

## Minutes of the 2018-19 Speech, Drama & Debate Advisory Committee

April 10, 2019

The IHSA Speech, Drama/GI & Debate Advisory Committee met at the IHSA Office in Bloomington on Wednesday, April 10, 2019, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Committee members present were Conor Cameron, Debate Coach, Chicago Solorio Academy, IHSA Division 1; Christina Cooper, Speech Coach, Gurnee (Warren), IHSA Division 2; Gail Smith, Activities Director, Flossmoor (Homewood-F.), IHSA Division 3; Marisa Romanelli, Drama Coach, Kewanee (H.S.), IHSA Division 4; Dr. Ed Jodlowski, Principal, Stanford (Olympia), Speech & Drama/GI Coach, IHSA Division 5; Lisa Stout, IE Coach/GI Judge, Washington, IHSA Division 6; and Tina Mondino, Speech Coach, Harrisburg, IHSA Division 7. Jan Heiteen, State Final Speech: Individual Events Manager; Lainee McGraw, State Final Debate Manager; Justin Matkovich, ICTA Representative; and Ben Stewart, SpeechWire, were also in attendance. Susie Knoblauch, IHSA Assistant Executive Director, conducted the meeting.

### **SPEECH: INDIVIDUAL EVENTS TERMS AND CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **1. Recommendation: VI - E - 2. State Final Time Schedule**

~~1:30~~ **2:00** Final Round: Dramatic Duet Acting, Humorous Interpretation, Impromptu Speaking, Oratorical Declamation, Oratory, Original Comedy, Prose Reading

~~1:30~~ **2:00** Performance in the Round - Final Round

~~2:30~~ **2:45** Radio Prep. for Finals

~~2:45~~ **3:00** Extemp Prep. for Finals

~~3:15~~ **3:30** Final Round: Dramatic Interpretation, Extemporaneous Speaking, Humorous Duet Acting, Informative Speaking, Poetry Reading, Radio Speaking, Special Occasion Speaking

**Rationale:** This time schedule is more reflective of the actual timeline that has occurred the past few years.

**Approved by Consent**

### **INDIVIDUAL EVENTS DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

1. State Final Manager Jan Heiteen reviewed the 2019 IHSA Speech: Individual Events State Series. Frequently asked questions, rules that don't exist, and the pilot of poetry YouTube channels were reviewed.
2. The committee reviewed the state series structure, qualifiers, timelines and schedules.
3. The committee reviewed the logistics at the PCC and the speech state final.
4. The committee reviewed the speech awards ceremony schedule.
5. The 14 individual events and PIR were reviewed.

6. The committee reviewed a proposal to separate extemporaneous speaking into two separate events: international and domestic; combining prose and poetry into POI; and combine HDA and DDA into Duo. No action was taken at this time.
7. Extemporaneous speaking time and topics were discussed. To stay current with topics and trends, extemp. speaking prompts will be e-mailed to the managers to prep and package for competition.
8. Protocol for interruptions in limited prep events was discussed.
9. PIR rules were reviewed.
10. The committee discussed maintaining regional & sectional entry balance and reviewed event entry numbers from 2018-19. Outreach will begin in the December host managers meeting to capture updated entry numbers.
11. The Monday I.E. managers & sectional manager meeting formats were reviewed. Regional time schedules will be reviewed in the December managers meeting that will address events going straight to finals and practice rounds. The three-tiered schedules at regionals will be presented which allows the utilization of fewer judges and the opportunity for practice rounds.
12. The use of smartphones in extemp. and radio prep will be studied for future review.
13. A ranked to last area will be added to SpeechWire for events where students who are overtime are dropped to last and be unable to advance.
14. The committee reviewed the proof of publication rules and discussed issues with being published commercially on Amazon, material on kindles and e-readers, television & movie scripts and out of print material.
15. The committee discussed creating a database of community uploaded publication sites.
16. The committee reviewed the parameters of the 10% language that can be added in some I.E. events.
17. The committee reviewed a proposal to eliminate the use of tables in HDA & DDA. No action was taken.
18. The committee discussed the process for submitting judges for consideration in the state series. Names should be given to the regional and sectional managers. Further review will be considered in the ability to rate judges after regional, sectional & state.
19. The committee discussed ways ICTA can support coaches and help develop new programs (state series support, invitational meets leading up to the state series, coach retention, etc...)
20. The committee reviewed national trends in I.E. The use of internet in extemp, paperless tournaments, and kindle and e-readers will continue to be followed nationally.

## **Administrative Recommendations**

A proposal form will be generated for schools to submit material for publication review and approval.

The IHSA will design certificates that can be downloaded and presented to regionals and sectional host to award to the finalists who do not medal.

## **DEBATE TERMS AND CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **1. Recommendation: B. Lincoln-Douglas Debate Competition Rules 6. f. and D. Public Forum Debate Competition Rules 3. g.**

Judges ~~are prohibited to~~ **may** disclose their decisions to debaters.

Judges ~~shall not~~ **may** disclose their decisions.

**Rationale:** By allowing judges to provide the debaters with immediate feedback by revealing which side won the debate right after the round, students and debate coaches can better prepare their next strategies moving forward.

### **Approved by Consent**

## **DEBATE DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

1. The Debate State Final Manager, Laine McGraw, reviewed the 2019 IHSA Debate State Final.
2. The Debate State Final venue was reviewed. Megan Koch, Illinois State University Director of Forensics, provided a report on the finals. ISU will continue to host the State Debate Finals in 2020, even though the date does not fall on ISU's spring break, Koch is confident that there will be enough classroom for competition on Friday while campus is in session. The SFHOB building, which was used for Student Congress, will provide a student café next year. Plans to use the updated ISU Bone Student Center for student holding, food, judges and tournament staff in 2020 was also reviewed.
3. Tabroom.com online tournament management program was discussed with hopes that the IHSA can coordinate with them to provide the IHSA information for the state final program and online generation of award winners for the IHSA website.
4. The Debate State Final awards were reviewed.
5. The Policy Debate competition being conducted at a different Chicagoland location/date was discussed. The goal of such a move is to encourage more Urban Debate League schools to participate.
6. Thursday night registration times were reviewed.

7. The committee discussed national trends in the debate community.

## **DRAMA TERMS AND CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **1. Recommendation: II. Dates and Sites D.**

The State Final Drama/Group Interpretation Contest site is the University of Illinois Springfield (UIS) and Sangamon Auditorium.

**Rationale:** After completing our two-year contractual obligation with the Peoria Civic Center Theatre, the committee reviewed the venue and recommends going back to Springfield for the State Final. Sangamon Auditorium offers a loading dock for Drama which is more convenient to load sets. The black box theatre at UIS provides a more intimate performing space, better acoustics, and preferable lighting for Group Interp. (GI). Additionally, the load in/load out process for GI sets is also much easier at UIS.

### **Died for Lack of Motion**

### **2. Recommendation: VI. Tournament Structure and Time Schedules D. Programs: 1. Sectional**

The order of performance for Dramatics and Group Interpretation shall be established by ~~the local contest manager in consultation with the contest committee using a blind draw~~ **Tourney Wire**, except where adjustments are necessary to accommodate Friday night performances, to permit students to participate in two events and/or to separate identical selections. Competition shall begin on Friday evening, with schools being given opportunity to volunteer for a Friday evening performance time. If volunteers are not secured, the local manager and contest committee shall randomly assign schools for Friday evening performances.

**Rationale:** TourneyWire has the ability to generate sectional schedules. This takes out any potential manager bias in scheduling. It also still allows the host manager the ability to manually adjust if necessary, as outlined by the terms and conditions (to allow students to participate in both GI & Drama, to separate identical selections, etc...)

### **Approved by Consent**

## **DRAMA/GROUP INTERPREATION DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

1. Sectional host sites were reviewed.
2. The state final venue was reviewed, items discussed were logistics, ingress, egress for both Drama and GI and the lighting chart for Drama (grouping vs. sliders, and specials).
3. 2018-19 rule changes were discussed. It was recommended that all rule changes, interpretations and questions should be solidified and posted on the DGI menu page.

4. Set specifications from Sectional to State were reviewed. Sectional and State GI set load-in, set-up and strike was discussed. The committee discussed GI load in, load out, holding area and practice times. It was agreed that many of these issues will be moot points at UIS.
5. It was recommended that for consistent timelines and procedures, all communications and directions to competing schools and students should come from the Drama and Group Interp. Room Chair to avoid conflicting information.
6. GI set heights were examined. The committee discussed issues and concerns from competing DGI member schools regarding the expense of competing. Some proposed solutions discussed were standardized GI set pieces and capping budgets.
7. The committee discussed suggestions to add Duo Interp and/or Musical Theatre Review to DGI.
8. Performance rubrics, standards of excellence (interpretation, characterization, vocal delivery, physical delivery and overall effectiveness), thematic genres and the ability to recommend and rate judges were discussed.
9. The committee discussed the electronic notification of advancing Group Interps. on Friday of the competition and recommended continuing with the process.
10. The committee reviewed the use of Tourney Wire for Sectional and State Drama/GI competition. The committee recommended listing the names of all student who received nominations for All-Sectional and All-State Cast?

## **ITEMS OF GENERAL DISCUSSION**

1. Knoblauch reviewed the NFHS Awards:  
Heart of the Arts - <https://www.nfhs.org/resources/awards/heart-of-arts/>  
Outstanding Speech, Drama & Debate Educator Awards - Coach/Director –  
<http://www.nfhs.org/resources/awards/>  
Nominations for these awards can be directed to Knoblauch.
2. Knoblauch shared information regarding the NFHS Debate Topic Selection Meeting - August 2-4, and the NFHS Performing Arts Conference - September 16-18, at the Oak Brook Marriott.
3. Knoblauch acknowledged and thanked the following committee members for their service on the advisory committee and support of the IHSA:  
Marisa Romanelli - IHSA Division 4 – Kewanee High School  
Dr. Ed Jodlowski - IHSA Division 5 – Olympia High School Coach