

**Rotary Club of Elkton
Spring 2010 Spelling Bee
At Cecil College**

RULES

- 1) All words will be taken from a standard-type dictionary. No colors or capital letter words will be used. Words will be compiled from each participating elementary school.
- 2) The designated pronouncer will say the word. A brief definition will be given if asked only.
- 3) The student is allowed a missed word in the practice round only. Students will be warned of the misspelling during the practice round and then eliminated if they misspell a word in a subsequent round.
- 4) Spellers must first say the word, then spell it, then say the word again. A speller can change their spelling *before* they say the word for the second (final) time. The speller will not be penalized if they do not pronounce the word correctly.
- 5) Upon the spelling of a word, the contestant is told “correct” or “not correct.” If a word is spelled incorrectly, the judge will give the correct spelling. The next word on the list will then be given to the next contestant.
- 6) Once a contestant has begun spelling the word, he/she will have one minute to complete the spelling.
- 7) Any questions relating to the spelling of a word should be referred to the judge(s) immediately. No appeal will be entertained after this time, including at the conclusion of the bee. The judges are in complete control of the spelling bee. Their decision shall be final.

Elimination Rules:

- 1) The competition shall be conducted in rounds. Each speller remaining in the spelling bee at the start of a round shall spell one word in the round.
- 2) Upon missing the spelling of a word, a speller immediately drops out of the competition, except as provided in Elimination Step 3. The next word on the pronouncer's list is given to the next speller.
- 3) If none of the spellers remaining in the spelling bee at the start of a round spells a word correctly during that round, all shall remain in the competition. All spellers eliminated in the same round will be tied for the same place. If only one of the spellers remaining in the competition at the start of a round spells a word correctly during that round, a new round shall begin and the speller shall be given an opportunity to spell the next word on the list. If the speller succeeds in correctly spelling the new word, the speller shall be declared the champion. Otherwise (that is, if the speller does not succeed in correctly spelling the new word), all the spellers remaining in the competition at the start of the previous round shall remain in the competition. A new round will begin, with these spellers spelling in the original order.
 - The champion is not the champion until he or she has spelled correctly two more words than the speller or spellers placing second have spelled. These two words will be spelled consecutively only if the champion is the last speller in a round.
 - Under no circumstance is any speller asked to correct the misspelling of another speller.
 - It is possible in two instances to have a round in which only one word is spelled. The first instance of a one-word round is the correct spelling of the final championship word. The second instance of a one-word round is the misspelling of what could have been the final championship word.

*All students must arrive prior to their competition in order to compete – students will not be admitted into the competition once the first round begins. Please allow at least half an hour to register your student before the beginning of their competition.