



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH DAKOTA
RULES FOR THE AMERICANISM POEM CONTEST
TITLE: "Saddle up for Veterans"

1. ELIGIBILITY: Five Classes

- Class I – 3rd Grade
- Class II – 4th Grade
- Class III – 5th Grade
- Class IV – 6th Grade
- Class V – Students classified as Developmental Disability pupils, or those who are in special education classes in our school systems.

Development Disability Students include:

- Those in special education classes for the developmentally disabled
- A student recommended for the developmental disability class, but who was not admitted due to a waiting list or various other causes.
- A child identified as developmentally disabled, but not in a special Identification upon discretion of school officials.
- Please note that home-schooled students are eligible; grade level must be verified.

2. RULES: Poems are:

- Original work of student.
- Three verses, four lines per verse.
- The line may rhyme, but it is not a requirement.

3. STUDENT IDENTIFICATION: On the **back side** of the poem, write the student's names, complete address, grade, teacher's name and sponsoring Auxiliary Unit. The complete address is to include a street, box number or rural route number, city, state and zip code.

4. DEADLINES:

- **March 1:** To Unit Chairman or local Auxiliary from school/student.
- **March 15:** To District President from Auxiliary Unit.
- **April 1:** To Department Americanism Chairman from District President. Each District President may submit one poem in each class to the Department Americanism Chairman.

5. JUDGING: One or more of the American Legion Auxiliary members may serve as judges providing that no judge is a parent of a contestant. Selection of a winning entry will be the decision made by the judges of how much the poem pertains to the subject of Americanism and along patriotic lines.

6. AWARDS:

- Local Awards - at the discretion of the Unit.
- District Awards - at the discretion of the District
- Department Awards - First and Second place winners will be given.