

## Effective Speaking Competition Pins Approved

07/20/09

Cadets now have a new way to show off their accomplishments. New Air Cadet League pins have been approved by the Directorate of Cadets.

The Air Cadet League National Effective Speaking Competition Pin can now be worn with the cadet uniform. The square pins have the side profile of a speaker and a red maple leaf in the background.

In the past, cadets have been forced to leave their competition medals on a shelf at home, but the pins allow them to have a chest filled with pride in more ways than one.

These pins will be awarded to participants for each level of the competition. Levels include Zone/Area, Provincial and National. The pins are bronze, silver and gold, respectively. Squadrons may purchase bronze pins for their cadets. The League will award silver and gold level pins at no cost.

Cadets with more than one pin are expected to wear only the highest level attained in the competition.

Active cadet members who have participated in the competition in the past are also permitted to wear the pin.

DND decided the pins will be worn in the center of the right breast pocket, equal distance from the lower seam and the lower edge of the jacket pocket flap. This is the same place as the Marksmanship and Biathlon Championship Series pins.

A maximum of two pins will fit in the authorized area, so cadets will have to choose their preference if awarded pins from the speech competition as well as the marksmanship or biathlon championships.

In this case, the DND said they expect cadets to leave half a centimetre between the two pins. Changes to the Air Cadet Dress instructions will be made soon to accommodate this addition.

The annual competition aims to increase self-confidence in the participants, promote citizenship and increase awareness of the cadet program. Cadets may speak in either of the country's official languages.

All Air Cadets enrolled by the end of December in each training year can participate. Speeches must be original, and no props or visual aids are allowed. A topic list is provided. Additional competition details can be found on the national website.

Squadrons can find order forms for the pins on the OPC website shortly: [www.aircadetleague.on.ca](http://www.aircadetleague.on.ca)

