# *2013-2014 Drama/Group Interpretation Terms and Conditions*

In accordance with Section 1.450 of the IHSA Constitution, the Board of Directors has approved the Terms and Conditions governing the 2013-2014 IHSA Drama/Group Interpretation Tournament Series.

## I. SCHOOL CLASSIFICATION

Competition in the IHSA 2013-2014 Drama/Group Interpretation Tournament Series will be held for all member schools without classification.

## II. DATES AND SITES

**A.** The state shall be divided into six (6) Sectionals. The number of competing schools, travel distance, geographical location and the number of entries shall be primary factors in the determination of number and boundary lines for these Sectionals.

**B. Dates for the contests are:**

| | |
|---|---|
| Sectional | March 21-22, 2014 |
| State Final | March 28-29, 2014 |

**C.** Sites for Sectional contests shall be posted on the IHSA website at www.ihsa.org.

**D.** The State Final Drama/Group Interpretation Contest site is Sangamon Auditorium at the University of Illinois in Springfield.

## III. ON-LINE ENTRIES, WITHDRAWAL PROCEDURES, ELIGIBLITY, AND ON-LINE LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

The policies for Original Entry Deadlines, Late Entries and Late Withdrawals shall be the policies and procedures regarding entries for all IHSA-sponsored activities, included in the 2013-2014 Entry Policies and Procedures which can be found in the Schools Center on the IHSA website.

**A. On-line Entries**

All member schools must enter their school into the state series competition though the IHSA Schools Center on the IHSA Website at www.ihsa.org. **The deadline for entry is November 1, 2013**. The 2013-14 Entry Policies and Procedures outlining the online entry procedures for all IHSA-sponsored tournaments can be found in the Schools Center on the IHSA website.

Competing schools are responsible for Event Fees as described in Section IV. **Checks for Event Fees should be made payable to the host school for Sectionals and to the University of Illinois at Springfield for the State Final.**

**B. Late Entries**

Any attempt to enter a sport or activity on-line after the established deadlines will be denied. Schools that wish to enter after the deadline will be considered late. To be considered for late entry, the Principal/Official Representative must contact the IHSA administrative officer in charge of that sport/activity. The penalty for late entry shall be a payment of $100.00.

**C. Breach of Contract By-law 6.041 (Withdrawal Procedure)**

1. To withdraw without penalty, the school principal must notify the IHSA office, in writing, of the school's team withdrawal from Drama Group Interpretation State Series prior to **December 1**.

2. Withdrawal after **December 1** but before **March 3, 2014** will result in a school being liable for payment of a $100.00 late withdrawal penalty.

3. If a school withdraws one or both entries after **March 3, 2014**, the school shall be liable for all event fees *($75 for Drama and/or $75 for Group Interpretation)* for each events withdrawn and shall be assessed an additional penalty in the amount of $100.

4. If a school does not officially withdraw and/or does not show up for competition at any level of the state series, the school will be assessed the penalties in "2" and "3" above and if applicable, the school may be charged for any additional financial loss sustained by the offended schools or the Association as a result of such breach *(Judges' fees if applicable*). **The school shall also be considered in Breach of Contract under the terms of the IHSA By-law 6.040, and the matter shall be reported to the IHSA Board of Directors for disposition.**

**D. Eligiblity**

All member schools in good standing may enter 1 (one) team in Drama and 1 (one) team in Group Interpretation under the provisions of IHSA By-law 4.071. The principal is the official representative of his/her school in all interscholastic activities, and the responsibility for seeing that all students from his/her school entered in Drama/Group Interpretation contests are eligible under the rules shall rest with the principal. All correspondence with the IHSA Office must be conducted through the principal.

In each contest in which a school is represented, the principal shall have present, an adult, preferably a member of the faculty, who shall supervise and be responsible for the conduct of the participants and other persons from the school. A school's failure to comply with this provision shall result in disqualification of its contestants.

**E. On-line List of Participants**

1. List of Participants Deadline

Each school must complete the **On-line List of Participants by the deadline date of March 3, 2014**. The deadline date of March 3, 2014 (standardized date of the first Monday of week 35) shall only include the performance title and author, not the entire cast list. **The entire final cast list shall be due online March 10, 2014** (standardized date of the first Monday of week 36) prior to sectional competition. It is no longer necessary for the Principal to sign the form. If a school does not submit the On-line List of Participants by the deadline, coaches and/or participants from the school are subject to penalties which could include, but not be limited to being ruled ineligible to compete in the State Series **and/or charged $100.00. Confirmation of receipt of On-line List of Participants**: Schools should login to their School Center site on the IHSA website and go to the Activity Tracker. The Activity Tracker will show "Completed", if you have checked the button indicating you have finished with your report. If it doesn't indicate "Completed", then you must go back into your schools List of Participants and check the button on the Online List of Participants indicating you are finished with your report.

Note: All participants must be eligible students under the provisions of IHSA By-law 4.071. (This includes all cast and crew members.)

Note: It is ***recommended*** that each sectional site conduct a sectional meeting prior to the contest to allow competing schools an opportunity to view the performance spaces and address any questions or issues prior to the contest. This meeting shall not be held during the regular school day.

2. Entry Limitations

a. Schools are permitted one entry in Dramatics and one in Group Interpretation at the Sectional Contests.

b. Individual students may participate in both Drama and Group Interpretation.

c. No individual or school may perform any of the same lines from a given piece of literature in the Drama and/or Group Interpretation competition more than once in any five (5) year period.

d. No school may perform any part of the same piece of literature in Dramatics and/or Group Interpretation in the current year.

e. Substitutions and changes in entries are permitted with the following limitations:

1) Changes in Original Entries may be made prior to the final date for acceptance of Original Entries, by notifying the IHSA Office in writing.

2) Substitutions and/or additions for personnel in Dramatics and Group Interpretation at any contest may be made provided the local contest manager and the IHSA office are notified at least one (1) day prior to the contest. Exceptions may be permitted only in cases of illness or other extenuating circumstances and provided the principal attests in writing that the substitute is eligible.

3. Approval of Material

The principal is required to see and approve both the selection and performance of all material including substitute material, to be used by contestants from the member school in the contest series.

## IV. HOST FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

**A.** Schools will be required to pay event fees for all entries listed on the Assignment page which can be found on the IHSA website at www.ihsa.org after December 1. No contestant from a school will be permitted to compete if such fees are not paid. **Checks for event fees should be made payable to the host school for Sectionals and to the University of Illinois at Springfield for the State Final.** Event fees shall be:

| | Sectional | State |
|---|---|---|
| Dramatics | $75.00 | $75.00 |
| Group Interpretation | $75.00 | $75.00 |

**B. Special Costs:** If the properties and equipment for any Dramatics entry are not readily available at the host school, then the school desiring such items must assume responsibilities both for securing and transporting them.

**C. Judges Fees:** Judges Fees shall be:

| | |
|---|---|
| Sectional | |
| Dramatics | $20.00 per play judged |
| Group Interpretation | $15.00 per performance judged |
| State Final | |
| Dramatics | $20.00 per play judged |
| Group Interpretation | $15.00 per performance judged |

Any judge who drives more than 70 miles round trip to the site of any contest in the IHSA State series shall be reimbursed a travel allowance of $.30 per mile in excess of 70 miles round trip. Reimbursement shall be directly from the IHSA office upon the judges' submission of a travel report form to be provided by the IHSA through the contest managers.

## V. TOURNAMENT ASSIGNMENTS

Sectional Assignments can be found on-line at www.ihsa.org after Dec. 1.

## VI. TOURNAMENT STRUCTURE AND TIME SCHEDULES

### A. Contest Management

In all cases in which a member school is selected as a contest site, the principal of the high school shall assume responsibility for the contest. The principal may, however, delegate the authority to manage the contest to another staff member. In case the site is not located in a member school, then the IHSA Board of Directors shall appoint a local manager. Contest managers shall be responsible for all aspects of contest administration.

### B. Contest Committee

Sectional Managers shall appoint a Contest Committee to be comprised of three (3) directors from three (3) different schools assigned to the contest site while striving to have a balanced representation of Drama and Group Interpretation directors. Participating schools shall be notified of the names of committee members at least five (5) days prior to the date of the contest.

The functions of the Contest Committee shall be:

1. to aid the manager in planning, organizing and administering the contest;
2. to interpret the rules when necessary; and
3. to serve as a panel to select contest judges.

All Sectional and State Final Committee members must be consulted about potential judges prior to the selection/hiring of any person. Written consensus of the committee shall be required for each judge employed.

For the State Final a Contest Committee composed of selected Drama and/or Group Interpretation coaches and a representative from the IHSA Speech Advisory Committee will be appointed by the IHSA Office to assist the Host manager for the State Final.

### C. Authority of Contest Manager and Contest Committee

1. Sectional Contests.

The contest manager shall be authorized to conduct the contest under the provisions of these Terms and Conditions. However, if a situation develops in which there is an apparent unfairness to a Drama/Group Interpretation Entry, and which is determined to be the result of an administrative or judge's error, the manager shall consult with his/her Contest Committee and determine the manner in which the situation shall be resolved. However, managers shall not have the authority to advance the Drama/Group Interpretation entry affected by an unfairness to the state contest. In addition, the manager shall be responsible to resolve questions of rules interpretation, to arbitrate disputes and to apply penalties for violations of contest rules. In all cases, he/she shall consult with the contest advisory committee prior to making a decision in any such matter. Decisions of the contest manager in all cases herein described shall be final.

The authority and responsibility of the contest manager and his/her contest committee shall end when results are announced at the contest awards assembly. Any question relative to contest rules or any aspect of the contest which arises following the announcement of results shall be referred directly by the principal of the school involved to the IHSA Office. The IHSA Office will give consideration to questions relative to administrative and/or clerical matters only, and will do so only, through the end of the first Monday following the completion of the contest involved. In compliance with IHSA By-law 6.033, protests or challenges relative to the decision of any judge will not be considered.

2. State Final Contest.

The State Final Contest Committee shall be authorized to conduct the contest under the provisions of these Terms and Conditions. If a situation develops in which there is an apparent unfairness to a Drama/Group Interpretation Entry, and which is determined to be the result of an administrative or judge's error, the Committee shall determine the manner in which the situation shall be resolved.

In addition, the Contest Committee shall be responsible to resolve questions of rules interpretation, to arbitrate disputes and to apply penalties for violations of contest rules. Decisions of the Contest Committee in all cases herein described shall be final.

### 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, 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.

2. State Final

a. Dramatics: Performance order in Dramatics shall be made randomly by the IHSA office. An attempt will be made to separate duplicate entries. Adjustments for double entries will be made as necessary.

Groups will then perform under the following time schedule in accordance with a performance order established by the IHSA Office:

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Friday: | 8:30 a.m. | 1:30 p.m. | 6:30 p.m. |
| | 9:45 a.m. | 2:45 p.m. | 7:45 p.m. |
| | 11:00 a.m. | 4:00 p.m. | 9:00 p.m. |
| Saturday: | 8:30 a.m. | 9:45 a.m. | 11:00 a.m. |

b. Group Interpretation: Performance order in Group Interpretation shall be made by the IHSA office. An attempt will be made to separate duplicate entries. Adjustments for double entries will be made as necessary. Groups will then perform under the following time schedule.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Friday: | PRELIM A | PRELIM B |
| | 8:00 a.m. | 2:45 p.m. |
| | 8:40 a.m. | 3:25 p.m. |
| | 9:20 a.m.. | 4:05 p.m. |
| | 10:00 a.m. | 4:45 p.m. |
| | 10:40 a.m. | 5:25 p.m. |
| | LUNCH | DINNER |
| | 11:50 p.m | 6:40 p.m. |
| | 12:30 p.m. | 7:20 p.m. |
| | 1:10 p.m. | 8:00 p.m. |
| | 1:50 p.m. | 8:40 p.m. |

Post Finalists – Directly after the last performance

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Saturday: | 8:30 a.m. | 11:50 a.m. |
| | 9:20 a.m. | 11:00 a.m |
| | 10:10 a.m. | 12:40 p.m. (1:30 p.m. if needed) |

**E. The Report of Sectional Winners will be completed online by the Sectional Manager.** This shall be the official entry form for the State Final. Event fees for qualifying Dramatics and/or Group Interpretation groups shall be paid upon arrival at the Sectional and State Final sites. Qualifying groups for whom fees are not paid as prescribed shall not be permitted to participate.

### F. Royalties

The Association assumes no responsibilities for the payment of royalties or other fees connected with the performance of any material in the Dramatic/Group Interpretation contest series.

### G. Timekeeping

1. Two (2) timers, using stopwatches, shall be required. No time signal shall be given by either timekeeper.

2. The director of each Group Interpretation shall describe to the timers and a representative of the Contest Manager, prior to the start of the performance, the precise moments of the initial cue and the final performance element. Timers shall use these suggestions as guidelines to start and stop watches. However, timing of the production will begin with the first performance element and conclude with the final performance element.

3. In Drama prior to the start of the performance the director shall describe to the timers and a representative of the Contest Committee a precise moment of the initial cue and the final performance element. However, timing of the Drama production will begin with the first performance element and conclude with the final performance element. No element of production or performance, including any stage lighting, house

lighting, or sound, may begin prior to the announcement of the play. Following the last element of production or performance, the stage shall go dark and actors shall exit.

**H. Special Rules and Limitations**

1. Tardiness or Absence: If any group is not ready to perform at its scheduled time, the management shall be under no obligation to assign it a later hour and shall not so assign it if it would delay the program.

2. In Dramatics:

a. Performing groups shall have a total maximum of fifteen (15) minutes elapsed time in which to unload their vehicle(s) and store their entire set in a designated storage area. Any group exceeding this time limit shall automatically be dropped one (1) rank per judge per 30 seconds overtime. If needed, groups will be allowed five (5) minutes after the set strike to move their set from the strike area to the designated loading area. Any group exceeding this time limit shall automatically be dropped one (1) rank per judge per 30 seconds overtime.

b. Performing groups shall have a total maximum of twenty (20) minutes elapsed time in which they must both set up and strike the staging and set for performance (e.g. If sixteen (16) minutes are used to set up, then four (4) minutes are available for striking). Set up and strike time shall include any adjustment, addition or removal of lighting instruments. Any group exceeding this time limit shall automatically be dropped one (1) rank per each 30 seconds. Each school may call for a non-timed safety check after its set is up. However, this check should be made only if there is a possibility of a failure in the power source from the host school or if there is the possibility of danger to the general welfare of the cast, crew and audience. The safety check may not be used to move props or readjust lighting or sound levels or anything that has to do with set-up of the play. If a host site has difficulties or a dangerous situation arises, the committee members and host(s) of the contest will decide the necessary course of action.

The clock timing set-up for each performance shall be started when the first movement of any set pieces is made from the designated storage area to which the set was unloaded from the vehicle(s), and stopped at the cue of the director when the crew is off stage (wings or house). If a participant is injured during the set up and/or striking phase of the performance, the clock may be stopped by the manager until the emergency is addressed. After the performance, the clock will start at the cue of the director when the crew is off stage (wings or house) and be stopped when the last set piece is placed into the designated strike area.

Following this non-timed check, the set-up timing watches may be started again to permit the stage crew to make further adjustments within the time limit. No other start or stop of the watch shall be allowed.

## VII. ADVANCEMENT OF WINNERS

**A. Advancement of Winners**

1. Dramatics: The winners of first and second places in each Sectional shall advance to the State Final. Ties for advancement will be broken according to Article VII-B-3.

2. Group Interpretation: The winners of first, second and third places in each Sectional shall be advanced to the State Final. Ties for advancement will be broken according to Article VII-B-3.

**B. Determination of Winners**

1. Sectional (Dramatics and Group Interpretation): The five (5) judges' rankings for each entry shall be listed by the contest manager. The highest ranking and the lowest ranking shall be discarded for each group, and only the three (3) intermediate rankings for each entry shall be considered in determining its final standing. The entry with the lowest total of intermediate rankings is the winner of the event; the next lowest is second, etc., through the list.

2. State Final

a. Dramatics: The five (5) judges' rankings for each entry shall be listed by the contest manager. The highest ranking and the lowest ranking for each play shall be discarded and only the three (3) intermediate rankings for each entry shall be considered in determining its final standing. The entry with the lowest total of intermediate rankings is the winner of the event; the next to lowest is second, etc., through the list.

b. Group Interpretation: The rankings assigned by all five (5) judges in each preliminary group shall be listed and totaled by the contest manager. The highest ranking and the lowest rankings for each entry shall not be considered in determining its final standing in its preliminary group. The three (3) performances from each preliminary group with the lowest totals of judges' rankings (after high and low are discarded) shall be advanced to the finals, along with any performance whose total of rankings is lower than the total of rankings for the third place performance in the opposite preliminary group.

Following completion of the finals, the five (5) final round judges' rankings for each entry shall be listed by the contest manager. The highest ranking and the lowest ranking shall be discarded for each performance and only the three (3) intermediate rankings for each shall be considered in determining its final standing. The entry with the lowest total of intermediate rankings is the winner of the event; the next to lowest is second, etc., through the list.

3. Ties: If a tie occurs in preliminary and/or final rounds, the tied entries shall be separated from all other entries and assigned relative rankings. If there is still a tie, then the ranks assigned by all five (5) judges will be considered, and the entry with the lowest total of five rankings will be declared the winner.

## VIII. TOURNAMENT RULES

**A. Material:** Material presented by all contesting groups shall be appropriate for public performance by high school students.

1. Material which is inappropriate for public performance by high school students will not be tolerated. The principal is required to see and approve both the selection and performance of all material including substitute material, to be used by contestants from the member school in the contest series.

2. IHSA By-law 6.010 will be applied in the event contestants utilize material which, upon investigation by the Executive Director, is determined to be inappropriate. By-law 6.010 states:

Any violation of the Constitution and/or By-laws, Terms and Conditions, IHSA Policies and Guidelines, and/or other rules of the Association, shall be reported to the Executive Director, who shall have authority to investigate all alleged violations. The findings of the investigation shall be made known to the school (or schools), person (or persons), alleged to have committed violation. The Executive Director shall then have full authority to invoke penalties against such school or persons found to have committed violations. Penalties shall include, but not be limited to, written warning or reprimand or requisite affirmation corrective action. Failure to take the corrective action required by any penalty shall be the basis for further action up to and including suspension and/or expulsion.

Note that these provisions include possible penalties against the school or individual persons found to have committed violations. This means that competitors, coaches, directors, and/or principals may be penalized directly for the use of inappropriate material in the IHSA Contests. A performance (language or action) which is a literal, symbolic or colloquial expression describing or naming anything which is profane and/or vulgar, whether or not suited to a specific character being portrayed, IS ALWAYS CONSIDERED INAPPROPRIATE!

3. Use of Inappropriate Material. If, in the opinion of any contest judge, material which is performed for his/her adjudication is inappropriate for public performance by a high school student, he/she may rank the performance down. Judges shall explain their opinions and actions in written critiques, and the contest manager shall forward a copy of the critiques to the IHSA office.

**B. Special Rules and Limitations**

1. The following items are prohibited for use in a Drama and Group Interpretation production:

- fire
- firearms and explosives
- animals
- non-member school students

2. General Penalty for Violations by Contestants: Unless otherwise specified in the rules, the penalty for rules violations in any round of competition throughout the entire contest series shall be that the contestant's ranking in the round where the violation occurs be changed to last and the ranks of other contestants will be adjusted as necessary.

3. All competing schools must be in compliance with all provisions outlined by the host site in the qualifiers manual. Behavior deemed unsafe by a state official will first be given a warning and then penalties may include but not be limited to: warnings, lowering one rank per judge and/or disqualification.

4. Late Discovery of Violations: If a violation, the penalty for which is disqualification, is not discovered until after the close of the contest in which the violation occurred, the following procedure shall be followed:

a. The contestant, group or school shall nevertheless be disqualified and advancement to the next succeeding contest shall be denied if the violation is reported to the IHSA Office prior to the next contest.

b. The rankings of the other contestants in the event shall be revised upward.

c. If the violation is reported to the IHSA Office at least three (3) days prior to the next succeeding contest, the winners shall be advanced on the basis of the revised rankings.

d. If the disqualified individual, group or school has won any awards, such awards shall be returned to the IHSA Office. An attempt will then be made to redistribute these awards on the basis of the revised rankings mentioned above.

**C. Dramatics**

1. Definition: Dramatics is an event in which students perform in and run (with adult supervision as necessary) an actual dramatic production, cut to fit within the time limits if necessary.

2. Purpose: The purpose of Dramatics is to give students on-stage experience in acting and other theatre-related skills.

3. Selection: The choice of a presented play shall be from either published one-act plays or cuttings from longer published plays. Published adaptations written for the stage are permitted. Unpublished adaptations and plays that are published solely online are prohibited. Selections may be either serious or comedic in nature. The play shall not be an operetta or other musical presentation; however, background and incidental music will be permitted. Coaches must be able to produce, if requested by the contest committee, the original published script performed. Failure to produce such a copy shall result in disqualification from the contest.

4. Time Limit: **The time limit for Drama is 40 minutes. In Drama, if a timer's watch reads 40:30.00 or less, it is not considered a time violation. For each full 30 seconds of overtime, the contestants' ranking from each judge will be lowered by one ranking.** If both timers' watches confirm that a performance ran more than 40:30.01 minutes from the initial cue to the final performance element, the play shall be penalized one (1) rank per judge for each thirty (30) seconds of overtime. **For example at 40:30.01, a performance is lowered one ranking from each judge. At 41:00.01, the performance would be lowered two rankings from each judge. This reduction is mandatory and will be administered by the contest management. The other performances' rankings will not be affected. At the State Final Contest only, no penalty will be assessed until one (1) minute beyond the specified time limit. For example, In Drama, if a timer's watch reads 41:00.00 or less, it is not considered a time violation. For each full 30 seconds of overtime, the contestants' ranking from each judge will be lowered by one ranking. For example if both timers' watches read at 41:00.01, a performance is lowered one ranking from each judge. At 41:30.01, the performance would be lowered two rankings from each judge. This reduction is mandatory and will be administered by the contest management. The other performances' rankings will not be affected.**

5. Standards for Excellence: These standards are to provide the basis for both performance and judging.

a. The judge's written evaluation should clearly identify the major strengths and weaknesses of the performance and specify the reasons for the ranking assigned.

b. Undue emphasis should not be placed on technical elements or judges preferences, likes or dislikes of literature. Acting should be of primary importance and within a supportive or unified concept.

**D. Group Interpretation:**

1. Definition: Group Interpretation is an event in which groups of three (3) or more students interpretively present literature.

2. Purpose: The purpose of Group Interpretation is to give students experience in the group performance of literature. The interrelatedness of the narrator(s), the movement of the literature, and character voices control the performance. Group Interpretation encourages students to create an ensemble performance which showcases their interpretive skills and group work without the aid of costumes, make-up, set or props. Successful Group Interp. performances should be based primarily on interpretation. Focus should be primarily off-stage, although mixed focus (a combination of off-stage and on-stage focus) is allowed.

3. Selection: The choice of a group interpretation to be presented for competitors shall be, but is not limited to prose, verse, drama, speeches, diaries, letters, essays, or compilations and original material.

4. Time Limit: **The time limit for group Interpretation is 30 minutes. In Group Interpretation, if a timer's watch reads 30:30.00 or less, it is not considered a time violation. For each full 30 seconds of overtime, the contestants' ranking from each judge will be lowered by one ranking.** If both timers' watches confirm that a performance ran more than 30:30.01 minutes from the initial cue to the final performance element, the performance shall be penalized. **For example at 30:30.01, a performance is lowered one ranking from each judge. At 31:00.01, the performance would be lowered two rankings from each judge. This reduction is mandatory and will be administered by the contest management. The other performances' rankings will not be affected.**

5. Groups will be allowed five (5) minutes to move their set from the backstage entrance to the strike line. Set pieces are only allowed behind the designated strike line as determined by the contest management. Any group exceeding this time limit shall automatically be dropped one (1) rank per judge per 30 seconds overtime. The time limit for Group Interpretation Set & Strike is a total combined 5 minutes. Group Interpretation setup and takedown must be done in 5 minutes total. For setup, once the director requests the clock to be stopped, it cannot be restarted. The cast must enter the designated performance space after the production is announced and exit at the conclusion of the presentation.

6. In the Sectional contests, Group Interpretation selections may be presented in a classroom or other appropriate performance spaces.

7. Standards for Excellence: These standards are to provide the basis for both performance and judging. Judges are to evaluate performances within the context of these standards.

a. Gesture and pantomime should be used as justified by interpretation of the text.

b. At the discretion of the performing group, the script may be used.

c. Focus should be primarily off-stage. **On-stage focus should be used sparingly and with purpose** although mixed focus (a combination of off-stage and on-stage focus) is allowed.

d. Uniformed dress is permitted. Costuming is not allowed. Clothing that delineates specific character(s) worn by an individual or the entire cast shall be considered costuming. All Group Interpretation performers must wear shoes.

e. Character makeup is prohibited.

f. Sound effects may be used, but music may be used only as background or to establish mood.

g. Participating schools will provide their own stools, chairs, boxes, platforms, ramps, risers and stairs **only**. These items may be placed on appropriate flooring. Ladders, posts, pillars, and walls are prohibited in Group Interpretation. **Performers are not allowed to stand on chairs or stools.** Performers may stand on safe boxes, platforms, ramps, risers and stairs. Group Interpretation sets should be universal, able to be used for any show. **Explicit sets are prohibited;** painting with specific designs is included in this definition. (For example, if the show being performed is about a man-eating plant, the set could not be painted with vines.)

h. Props shall be prohibited; creative use of scripts shall not be interpreted as use of props.

i. Undue emphasis should not be placed on technical elements or judges' preferences, likes or dislikes of literature.

## IX. TOURNAMENT POLICIES

**A. Damage to Property or Equipment**

If contestants or people from any school entered in a state series are found guilty of carelessness or maliciously breaking, damaging or destroying property or equipment belonging to the host school, such school shall be held responsible for costs incurred in replacing or repairing such property or equipment.

**B. Media Policies**

1. Media Personnel

a. Any media person wishing to take photographs will contact the Sectional or State Final manager to verify arrangements to set photos at the tournaments. Photographers are welcome to take photos in the commons area. Managers names and information can be found on the IHSA website or by contacting the IHSA Office.

b. Photography is NOT allowed in rooms during performances, however, media is invited and encouraged to sit in on performances.

c. At all levels an area may be set aside for photographs. All participating students will be invited and encouraged to make themselves available during the tournament for the Official IHSA Photographer as well as local outlets.

d. Results from each level of the tournament can be obtained by logging into the IHSA website. Results will be posted for Sectionals as soon as the competition concludes. State Final results will be posted as soon as possible following the tournament.

2. Managers

a. May arrange a media area for photographers and students to gather for photo opportunities.

b. Will post any information for all participating students to have the opportunity to meet with area media.

c. Will cooperate fully with media personnel to arrange photo opportunities and ensure coverage of all levels of the tournament.

**C. Tobacco Products:**

No coach, student or any other person associated with a school shall be permitted to use tobacco products during the contest, either during rehearsals or performances.

**D. Use of Inhalers:**

A student with asthma may possess and use his/her medication during an IHSA competition under the supervision of school personnel, provided the school meets the outlined procedures of self administration in the Illinois School Code.

**E. Alcoholic Beverages and IHSA State Series Events:**

1. The possession, distribution, sale and or consumption of alcoholic beverages are prohibited at the site and on any affiliated property of any IHSA state series contest. State series hosts are required to make all state series contest sites and any affiliated property, including parking lots, fan accommodation areas, and other school or event venue property, alcohol free zones on the date or dates of any IHSA event being held at the site. Violation of this policy by an event host will subject the host to a penalty for violation of IHSA By-law 2.020. Such penalty may include but not necessarily be limited to prohibition against subsequent event hosting assignments. Violation of this policy by a non-hosting member school will subject the school to penalty for violation of IHSA By-law 2.020. Patrons of any IHSA state series contest determined to be in violation of this policy will be removed from the premise, and law enforcement officials will be called as warranted.

**F. Special Report Forms and SAWA**

Special report forms have been developed to facilitate schools reporting any matter concerning High School programs that merit the attention of the high school principal. These forms can be used for reporting any incidents or problems with a competitor, coach, director or spectator. The forms may also be used to report errors in applying rules or any phase of judging in which a judge should immediately attempt to improve. The SAWA Report form should be used for reporting any instances where a coach, director, participant, judge or spectator has done an exemplary job of Sporting A Winning Attitude. These forms can be found on the IHSA website at www.ihsa.org.

**G. Responsibility for Theft or other Losses**

The IHSA will not be responsible for loss or theft of any personal or school property during the course of a contest.

**H. Prayer at IHSA State Series Contest:**

Prayer at an IHSA state series contest that takes place over the public address system is prohibited.

## X. AWARDS

**A. Sectional**

A plaque shall be awarded to the first place winner in both Drama and Group Interpretation.

**B. State Final**

Trophies shall be awarded to the schools ranking first, second, and third in both Drama and Group Interpretation. Individual medallions shall be given to the members of the first, second, and third place Play Casts, Group Interpretation Casts, the All State Play Cast and the All State Group Interpretation Cast.

**C. All-Contest Casts/Tech Crews Awards**

1. Judges at Sectional contests shall each nominate individual students for All-Contest Cast consideration in both the drama and group interpretation events. There shall be no maximum on any judge nominations. At the sectional contest, any student whose name is contained on at least **three (3)** ballots shall be named to the All-Contest Cast for his or her particular event.

2. At the State Final, judges in each event shall nominate a minimum of ten (10) students for All-State Cast consideration. There is no maximum on any judges' nominations. Any student whose name appears on a minimum of **four (4)** nomination ballots shall be named to the All-State Cast.

3. Judges at the Sectional contests shall nominate individual students for excellence in running lights or sound for the All-Contest Lighting/Sound Award in Drama. There shall be no maximum on any judge nominations. At the Sectional contest, any student whose name is contained on at least **three (3)** ballots shall be named to the All-Contest Lighting/Sound Tech Award.

4. Judges at the State contests shall each nominate individual students for excellence in running lights or sound for All-Contest Lighting/Sound Tech in Drama. There shall be no maximum on any judge nominations. At the state contest, any student whose name is contained on at least **four (4)** ballots shall be named to the All-Contest Lighting/Sound Tech Award.

**D. Sportsmanship/Teamwork Awards**

A sportsmanship/teamwork award will be presented to the schools whose director, cast and crew in Drama and Group Interpretation worked best behind the scenes. Adult staff at UIS will be used to make this determination and selection.

**E. Technical Performance Award**

This award is being piloted this year to recognize the fine technical crews who conduct the "pre-show" that make this contest possible. The criteria for the award is based on the conditions in which the technical crew and directors unload the set and place in storage, set up the scenery and technical elements, and strike and reload in the allotted times. The processes will be viewed and evaluated by university personnel and the IHSA Theatre Manager. They will be looking for the following qualities:

- **T**eamwork in a timely manner
- **E**fficiency in setting up with accuracy
- **C**ongenial relationship with each other and the theatre personnel
- **H**armonious in respecting the safety of each other and the facility

Awards will be given based on the size of the set. Categories will be determined and each category will be given recognition. (When possible the awards will be given to Small, Medium and Large. When size determination is not possible, it will be given to the three most effective set-ups, keeping in mind that size does not determine excellence.

## XI. JUDGING

**A.** The local manager and the contest committee shall appoint five (5) judges each for Drama and Group Interpretation at the Sectional contests. The State Final Contest Committee shall appoint five (5) judges for Dramatics; two (2) panels of five (5) judges each for Group Interpretation preliminaries and one panel of five (5) judges for Group Interpretation Finals at the State Final contest.

**B.** Each judge shall rank the performances in the order of their excellence in his or her judgment. Judges may not award the same ranking to more than one group. There shall be no consultation between judges or with anyone else before the judges rank the performances and submit their ballots to the contest manager.

**C.** Each judge shall prepare a brief written critique of each performance. These shall be distributed to the participating schools following the contest.

**D.** Undue emphasis should not be placed on technical elements or judges' preferences, likes or dislikes of literature.

**E.** Judges shall not reveal their decisions to anyone prior to the announcement of results by the contest manager.

**F. Judges Fees:**

1. Sectional

Dramatics: $20.00 per play judged

Group Interpretation: $15.00 per performance judged

2. State Final

Dramatics: $20.00 per play judged

Group Interpretation: $15.00 per performance judged

Any judge who drives more than 70 miles round trip to the site of any contest in the IHSA State series shall be reimbursed a travel allowance of $.30 per mile in excess of 70 miles round trip. Reimbursement shall be directly from the IHSA office upon the judges' submission of a travel report form to be provided by the IHSA through the contest managers.