

Minutes of the 2009-10 IHSA Speech Advisory Committee April 14, 2010

The IHSA Speech Advisory Committee met at the IHSA Office in Bloomington on Wednesday, April 14, 2010, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Committee members present were: Edward Helbig – Debate and IE Coach, Chicago (Holy Trinity) Division 1; Mark Begovich – IE & Drama/GI Coach, Des Plaines (Maine West) Division 2; Mark Urban – IE Coach, Blue Island (Eisenhower) Division 3; Harvey Green - IE & Drama/GI Coach, Geneseo Division 4; Diane Hutchinson - Principal, Charleston Division 5; Eric Ewan – IE Coach, Pekin Division 6; Connie Morgan, Activities Director Carbondale Division 7 was unable to attend. Mike Colletti, State Final Debate Manager (Palos Hills, Stagg), Pat Wozny, State Final Drama/GI Manager and Jan Heiteen (DGS), IE Manager were also in attendance. Ben Stewart reported on Speechwire. Susie Knoblauch, IHSA Assistant Executive Director, conducted the meeting.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS

I. Debate

No Recommendations at this time

DEBATE DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Mike Colletti reported on the Debate State Final at Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington. The committee discussed and reviewed the venue. Illinois Wesleyan University will remain the state final Debate site.
2. Items from the State Final coaches' roundtable were reviewed and discussed: IWU venue (a few rooms were locked – entire building was locked), tournament information and consulting for judge strikes.
3. Elements of the time schedule can still be reviewed and adjusted to run a more efficient tournament. Congress started at 10 am on Saturday – could start earlier 8 or 9 am for example.
4. The state final manager and the IHSA need to address conflicting information: for example, in the state final program it states that packets are available after awards. Another document states that packets can be picked up after the coaches meeting
5. The use of coach judges in break rounds was discussed. We were reminded that in order to place panels and allow for judge strike coach judges are committed to judge until awards (4:30pm).
6. The use of coaches striking coaches from other schools was discussed. Is it pedagogically sound for coaches to consult with the other teams coach to strike judges? The protocol for strikes at registration was reviewed. It would be beneficial if the strike

sheet contained information regarding the highest level of debate experience, judging philosophy, info, etc...

7. The refusal to disclose paradigm was discussed.
8. It was recommended to use student volunteers from U-High to serve as runners and to monitor the room usage at IWU. 8-10 student volunteers could serve as runners for the policy rounds to ensure that they are running on time.
9. It was recommended to place the registration date online under the announcement section of the debate home page and to set a standardized date of Feb. 1 to open the link online. When registration is closed any changes from that point on should go to tournament manager Mike Colletti.
10. Judging was reviewed. Topics discussed were: Invite judges to comment, Hired judges / Affiliated with school - Hired judges/ conflict of interest, Hired judges not judging – coaches etc. judges' preference to disclose, judges' choice, 12 sessions in congress, judges can't nominate their own students in sessions of congress, and years out of college for judges. Mike hired twenty judges for this year's finals. Please give feedback to Mike for hired judges.
11. Terms and conditions vs. rules of contest were discussed.
12. Congress topics discussed were: The committee heard about the items presented at the coaches meeting regarding: precedence - two speeches vs. one...or a new session with new judges and new Presiding officers (PO) – Should a new session start with a clean slate? Currently, finals do not allow questioning periods (*There should not be a change from semis to finals*) Should there then be questioning during semi finals? How much time is a student in a chamber? It was suggested by the coaches to eliminate the third session of Congress and just have two sessions. The thirds session results in 4 ½ to 5 hours of debating which makes for a long day. The coaches also wanted to review the tie breaker process for the event. In Congress, when students break to finals, three to five students can break after all of the published criteria. Should the students preferential ballot be considered?
13. Mike suggested addressing - ICDA – NFL – CFL membership as well as looking at TRPC and Speech wire to continue to improve the tournament.
14. Continued effort should be made to promote the four debate events throughout the state and get more schools involved. Susie shared concern that debate has been announced as one of the IHSA state finals that is not in compliance of the minimum number of schools entered. Less than 50 schools participated in the state final this year. This will be reviewed by the IHSA.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS

II. Drama & Group Interpretation

1. Item VI- H-2a- Drama-Special rules and Limitations (15 minutes vehicle unload)

Recommendation: Any group exceeding this time limit shall automatically be dropped one (1) rank per judge per 30 seconds overtime.

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.

Rationale: This rule is already in place without a designated consequence. The five minutes have been allowed at the state final and this clarifies the time allowance and penalty assessment if violated.

Approved

2. Item VIII D-4 - Group Interpretation-replace 2nd paragraph with the following:

Recommendation: 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.

Rationale: This rule is already in place without a designated consequence. The five minutes have been allowed at the state final and this clarifies the time allowance and penalty assessment if violated.

Approved

3. Item III C & E - Breach of Contract & Online List of Participants

Recommended: The deadline date of February 28, 2011 (standardized date of the first Monday of Week 35) shall only include performance title and author not the entire cast list. The entire final cast list shall be due online March 7, 2011 (standardized date of the first Monday of Week 36) prior to sectional competition.

Rationale: Numerous cast list changes occur between February 28 and mid March when sectionals occur. The final cast list is only needed for schools to create their sectional programs and that can be easily completed at least two weeks prior to sectionals.

Approved

DRAMA/ GROUP INTERPRETATION DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Pat Wozny, State Final Manager, reported on the 2010 Drama/GI state final.
2. Schools expressed concern that the on-line list of participants for Drama/GI is due right after state IE and many schools are still finalizing their casts. A February 28 registration date for title and author only and a March 7 registration date for DGI cast lists would be more advantageous for schools in which the coaches are serving in a dual role. The committee discussed the entry deadline date and concern with listing casts. The deadline date is important to confirm the groups entered in addition to hiring judges. Many sites hired judges for two days and then due to withdrawals were able to run their sectional in one day. This problem will hopefully will be addressed by the recommendation regarding entry deadlines for DGI.
3. The standards of excellence presented to the state final judges will be available online and in the managers' manual for use at sectional level competition. This listing clarifies the emphasis for judges. Rubric based scoring was discussed and the committee felt that the standards of excellence would be a good start for judges' to use at this time.
4. There was no support for standardized group interp. pieces due to district concerns with liability.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS

III. Individual Events

1. Item VIII-F - Event Rules Poetry Reading (PT) Presentation (*Pull-out section*)

Recommendation: All performances must include a required introduction which will name: the author(s) and the title of the program and/or the poem(s).

Rationale: There has been a trend in poetry reading that connects thematic poems without giving any reference to titles and/or authors. This requirement would give the appropriate credit for the presented literature. Introductions can be made at the beginning of a performance, after a teaser or throughout the program.

Approved

2. Item VIII-F - Event Rules DDA/HDA, DI/HI, PR, Presentation (*Pull-out section*)

Recommendation: All performances must include an introduction which will name: the author(s) and the title of the material.

Rationale: An introduction has been standard practice in all of the interp events. This wording would just define that it a requirement. This requirement would give the

appropriate credit for the presented literature. Introductions can be made at the beginning of a performance or after a teaser.

Approved

3. Item VIII-F -Event Rules HDA/DDA (*Pull-out section*)

Recommendation: Excluding the introduction, a cutting may include the portrayal of no more than two characters. Material in which an author assigns multiple characters to one actor is acceptable. *Combining the lines of two or more characters to create one character is prohibited.* Material other than the author's work must be limited to no more than 15% which includes all introductory, transitional and concluding content.

Rationale: This rule clarifies that the practice of reassigning characters' lines is prohibited.

Tabled

4. Item VIII-F - Event Rules OO & SOS (*Pull-out section*)

Recommendation: Delete the wording *Visual aids may be included in the presentation so long as the aids are non-electrical and non-battery operated. Any visual aid should be helpful, supportive and a logical outgrowth of the content.*

Rationale: Visual aids have typically not been used in Oratory or Special Occasion Speaking. The committee reviewed adding visual aids to Informative Speaking and came to the conclusion that the elimination of visual aids would keep all three events focused on content rather than visual aids that could contain a schools budget and create some unnecessary inequities.

Approved

5. Item VIII-D-5-a - Timekeeping

Recommendation: In Impromptu Speaking, the timer will give the speaker oral prep time signals in **thirty (30) second** intervals in the competition room. At (2) two minutes the prep time ends and the Impromptu timer will direct the competing student to begin their speech.

Rational: This change from 15 second intervals to 30 second intervals is less obtrusive to the speaker during prep time.

Approved

INDIVIDUAL EVENTS DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Jan Heiteen, IE State Final Manager, reported on the 2010 state final. Mark Urban presented information from the state final coaches' roundtable.
2. The committee recommended that Susie send out an electronic survey reviewing the state final venue. The survey information can be used to improve the space. A five year contract for the speech state final at the Peoria Civic Center will be presented to the IHSA board of directors.
3. The committee discussed room utilization at Civic Center, designating state final hosts by rotating sectionals, PIR schedule and tournament format. The planning of room assignments will better accommodate the noise of some events. Exhibit Hall A will not be used for PIR. All 18 PIR's could be judged by a panel of the same judges. Clip boards and/or small tables will be provided to PIR judges in the future. Advisory committee member Eric Ewan volunteered to spearhead the "host" responsibilities for 2011 working in conjunction with the Peoria Convention and Visitor Bureau. In light of the educational economic condition, Susie did not want schools to feel obligated to fund raise in order to provide "host decorations". Tables for PIR and Duets will be rented. The extemp prep room tables and layout will be improved. Room chairs, timers and room monitors will be secured and trained focusing on traffic flow outside of the performance room. Timers' chairs will be marked in the state final performance rooms and will be located approximately 5-10 rows behind the table of judges. Timers will be located in the aisle for better visibility of the performers. The Peoria Pere Marquette will still serve as the host hotel. The IHSA will work with hotels regarding the possibility of earlier check in to accommodate students' performing at 1:30pm on Friday. The PCC and CVB have also been looking at some options regarding food for participants at the venue. Improvements will include better identification of outside eateries that will stay open longer and offering a pizza and/or fresh sub sandwich bar for a suitable standardized price.

Susie thanked and acknowledged Peoria High School, Limestone High School and DGS High School for providing student volunteers for the 2010 state finals.

4. Ben Stewart presented information from *Speechwire* that showed the number of entries hat schools started with at the regional level.

2010 Regional IE Entries by Event

Prose-178

Poetry-167

Impromptu-166

Radio-159

Dec-160

HDA – 164

HI-151
DI-153
OO-137
DDA-143
OC-131
Extemp-128
SOS-129
Informative 140

Ben also presented the number of total entries and the number of events that went straight to finals at regionals. The IHSA will continue to work with regional and sectional assignments that address this inequity. Feedback has been received regarding regional and sectional assignments.

5. The state final tournament format and time schedule was reviewed. The committee looked at a proposed schedule and reviewed the implications. The committee felt it was best to table the schedule for review at ISTA and the 2011 state final coaches' roundtable for further study.
6. Committee members requested a review of the activities judges' pay scales for comparison in regards to the equity of time judging and requirements of judging.
7. There was discussion to just have ranks and no critiques at state level. There was no consensus, however some felt that the final round could be ranked only with minimal space for comments (1/2 page).
8. The committee reviewed the 14th event, informative speaking. The group did not support the use of visual aids and recommended that visual aids be removed from IE events.
9. The committee discussed the extemp question selection process and offered the suggestion to avoid using pop culture questions for extemp. Also, **to ensure that the questions will be more timely and relevant the extemp questions will be e-mailed to the state final managers to assimilate for competition 48 hours prior to their regional or sectional.**
10. The poetry time limit was discussed and the majority of the group felt that 6-8 minutes was still appropriate. The group also addressed the concern that the titles and authors have been deleted from some performances and recommended that introductions be mandatory.
11. The group discussed the publishing rights and royalties in IE: PIR. *Playscripts* contacted some schools regarding paying for the appropriate number of playbooks and royalties. Schools are always obligated to purchase the correct number of play books. IHSA terms

and conditions VIII c addresses this under tournament rules. The IHSA has referred this question to the associations' legal counsel for advisement.

12. The committee discussed the splicing of lines of multiple characters to create one character. A recommendation was made to address this practice.
13. The group reviewed a recommendation to move extemp to the debate state final. There was no support at this time.
14. The IHSA recognized and thanked Advisory Committee members Eric Ewan – Division 6, Harvey Green – Division 4 and Diane Hutchison – Division 5 for their three years of service on the IHSA Advisory Committee. New appointments will be contacted this spring. Interested parties should contact their school administration.