



# Individual Events

## Publication and Event

### Frequently Asked Questions

#### Materials and Proof of Publication

##### FROM THE IHSA INDIVIDUAL EVENTS TERMS AND CONDITIONS

V.B. Material Verification At each of the IHSA tournaments, the original published source of any selection used, along with a complete script of the cutting to be performed in all interpretive events: Dramatic Duet Acting, Dramatic Interpretation, Humorous Duet Acting, Humorous Interpretation, Prose and Poetry Reading, must all be available within a reasonable amount of time as determined by the contest manager. Failure to produce such materials shall result in disqualification of the contestant from the contest.

V.C.4.b. Proof of publication, which will include the original source books OR the original printed web manuscripts for all interpretive events: Dramatic Duet Acting, Dramatic Interpretation, Humorous Duet Acting, Humorous Interpretation, Prose and Poetry Reading, must be provided at the Regional Meeting. Photocopies are NOT acceptable. Cuttings from publication sites must be accompanied by the original source material. Coaches will be given until registration on the day of the tournament to procure any materials that they do not have at the meeting. Contestants will NOT be allowed to compete unless these materials have been approved.

**It is the responsibility of every coach to be familiar with all rules and procedures for IHSA competition. Be sure to read the rulebook carefully! If you have questions, do not hesitate to ask!**

**What follows is provided as a *supplement* and is intended to clarify some of the language in the rulebook and to address some frequently asked questions regarding material selection, registration and proof of publication.**

#### Publication FAQ's

**Q. What is the difference between material posted on the Internet and material published on the Internet?**

A. *In an ever-changing digital world, this is a very frequently asked question. When deciding if an internet source can be used for competition, first consider the information in the rulebook:*

*The Internet may be used as a source for printed published material as long as the following provisions are met:*

- a. *It must be copyrighted and available to all (equal access).*
- b. *It must NOT have been posted solely for a student's use in competitive speech activities.*
- c. *It may NOT be transcribed from an audio or video source; it must be available in its original written form.*
- d. *In addition, it is recommended that all internet sites be evaluated for authenticity.*

*Next, you must determine if the material is published or posted. Anyone can put something on the internet. Blogs, a Wiki, YouTube and the likes can be created by any individual and while some would say that anything on the internet is "published", such posting of personal information/material does not meet the publication rules for IHSA completion. Publication requires approval from some authority beyond the self--such as a publishing house or online publication that requires submission and subsequent approval.*

**Q. If the material is from a self-publishing company, can it be used?**

A. *If the material is commercially available for purchase on Amazon it can be used.*

**Q. Does a book or play on a Kindle count as published?**

A. Materials available only on a Kindle, E---Book or other reader are NOT acceptable. If the material is published in both forms, you MUST have the print version. A Kindle cannot be submitted at any time.

**Q. Do I have to have the materials with me at every tournament?**

A. When you come to your Regional Entry Meeting, you must have the actual print versions (usually books or magazines) of your material as well as your cuttings. You must then have your material (original sources and cuttings) at each IHSA Tournament. (Regional, Sectional, AND State.) Your cuttings alone are not enough as they could be different from the original source material. You need both the original source and your cutting of it. Approval at one level does not ensure that the materials will not be checked or questioned at the next. Failure to produce this material at any level may be reason for disqualification.

**Q. Are script databases such as NPX/New Play Exchange legal to prove publication?**

A. For this site, we may need to look at the material on a case by case basis. Such sites have a variety of materials with different types of "publication". While some of the materials are "published", in many instances these sites serve as a digital library akin to a catalogue of literature. Uncredited PDFs found on such sites would need alternate verification.

## Acting/Interpretation FAQ's

**Q. Are film and television scripts acceptable?**

A. Such scripts that are published in their final version with full copyright information may be acceptable. Be careful of shooting scripts and pre---published versions.

**Q. What if the original source for a cutting I have is out of print?**

A. Most materials can be located, and you may need to do some leg work to make it happen. Check interlibrary loan systems, other coaches, Google Books and/or ask for help.

*In the case of back editions of magazines available only online, you should include the following for proof of publication:*

- cover page
- copyright page
- table of contents that lists the literature being used
- all pages on which the material is found.

**Q. What Internet sites are usually acceptable and what material must be provided to prove publication?**

A. Online sites such as Playscripts.com, SpeechGeek, Mushroom Cloud Press, JD Drama and others produce materials that are very popular for IHSA competition. In most cases, you can select to purchase a digital download or order the book/script. Either will be accepted as long as you present the script in its entirety for approval. Not all companies work in the same fashion. Read the IHSA Rules and the company rules to be sure you are in compliance. Any and all necessary royalties are the responsibility of the competing school.

**Q. We purchased a subscription to 4N6Fanatics. Are these scripts acceptable?**

A. The scripts from this site are in many cases acceptable. However, you cannot use the downloaded script as the original source. You must have the original material and that must be the publication information used at registration. In some cases, 4N6 Fanatics offer adapted scripts that do not match the original source. Check this carefully!

**Q. What does "other works" mean? Does that mean I can just use any other source I choose?**

A. The term "other works" applies to types of materials not listed that meet ALL other requirements for the event. If you are not sure, ask!

**Q. Can a student play multiple characters in Duet? And can I turn a novel into a duet scene?**

A. If the author assigns multiple characters to one actor, this may be acceptable. You can only use a novel in Duet if there is dialogue in the book. You cannot adapt a work and create your own dialogue.

**Q. What is that 15% rule?**

A. *Simply stated, material other than the author's work must be limited to 15%. This rule is meant to allow for introductions, transitions, simple updates and conclusions. Extensive revisions and/or additions are not permitted.*

## Public Address FAQ's

**Q. Can community upload sites where you can upload or transcribe your favorite poetry or speeches be used?**

A. *No, those sites cannot be used to prove publication. You will need to see if the material can be validated elsewhere either on the Internet or in books or other print sources. Also, databases that list plays and/or speeches such as [stageplays.com](http://stageplays.com) or [lybio.com](http://lybio.com) are not sufficient as proof of publication.*

**Q. Can YouTube be a source of material in Dec?**

A. *In general, for our purposes YouTube is not considered a source of published material with the following exceptions:*

- *Oratorical Declamation – In the past, we have only allowed the use of Ted Talks that have a transcript button/generator. We will now also allow speeches that have been presented at an official Ted or TedX event to be transcribed if the site does not include a transcript. Additionally, university commencements and other events that only publish speeches digitally may be considered for use. If you have a piece of material you believe fits in this category, please submit for consideration. (Note: Many times, older speeches are not readily available. If you can prove that it is/was published, it can be accepted.)*

## Special Occasion Speaking

Over the past years, attention to the rules for this event have been on the decline. What follows is meant to highlight the various requirements for the event as published in the IHSA Event Summaries with some FAQs to inform students, coaches and judges.

**Definition:** Special Occasion Speaking is the oral presentation of the student's original speech where the student is himself or herself at his or her current age speaking in a realistic situation for the purpose of entertaining an audience.

**Purpose:** The purpose of Special Occasion Speaking is to provide an opportunity for contestants to present a practical message in an entertaining manner under simulated "real life" conditions organized around a central theme and designed to make a serious point through the use of humor.

**Material:** Material must be original. The content, format, style, and thought of the material must be solely the product of the contestant.

**Q. So, what are the unique elements required in this event?**

A. *To be in compliance with the rules the speech must include:*

1. *A specified occasion and audience*
2. *The speaker should not create a character, rather speak as himself/herself/themself, at their current age speaking to their established/stated audience in a "realistic" situation.*
3. *The speech should have a central theme/topic and should make a serious point using humor.*

**Q. Is there a specific format that must be used in SOS?**

A. *There is no specified format that must be used. The structure should support the stated occasion and audience. The content, format and style must be solely the product of the student.*

- Q. Does the speaker need to actually have spoken to this audience on the stated occasion?**  
 A. No, but it must be realistic that the speaker “could” present to this audience on this occasion. The student should clarify why they have the credibility to speak on their chosen subject in the stated situation. Their credibility can be implied or stated directly.
- Q. What kind of humor can you use in this event?**  
 A. The humor should be relevant and directed to the both the created audience/occasion/topic and the actual audience in the round. As with all events it must comply with IHSA terms and conditions regarding appropriateness.

## Prose/Poetry FAQs

- Q. I found a great interior monologue in a play; can my student use it in Prose?**  
 A. You cannot do a play in Prose. If the material is both a piece of prose and a play, you must use the prose version only.
- Q. Can community upload sites where you can upload or transcribe your favorite poetry or speeches be used?**  
 A. No, those sites cannot be used to prove publication. You will need to see if the material can be validated elsewhere either on the Internet or in books or other print sources. Also, databases that list plays and/or speeches such as [stageplays.com](http://stageplays.com) or [lybio.com](http://lybio.com) are not sufficient as proof of publication.
- Q. Can YouTube be a source of material in Poetry?**  
 A. In general, for our purposes YouTube is not considered a source of published material with the following exceptions:
- Poetry – For the 2018-2019 season, we piloted several digital poetry channels. In order to allow students more opportunities to interact with contemporary literature, we will continue to maintain and expand the use of vetted YouTube channels.

APPROVED CHANNELS	
<b>Button Poetry</b>	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/user/ButtonPoetry">https://www.youtube.com/user/ButtonPoetry</a>
<b>Write About Now</b>	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/user/WANpoetry/featured">https://www.youtube.com/user/WANpoetry/featured</a>
<b>All Def Poetry</b>	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/user/AllDefPoetry">https://www.youtube.com/user/AllDefPoetry</a>
<b>Poetry Slam, Inc.</b>	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/c/PoetrySlamInc">https://www.youtube.com/c/PoetrySlamInc</a>
<b>Slam Find</b>	<a href="https://www.youtube.com/user/SlamFind/videos">https://www.youtube.com/user/SlamFind/videos</a>
<b>Get Lit</b>	<a href="https://getlit.org">https://getlit.org</a>
<b>Youth Speaks</b>	<a href="https://youthspeaks.org">https://youthspeaks.org</a>

### PROCEDURE

Materials offered digitally on these channels, and ONLY these channels, can be transposed for use in competition.

#### **For proof of publication, the following are required:**

<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Complete link information to the poem(s) on the given channel.</b> <i>Tournament managers should be able to click this link and be taken directly to the material within the channel.</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Direct transposition of the literature to be used in its entirety</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Copy of the cutting of the poetry to be used in competition</b>

Failure to provide this information and material will be reason to disallow the entry.

If it is found that the direct transposition has been altered, the competitor will be disqualified. As with any material used for IHSA competition, cuttings of the original are permitted in accordance with the rules.

The selection of these sites should not be seen as an IHSA requirement or endorsement of all materials contained within. As with any sources, some content will not be appropriate for all and each school/coach is responsible for approval of content and decisions regarding appropriateness.

If you have another channel that you believe meets the same standards, you should submit a request for review to the state manager.

## **“That is Not a Rule!”**

The following things are **NOT** in the rulebook! While this is not an exhaustive list, we hope it is a good start. Please feel free to forward other ideas!

### **Nodding to judges before beginning a performance**

*While competitors certainly want to be sure the judges are ready before they begin a performance, nodding at each judge is NOT required.*

### **Bowing at the end of a performance**

*There are many ways to end a performance. While a judge and/timers should be able to determine that a performance is complete, there is no rule that suggests a competitor must bow.*

### **Teasers**

*While the use of a "teaser" is an acceptable convention in many events, there is no rule that says the required introduction must include a teaser.*

### **“Book Work”**

*In Prose and Poetry, there is no requirement that a student have what has become known as “book work”. While the rules state that the script/poetry or prose book will be held and no properties or visual aids are allowed, beyond that, creative use of the book is acceptable but not required.*

### **Movement in Interp events**

*While the rules do suggest "limited" movement, there is no rule that suggests that a performer must perform with feet planted on the floor. While a student may choose to stand in one place, the choice to move, turn, step and use the whole body is acceptable.*

### **Characters/Voices**

*There is no specification on the number of voices allowed/required in a DI or HI. A Dramatic Interp can include multiple characters/voices and a Humorous Interp can be a monologue or series of monologues.*

### **Props**

*While props are not allowed in any event, the performer's body should not be considered to be a prop. Touching one's nose, arm, face, hair, etc., for instance, does not constitute the use of a prop. Also, there is no rule that suggests that tears are props.*

### **Countdowns in Radio**

*This is actually against the rules. Do not ask for a countdown!*

### **Radio Script Structure**

*There is no “prescribed” format for the broadcast and/or story order.*

### **Walking Patterns**

*There is no prescribed walking pattern that must be used in Public Speaking and Limited Prep events.*

### **Original Comedy format**

*A specific format/structure for Original Comedy is not specified.*