

## FERIA SPANISH CONFERENCE

### Official Rules and Guidelines for Spanish Spelling Bee

All the words used for the spelling competition will be selected with the beginning student in mind.

The competition will be conducted in the following manner:

- The contestant can ask the Pronouncer to repeat the word once, define it, and/ or use it in a sentence.
- The contestant can write the word down on a small white board if he/she wishes. The judges and the public will not see what has been written. It is only to help the contestant visualize the word before spelling it orally. The student can see the written word as he/she spells it orally.
- After beginning to spell a word, the contestant can stop and start over, retracing the spelling from the beginning, but in retracing there can be no change of letters or their sequence from those first pronounced. If letters or their sequence is changed, the contestant will be eliminated.
- The oral spelling should be correct and complete using the pronunciation of the Spanish alphabet. Special marks must be included (i.e., accents, diéresis {ü}, capital letters, etc). Such marks may be spelled out during or after the word has been spelled out. A contestant may not be disqualified for failing to pronounce the word either before or after spelling it.
- Any question or objection concerning the spelling of a word should be immediately brought to the attention of the pronouncer or event host. The judges will render the final decision. Participants are not allowed to challenge the judges' decision. The time allowed for an objection is before the next contestant receives his/her word. No appeal will be entertained after that word has been given to another speller.
- The judges are in full control of the competition. Their decision is final, except in case of a serious error. In such a case, the pronouncer will intervene and along with the judges will make a final decision.

When the contestants are reduced to two, the elimination procedure changes:

- When one contestant misspells a word, the other contestant shall be given an opportunity to spell that same word. If the second contestant spells that word correctly, plus the next word on the pronouncer's list, then the second contestant shall be declared the champion.
- If one of the last two spellers misses and the other, after correcting the error, misspells the new word submitted to him/her, then the misspelled new word shall be referred to the first speller. If the first speller then succeeds in correcting the error and correctly spells the next word on the pronouncer's list, then he/she shall be declared the champion.
- If both spellers misspell the same word, both shall continue in the contest, and the one who first misspelled the word shall be given a new word to spell. The competition will continue in this manner following the regulations in a. and b. of this section.
- When spelling a word orally, the following letters should be clarified:

la b será "be"

la ch será "ce, hache"

la ll será "ele, ele"

la ñ será "eñe"

la q será "cu"

la r será "ere" o "erre"

la w será "uve doble"

la letra mayúscula será "mayúscula"

la v será "uve"

la rr será " ere, ere" o "erre, erre"

la y será "ye"