

Minutes of the 2019-20 Speech, Drama & Debate Advisory Committee
May 6, 2020

The IHSA Speech, Drama/GI & Debate Advisory Committee met via a Zoom conference call on Wednesday, May 6, 2020, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Committee members present were: Conor Cameron, 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; Travis Mackey, Principal, Geneseo, IHSA Division 4; Brian Rohman, Debate Coach, Normal (University), IHSA Division 5; Lisa Stout, IE Coach/GI Judge, Washington, IHSA Division 6; and Tina Mondino, Speech Coach, Harrisburg, IHSA Division 7. Jan Heiteen, Individual Events State Final Manager; Laine McGraw, State Final Debate Manager; Martin Zacharia, Asst. Debate State Final Manager; Pat Wozny, Drama/Group Interpretation State Final Manager; Tom Witting, Future Drama/Group Interpretation State Final 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: IV. Financial Arrangements D. E. F. Regional, Sectional, State Event Fees: For each event in which a school has entered participants in the regional contest, an event fee of \$10.00 ~~\$15.00 dollars~~ (per event) shall be paid to the regional host school at the regional entry meeting. The \$15.00 per event shall also be paid to the sectional host school and the state final venue. No contestant from a school will be permitted to participate in the regional, sectional or state final contest if event fees are not paid. (Effective for the 2021-22 school year)

Rationale: This modest increase of fees will assist with the host school/venue expenses that continue to increase. The Speech: Individual Event fees have not increased for over 16 years, since the 2003-04 school year where the entry fees increased from \$7 to \$10. (Note: PIR still remains \$20.00)

Approved by Consent

SPEECH: INDIVIDUAL EVENTS DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. The Committee heard an update from Jan Heiteen, IHSA Speech State Final Manager
2. Speech FAQs were discussed
3. Proof of publication process was reviewed
4. Pilot poetry channels will continue
5. Radio and Impromptu prep material will continue to be sent to host sites prior to competition
6. Exempt topics will be sent to host sites electronically the week of competition
7. The committee heard examples of gender issues with roles played by students in duets
8. The Speech State Final venue was reviewed
9. The committee discussed tournament structure and assignments
10. The committee discussed regional time schedule options
11. Individual event rules were reviewed in Radio Speaking, Dec., Poetry/Prose, Extemp., and Duet

12. The committee heard concerns regarding judging
13. The committee discussed Speech: Individual Events Virtual Tournament
14. The committee applauded the continued support and efforts of Speech Wire
15. Proposed sessions at ICTA will include “IHSA Updates” and “Proof of Publication Processes”

DEBATE TERMS AND CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Recommendation: IV. Host Financial Arrangements A. Event Fees

An Event Fee of \$50.00 per Policy team, \$25.00 per Lincoln-Douglas, \$15.00 ~~\$20.00~~ per Congressional Debate Entry and \$25 per Public Forum Debate Entry shall be paid to the State Final Contest Manager. *(Effective for the 2021-22 school year)*

Rationale: This modest increase of fees will assist with the host school/venue expenses that continue to increase. The Congressional Debate event fees have not increased for over 17 years, since the 2002-03 school year.

Approved by Consent

2. Recommendation: II-B -Dates and Sites

Move the Debate State Final from March 19-20, 2021 to March 12-13, 2021 to align with ISU’s spring break

Rationale: This date change would coincide with ISU’s spring break which would allow for more classroom availability for competition

Approved by Consent

DEBATE DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. The Debate State Final Manager, Laine McGraw, reviewed Debate state final items
2. The committee would like to continue having the state final at Illinois State University which is currently scheduled for March 19-20, 2021. However, the committee would like the date of the state final to fall on when ISU is on spring break and competition rooms are more readily available. Knoblauch will work with IHSA Debate State Final Host, Megan Koch, to solidify the date
3. The committee discussed disclosure. Language last year clarified that students can ask for disclosure and if the judges feel comfortable, they can provide disclosure
4. 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 as well as inform the administrators that the debate coaches have made their entries into Tabroom
5. Thursday night registration times were reviewed. Schools don’t have to come to in person registration on Thursday. Competing debate schools can check-in, complete strike lists and register online. Online registration will remain open until 9:00 p.m. Live registration will be from 7:00 -8:00 p.m. Schools can pick up “hard copies” of registration materials at live registration on Thursday or one hour prior to competition beginning on Friday

6. Knoblauch discussed IHSA participation policy and discussed ways to combine the Speech and Debate State Final competition into one weekend
7. The committee heard updates regarding the implementation and administration of Virtual Debate Tournaments

DRAMA TERMS AND CONDITIONS RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Recommendation: 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 IHSA for the State Final. *Effective for the 2021-22 school year*

	Sectional	State
Dramatics	\$75.00 <u>\$100.</u>	\$75.00 <u>\$100.</u>
Group Interpretation	\$75.00 <u>\$100.</u>	\$75.00 <u>\$100.</u>

Rationale: This modest increase of fees will assist with the host school/venue expenses that continue to increase. The Drama/GI event fees have not increased since the 2012-13 school year (8 years) where the entry fees increased from \$50 to \$75.

Approved by Consent

2. Recommendation: VIII. Tournament Rules B. Group Interpretation g.

Participating schools will provide their own stools, chairs, boxes, platforms, ramps, risers and stairs only. Standardized GI pieces (boxes, platforms, ramps, risers and stairs) shall be used by all competing schools. Participating schools will provide their own stools and chairs.

Rationale: For 2020-21 Standardized GI pieces shall be used by all competing schools. Standardized Group Interp. pieces will assist competing and host schools when dealing with the challenges of the planning process, cost, and storage of group interp, materials.

Approved by Consent

3. Recommendation: VIII. Tournament Rules C. Short Film (Adjust C & D accordingly)

1. Definition: Short Film is an event in which students create an original video. Short Films may be narratives, documentaries, animations, or other works.

2. Purpose: The purpose of Short Film is to give students experience in producing, directing and acting while using an electronic medium.

3. Selection: Short film shall be original in nature and may be collaborative effort between students.

4. Time Keeping: The length of the performance is no longer than 5 minutes from opening title screen to final credits

5. Standard of Excellence: Judging will be based on creativity, effective storyline, technical aspects, acting, artistic merit, and overall presentation.

6. Fee: Schools are allowed to enter 1 (one) short film and the event fee per school shall be \$25. To cover the cost of adjudication.

7. Awards: This event would not count towards team trophy award points. This event would be in a rating format.

Rationale: To encourage participation, support filmmaking education, and recognize student achievement in film, students can showcase their talents in this added event. Short film is both an art form and communication tool that encourages creativity in visual storytelling, and sharpens students' knowledge of conceptualizing, researching, writing, casting, directing, acting, producing, and editing.

Approved by Consent

4. Recommendation: VIII. Tournament Rules D. Musical Theatre (Adjust C & D accordingly) Effective 2021-22 School Year

1. Definition: Three to six students perform a 10-minute musical review that includes a song(s), dancing and acting from a musical.

Rationale: To encourage participation, support musical theatre education, and recognize student achievement in musicals, students can showcase their talents in this added event.

Approved by Board of Directors to be Implemented in the 2021-22 School Year.

DRAMA/GROUP INTERPREATION DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. State Final Manager, Pat Wozny, gave an update of the future of the IHSA Drama State Final
2. Pat Wozny will chair a committee that created the recommendations for the GI standardized pieces
3. Wozny discussed ways to increase participation in IHSA Drama

ITEMS OF GENERAL DISCUSSION

1. Ben Stewart, Speech Wire, discussed virtual tournament that have been administered nationally (Wisconsin, California, etc...). We also heard that many speech and debate camps will be online this summer due to COVID-19. Ben is currently working on a synchronized tournament, using the Zoom platform. Other platforms under consideration include Google Hangouts. Ben is also exploring options and working on implementing his own virtual "video" competition platform via an API with jitsi.org (a free open-source video conferencing platform for web and mobile devices. The committee suggested having an ad-hoc committee to review the process and protocol for virtual/online tournaments if necessary for the fall.
2. Justin Matkovich gave an update on the September ICTA Conference – Two IHSA sessions will be presented
3. 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.

4. Knoblauch shared information regarding the pending NFHS Debate Topic Selection meeting.

5. The NFHS Performing Arts Conference is also pending.
6. The committee congratulated Lainee McGraw on her upcoming retirement from teaching – Thank you for your 30 plus years of service to education!
7. Knoblauch acknowledged and thanked the following committee members for their service on the advisory committee and support of the IHSA:
 - Gail Smith - IHSA Division 3 – Flossmoor (Homewood-F.)
 - Lisa Stout - IHSA Division 5 – Washington