NOTES FOR CANDIDATE PRESENTATION, updated October 2013

1. Timing of the formal presentation for the MD Final and for Europa Forum: 3 minutes.

2. Dress code: For the MD Final, the Young Ambassador polo shirt. For the MD Convention and Europa Forum if successful, suggest entirely one way or the other – either smart business dress, or if preferred to be more casual, the Young Ambassador polo shirt. If the polo shirt option is chosen, suggest that for the presentation it is not covered by a scarf on top. Candidates who have a uniform, e.g. St John, Sea Cadets, can of course wear this as an alternative.

3. Notes to help, perhaps in the form of crib cards, e.g. an A4 piece of card divided into 4 and write large bullet points on each card – not an essay, which is more difficult to see. Perhaps write it out in full for practice purposes and then transfer the bullet points to the cards. Powerpoint presentations may not be used.

4. Grab the audience's attention with a strong introduction. Then tell the audience what the plan of the talk will be, e.g. main and current community projects and how the bursary will be spent.

5. Then talk about other things, e.g. hobbies, interests, why they do what they do, anything to give the audience an idea of their personality and commitment.

6. Finally, could finish with thanks to the sponsoring Lions Club.

7. Try and smile as much as possible and try to speak slowly and clearly. Practising in front of a mirror will help with judging timing.

8. Would strongly suggest that you invite candidates to do their presentation to your Lions Club, if at all possible, so they can get used to speaking to a larger audience. After this, you can give a bit more feedback to help on the day. Some districts require their candidates to speak in front of an audience for the District Final. This is great practice for the bigger events

9. Portfolios of information: Remember that the judges of the MD Final are very tight for time if they are to give each candidate an opportunity to do the 3 minute presentation and ask all relevant questions. **They therefore have no time to look at additional information.**