Candlesticks or Crown of Youth at their discretion.

5. Who performs which Preceptor is up to the Competitors. A single team member must perform at least two of the Preceptors. The team can have 1 person do 1st and 2nd Preceptor, followed by the next team member perform 3, 4 and 5, and the final member perform 6 and 7. Or they can rotate each preceptor.

The team will be judged as a team, and any actions by a member, while NOT performing, will be judged along with the member performing

Required Parts:

A total of three: Preceptors

Minimum/Maximum Team Members:

This competition requires a minimum of 3 team members to compete. No chapter will be allowed to compete with less or more than the number.

Time Limit:

Total Time allotted, including set-up and clean-up, is 15 minutes.

Team Limit:

Two teams allowed per chapter. No Competitor may compete in more than 1 Team

Obligating a New Member (Short Form Initiation)

Primary Authority: Ritual of Secret Works 15th Edition

Required Work:

Obligating New Members

1. The Chapter room will have an Altar, with a Bible placed in the center, and School Books placed in the northeast corner of the Altar.
2. Seven Candlesticks are placed per Diagram One of the Primary Authority
3. The Deacons will act as if there is a candidate present
4. The competition will begin with the Required Parts in their respective stations.
5. Omit the instructions for handling large classes of initiates.
6. The MC stands to the East of the Altar during the obligation.
7. There is no “candidate” required.
8. The MC in saying the Obligations will begin by saying “I, speak your name
9. and repeat after me.”
    a. In saying the Obligations, the MC omits the pauses for a candidate’s responses.
10. At the end of the 1st Obligation, the MC says, “Brother Senior Deacon, you will escort the new Brothers to their seats.” The SD will return to his station.
11. Omit the section where the MC explains the Gavel responses and proper kneeling
12. The 2nd Obligation will begin with all Seated
13. Omit the optional Orator’s section
    a. At the end of the Ceremony, the MC says, “Brother Senior Deacon, you will escort the new Brothers to their seats.” The SD will return to his station

Required Parts:

A total of three: MC, SD, JD

Minimum/Maximum Team Members:

This competition requires a minimum of 3 team members to compete. No chapter will be allowed to compete with less or more than the number.

Time Limit:
Total Time allotted, including set-up and clean-up, is 15 minutes.
Team Limit:
Two teams allowed per chapter. No Competitor may compete in more than 1 Team

Individual Ritual Competitions – Preceptor Part, Obligation Part, Magnificent 7, Orator, Chaplain: Primary Authority: Ritual of Secret Works 15th Edition

Required Work:
7 Preceptors individually
All 7 Preceptors together
Orator
Chaplain
Obligation – Initiatory
Obligations – DeMolay

1. Each competitor must perform all portions of the particular part he is presenting for competition as found in the Primary Authority.
2. The Orator will perform the Orator's parts as found in the First Section and Third Section of the DeMolay Degree in the Primary Authority. A maximum of 15 seconds will be allowed as a break between the two parts.
3. The Chaplain will do the following prayers: Opening of Chapter on the Initiatory Degree, the Closing of Chapter, and the Nine O'clock Interpolation as found in the Primary Authority. No Altar or Bible will be provided. A maximum of 15 seconds will be allowed as a break between each prayer.
4. Individual Preceptor parts will be performed as found in the Primary Authority. No Crown of Youth or jewel for the Crown will be provided by the judging panel.
5. Magnificent 7 competitors will perform all 7 Preceptor parts, in order, as found in the Primary Authority. A maximum of 15 seconds will be allowed as a break between each Preceptor part.
7. Individual Preceptor "Veteran" category: You are eligible to compete in this category if you have previously placed 1st in a Preceptor part at the Washington State competition, or if you are a current or past Master, Senior or Junior Councilor, or are a Past Master Councilor or have been in the Organization longer than 1 year
8. Individual Preceptor "Novice" category: You are eligible to compete in this category if you do not fit in the Veteran category.
9. Obligation "Veteran" division: You are eligible to compete in this division if you have previously placed 1st in an Obligation part at the Washington State competition, or if you are a current Master, Senior or Junior Councilor, or are a Past Master Councilor or have been in the Organization longer than 1 year

10. Obligation “Novice” division: You are eligible to compete in this division if you do not fit in the Veteran division

Time Limit:

Total Time allotted, including set-up and clean-up, is:

- 5 minutes for individual Preceptor and Obligation Parts;
- 10 minutes for the Magnificent 7 competition, Orator competition and Chaplain competition

Arch of Steel - Compulsory

Primary Authority: None

Required Work:

1. All team members must be qualified personnel.
2. Performance may include live or taped music.
3. Chapters may enter more than one team.
4. A minimum of four (4) competitors per team.
5. Teams must form an “arch” movement, holding for a minimum of 30 seconds, at some point during the presentation.
6. The competitor’s Team Captain must say “Begin” when ready to start the presentation, and must say “Stop” at the conclusion of the competitor’s routine/presentation.

Judging Criteria:

1. Number of specific movements in the drill.
2. Appropriateness of music, if used.
3. Rhythm and symmetry of team members
4. Compliance with time requirements.
5. Over-all appearance of team.
6. Steadiness of “arch” formation.
7. Safety.

Time Limit:

Total Time allotted, including set-up and clean-up, is 5 minutes.

NOTE: The primary goal of the Compulsory competition is to simply walk in, cross lines and form an Arch with little flair or creativity, but to look proud, sharp and done with style.

Arch of Steel - Freestyle

Primary Authority: None

Required Work:

1. All team members must be qualified personnel.

2. Performance may include live or taped music.
3. Chapters may enter more than one team.
4. A minimum of four (4) competitors per team.
5. Teams must form an “arch” movement, holding for a minimum of 30 seconds, at some point during the presentation.
6. The competitor’s Team Captain must say “Begin” when ready to start the presentation, and must say “Stop” at the conclusion of the competitor’s routine/presentation.

Judging Criteria:

1. Number of specific movements in the drill.
2. Appropriateness of music, if used.
3. Rhythm and symmetry of team members
4. Originality and Creativity of Movements
5. Compliance with time requirements.
6. Over-all appearance of team.
7. Steadiness of “arch” formation.
8. Safety.

Time Limit:

Total Time allotted, including set-up and clean-up, is 5 minutes.

NOTE: The primary goal of Freestyle is to allow for creativity and flair in a chapter’s performance of the Arch of Steel.

Ceremony of Light Certification

Primary Authority: Ritual of Secret Work, 15th Edition

Required Work:

Ceremony of Light -

1. This is NOT a competition, but rather a certification process.
2. An Altar, with open Bible and School Books, a US Flag, 7 candlesticks and 7 white candles are provided. In the event that Place of the Competition does not allow “real”candles, then electronic candles will be provided.
3. Candles will be lit at the start of the ceremony. If real candles are use, the method of re-lightingthe head candle (4) shall be with a wooden match. “Gas Lighters” shall not be used. Each competitor should be prepared to supply his own matches.

Time Limit:

Total Time allotted, including set-up and clean-up, is 10 minutes.

NOTE: Any participate in the Certification process, who after scoring and consultation with the Evaluation Panel, is borderline for being certified, the Ritual Competition Director shall issue a “call back” to that competitor for an additional opportunity to improve their performance in front of the same Evaluation Panel at a time and place to be announced.

Flower Talk Certification

Primary Authority: Ritual of Secret Work, 15th Edition

Required Work:

Flower Talk

1. This is NOT a competition, but rather a certification process.
2. An Altar with open bible and school books plus red and white flowers will be provided.

Time Limit:

Total time allotted, including set-up and clean-up, is 10 minutes.

NOTE: Any participant in the Certification process, who after scoring and consultation with the Evaluation Panel, is borderline for being certified, the Ritual Competition Director shall issue a "call back" to that competitor for an additional opportunity to improve their performance in front of the same Evaluation Panel at a time and place to be announced.