Tiebreaking Judge’s Briefing

The tiebreaking judge does not attend briefing with the other judges.
Let this document stand as your briefing.

1. Read the judging criteria and Judge’s Code of Ethics on the back of each ballot.

2. The tiebreaking judge:
   a. Remain anonymous.
   b. Must rank all contestants.
   c. May not protest a speech.
   d. Is not involved in the protest process.
   e. Discreetly hands their completed ballot to the Chief Judge only.
      i. Arrange with the Chief Judge before the contest where you will be sitting and how he/she may pick up the ballot discreetly.

3. All Judges, including tiebreaker, will:
   a. Sign and print your name on each ballot.
      i. I have to throw your ballot out if not signed.
   b. Ensure the contestant’s first and last name are listed correctly on the ballot.
      i. I have to throw your ballot out if there is any question.
   c. Remain anonymous as much as possible.
   d. Remove the top portion of the ballot from this contest site and destroy at earliest convenience. These are your notes only and should not be seen by anyone.
   e. Take note of where the contestants are sitting and move if needed. No announcement asking you to do so will be made.
      i. You are too close to a contestant if they can easily read what you are writing on your ballot.

4. You will be given one minute of silence after each contestant to mark your ballots and will be given as much time as necessary to complete the ballot after the final contestant of each contest.

5. You will not consider time in determining your ranking.
   a. If you can’t avoid seeing the timing lights – ignore them.

6. Avoid any and all bias. You are to judge this speech, this contestant, this day.

7. Let me know if you have any questions.