



The Life and Times of a Young Ambassador Candidate

The aim of the scheme, which operates throughout Europe, is to recognise, encourage and support young people who are actively involved in the welfare of the community, supporting the best of our Lions' ideals. In previous years, candidates have been involved in helping younger and older people, the disabled, the able bodied. and the disadvantaged and have organised projects in conservation, crime prevention, promoting healthier lifestyles, hospital radio and other initiatives.

To be eligible, candidates must have reached their 15th birthday, but not their 19th birthday, on or before 30th June in the year in which the MD Final is to be held.

Candidates can progress through the various levels (Club, Zone, Region and District) up to the MD Final.

(The winning candidate of each level of the competition proceeds to the next level as follows: Winner of Club Competition → Zone Competition → Region Competition → District Competition → MD Final.

Club Presidents, Zone and Region Chairmen and District Officers take responsibility for their particular level of these competitions. The relevant Officer is responsible for organising the presentation of the prizes and certificates. The District Governor, District Officer or Club President could be invited to make this presentation.)

Currently, it has been the practice of our district, and many others, to have candidate presentation(s) at club level and then at district level only.

Candidates Responsibilities

At Club Level

Each candidate is required to speak for 3 minutes on their community work, either to the judges only or as a presentation to an audience. (They may display photographs and illustrations of their work if they wish, **but PowerPoint or other presentation tools are not permitted.**)

The judges will then ask each candidate a number of questions for clarification of their presentation and the information contained on their application form. The presentation and interview should last approximately 20 minutes.

At District Level

Those club candidates nominated to go forward to the District Final are required to attend at the chosen venue on the day of the finals. This would normally be held on a Saturday or Sunday. (Club Lions, parents or a good friend are welcome.

Again, they are required to speak for 3 minutes on their community work, now to the judges only. (They may display photographs and illustrations of their work if they wish, **but PowerPoint or other presentation tools are not permitted.**)

Again, the judges will then ask each candidate a number of questions for clarification of their presentation and the information contained on their application form. The presentation and interview should last approximately 20 minutes.

Note: The 'previous' year's district final winner can also be invited to attend.

Responsibilities of our District Finals Winner

- **A commitment** to address the District Convention in that year, with on the day expenses paid for by the District.
- **A commitment** to attend the Multi-District Weekend Finals Event, where all appropriate expenses will be paid by the MD Youth Trust. (Excludes travel to from the venue)

Responsibilities and Commitments at Multi-District Weekend Finals

Candidates, judges (interviewers) and last year's winner, arrive on Friday afternoon. Their expenses for the weekend are paid by MD,. This includes accommodation, meals, the activities throughout the weekend and one short telephone call home for the candidates, but excluding travel to from the venue.

a. Friday evening:

1. This opens with an informal meeting for the candidates and a short welcome and introduction to Lions, families, and supporters. A random selection will be made for times for candidates interviews the next day.

2. "Fun night" with a buffet meal and informal games.

b. Saturday daytime:

Candidate interviews all day. Half of the candidates will be interviewed in the morning and half in the afternoon, with a group activity (nearby) for the other half of the day. Candidates take lunch together in the hotel.

c. Judging:

The candidates will be seen by the judges in private.
The candidates are required to make a 3 minute presentation.
They will be interviewed about their community work.

They may include a **few** photographs of their work with the submission of the application form if they wish, **but PowerPoint or other electronic presentations are not permitted.**

Each candidate is allocated 30 minutes: 3 minutes for their presentation, 15 minutes for interview and 12 minutes for interviewers' private discussion before the next candidate.

Once the interviews are completed, **the candidates are given time to prepare an evening entertainment for the Gala Dinner.**

e. Saturday evening:

A Gala Dinner will take place, **with entertainment by the candidates**, followed by a disco.

f. Sunday morning:

This is a formal morning where all Dignitaries, Judges, District Officers, and the YA finalists gather in the main room, together with the many Club Lions, DG's, parents and supporting friends making up our finale audience.

After the top table's speeches, **the YA finalists will make their three-minute presentations** to the entire audience.

NOW AT LAST,

The Announcements and Presentations of the Shipshape Award and the Multi-District Young Ambassador of the 20th Century Award.

Responsibilities and Commitments of the Multi-District Finals Winner

- **A commitment** to address the MD Convention in that year, with expenses paid by the MD Youth Trust
- **An invitation** to the MD International Youth Centre of that year, with expenses paid by the MD Youth Trust.
- **A commitment to participate** in the Young Ambassador of the 21st Century European award, to be held at Europa Forum later in the same year, with expenses paid by the MD Youth Trust.
- **Attendance at next year's MD Finals** to support candidates and help with the organisation.