Signing For The Deaf

Purpose:
To develop the ability to interpret for and to provide services to the deaf and hard of hearing; to glorify God and His church.

Process:
- Ensure participants get a complete and current copy of the event rules.
- Determine proper grade division and signing level.
- Ensure that students are registered for only "Signing" for given time period.
- No one will be allowed to participate in an event if they have a conflict with another event. A student may move up a grade level to avoid conflict.
- Register judges and door monitors online; or email their name, phone number, and preferred judging times to the event coordinator by the final registration deadline.
- Spectators may not enter or leave the room while a participant is signing.
- Applause is appropriate as a display of appreciation.
- Please note on registration if interpreting services are needed.
- Signing participants may be nominated to interpret the Sunday morning service. Please inform the interpreting participants of this opportunity.
- Scriptures are from the NIV 2011

Grade Divisions:
There are three grade divisions in this event: Grades 3-6, 7-9, and 10-12.

Signing Levels
There are five Signing Level choices in this event: Levels 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5. Beginners may use Level 1.Signers who have previously received a "gold" rating should advance to a new level to encourage growth of signing skill.

Participant Rules:
1. A participant may not watch other participants in the same event until he has completed his own performance.
2. The event coordinator will provide the recordings for the convention. No other recordings may be used. No recording will be distributed in preparation for the event.
3. Participants must sign to the recording provided by the event coordinator at the convention. Verify that the recording provided matches verses and songs listed in the manual as early as possible.
4. No one may give signs or coaching instructions to the participant during the performance.
5. While they are signing, participants will wear a solid color shirt, blouse, or dress which contrasts with skin tone.
6. All participants will be pre-registered, by congregation, in thirty-minute time slots, in specific rooms. If a participant's name is not on the list or other changes need to be made, go to the signing registration area for resolution.
7. All participants must meet at their assigned room 10 minutes prior to their scheduled time. The absence of some participants may advance the performance time of other participants.

Event Rules
1. The participant will fingerspell his own name and fingerspell the title of the selection he will sign.
2. The participant will sign the selection(s) to a recording provided by the event coordinator at the convention.
3. Ensure that the version of the song follows the publication in this year's Signing Rules. Selections are changed annually.
4. Once the judge has announced the selections, the choice will not be changed.
5. Participants may choose to bring and use a copy of the words for the song and/or scripture. The event coordinator will not provide a copy of the words.
6. Ensure that the participant is ready to interpret the selections as described below.

***Words from "Songs of Faith and Praise" Howard Publishing Co. Sign all of the verses.**

Signing - Level 1 (Beginners) The participant will choose 1 song **or** 1 scripture from the following selections:
    John 15:12-14
    Lamb of God #176   **I Love the Lord #359**

Signing – Level 2 Each participant will learn **ALL** of the following songs and scriptures. The judges will pick 1 song **AND** 1 scripture for the participant to sign.
| John 10:14-15 | John 13:34-35 | Proverbs 3:5-6 |
| I Stand Amazed #332 | He Still Came #377 | Why Did My Savior Come to Earth #382 |

Signing – Level 3

Each participant will learn **all** of the songs and scriptures in **Signing Levels 1 and 2**. Each participant will sign three items: a recorded 30-second introduction played before the song, then 1 song and 1 scripture as selected by the judges. The introduction will not be scored, but this will allow for the experience of interpreting unpracticed material without being penalized.

SAMPLE INTRODUCTION:
       "Good Morning and welcome to LTC Signing for the deaf. We are happy you are here and hope you are blessed by this event. I will now sign a song and a scripture from the Bible as directed by my judges".

**THIS IS ONLY AN EXAMPLE! The actual introduction will be different at the LTC convention.

Signing - Level 4
Each participant will interpret two items: a two-minute "Communion Thought" SIMILAR to the one included below and one Level 2 song selected by the judges.

SAMPLE COMMUNION THOUGHT
       "This is the time in our worship when we look back to the cross and what Jesus did for each of us there. We think of the way He suffered for our sins, the pain and agony that was caused by our thoughts and actions. We think of this bread, His body offered for us. As we eat this bread, let us remember that He died so that we might live. He suffered for our sins, so that we might not die a spiritual death. And as we drink from this cup, the cup containing the fruit of the vine, which represents His blood given for us, let us remember that His blood covers our sins and makes us clean and pure in God's sight. Jesus died so that we would not have to be separated from God for eternity. But more importantly, Jesus rose so that we could live with Him forever. As we participate in this Lord's Supper, let us think of all that means to us. By partaking of this feast, we remember Jesus' death and its significance for us until He comes again to take us home to Heaven"
**THIS IS ONLY AN EXAMPLE! The actual communion thought will be different at the LTC convention.

Signing – Level 5
Interpret a four-minute devotional thought on this year's theme.

Judging Categories: Listed In order of importance

Level-1	**Level-2**	**Level-3**	**Levels-4 and 5**
Preparation	Preparation	Vocabulary	Vocabulary
Movement	Movement	Movement	Understandability
Fingerspelling	Understandability	Preparation	Sign Clarity

Understandability	Expression	Understandability	Movement
Confidence	Confidence	Process	Process
Expression	Fingerspelling	Confidence	Expression
		Expression	Confidence