



**THE COLORADO DEMOLAY
RITUAL TOURNAMENT**

**CONTEST SPECIFICS
RULES
AND PROCEDURES**

Individual Ritual Competition Contest Specifics

BEST PART COMPETITIONS

Proficiency Minimum: 900

REQUIRED WORK: One complete part as it appears in the SOURCE

Initiatory Degree

Master Councilor
Marshal
Senior Deacon

DeMolay Degree

Jacques DeMolay (*)
Junior Inquisitor (*)
Master Inquisitor (*)
Orator (*)

4th Section

Master Councilor

Chapter Proficiency

Master Councilor (*)
Chaplin

(*) A Ritual Assistant may aid by providing the authorized “cue” to the competitor.

1. Competitor is judged on the ritual (words spoken & sounds made) of the part as shown in the SOURCE, and on the performance as outlined in the Scoring and Judging Rules specified for the Best Part Competitions
2. The use of the Ritual Assistant (RA) is restricted to only those best part competitions identified above. The purpose is to provide language form the other parts within the degree so the competitor may act and react according to the degree requirements. The RA may cue ONLY the last full sentence of the ritual prior to each of the competitor’s speeches. The RA is not judged nor will the competitor’s score be impacted by the actions of the RA as long as the RA adheres to the rules.
3. Appearance and costuming will be judged based on the degrees normal requirements.

LIMITED ENTRIES: One part per degree per competitor.

TIME LIMIT:

15 minutes for Master Councilor (Initiatory, Chapter Proficiency, & 4th Section);
10 minutes for all other parts

CEREMONY OF LIGHT

Proficiency Minimum: 900

REQUIRED WORK:

- A. Ceremony of Light, as it appears in the SOURCE without additions or changes.
- B. Room to be set as in Diagram One except for the stations. Following are the required items:
 - 1. **Holy Bible lying open near the center of the Altar.**
 - 2. **School Books are lying on the Northeast Corner of the Altar.**
 - 3. **Seven Candles lighted.**
 - 4. **National Flag in appropriate place**

C. The Speaker talks to the room at large.

REQUIRED PART: The Speaker. There are no Candidates.

TIME LIMIT: 20 minutes

FLOWER TALK

Proficiency Minimum: 900

REQUIRED WORK:

- A. The Flower Talk, as it appears in the SOURCE without additions or changes.
- B. Room to be set as in Diagram One except for stations. Following are the required items:
 - 1. **Holy Bible laying open near the center of the Altar.**
 - 2. **School Books are lying on the Northeast Corner of the Altar.**
 - 3. **Red and White flowers are arranged on the Altar so as not to touch the Bible.**

C. The Speaker talks to the room at large

REQUIRED PART: The Speaker. There are no Candidates

TIME LIMIT: 20 minutes

MAGNIFICENT SEVEN

Proficiency Minimum: 900

REQUIRED WORK:

- A. Seven Preceptor ritual parts, in order as they appear in the SOURCE.
- B. No room setup is required. Competitor will stand at a location within the room as designated by the Panel Chairman.
- C. Competitor will be judged on ritual and performance only. There is no direction judging.

REQUIRED PARTS: The Speaker. There are no Candidates.

TIME LIMIT: 12 minutes

Limited Individual Ritual Competition Contest Specifics

OBLIGATIONS

Proficiency Minimum: 900

REQUIRED WORK:

1. The presentation of the Initiatory and DeMolay Degree Queries as shown in the SOURCE including Questions, Answers, Directions (ritual and pantomimed response) and the Obligations.
2. No room setup is required; competitor will compete at a location within the room as designated by the judging panel.

REQUIRED PARTS: The Speaker

LIMITED ENTRIES: The contest is open to only those individuals initiated no earlier than 1 (one) year prior to the date of the contest. Exact eligibility initiation date will be announced with notice of the contest.

TIME LIMIT: 10 minutes,

INDIVIDUAL PRECEPTORS

Proficiency Minimum: 950

REQUIRED WORK:

1. Any preceptor part as it appears in the SOURCE.
2. No room setup is required; competitor will compete at a location within the room as designated by the judging panel.

REQUIRED PARTS: The Speaker

LIMITED ENTRIES: No individual may compete in more than one preceptor part. The contest is open only to those individuals initiated no earlier than approximately 1 year prior to the date of the contest. Exact eligibility date of initiation will be announced with notice of the contest.

TIME LIMIT: 5 minutes.

Team Ritual Competition Contest Specifics

CHAPTER PROFICIENCY

PROFICIENCY MINIMUM: 700

Judging Categories: Ritual, Performance and Direction

REQUIRED WORK:

1. Initiatory Degree Opening Ceremony, the DeMolay Degree Opening Ceremony and the Closing Ceremony as they appear in the SOURCE except as noted below.
2. Room to be set as in Diagram One, except the only stations necessary are those of the required parts. Following required **items** must be used as in the SOURCE:
 - a. **Holy Bible laying closed on the Altar.**
 - b. **School Books are at the Junior Stewart's station.**
 - c. **National Flag in appropriate location.**
 - d. **Seven Candles are not lighted.**
 - e. **Gavel at the Master Councilors station.**
 - f. **Gong**
3. The **II** required ritual parts may be filled with a minimum of 8 competitors with the Senior Councilor assuming the part of the Senior Steward; the Junior Councilor assuming the part of the Junior Steward; and the Senior Deacon assuming the part of the Standard Bearer. Stations of the assumed parts are considered those of the person assuming the part.
4. Parts are seated in the respective stations at the beginning of the ceremony which starts with the Master Councilor's gavel rap and first line, "Brother Marshal, you will see that all present are members of the Order of DeMolay or visitors".
5. Omit actions and lines raising, vouching for and/or welcoming Master Masons or Senior DeMolays; omit actions and lines concerning lost words; and omit the opening ode.
6. The "Word of the Day" is **RITUAL**.
7. Words and grips are collected from Chaplain, Marshal, Standard Bearer, Senior Steward and Junior Steward, **only**.
8. The salute to the flag is that as set forth in the SOURCE.
9. The official Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States is spoken by all parts except Standard Bearer.
10. Insert the competing Chapter's name and sponsoring body in the appropriate blanks.
11. For the Nine O'clock Interpolation, the ringing of the gong is mandatory.
12. Closing Ceremony:
 1. The Nine O'clock Interpolation prayer may **not** be used instead of the closing prayer.
 2. After the Junior Deacon advises the Sentinel that the Chapter is closed and then advises the Master Councilor that the Sentinel is informed, the Master Councilor raps once, ending the ceremony.

REQUIRED PARTS: Master Councilor, Senior Councilor, Junior Councilor, Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon, Marshal, Chaplain and Sentinel. Additional required **ritual and direction** are the parts of Senior Steward, Junior Steward and Standard Bearer.

TIME LIMIT: 40 Minutes

INITIATORY DEGREE

Proficiency Minimum: 750

REQUIRED WORK:

A. The Initiatory Degree as it appears in the SOURCE except as noted below.

B. The room to be setup as Diagram One, except the only stations necessary are those of the required parts. Following required **items** must be used as in the SOURCE:

1. **Holy Bible lying open near the center of the Altar.**
2. **School Books are lying on the Northeast Corner of the Altar.**
3. **Gavels at the stations of the Master Councilor and Senior Councilor.**
4. **Seven Candles are lighted.**
5. **The Crown of Youth is lying on a pedestal near the Master Councilor's station.**
6. **Gong**

C. Omit instructions for handling large classes.

D. Senior Steward or each Candidate if used, makes all the verbal responses for Candidates, including "I" and speaking names(s). The obligation is not repeated and the Master Councilor may omit the pauses.

E. After the Master Councilor says, "Brother Senior Deacon, you will conduct the new brothers to seats", the Senior Deacon and the Stewards do so, then go to their respective stations. The Master Councilor raps once, and all sit down ending the ceremony.

F. Instructions for the Chaplain, Marshal, Preceptors and Standard Bearer will not be judged in the formation and execution of the shield position. The Marshal may take the Chaplain's place in the shield at the competitor's option.

G. The ritual of the Scribe and Preceptors is required, but may be given by any qualified person at the competitor's option.

H. All **Direction** instructions for conduction Candidates on the symbolic journey, for Preceptors and for placing the jewels on the Crown of Youth are **omitted from judging**. Competitors are to devise their own presentation of the Preceptor's parts using qualified persons. Only the ritual and performance of the presentations will be judged.

REQUIRED PARTS: Master Councilor, Senior Councilor, Junior Councilor, Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon, Senior Steward, Junior Steward and Marshal. Additional required **ritual** are the parts of Scribe and all 7 Preceptors. Candidates may be imaginary or real. If real, they must be qualified persons. If imaginary, required parts must pantomime Candidates' existence whenever they are escorted, conducted, addressed, presented or otherwise acknowledged.

TIME LIMT: 60 Minutes

DEMOLAY DEGREE REQUIRED WORK:

Proficiency Minimum: 750

A. The DeMolay Degree, First Section and Orator's lines only of the Third Section as they appear in the SOURCE.

B. Spokesman will inform the Panel Chairman whether the Chapter will follow a stage or lodge arrangement. Instructions not peculiar to one arrangement apply, regardless of where they appear.

C. The First and Third Sections' speeches for the Orator may be given by one of the required parts or by another qualified person.

D. Stage directions in parentheses in the text are suggestions only and are not included on the judging sheets.

REQUIRED PARTS: Master Inquisitor, Senior Inquisitor, Junior Inquisitor, Senior Guard, Lord Constable, Marshal of the Commission, Jacques DeMolay, Geoffrey de Charney.
Additional required **ritual** is the part of the Orator. Non speaking parts are at the competitor's option.

TIME LIMIT: 60 minutes

FOURTH SECTION REQUIRED WORK:

Proficiency Minimum: 850

A. The Fourth Section of the DeMolay Degree, with on the actions and lines of the Master Councilor, Senior Deacon and Junior Deacon are required.

B. The room to be set as in Diagram One, except the only stations necessary are those of the required parts. The following required **items** must be used:

- 1. Holy Bible lying open near the center of the Altar.**
- 2. School Books are lying on the Northeast corner of the Altar.**
- 3. Seven Candles lighted.**
- 4. Gavel at the Master Councilor's station.**

C. Just prior to the Obligation, Master Councilor goes to the head candle on the East side of the Altar and faces West. Junior Deacon joins Senior Deacon on the West side of the Altar.

D. Senior Deacon makes all the verbal responses for the Candidates, including "I" and speaking name. The obligation is not repeated and the Master Councilor may omit the pauses.

REQUIRED PARTS: Master Councilor, Senior Deacon, and Junior Deacon.
Candidates may be imaginary or real. If real, they must be qualified persons. If imaginary, required parts must pantomime Candidates' existence whenever they are escorted, conducted, addressed, presented or otherwise acknowledged.

TIME LIMIT: 20 minutes

**CEREMONY OF LIGHT – TEAM
REQUIRED WORK:**

Proficiency Minimum: 900

A. The Ceremony of Light, as it appears in the SOURCE without additions or changes.

B. The room to be set as in Diagram One except for stations. Following are the required **items**:

- 1. Holy Bible lying open near the center of the Altar.**
- 2. School Books laying on the Northeast corner of the Altar.**
- 3. Seven Candles lighted**
- 4. National Flag in appropriate place.**

C. The Speakers talk to the room at large

REQUIRED PARTS: Minimum of 3 Speakers, each of whom must present a minimum of 2 of the stations. If 4 or more Speakers, each must present at least one station. There are no Candidates.

TIME LIMIT: 20 minutes.

Colorado DeMolay Ritual Competition Tournament Rules

TOURNAMENT RULES

1. Prepare the room, compete and clear the room within the time limit.
2. Prevent interruptions while competing.
3. Fill the required parts and other optional parts with qualified persons.
4. Clothe all parts appropriately.
5. Comply fully and correctly with all rules, specifics, procedures and Judges Rulings.
6. Present the complete, correct, required work.
7. Fully and correctly follow all SOURCE and SPECIFICS instructions.
8. Correctly and audibly say the words and make the sounds of the ceremony from memory; no prompts; and cues permissible only as set forth in the SPECIFICS.
9. Deliver the words with expression appropriate to the ceremony and to the part.
10. Interpret and present the ceremony so as to achieve maximum good impression.
11. All other rules or procedures will be executed in accordance with the Frank Marshall Championship Tournament Contest Specifics.

FAILURE TO DO SO WILL BE SUBJECT TO PENALTY!!

SOURCES

The Sources for the various contests are as set forth in the Contest Specifics.

The Sources are as follows for DeMolay Contests:
Ritual of Secret Work, fifteenth edition, 2013

The Sources are as follows for Squire Contests:
Colorado Squires Ritual and Guide, Revised September 2015 (as available from Colorado DeMolay)

QUALIFIED PERSONS

DeMolays eligible to participate in competition are those who hold a current membership card in the Order of DeMolay, issued by one Chapter he may represent in the contest. No person may fill more than one required part in a contest, except where specifically allowed in the CONTEST SPECIFICS. No required parts may be filled by more than one person in a contest except where specifically allowed in the CONTEST SPECIFICS. All required parts must be filled with qualified persons; any part not filled with a qualified person will disqualify the Chapter in that contest. Ritual Assistants, singers, accompanists, musical directors, technical personnel or spokesman need not be qualified persons. No DeMolay who has reached his 21st birthday may compete in any contest.

RITUAL ASSISTANTS

The RITUAL ASSISTANT (RA) may be used for certain Best Part Contests.

- A. The RA must be qualified to attend a tiled DeMolay meeting if the ceremony indicates the requirement.
- B. The purpose of the RA is to provide language from the other parts within the degree so the competitor may act and react according to the degree requirements.
- C. Competitor must provide RA for their performance for those Best Part contests listed in the SPECIFICS, if used.
- D. RA Sheets **will be** provided by the Panel Chairman.
- E. The RA should be seated on the sideline, out of eyesight of the competitor and not in the immediate area of the competitor.
- F. The RA may only cue the last full sentence of Ritual prior to each of the competitor's speeches.
- G. The RA is not judged nor will the competitor's score be impacted by the actions of the RA so long as that person adheres to the rules. However, if the competitor makes a mistake due to the RA not providing the appropriate words, the competitor will be penalized.

CONTEST PROCEDURE

1. Spokesperson should check for time and place of the Competitor Briefing which the spokesperson or Representative thereof, must attend. At this briefing: A) the judging Panels will be introduced; B) important announcements and schedule adjustments will be made. C) Questions of the judges may be asked.
2. Parts, crew and doorkeepers should arrive at the place of competition at least 15 minutes early. Disturbances and interruptions will be penalized. Parts may arrive dressed for competition or change at that time.
3. Near their scheduled time, the Competitors will be called to the door. The spokesperson will reply at once to the Judge who called, informing the judge that the Competitors are present and ready.
4. Judge and spokesperson enter the room, followed by the crew with equipment. Doorkeepers may take their places. Panel Chairman calls the room to order and proceeds with the Panel Ritual. After **TIME ON** is called by the Panel Chairman, the spokesperson hands the Panel Chairman the entry form whereby he certifies that all parts are filled with qualified persons. Any errors thereon which would affect the eligibility of any part will disqualify the Competitor(s) in this contest. The spokesperson may ask any questions they may have.
5. Parts and crew arrange the competitive area. When preparations are complete and the Competitor(s) are ready to start, the spokesperson will say **BEGIN** at which time the judging commences.
6. Competitor(s) presents the required work for the ceremony from memory. Prompts and interruptions, unless specified, will be penalized. When the ceremony has been completed, the spokesperson says **STOP** at which time the judging ceases.
7. Parts and crew clear the area of the competitive equipment. When the area is clear, the Panel Chairman says **"TIME OFF"**, ending the official timing period.
8. Delegations may witness all competitions they desire, recalling that any misconduct or harassment of a Competitor will subject their group to severe penalty and possible disqualification.
9. After the results are announced, the spokesperson obtains their Judging sheets and may discuss them with the Judges. The spokesperson may ask the Judges about their comments, suggestions and penalty assessments.
10. The result of any contest may be appealed by filing a verbal protest made to the Official in charge of that competition, within 48 hours of the release of the Judging Sheets. A full written statement of the protest's basis must be mailed to that official, postmarked no later than the day after. The spokesperson will be notified of the final ruling within 30 days thereafter.

Minimum proficiency standards are listed in the Contest Specifics of each contest. These must be met in a contest in order to win an award in that contest, then no award will be made in that contest.