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2025-2026

Oregon School Activities Association

# Speech Handbook

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Published by  
OREGON SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION  
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<http://www.osaa.org>

### How to find information in the Speech Handbook

*This handbook can be found on the OSAA website. Wording that has been changed from previous years is indicated by **bold italic** lettering. Linked references to other sections are **shaded** and Questions and Answers are shaded.*

## **OSAA Mission Statement**

The mission of the OSAA is to serve member schools by providing leadership and state coordination for the conduct of interscholastic activities, which will enrich the educational experiences of high school students. The OSAA will work to promote interscholastic activities that provide equitable participation opportunities, positive recognition and learning experiences to students, while enhancing the achievement of educational goals.

## **Non-Discrimination Policy**

*(Executive Board Policies, Revised July 2019)*

- A. The Oregon School Activities Association does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, marital status, age or disability in the performance of its authorized functions, and encourages its member schools, school personnel, participants and spectators to adopt and follow the same policy.
- B. A claim of discrimination against a member school shall be brought directly to the member school of concern.
- C. Any party that believes he/she has been subjected to an incident involving discrimination or discriminatory harassment at an OSAA sanctioned event, may submit a written complaint through the online complaint process posted on the OSAA website ([Complaint Form](#)). When the coaches, players, students, staff or spectators of any member school engage in discriminatory behaviors, or act in a manner disruptive to the school environment, or cause disorder or infliction of damage to persons or property in connection with any festival, meet, contest or championship sanctioned by the Association, the Executive Board may treat such acts as a violation by the school of the Rules of the Association. See **Rule 3, "Contests – Sportsmanship – Crowd Control"** for additional information.

## **OSAA Sportsmanship Statement**

Interscholastic activities are an integral part of the educational curriculum and experience. High school activities promote the character development of participants, enhance the educational mission and promote civility in society. Therefore, student-athletes, coaches, spectators and all others associated with high school activities programs and events should adhere to the fundamental values of respect, fairness, honesty and responsibility. These values should be established as a priority among all OSAA member high schools.

It is the responsibility of each member high school to establish policies for sportsmanship and ethical conduct consistent with the educational mission and goals of that school and to continually educate students, coaches, teachers, parents and all involved about those policies.

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## **SPEECH PLAN**

### **1. SEASON DATES**

First Practice Date .....	August 18
First Contest Date .....	August 28
Cutoff Date.....	April 11
State Championships .....	April 23-25

### **2. STATE CHAMPIONSHIP INFORMATION**

A. **Staff Contact:** Peter Weber, Executive Director, 503.682.6722 x231, [peterw@osaa.org](mailto:peterw@osaa.org)

B. **State Championship Posting Timelines:**

- 1) **Athletic Directors, Coaches and Spectators:** Detailed information regarding the Speech State Championships will be posted on the OSAA [website \(https://www.osaa.org/activities/spe\)](https://www.osaa.org/activities/spe) on **Wednesday, April 8, 2026**. It is essential that participating teams and individuals access this information prior to the state championships. Included will be information regarding parking, maps, souvenir merchandise, etc.
- 2) **District Meet Directors:** Detailed information regarding District Meet Director responsibilities will be posted on the OSAA website (<https://www.osaa.org/activities/spe>) on **Monday, February 16, 2026**. Each District Meet Director must submit all state championship entries electronically.

### **3. STATE CHAMPIONSHIP DATES AND LOCATIONS**

A. **Finals.** Thursday-Saturday, April 23-25

B. **Site.** Western Oregon University.

## **OSAA SPEECH RULES**

The Speech Rules for the Association are the same as the Rules listed in the OSAA Handbook with the following exceptions:

### **1. Rule 1 – Responsibility of the Member School and Principal**

**1.4. Athletic Director and Coach Certification.** Certification of Coach Eligibility does not apply to speech coaches.

**1. Q.** Must an authorized representative be present with each team at each event?

**A.** Yes, the principal or their authorized representative must be present at each event.

### **2. Rule 2 - Judges**

**2.1.** The Speech Handbook shall govern the judging of all district and state speech activities except as defined by this rule.

**2.2.** Judges shall be chosen by host school or school designate.

**NOTE:** Rule 3, Rule 4 and Rule 5 are the same as stated in the Rules section.

### **6. Rule 6 – Association Activities.**

**6.6.** The Speech year starts the first day of the Association Year and ends after the State Championships, except for those schools participating in the National Speech and Debate Association Tournament.

**6.8.** Each school may attend no more than 20 speech tournaments per year, not counting the National Speech and Debate Association, district tournament or state championships.

### **7. Rule 7 – Out-of-Season and Non-School Activities**

**7.1.** Member schools may not enter a team or individual participant in any contest other than those, which have received approval from the OSAA, except local level, single community events.

**7.2.** Any organization, local or state, contemplating such a contest should write to the OSAA and ask the Executive Director in charge of activities for an application.

**1. Q.** May a school participate in an invitational speech tournament without being registered with the OSAA to participate in speech activities?

**A.** Yes, but the school would not be eligible for the speech district or state championships.

**2. Q.** Must national and state level speaking contests be sanctioned by the OSAA?

**A.** All speech tournaments in Oregon must be sanctioned by the OSAA. The OSAA exercises no jurisdiction over national speaking contests. School may also wish to refer to the NASSP advisory list for nationally approved contests.

## **8. Rule 8 – Individual Eligibility**

Individual eligibility rules to be satisfied by a student in order to represent his or her school in competitive speech activities are the same as for any other OSAA sport or activity.

# **SPEECH HANDBOOK**

## **CONSTITUTION**

### **1. Article 1 – Name**

**1.1.** This organization shall be known as the Oregon High School Speech League Coaches Association.

### **2. Article 2 – Object**

**2.1.** The objectives of the Oregon High School Speech League Coaches Association are to promote among Oregon high school students the techniques of formal speech preparation and delivery in a competitive atmosphere in preparation for effective citizenship.

### **3. Article 3 – Membership**

**3.1.** Any coach and / or advisor in Oregon may become a member of this association and shall retain membership so long as they conform to the Constitution and By-Laws.

**3.2.** The annual coaches' and / or advisors' dues shall be paid by January 15 of the current school year. Nonpayment of dues by this date shall result in inability to vote at all subsequent coaches' meetings for the year.

**3.3.** Any student satisfying OSAA speech eligibility requirements shall be eligible to enter any Speech State Championships. See also OSAA Handbook, Rules, Rule 8.

**3.4.** No student may compete at a district or Speech State Championships unless the coach of that student or another representative of the principal is in attendance and assumes full responsibility for the student including judging responsibilities.

### **4. Article 4 – Officers and Duties**

**4.1.** The officers of the association shall be a President, a First Vice President, a Second Vice President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and an Ombudsperson.

**4.1.1.** Officers shall be currently teaching or coaching speech in secondary schools.

**4.1.2.** Officers shall be elected by a statewide preferential ballot of all association members.

**4.1.3.** The First Vice-President, and Ombudsperson may not judge at the State Championships or serve on the State Tournament Committee.

**4.1.4.** All positions shall be elected for terms of two years. The President, First Vice President, and Secretary shall be elected on even years and the Second Vice President, Ombudsperson, and Treasurer on uneven years.

**4.1.5.** District Directors shall be selected yearly by the coaches of the respective districts and named at the Annual Business Meeting.

**4.1.6.** All officers shall assume the duties of their respective offices on the Sunday following the Speech State Championships.

**4.2.** The Executive Committee of the association shall consist of the President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Ombudsperson and each District Director, or their representative.

**4.3.** The duties of the President shall be to preside at all association and Executive Committee meetings; to call Executive Committee meetings when necessary; to prepare and publish agendas for association and Executive Committee meetings; to be responsible for seeing that all association and Executive Committee directives are carried out; to update Coaches membership lists on a timely basis; to serve as a member of the Coaches Workshop Committee and assist with location selection, preparation of the program, and registration at the site; to be in charge of the election

of the first five members of the Speech State Championships Committee; and to assist the Speech State Championships Committee at the Speech State Championships Workday.

- 4.4. The duties of the First Vice President shall be to assume the duties of the President when the President is unable to do so; to serve as chairperson of the Protest and Nominating Committees; to publicize the person selected as the "Speech Educator of the Year"; to serve as the high school liaison to the college Speech State Championships Directors; to serve as a member of the Coaches Workshop Committee, assist with preparation of the program, and assist with registration at the site; and to assist the Speech State Championships Committee.
- 4.5. The duties of the Second Vice President shall be to assume the duties of the President and First Vice President when they are unable to do so; to serve as the chair of the Rule Change Committee, to assist the Speech State Championships Committee at the Speech State Championships Workday; and to assist as required at the Speech State Championships. During the Speech State Championships, the Second Vice President shall investigate anticipated retirements and resignations from current speech and debate positions at member schools.
- 4.6. The duties of the Secretary shall be to keep minutes of all meetings of the association and its Executive Committee and distribute those minutes in a timely fashion to the President for distribution to the membership; to publish the agenda for all meetings; to prepare and count all ballots; to assist the President in the creation of a Coaches membership list; and to assist the Treasurer with registration at the Speech State Championships.
- 4.7. The duties of the Treasurer shall be to collect the annual coaches' and advisors' dues; to disburse the funds of the association; to publish quarterly financial statements; to assist the Secretary with registration at the Speech State Championships; and to arrange for the purchase and presentation of "Four-Year Participant" awards.
- 4.8. It shall be the duty of the Ombudsperson to serve as Ombudsman at the Speech State Championships; the Ombudsman shall act as a resource for Speech State Championships inquiries and shall provide information and support for coaches in a non-protest setting. Additionally, the duties of the Ombudsperson shall be to serve as the Chairperson of the Coaches Workshop Committee and to set the workshop program, serve as moderator, assist with registration, and arrange for guest speakers including negotiating fees, expenses and housing arrangements.
- 4.9. All other Speech State Championships duties and responsibilities not listed in the officer duties listed here and Speech State Championships Committee duties listed elsewhere in this rules book shall be performed by the OSAA. Duties to be performed by the OSAA shall include but not limited to maintenance of state speech coach and judge lists; creation and distribution of a yearly schedule of sanctioned speech tournaments; supervision of the policy and value debate topic selection process and / or notification; and serve as editor of the State Speech Handbook.
- 4.10. The duties of the Executive Committee shall be to nominate and elect a Speech State Championships Committee and Director to operate the Speech State Championships according to the instructions provided in this Speech Handbook; and to formulate the policies and procedures for all activities of the association not established elsewhere in this Constitution.
- 4.11. The Executive Committee shall meet not fewer than three times each year. The first meeting shall be held in early fall with the purpose of planning the association's activities for the coming year. The second meeting shall be held in mid-winter to evaluate progress and plan spring activities for the year. Officers who must travel solely for the purpose of attending a meeting of the association shall be reimbursed by the association.
- 4.12. All action taken by the Executive Committee shall be subject to veto by a majority vote of the membership on a statewide mail ballot.

## **5. Article 5 – Annual Business Meeting**

The Annual Business Meeting of the association shall be held at a time and location designated by the President. Each association member present shall be entitled to one vote.

## **6. Article 6 – District Placement**

- 6.1. Each school shall compete at the District Speech Tournament in the district to which it has been assigned according to the list maintained by the OSAA.
- 6.2. New schools joining the activity shall be placed in the appropriate geographical district by the OSAA using the following criterion in the order listed: geographic location of the school, creation of districts of relatively balanced size, league affiliation of the school in other activities, previous placement (if the school is re-entering the activity), school preference.

## 7. Article 7 – Tournaments

- 7.1. District Tournaments shall be held and directed by the District Director for each district. To the extent possible, District Tournaments shall follow Speech State Championships rules and procedures.
- 7.2. The Speech State Championships shall be held in April on a date and at a location selected by the OSAA.
- 7.3. The Speech State Championships shall be directed by the Speech State Championships Committee and Director who have been nominated and elected by the Executive Committee according to the procedures included in the By-laws of this Speech Handbook. The Speech State Championship Director shall operate the tournament according to the rules contained in this Speech Handbook.

## 8. Article 8 – Eligibility

- 8.1. Schools participating at the District and Speech State Championships shall be registered with the OSAA to participate in Speech Activities.
- 8.2. Students participating at the District and Speech State Championships shall meet OSAA student eligibility standards. [See also OSAA Handbook, Rules, Rule 8.](#)

## 9. Article 9 – Amendments

- 9.1. Deadlines. Any constitutional amendment proposed for consideration at the Annual Business Meeting should be submitted to the President and Secretary with a justification at the Fall Coaches' Meeting and must be submitted to the President and the Secretary with a justification by the end of January.
- 9.2. Rule Change Committee. The Rule Change Committee will receive the proposed rule changes at the Fall Coaches' Meeting and no later than the end of January. At the Winter Coaches' Meeting, the Committee will submit to the membership an objective assessment of the proposed rule changes identifying possible advantages and possible disadvantages to the organization to each proposed rule change. The Committee shall disseminate proposed rule changes and justifications as they receive them. The Committee will disseminate their analysis no later than the Winter Coaches' Meeting. The Committee will use all means available to the OHSSL (websites, e-mail, coaches' meetings, etc.) to promote discussion.
- 9.3. Amendment adoption requirements. This Constitution may be amended by a majority vote of members responding to a statewide ballot. Amendments may also be made at any time by a majority vote of the Executive Committee subject to ratification by a majority vote of the members responding to a statewide mail ballot.
- 9.4. Implementation. Changes thus approved shall not take effect until September following the adoption, or until approved by the OSAA where applicable.

## 10. Article 10 – Rule Change Committee

- 10.1. Membership. The association shall elect two members to **a one-year term** on the Rule Change Committee **at each Annual Business meeting**. The Second Vice President shall serve as the chair of the Rule Change Committee.
- 10.2. Rule Change Committee Process. [See Article 9 – Amendments](#)

## 11. Article 11 – OSAA Student Activities Advisory Committee Representatives

Two coaches shall be elected to serve three-year terms on the OSAA Student Activities Advisory Committee according to the timeline established by the OSAA. Consecutive terms for individuals are prohibited unless no other candidate chooses to run for the position.

## 12. Article 12 – National Topic Selection Meeting Representative

- 12.1. The association shall maintain a representative to the yearly debate topic selection meeting of the National Federation.
- 12.2. This representative shall be selected in the following manner:
  - 12.2.1. Anyone interested in the position may file for consideration two weeks prior to the Annual Business Meeting, or up to one year in advance of the availability of the position.
  - 12.2.2. Any coach in good standing with the association may file for the position.
  - 12.2.3. The representative shall be elected by a majority vote of the members responding to a statewide preferential ballot

**12.3.** The duties of the National Topic Selection Meeting Representative shall be as follows:

**12.3.1.** The representative shall serve for three consecutive years.

**12.3.2.** The representative shall-

(a) Gain input from the coaches of the association as to their desires and priorities dealing with the topics under consideration for debate and discussion areas.

(b) Present a yearly report on the National Topic Selection Meeting at the winter Executive Committee meeting.

(c) Prepare a topic report to be presented at the second National Topic Selection Meeting attended.

**12.4.** Full transportation and lodging plus per diem shall be provided by the association to the coach elected as the association's National Topic Selection Meeting Representative.

## **BY-LAWS**

### **1. Annual Business Meeting Procedures**

The following rules shall apply to the conduct of the Annual Business Meeting:

**1.1.** Any constitutional amendment proposed for consideration at the Annual Business Meeting should be submitted to the President and Secretary with a justification at the Fall Coaches' Meeting and must be submitted to the President and the Secretary with a justification by the end of January.

**1.2.** Committee Reports shall be submitted to the President and Secretary at the Annual Business Meeting.

**1.3.** Any potential Agenda Items shall be submitted to the President and the Secretary at least two weeks prior to the Annual Business Meeting.

**1.4.** The agenda for the Annual Business Meeting shall be mailed to all members prior to the meeting. Copies of Constitutional Amendments, Committee Reports and other items of business shall be made available to members at the beginning of the meeting.

**1.5.** Once a business item has been covered, that item may not be reopened until after the agenda has been completed.

**1.6.** The President shall invoke the written motion and the amendment sections of Robert's "Rules of Order," Revised.

### **2. Speech Educator of the Year Award**

**2.1. General.** Each year, the association may honor a member of the speech education field as Speech Educator of the Year. To be considered, the educator must be nominated in writing. The nomination form should address the qualities of the nominee based on some or all of the following criteria: level of involvement in speech and related activities (the nominee need not be presently coaching or in the classroom but needs to have made significant contributions to this field); demonstration of commitment or dedication to improvement of speech curriculum; demonstration to students and professional peers of model behavior; and receipt of other professional awards.

**2.2. Nomination procedures and timelines.** Nomination forms may be obtained from the OSAA and should be submitted to the Executive Committee to be received prior to the Annual Business Meeting. Any active coach may nominate up to two candidates per year. The nominator assumes the responsibility for writing a biography of the candidate and serving as an advocate for the selection of the candidate.

**2.3. Selection.** The Executive Committee shall select the Speech Educator of the Year and shall announce the recipient at the Speech State Championships. The recipient shall receive the award the following year at the Speech State Championships.

**2.4. Publicity.** The First Vice President shall work in conjunction with the advocate / nominator to publicize the winner of the Speech Educator of the Year Award and to complete and submit the state nomination form for possible NFISDA recognition of the nominee.

**2.5. Award.** An award will be presented to the winning coach at the Speech State Championships. The principal and school district of the winner shall also be notified by the First Vice President. Individuals receiving the Speech Educator of the Year award are automatically inducted into the Oregon Speech Hall of Fame upon retirement.



**3. Communicator of the Year Award.** Each year, the association may honor a non-coach who has made exceptional contributions as a communicator in fields such as business, politics, acting, journalism, civil leadership, etc. The criteria and selection process are the same as the Speech Educator of the Year.

**4. Hall of Fame.** Each year, the association may honor a member of the speech community who has made exceptional contributions to speech education with election to the Oregon Speech Hall of Fame. The criteria and selection process are the same as the Speech Educator of the Year, with these exceptions:

- 4.1.** Potential nominees are not eligible until three years after retirement from coaching.
- 4.2.** Retirement means not presently coaching; candidates may still be associated with education as teachers, administrators, etc.

**5. District Directors**

- 5.1.** District Directors shall be selected each year by the coaches in the respective districts and shall serve until their replacement directors have been named.
- 5.2.** District Directors should make every attempt to represent their districts at the fall, winter and spring Executive Board Meetings.
- 5.3.** When feasible, District Directors should hold a pre-District Tournament meeting of coaches in the District to:
  - 5.3.1.** Decide upon District policies.
  - 5.3.2.** Set the date and site for the District Tournament.
  - 5.3.3.** Establish acceptable guidelines to prevent misunderstandings.
  - 5.3.4.** Discuss any other concerns the coaches may have.
- 5.4.** District Directors shall make arrangements to conduct the District Tournament.
  - 5.4.1.** The District Tournament shall resemble the Speech State Championships as closely as possible.
  - 5.4.2.** Colleges and other sources of judges should be notified of the date, site and potential judging needs.
  - 5.4.3.** Exact timing for the Radio event should be arranged.
  - 5.4.4.** Distributing all Speech State Championships information available.
  - 5.4.5.** Results of the District Tournament, complete in every detail, should be transmitted to the OSAA following the District Tournament according to the timelines and procedures established by the OSAA.

**6. District Tournament Procedures**

- 6.1.** To the extent feasible, District Tournaments shall operate under Speech State Championships rules, except in debate matching to determine Speech State Championships participation. [See also Speech State Championships Committee and Director Section.](#)
- 6.2.** No contestant may appear at the Speech State Championships without first competing and placing in a District Speech Tournament and being certified as a Speech State Championships participant by a District Director unless the contestant is a substitute speaker in Oregon Style Cross-Examination Debate, Public Forum Debate, Parliamentary Debate or Duo Interpretation.
- 6.3.** In the absence of competing schools, it may be necessary to declare a winner by default to represent the District at the Speech State Championships.
- 6.4.** Online Ballots or tear-apart ballots shall be used at District competitions, or photocopies of state ballots may be used when tear-apart ballots are not available. When photocopies are used, both teams shall receive ballots.
- 6.5.** District Tournaments must be held at least 10 days prior to the Speech State Championships. There shall be no exceptions to this rule.
- 6.6.** Number of Individual Event Entries at District Tournaments. Each school may have a maximum of 29 entries at the District Tournament. A maximum of three entries may be placed in any one event. Each Duo Interpretation entry counts as a single individual events entry.

- 6.7.** Number of Oregon Style Cross-Examination Debate Entries at District Tournaments. Each school may enter a maximum of three Oregon Style Cross-Examination Debate Teams at the District Tournament.
- 6.8. Number of Public Forum Debate Entries at District Tournaments.** Each school may enter a maximum of three Public Forum Debate Teams at the District Tournament.
- 6.9. Number of Parliamentary Debate Entries at District Tournaments.** Each school may enter a maximum of three Parliamentary Debate Teams at the District Tournament.
- 6.10. Number of Lincoln Douglas Entries at District Tournaments.** Each school may enter a maximum of three Lincoln Douglas debaters at the District Tournament.
- 6.11. Congressional Debate entries.** Each school may enter three Congressional Debate competitors. Each district is allowed five entries, to be determined by the individual district. Congressional Debate competitors may not be entered in any other events at the Speech State Championships.
- 6.12. Number of events per student.** Any student may enter a maximum of two Individual Events and one Debate event at the District or Speech State Championships. No student may participate in more than two Individual Events or more than one Debate event. Lincoln-Douglas Debate is considered a debate event for the purpose of student entry limitations; a student entered in LD may not enter another debate event.
- 6.13. District Debate Tournament Matching Procedures.** District Debate Tournaments are "double elimination" tournaments; after round two and subsequent rounds, teams with two losses shall be eliminated from competition.
- 6.13.1.** After round one, winners shall face winners; losers shall face losers, EXCEPT:
- (a) If there is an odd number of winners, a team with one loss shall be randomly chosen (consistent with the criterion listed in 9.8 of the Speech State Championships debate matching procedures) to face the additional winner.
  - (b) Teams from the same school shall not meet unless the only remaining teams are from the same school, or three of the four remaining teams are from the same school.
- 6.13.2.** Byes shall be drawn using the same procedures and rules as used at the Speech State Championships except as specified in Section C-2 below. [See also Speech State Championships Committee and Director Section.](#)
- 6.13.3.** The following rules apply to districts sending only two teams to the Speech State Championships:
- (a) If, at the time of the deciding or final round, an undefeated team has defeated all remaining contenders in District competition, the undefeated team shall receive a bye (this is an exception to matching rule 9.9.3). Additional Speech State Championships Qualifiers shall be determined by the matching of one-loss teams.
  - (b) If only three teams remain in the tournament, and one team has defeated the other two, that team shall receive a bye to the Speech State Championships regardless of overall record.
  - (c) In the deciding round to determine two slots for the Speech State Championships, one-loss teams may not be given a bye unless the one-loss team has defeated the other two remaining teams.
- 6.13.4.** If, following the "final" debate round at the district tournament, fewer debaters remain than there are qualifying slots available for that district to the Speech State Championships, the additional qualifiers shall be selected from those that received their second loss during the "final" round using the following criteria in the order listed:
- (a) Head-to-head competition among the teams being considered for the additional slot.
  - (b) If the debaters have not met, a run-off round shall be held.
- 6.14. Certification of District Winners for the Speech State Championships**
- 6.14.1. Speech State Championships Oregon Style Cross-Examination Debate Entries.** The number of Oregon Style Cross-Examination Debate Entries for the Speech State Championships from each District shall be based on the following schedule:
- |                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1-2 teams at District | District qualifies 1 team to Speech State Championships.  |
| 3-4 teams at District | District qualifies 2 teams to Speech State Championships. |

5-6 teams at District	District qualifies 3 teams to Speech State Championships.
7-8 teams at District	District qualifies 4 teams to Speech State Championships.
9-11 teams at District	District qualifies 5 teams to Speech State Championships.
12-15 teams at District	District qualifies 6 teams to Speech State Championships.
16-19 teams at District	District qualifies 7 teams to Speech State Championships.

- 6.14.2. Speech State Championships Parliamentary Debate and Public Forum Debate Entries.** The number of Parliamentary Debate Entries and Public Forum Debate Entries for the Speech State Championships from each District shall be based on the following schedule:

1 team at District	District qualifies 1 team to Speech State Championships.
2-8 teams at District	District qualifies 2 teams to Speech State Championships.
9-16 teams at District	District qualifies 3 teams to Speech State Championships.
17+ teams at District	District qualifies 4 teams to Speech State Championships.

- 6.14.3. Speech State Championships Lincoln-Douglas Debate Entries.** The number of Lincoln-Douglas Debate Entries for the Speech State Championships from each District shall be based on the following schedule:

1-5 speakers at District	District qualifies 2 speakers to Speech State Championships.
6-10 speakers at District	District qualifies 3 speakers to Speech State Championships.
11-15 speakers at District	District qualifies 4 speakers to Speech State Championships.

NOTE: All debaters qualifying for the Speech State Championships must debate at District unless only one school is entered in the event.

- 6.14.4. Speech State Championships Individual Event Entries.** The number of Individual Event Entries for the Speech State Championships from each District shall be based on the following schedule:

1-11 speakers at District	District qualifies 2 speakers to Speech State Championships.
12-17 speakers at District	District qualifies 3 speakers to Speech State Championships.
18-24 speakers at District	District qualifies 4 speakers to Speech State Championships.
24 + speakers at District	District qualifies 5 speakers to Speech State Championships.

- 6.14.5. Alternates.** At District Tournaments, District Directors shall announce Individual Event alternates who shall come to the Speech State Championships whenever a District place winner is unable to attend. It is the responsibility of the coach of a Speech State Championships Qualifying Contestant to notify the District Director if that contestant cannot attend the Speech State Championships; the District Director shall then confirm that the alternate will attend and contact the OSAA with the substitution. If the alternate is unable to attend, the next highest placing district participant in that event may fill the position.

- 6.14.6. Team Event Substitutions.** In Oregon Style Cross-Examination Debate, Public Forum Debate, Parliamentary Debate and Duo Interpretation, a coach is allowed to substitute one speaker who has not qualified for the Speech State Championships in that event for one who has.

## **6.15. Proven Excellence Alternative State Qualifiers**

- 6.15.1. Rationale.** In addition to District Winners, a limited number of students may be eligible to participate at the Speech State Championships each year under the "Proven Excellence Alternative Qualifying System." The system was developed to guarantee participation at the Speech State Championships by the state's very best speakers while maintaining a limit on the number of State participants.

- 6.15.2. Qualification Process.** Each school may add a maximum of two Speech State Championships entries which did not qualify to participate at the Speech State Championships in the designated event to that district's report form to the OSAA if all the following conditions have been satisfied for each student:

- (a) The student participated at the district speech tournament in the event in which the student had previously proven excellence but did not qualify for participation at the Speech State Championships in that event.
- (b) The student (or both members of a Duo Interpretation team) had previously proven excellence in the designated event by placing third or higher in an individual (or Dual Interpretation) event, Student Congress or by participating in the semifinal round of a debate event in the senior or open division at two or more eligible competitions.

- (c) In team events, both team members must have participated together at the qualifying tournaments.
- (d) In order to be considered as an eligible tournament for the purpose of satisfying these rules, the competition must have followed OSAA Speech State Championships Rules in the event for which the qualifying place was attained and meet one of the following criteria:
  - (1) Included at least 15 competitors in the senior or open division of the event in a tournament attended by at least 15 high schools.
  - (2) Included at least 48 competitors in the senior or open division of the event in a tournament attended by at least 30 high schools, in which case proven excellence would be demonstrated by reaching the quarterfinal round in a debate event or the final round in a speech event.
  - (3) Included at least 64 competitors in the senior or open division of the event in a tournament attended by at least 50 high schools, in which case proven excellence would be demonstrated by reaching the octofinal round in a debate event or the semi-final round in a speech event.
  - (4) Included at least 20 competitors in the senior or open division of the event in a tournament attended by at least 12 high schools.
  - (5) (For Student Congress Only) Included at least 12-15 competitors in the chamber of a tournament attended by at least four high schools.
- (e) Coaches of potential proven excellence qualifiers shall bring evidence of the student(s) proven excellence eligibility to the district tournament and make that evidence available to the district director if it is requested.

#### **6.15.3. Speech State Championships Entry Process**

- (a) Should a student who has satisfied the proven excellence criteria for an event or events fail to qualify for State at the district speech tournament in that event or events, the district director shall add that entry as a proven excellence alternative qualifier to the district's results form submitted to the OSAA following the district tournament up to a maximum of two entries per school. The addition of a proven excellence qualifier or qualifiers shall have no effect on the quantity of district winner State qualifiers allocated to the district.
- (b) An entry for a school in a team event shall count as one entry for the purpose of applying the two entry per school limitation.
- (c) Should a school have more than two proven excellence qualifiers for the Speech State Championships in a given year, the coach of the students shall inform the district director which of the students shall be designated as the two qualifiers for the school. At the discretion of the coach, it is possible that both proven excellence qualifier positions for a school could be designated to the same student.
- (d) Should a student who has satisfied the proven excellence criteria for an event or events also qualify in that event or events at the district speech tournament, they may yield their district qualifying spot to the district alternate and still compete at the Speech State Championships by accessing their proven excellence alternative qualification (should their coach designate that student as one of the two proven excellence qualifiers for that school as outlined in provision (c)).

#### **6.15.4. Proven Excellence Advisor**

- (a) A Proven Excellence Advisor shall be elected yearly by a statewide preferential ballot of all association members. The Proven Excellence Advisor shall actively educate new coaches and provide a refresher for returning coaches in the Fall regarding Proven Excellence qualification and procedures.
- (b) The Proven Excellence Advisor shall be the person to answer questions about whether an event meets the conditions for Proven Excellence. The advisor shall gather information from the Executive Committee, if needed, to answer these questions.
- (c) The Proven Excellence Advisor shall keep a database of all tournaments and events that meet Proven Excellence standards. An updated list of qualifying tournaments and events shall be posted on <https://oregonspeechanddebate.org/> and is to be used by district directors as needed.

- 7. Speech State Championships Site Selection.** The Speech State Championships shall be held in April on a date and at a location selected by the OSAA.
- 8. Speech State Championships Fees.** Neither team nor individual participant entry fees shall be charged to schools with participants in the Speech State Championships. Funds for administration of the state championships shall be generated from OSAA membership dues, activity fees and corporate sponsorship agreements.
- 9. Speech State Championships Committee and Director**
  - 9.1.** There shall be an 8 or more-member Speech State Championships Committee, charged with conducting the tournament equitably while following all procedures in Section 4. The Speech State Championships Committee shall consist of a Director and include other roles such as two IE administrators, two Debate administrators, one Student Congress administrator, a general assistant, and an individual in charge of prep for Parliamentary Debate and Extemporaneous Speaking and distributing topics for Impromptu Speaking, Parliamentary Debate, and Extemporaneous Speaking. The first five members of the tournament committee shall be elected by the Executive Committee. The tournament committee may also add members as needed.
  - 9.2.** The OHSSLCA President shall call for Speech State Championship Committee nominations at the Fall and/or Winter Coaches Meeting. Once the President has the roster of candidates, the President shall distribute ballots to the Executive Committee (OHSSLCA Officers and OSAA District Directors). The President shall collect and tally the ballots, then send the results, including all nominations, to the OSAA.
  - 9.3.** The OSAA shall contact the elected Speech State Championships Committee members and have them designate one of its members as Speech State Championships Director, as well as indicating their own job preferences.
    - 9.3.1.** The Speech State Championships Director shall have had prior experience as director or supervisor of at least two tournaments involving 10 or more schools.
    - 9.3.2.** The Speech State Championships Director and Committee shall be able to devote the necessary time to successfully conduct the Speech State Championships.
  - 9.4.** The Speech State Championships Director shall contact the elected members of the Speech State Championships Committee and determine their roles based on preferences. The remaining positions on the Speech State Championships Committee shall be filled using recommendations from the elected members, working in conjunction with the OSAA. Committee members shall serve until the next Speech State Championships Committee has been elected.
  - 9.5.** The amount paid to the Speech State Championships Director and Committee members shall be set by the OSAA.
  - 9.6.** The duties of the Speech State Championships Committee and Director shall include the following.
    - 9.6.1.** Cooperate with the OSAA in the distribution of District Tournament results forms and Speech State Championships Schedules to district directors.
    - 9.6.2.** Operate the Speech State Championships according to the rules contained in this Speech Handbook.
    - 9.6.3.** The Director shall consult with the Speech State Championships Committee members and assign the duties of the individual members before and during the Speech State Championships.
  - 9.7.** The Speech State Championships Committee and association officers shall present preliminary rounds in all preliminary rounds in individual events.
    - 9.7.1.** To the extent possible, there shall be no district or selection / subject conflicts in individual events during the preliminary rounds.
    - 9.7.2.** Each individual event contestant shall be scheduled to perform twice during the preliminary rounds.
    - 9.7.3.** The first round of debate shall be randomly matched; pairings shall be posted 30 minutes prior to each debate round. Subsequent preliminary rounds shall match teams of the same record ("power match") except that when there are an uneven number of teams in a power bracket, a team from the next lower power bracket shall be randomly drawn up to debate in the higher power bracket.
  - 9.8.** Preliminary round debate pairings shall be made according to the following criteria. These considerations take precedence in the order listed. **AVOID:**
    - 9.8.1.** The meeting of two teams from the same school.

- 9.8.2.** The meeting of two teams, which have met previously in the Speech State Championships.
  - 9.8.3.** The meeting of two teams from the same district.
  - 9.8.4.** If teams must meet again, sides shall be reversed from the previous meeting.
  - 9.8.5.** To the extent possible, teams should alternate sides.
- 9.9.** Byes shall be given with the following considerations taking precedence in the order listed.
  - 9.9.1.** All byes must be drawn at random from the lowest power bracket after determining that all items in 9.8 have not been violated.
  - 9.9.2.** No team shall receive more than one bye unless all remaining teams have previously received a bye.
  - 9.9.3.** At the district tournament, no undefeated team shall receive a bye unless all remaining teams are undefeated. District matching rule 6.13.3 (a) provides the only exception.
- 9.10.** After the four preliminary rounds, teams shall be selected to advance to a single elimination tournament using the following criterion in the order listed:
  - 9.10.1.** Higher number of wins.
  - 9.10.2.** Higher quality of competition in preliminary rounds.
  - 9.10.3.** Higher speaker points.
- 9.11.** The quantity of teams to advance past the four guaranteed rounds shall be set using the following guidelines:
  - 9.11.1.** Thirty-two or more teams entered – 16 teams shall advance.
  - 9.11.2.** Sixteen to 31 teams entered – eight teams shall advance.
  - 9.11.3.** Eight to 15 teams entered – four teams shall advance.
  - 9.11.4.** If fewer than eight teams are entered, the event shall be run as a double elimination tournament using the same rules as the district tournament until only two teams remain. When only two teams remain, they shall debate, and the winner shall be declared state champion.
- 9.12.** The teams advancing shall be ranked according to the same criterion used to determine which teams advance, and brackets shall be established such that the top ranked team shall debate the lowest ranked team, the second ranked team shall debate the second lowest ranked team, and so on. The posting should obscure the brackets. [See Appendix – Debate Brackets.](#)
  - 9.12.1.** In debate events except Public Forum, teams shall flip for sides in all "out" rounds unless the teams have met previously in the tournament. Teams that have met previously shall reverse sides when they meet for the second time.
  - 9.12.2.** The brackets shall be maintained through subsequent rounds and shall be broken only to prevent the meeting of two teams from the same school prior to the final round.
- 9.13.** The Director and Speech State Championships Committee are to secure judges for the Speech State Championships.
  - 9.13.1.** Coaches shall be given minimum judging assignments.
    - (a)** Coaches with students remaining in competition on Saturday must be available to judge beginning with the first Saturday morning round.
    - (b)** If a coach does not fulfill assigned judging obligations without prior clearance from the Judging Committee, the school may be subject to censure and fine by the OSAA.
  - 9.13.2.** Judges' qualifications:
    - (a)** Judges shall have experience in competition or college speech courses.
    - (b)** Judges shall have experience in the events they judge.
    - (c)** Professional people may be used as judges if they have had speech training and experience in judging the events to which they are assigned.
  - 9.13.3.** Assigning judges. To the extent possible, AVOID ASSIGNING:

- (a) Judges to hear a contestant from a school in which the judge has served recently as a student, coach, teacher, student teacher or observer.
- (b) More than one judge from the same school to a panel of multiple judges.

#### **9.13.4 Judge Strikes.**

- (a) A school may prevent any three judges from judging their competitors at the State Championship by submitting a judge strike for the State Championship Tournament.
- (b) ANY JUDGE STRIKE MUST BE MADE BEFORE THE JUDGE IS ASSIGNED.
- (c) Strikes made as the rounds are posted shall not be honored.
- (d) Strikes will be submitted to the State Championship Director through a strike form that will be made available to all registered teams for the State Championships.
- (e) The Tournament Committee shall ignore any requests by coaches or students to have a particular judge for their round.
- (f) Each school shall be limited to a maximum of three judge strikes at any State Speech Championships.
- (g) A list of Judges available at the State Championships will be available as soon as possible and during the tournament. It is the responsibility of the Coach to check for new additions during the Championships and submit strikes to the Championship Director.
- (h) Graduates are prohibited from judging the school from which they graduated for two years.

**9.13.5.** In individual events, two judges shall be used in preliminary rounds, and three judges shall be used in semifinal and final rounds.

**9.14.** The Speech State Championships Committee and Director shall oversee tabulation of results and determine winners. In Individual Events, winners shall be determined using the following criterion:

- 9.14.1. Ranking.** All ranks, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 shall be recorded and counted in determining finalists and winners. Panels of Individual Events shall not exceed seven competitors.
- 9.14.2. Advancing.** Following the preliminary rounds (two rounds with two judges each round), the scores shall be added, and the lowest cumulative score followed by reciprocal fractions shall be used to select the speakers who shall advance to Semifinals. No more than half the field may advance. The scores from the three Semifinal judges shall be added to the preliminary round scores to determine which speakers shall advance to Finals. Clean slate finals shall be used to determine winners in all Individual Events.
- 9.14.3. Semifinals.** Semifinals shall be held in any Individual Event in which eight or more contestants are in contention for finals.
- 9.14.4. Ties.** A simple tie in total score shall be resolved in favor of the contestant preferred by two of the three final judges. In a triple or greater tie, the ranks shall be converted to reciprocal fractions: 1st to 1.0; 2nd to .50; 3rd to .33; 4th to .25; 5th to .20; and places awarded to the highest totals. If conversion to reciprocal fractions does not resolve the tie, the following factors shall be considered in the order listed: overall cumulative score, then overall number of ones, then overall number of twos, and so on, until the tie is resolved. In the case of an unbreakable tie at the District Tournament, a run-off would have to be conducted.
- 9.14.5. Timing.** Absolutely no disqualification may take place on the basis of time if a stopwatch is not used. This rule applies to all events except finals in ADS and Humorous Interpretation, which are not to be timed.

**9.15.** The Speech State Championships Director shall review the Speech State Championships and any suggested changes with the association President following completion of the Speech State Championships.

## **10. Speech State Championships Protest Committee**

**10.1. Purpose.** It is the function of the Protest Committee to deal with all Speech State Championships protests. All protests shall be handled at the earliest possible time.

**10.2. Committee membership.** Each year, the association membership shall elect two non-officer Protest Committee members who have coached for at least three years for the ensuing year. The two non-officer Protest Committee members shall be from different schools. The First Vice President shall be the Protest Committee Chairperson.

**10.3. Acceptable grounds for protest.** A judge's decision may not be protested, but the procedures may be.

**10.4. Protest Committee Procedures** are as follows:

**10.4.1.** At least one member of the Protest Committee shall be on duty at the Speech State Championships at all times. Members of the Protest Committee must serve all days of the Speech State Championships and shall remain on duty 15 minutes past the awards assembly at the conclusion of the Speech State Championships.

**10.4.2.** A coach may present a written protest including the following items to the Protest Committee member on duty. (A form on which the protest may be filed is available from the Director.)

(a) Name of coach and school filing the protest.

(b) Other coaches and school directly involved.

(c) Students involved.

(d) Event, round, section and room involved.

(e) Name of the judge (or judges) and timekeeper.

(f) Exact reason for the protest.

**10.4.3.** Upon receiving the protest, the Protest Committee member on duty shall:

(a) Send for the other members of the Committee.

(b) Contact the other coaches involved in the protest.

(c) If one or both other members of the Protest Committee are not available after thirty minutes, select a replacement or replacements from available non-involved coaches to join the on-duty member and serve as the Protest Committee for that protest.

(d) Obtain approval of the coaches involved in the protest of the committee, which will respond to the protest.

**10.4.4.** The Protest Committee shall attempt to gather the facts by privately:

(a) Talking to the coaches involved, and, if possible, directly with the contestants.

(b) Talking to the judges and timekeepers.

(c) Talking to other witnesses.

(d) Talking to the Speech State Championships Director about the rationale for the procedures that were used.

**10.4.5.** The Protest Committee shall privately discuss the case and arrive at a conclusion. The Protest Committee Chairperson shall write a response to the protest stating the reasons for the committee's decision based upon the point of contention and shall provide a copy of the decision to the coach(es) involved. The Committee Chairperson shall also inform the Speech State Championships Director of the outcome of the protest.

**10.4.6.** If possible, the Speech State Championships Director shall respond to the decision of the Protest Committee before the next round. All decisions of the Speech State Championships Director (in consultation with the State Championships Committee) are final and subject only to OSAA regulations.

**10.4.7.** Each district shall handle its own protests.

## **11. General Contest Rules**

**11.1. State Team Championships.** State Team Championships shall be awarded to schools in three classifications: "6A Schools," "5A Schools" and "4A/3A/2A/1A Schools." The top five schools in each classification shall receive trophies.

**11.2. Team Championship Points** shall be awarded as follows:



**11.2.1. Debate.**

First	15 points
Second	10 points
Semifinals	7 points for each debater, including ties
Quarterfinals	4 points for each debater, including ties
Octofinals	2 points for each debater, including ties

**11.2.2. Individual Events.** NOTE: In the event of an unbreakable tie in an individual event, each speaker in the tie shall receive the full amount of points for that place.

First	10 points
Second	8 points
Third	6 points
Finalist	4 points
Semifinalist	2 points

**11.2.3. Student Congress.** NOTE: Students shall not receive points for serving as chairperson.

First	10 points	
Second	8 points	
Third	6 points	
Final Congress: Participants		2 points

**11.3. Awards.****11.3.1. Competition Awards.** The OSAA shall provide medals for first, second and third place finishers as well as finalists in all events.**11.3.2. Four-Year State Participant Awards.**

- (a) A student who participates in the Speech State Championships during all four years of their high school speech career shall receive a "Four-Year State Participant" award.
- (b) A student who represents a high school that serves only grades 10-12 shall be eligible to receive the "Four-Year State Participant" award if the student participates at the Speech State Championships for all three years of high school.
- (c) It shall be the responsibility of the qualifying student's coach to notify the OHSSL-CA Treasurer immediately following the district speech tournament if a student with whom the coach works qualifies to receive a "Four-Year State Participant" award. The OHSSL-CA may set a deadline by which notifications must be received.
- (d) It shall be the responsibility of the OHSSL-CA Treasurer to arrange for the purchase of a suitable award at OHSSL-CA expense.
- (e) "Four-Year State Participant" awards shall be presented at the Assembly or the Speech State Championships Awards Assembly at the discretion of the OHSSL-CA Executive Board and the Speech State Championships Director.

**11.4. Number of events per student.** Any student may enter a maximum of two Individual Events and one Debate event at the District or Speech State Championships. No student may participate in more than two Individual Events or more than one Debate event, nor may a student perform on more than one Duo Interpretation team. Students entered in Congressional Debate may not be entered in any other events.**11.5. New speeches and readings.** Individual Event speakers shall prepare new speeches and readings each year. No contestant may use a speech or selection for more than one year. Speeches shall not contain more than 150 words of quoted material from another speech, including a student's original work. Students may not use the same material in any other prepared speech at the tournament.**11.6. Timing.** Absolutely no contestant may be disqualified for a timing violation unless a stopwatch was used for timing.**11.7. Sources for Interpretation Events.** (HI, DI, Prose, Poetry, Duo, POI) Original source material must be publicly accessible throughout the duration of the tournament. Digital printed publications such as web pages and PDFs retrieved or purchased from web pages are permitted as long as the web page is publicly accessible throughout the duration of

the tournament. Digital unprinted publications such as videos, audio files, and films are permitted as long as the original source is publicly accessible throughout the duration of the tournament and the competitor can obtain an official transcript of the original source.

1. For print publications such as novels, short stories, plays, or poetry, the original source is the physical book or e-book. Photocopies of original literature are not acceptable. Presenting the physical book or e-book is sufficient to prove that a printed publication is publicly accessible.
2. For digital printed publications such as web pages, original source material is no longer required to come from online publishing sources listed on the NSDA Approved Websites List. The original source must be publicly accessible for viewing or purchase by a simple internet search or by a URL not requiring passwords or access codes. Competitors must also present a printed manuscript to be used in the case of a protest, but presenting a printed copy of a website is not alone sufficient to prove that a digital printed publication is publicly accessible.
3. PDFs are permitted as long as the website from which the PDF is retrieved or purchased is publicly accessible for viewing or purchase by a simple internet search or by a URL not requiring passwords or access codes. Competitors must also present a printed copy of the PDF to be used in the case of a protest, but presenting a printed copy of the PDF is not alone sufficient to prove that a PDF is publicly accessible.
4. For non-English print material that a competitor will perform in English, the original source material in its original language must be publicly accessible. Competitors must present an official English translation to be used in the case of a protest. An official translation must be obtained in one of two ways: a. An official translation is obtained through the original source's producer, licensing agent, or copyright holder. b. Or, an official translation is obtained through a translation service which uses non-automated, manual translation. Then, the competitor receives approval to perform the translation by the original source's producer, licensing agent, or copyright holder.
5. For digital unprinted publications such as videos, audio files, and films, the original source must be publicly accessible for viewing or purchase by a simple internet search or by a URL not requiring passwords or access codes. Competitors must also present a printed official transcript of the original source to be used in the case of a protest, but presenting an official transcript is not alone sufficient to prove that the original source is publicly accessible. An official transcript must be obtained in one of two ways: a. An official transcript is obtained through the original source's producer, licensing agent, or copyright holder. b. Or, an official transcript is obtained through an official transcription service such as TranscribeMe, Scribie, or iScribed, which use non-automated, manual transcription. Then, the competitor receives approval to perform the transcription by the original source's producer, licensing agent, or copyright holder. If the digital unprinted source is not in English and the competitor wishes to perform it in English, an official transcription and an official translation of the transcription (see #4 above) are required.

**11.8. Bibliographies.** Coaches are responsible for instructing their students on how to prepare bibliographies for individual events. [See Appendix – Sample Bibliography.](#)

**11.9. Plagiarism.** Students found to have plagiarized shall be disqualified. The following information on plagiarism is reprinted from WRITING: A COLLEGE HANDBOOK (New York: Norton, 1982) by James A. W. Heffernan and John E. Lincoln:

"Definition: Plagiarism is the dishonest act of presenting the words of another writer as if they were your own. You commit plagiarism whenever you use a source in any way without indicating that you have used it.

Five ways to plagiarize -

1. Word-for-word continuous copying without quotation marks or mention of the author's name.
2. Copying many words and phrases without quotation marks or mention of the author's name.
3. Copying an occasional key word or phrase without quotation marks or mention of the author's name.
4. Paraphrasing without mention of the author's name.
5. Taking the author's idea without acknowledging the source."

**11.10. External Extenuating Circumstances.** Judges shall deal with external extenuating circumstances during the round. The criteria for external extenuating circumstances are:

**11.10.1.** The circumstances must take place during the presentation.

**11.10.2.** The circumstances must significantly inhibit the judge's ability to evaluate the presentation.

**11.11. Threshold Rule.** Once a ballot crosses the threshold (or entered electronically) from the judge to the tab room, the decision is final unless clarification is needed on a ballot that has been improperly filled out or has a discrepancy. Once the tab room determines that a ballot has been properly filled out, the decision may not be changed. Judges shall not be allowed to come to the tab room and change their minds if the ballot has been filled out correctly and submitted.

## **12. General Debate Rules. (Except for Congressional Debate)**

**12.1. Application.** These rules apply to all debate forms: Oregon Style Cross-Examination Debate, Public Forum Debate, Parliamentary Debate and Lincoln-Douglas Debate.

**12.2. Conflicts.** Debaters may enter only one form of debate.

**12.3. Scheduling.** Oregon Style Cross-Examination Debate and Lincoln-Douglas Debate shall run concurrently, if possible.

**12.4. Posting time.** Debate pairing shall not be posted more than 30 minutes before each round.

**12.5. Eliminations.** At the district tournament, every team is assured of two debates, but shall be eliminated from further competition after losing two debates. At the Speech State Championships, every team is assured of four debates, but shall be eliminated from further competition after losing one debate past the fourth round.

**12.6. "Scouting."** Contestants and coaches are discouraged from any form of scouting. In general, all students and coaches are allowed to hear their own debaters as well as any special Finals in Debate. However, debaters remaining in competition may not listen to debates in which they are not participants.

**12.7. Ballots.** Judges shall use Online or Oregon High School Speech League debate ballots. Samples are available in the Appendix of this Speech Handbook. Competing schools shall each receive a copy of the tear-apart ballot if used.

**12.8. Evidence Review by Judges.** Judges shall limit their requests for evidence to checks for accuracy and authenticity.

**12.9. Evidence Source Citations.** Debaters must cite, in the round, complete source citations including author, qualifications, publication, date and page number for each source used. Evidence not completely cited shall be treated as nonexistent by judges. Subsequent references to the same source in the same round may be less complete if the full source citation is included on the evidence and is available upon request.

**12.10. Critiques.** Judges may not provide oral critiques. All critiques including specific comments about the round and general comments about debate strategies and philosophies shall be written on the ballot. A description of the judge's paradigm by the judge prior to the round shall not be considered an oral critique.

**12.11. Disclosure.** Except on the ballot, judges shall not disclose the outcome of a round with the participants in the round. Further, judges shall not discuss the performance of students they have judged with those students at any time during the tournament.

### **12.12. Guidelines for Electronic Device Use.**

**12.12.1.** Computers or other electronic devices may not be used to receive information from any source (coaches or assistant coaches included) inside or outside of the room in which the competition occurs. Internet access, use of email, instant messaging, or other means of receiving information from sources inside or outside the competition room are prohibited. (This does not prohibit non-electronic communication between debate partners during prep time.)

**12.12.2. Penalty.** Contestants found to have violated provision 12.12.1 will forfeit the round of competition. Contestants found to have violated provision 12.12.4 will be disqualified from the tournament and will forfeit all rounds. The tournament director shall make the final decision concerning disqualification.

**12.12.3. Availability of Evidence.** Contestants electing to use computers have the responsibility to promptly provide a copy of any evidence read in a speech for inspection by the judge or opponent. Printers may be used. Evidence may be printed in the round or produced electronically but must be provided in a format readable by the opposing team and the judge.

- 12.12.4.** Contestants electing to use computers are responsible for providing their own computers, batteries, extension cords, and all other necessary accessories. Tournament hosts will not be responsible for providing computers, printers, software, paper, or extension cords for contestants.
- 12.12.5.** Because public speaking decorum remains an important element of debate, all debaters are expected to stand at the front of the room facing the judge while speaking.
- 12.12.6.** Contestants choosing to use computers and related equipment accept the risk of equipment failure. Judges and/or contest directors will give no special consideration or accommodation, including no additional speech time or prep time, should equipment failure occur.
- 12.12.7.** By choosing to use computers in the round, debaters are consenting to give tournament officials the right to search their files. Debaters who do not wish to consent should not use computers in the round.

### **13. Specific Contest Rules.**

#### **13.1. Oregon Style Cross-Examination Debate**

##### **13.1.1. Team size**

- (a)** Teams may compete as two, three or four-person teams. On a two-person team, both speakers must be prepared to debate both sides of the resolution; on a three-person team, one speaker shall debate both affirmative and negative, one shall debate only affirmative, and one shall debate only negative; and on a four-person team, two speakers may debate on affirmative and two on negative, or they may interchange at their discretion so long as only two speakers participate in any one debate. The third and / or fourth members of the team shall sit apart from the participants and shall not communicate in any way with the speakers during the round.
- (b)** Under the two, three or four-person arrangement, each ROUND shall involve only one debate, either affirmative or negative, for each team.

##### **13.1.2. Length and order of speeches**

Eight Minutes	First Affirmative Constructive
Three Minutes	Cross-Examination* by a Negative Speaker
Eight Minutes	First Negative Constructive
Three Minutes	Cross-Examination* by an Affirmative Speaker
Eight Minutes	Second Affirmative Constructive
Three Minutes	Cross-Examination* by the other Negative Speaker
Eight Minutes	Second Negative Constructive
Three Minutes	Cross-Examination* by the other Affirmative Speaker
Five Minutes	First Negative Rebuttal
Five Minutes	First Affirmative Rebuttal
Five Minutes	Second Negative Rebuttal
Five Minutes	Second Affirmative Rebuttal

\*NOTE: "Tag team" cross-examination is not allowed. Cross-examination time may not be yielded to another team member. Each member of each team is responsible for asking all of the questions of one opponent and answering all of the questions of one opponent.

##### **13.1.3. Rebuttals**

- (a)** Speakers may change speaking order in rebuttals at the option of the coach and the team. Opening constructive speakers may speak last in rebuttal.
- (b)** No new arguments shall be allowed in rebuttal speeches.

**13.1.4. Preparation time.** Each team shall have a maximum of eight minutes preparation time to be used at the discretion of the team.

**13.1.5. Topic.** See OSAA website, <http://www.osaa.org/activities/spe>.

**13.1.6. Electronic Devices/Computers.** Electronic devices may be used following the guidelines outlined in 12.12.

**13.1.7. Other Rules.** See General Debate Rules.

**13.2. Public Forum Debate** (from “NSDA District Tournament Manual”)

- 13.2.1. Team Size.** In this debate form, there are two speakers to a team.
- 13.2.2. Topic.** The NSDA April Public Forum Topic will be used at the Speech State Championships. The topic is released on March 1, and is posted on the NSDA website: <https://www.speechanddebate.org/>
- 13.2.3. Sides/Burdens.** A team represents either the “pro” or the “con” side of the resolution. Public Forum Debate focuses on advocacy of a position derived from the issues presented in the resolution, not a prescribed set of burdens.
- 13.2.4. Side Draw Procedure.** Prior to every round and in the presence of the judge(s), a coin is tossed by one team and called by the other team. The team that wins the flip may choose one of two options: EITHER the SIDE of the topic they wish to defend (pro or con) OR the SPEAKING POSITION they wish to have (begin the debate or end the debate). The remaining option (SIDE OR SPEAKING POSITION) is the choice of the team that loses the flip. Once speaking positions and sides have been determined, the debate may begin.
- 13.2.5. Speaking Procedure.** Each speaker shall have four minutes for constructive argument, alternating between pro and con. (Please keep in mind that the debate may begin with a con speech.) Following the first two constructive speeches, the two debaters who have just given speeches will stand and participate in a three-minute “crossfire.” In “crossfire,” both debaters “hold the floor,” however, the first question must be asked by the speaker who spoke first. After that question, either debater may question and/or answer at will. At the end of the first “crossfire,” the four-minute constructive arguments are continued by the students yet to speak. At the conclusion of the last two constructive arguments, another three-minute “crossfire” takes place between the two debaters who just spoke using the crossfire procedure discussed above. Following the four constructive speeches and two “crossfire” segments, the 1st speakers for each team will each give a three-minute summary continuing established alternation. The summary speeches should include the arguments his or her team is winning and refutation of arguments the team is losing. At the conclusion of the summary speeches, all four debaters will remain seated and participate in a three-minute “Grand Crossfire” in which all four debaters are allowed to cross-examine one another. The first question must be asked by the speaker who gave the first summary speech. At the conclusion of the “Grand Crossfire,” the second speakers will each give a two-minute “Final Focus” speech. The “Final Focus” is a persuasive final restatement of why a team has won the debate
- 13.2.6. Time Limits.**
- |                                  |                                       |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 4 minutes                        | First Speaker - Team A                |
| 4 minutes                        | First Speaker - Team B                |
| 3 minutes                        | Crossfire                             |
| 4 minutes                        | Second Speaker - Team A               |
| 4 minutes                        | Second Speaker - Team B               |
| 3 minutes                        | Crossfire                             |
| 3 minutes                        | Summary - First Speaker - Team A      |
| 3 minutes                        | Summary - First Speaker - Team B      |
| 3 minutes                        | Grand Crossfire                       |
| 2 minutes                        | Final Focus - Second Speaker - Team A |
| 2 minutes                        | Final Focus - Second Speaker - Team B |
| Prep Time (per team) = 3 minutes |                                       |
- 13.2.7. Plans/Counterplans.** In Public Forum Debate, a formalized, comprehensive proposal for implementation is considered a plan or counterplan. Neither the pro nor the con side is permitted to offer a plan or counterplan; rather, they should offer reasoning to support a position of advocacy. Debaters may offer generalized, practical solutions.
- 13.2.8. Prompting.** Oral prompting, except time signals, either by the speaker’s colleague or by any other person while the debater has the floor, is discouraged though not prohibited and may be penalized by some judges. Debaters may, however, refer to their notes and materials and may consult with their teammates while they do not have the floor and during the Grand Crossfire.
- 13.2.9. Reading Case.** A team may decide, when asked by the opponent team for a copy of their case, whether or not to provide it; if the team refuses, they shall not be penalized in any way.

**13.2.10. Other Rules.** See General Debate Rules.**13.3. Parliamentary Debate.**

**13.3.1. Team Size.** In this debate form, there are two speakers to a team. The affirmative team is called the Proposition. The negative team is called the Opposition.

**13.3.2. Length and Order of Speeches.**

7 minutes	1st Proposition constructive
8 minutes	1st Opposition constructive
8 minutes	2nd Proposition constructive
8 minutes	2nd Opposition constructive
4 minutes	Opposition rebuttal (given by 1st Opposition speaker)
5 minutes	Proposition rebuttal (given by 1st Proposition speaker)

**13.3.3. Resolutions.**

- (a) There shall be three resolutions per round.
- (b) One resolution shall be a policy resolution, one resolution shall be a value resolution and the third resolution may be either a value or a policy resolution.
- (c) The Affirmative team must affirm the resolution.

**13.3.4. Topic Draw and Preparation Room Procedures.**

- (a) Topics shall be drawn, and preparation shall occur in the Parliamentary Debate Preparation Room when possible.
- (b) After examining the three-posted topics, teammates should discuss and prioritize the choices.
- (c) When a team's code number is called, the team may send up one representative topic proctor.
- (d) The proctor shall ask the Proposition to strike first, then the Opposition. The remaining topic shall be debated.
- (e) The Proposition shall deliver the topics to the judge(s) in the competition room.
- (f) Teams are to prepare in the Prep Room on the selected topic. Competitors may work with their partners, but should be reminded to keep their voices down.
- (g) The proctor shall dismiss both teams in a match to go to the competition room at the end of the 15-minute preparation period.

**13.3.5. Materials allowed in the Parliamentary Debate Preparation Room and in the round.**

- (a) Paper
- (b) Dictionary. Allowed in Preparation Room ONLY.
- (c) Pens or Pencils
- (d) Electronic Devices may be used in the Preparation room ONLY in alignment to the rules outlined in 12.12. Electronic devices may be used to access the Internet, find definitions, statistics, or other background information only.
- (e) Pre-written arguments, handbooks, briefs, or outlines are prohibited from the prep room, whether accessed electronically or present in hard copy form.
- (f) No other items are to be used in the round or during preparation. Other people may not be used as a resource.

**13.3.6. Questions and Answers.**

- (a) In this debate form, there is no formal cross-examination period for the speakers.
- (b) Instead, the speakers have the option to ask questions during the opponents' constructive speeches.
- (c) When a question is desired, the questioner will stand and raise a hand to be acknowledged by the opponent who has two options:

(1) Say "No Thank You" and continue.

(2) Say "Proceed" and answer the question.

(d) Remember that the stopwatch will not stop for a question. Speakers must present their constructive speeches and answer questions in the allowed time. Questions cannot be asked during the first and last minute of the opponents' constructive speeches. There shall be no questions during the rebuttals.

#### 13.3.7. Judge Participation.

(a) The Judge in a Parliamentary Debate is responsible for announcing each speaker and the amount of time for each speech. Example: "I will now call the second Opposition forward for an eight-minute speech," etc.

(b) The Judge is also responsible for letting the speakers know when to ask questions during the constructive by "rapping on the desk" when the speaker is one minute into the constructive and "rapping" again when one minute is left to speak.

(c) The Judge shall disregard any arguments made over the time limits. The Judge shall disregard new arguments in rebuttals with the exception of the Proposition's response to new arguments made in the 2nd Opposition constructive. New examples, analysis, analogies, etc., which support previously introduced arguments are permitted in rebuttal speeches.

(d) The Judge shall penalize misrepresentations of opponent's arguments, personal attacks on opponents and rudeness by reducing speaker points and factoring such infractions into the decision.

13.3.8. **Heckling.** No heckling is allowed other than supportive knocking, patting or applause.

13.3.9. **Points of Order and Points of Personal Privilege** are not allowed.

13.3.10. **Other Rules.** See General Debate Rules.

#### 13.4. Value Lincoln-Douglas Debate.

13.4.1. **Team.** In this debate form, there is only one speaker to a team. A speaker in this contest must be prepared to debate both sides of the resolution.

13.4.2. **Other events.** A Value Lincoln-Douglas Debater may participate in up to two other Individual Events but may not enter another Debate event.

#### 13.4.3. Length and order of speeches.

Six Minutes	Affirmative Constructive Speech
Three Minutes	Negative Questions Affirmative
Seven Minutes	Negative Constructive Speech
Three Minutes	Affirmative Questions Negative
Four Minutes	Affirmative Rebuttal
Six Minutes	Negative Rebuttal
Three Minutes	Affirmative Rebuttal

13.4.4. **Preparation Time.** Each Debater shall be allowed a maximum of four minutes preparation time to be used at their discretion.

13.4.5. **Number of District Entries.** Each school may enter a maximum of three Value Lincoln-Douglas teams in the District Tournament. In the absence of competing schools other than one, it shall be necessary to declare a Speech State Championships Qualifier by default. Each Value Lincoln-Douglas entry counts toward the maximum allowable quantity of individual event entries per school at the District Tournament.

#### 13.4.6. Value Debate Topics.

(a) September 1 - October 31 - The September / October NSDA topic (published in September on the NSDA website) shall be used.

(b) November 1 - December 31 - The November / December NSDA topic (published in October on the NSDA website) shall be used.

(c) January 1 - February 28 (29) - The January / February NSDA topic (published in December on the NSDA website) shall be used.

(d) March 1 - April 30 - The March / April NSDA topic (published in February on the NSDA website) shall be used.

**13.4.7. Other Rules.** See General Debate Rules.

**13.5. After-Dinner Speaking.**

**13.5.1. Communication among judges during the round.** Judges must make independent decisions. Judges shall not discuss decisions with other judges prior to turning in ballots. Timekeepers may share the length of a given speech only. If questions arise regarding the rules or conduct of an event, judges shall ask at Speech State Championships headquarters.

**13.5.2. Subject.** The student chooses their own subject and develops an original speech. "Original" means "not copied, reproduced or translated; novel, fresh; not borrowed from some other source."

**13.5.3. General Purpose.** To entertain.

**13.5.4. Nature.**

(a) The speech should have an undertone of seriousness.

(b) The speech should not be:

(1) A series of unrelated jokes.

(2) A skit or vaudeville performance.

(3) Dependent upon impersonation, although character suggestions and use of dialect in telling jokes or stories is permissible.

(4) A speech that is "acted out."

(c) Humor must always be in good taste. Offensive humor and materials shall not be permitted.

**13.5.5. Length.** There is no minimum time limit; the speech shall be no more than six minutes in length with 30 seconds of grace allowed. If laughter delays the speaker, the timekeeper shall make allowance by stopping the watch at the beginning and starting it at the end of each interruption. Time signals may be given at the speaker's request; however, presentation within the time length is ultimately the responsibility of the speaker.

Contestants who violate the time limit may receive a lower rank. No contestant may be penalized if a stopwatch was not used for timing.

After-dinner Speaking Finals shall not be timed.

**13.5.6. Preparation and Notes.** The speech is prepared in advance. No notes are permitted, and no promptings are allowed during the delivery of the speech.

**13.5.7. Changing Speeches.** The speech used at the District Tournament must also be used at the Speech State Championships.

**13.5.8. Manuscripts.** A copy of the speech, including the bibliography, must be available if requested by the Speech State Championships Director at the District or Speech State Championships. Failure to provide a manuscript if requested may be used as a basis for disqualification from the tournament.

**13.6. Duo Interpretation.**

**13.6.1. Communication among judges during the round.** Judges must make independent decisions. Judges shall not discuss decisions with other judges prior to turning in ballots. Timekeepers may share the length of a given speech only. If questions arise regarding the rules or conduct of an event, judges shall ask at Speech State Championships headquarters.

**13.6.2. Length.** There is no minimum time limit; the contestants shall speak no more than 10 minutes including the introduction and reading with 30 seconds of grace allowed. Contestants who violate the time limit



may receive a lower rank. If laughter delays the speakers, the timekeeper shall make allowance by stopping the watch at the beginning and starting it at the end of each interruption.

Time signals may be given at the speaker's request; however, presentation within the time length is ultimately the responsibility of the speaker.

No contestant may be penalized if a stopwatch was not used for timing.

**13.6.3. Introduction.** Contestants shall appropriately introduce their readings. The introduction should be shared and memorized.

**13.6.4. Presentation.** The material shall be memorized. Physical objects, props or costumes are not allowed. Focus may be direct during the introduction (the performers may look at each other) but must be indirect (off stage) during the performance itself. Each of the performers may play one or more characters so long as performance responsibility in the cutting remains as balanced as possible. If the selection is prose or poetry and contains narration, either or both of the performers may present the narration.

**13.6.5. Changing readings.** Materials presented at the District Tournament must also be presented at the Speech State Championships.

**13.6.6. Materials.** Selections must be cuttings from a single work of literature – from one short story or one play, or one novel, or one or more poems – as described below.

**(a) Print Publications.** Includes novels, short stories, plays or poetry, published in print.

**(b) Digital (Online) Publications.** See 11.7 General Contest Rules: Sources for Interpretation Events.

Adaptations may be used for the purpose of transition. Materials may be humorous and / or serious. Only one division shall exist in Duo Interpretation.

**13.6.7. Re-use.** No speaker may use a cutting from the same source that the speaker used in any contest previous to the current school year.

**13.6.8. Overlap.** Students may not use the same material or cuttings from the same source, in Duo Interpretation and any other interpretation event.

**13.6.9. Manuscript Submission.** Interpretation events must bring an original, electronic or photocopied version of their script(s) and original source material to State.

### 13.7. Informative Speaking

**13.7.1. Communication among judges during the round.** Judges must make independent decisions. Judges shall not discuss decisions with other judges prior to turning in ballots. Timekeepers may share the length of a give speech only. If questions arise regarding the rules or conduct of an event, judges shall ask at Speech State Championship headquarters.

**13.7.2. Purpose.** An informative speech is an original speech designed to explain, define, describe, or illustrate a particular subject. The general purpose of the speech is for the audience to gain understanding and/or knowledge of a topic. Any other purpose such as to entertain or to convince shall be secondary. The use of audio/visual aids is options. (see 13.7.5 below).

**13.7.3. Contest.** This contest comprises only memorized speeches composed by the contestants and not used by them during a previous contest season.

**13.7.4. Subject.** Effective speeches provide new information or perspectives on a topic, including those that are widely known. The responsibility for choosing a worthwhile topic rests with the contestant. A fabricated topic may not be use. Any non-factual reference, including a personal reference, must be identified.

**13.7.5. Aids.** Audio/visual aids may or may not be used to supplement and reinforce the message. If used the audio/visual aids should enhance or support the message rather than distract from the overall effectiveness of the presentation. During the presentation, no electronic equipment is permitted, electronic equipment is defined as any object requiring an electrical cord, battery, or solar power to operate it (projectors, cell phones, radios, iPads, computers, etc.). The use of live animals or any additional people as visual aids is not allowed during the speech. Items of dress put on and/or removed for illustration during the course of the presentation are considered costumes and may not be part of the contestant's presentation. Visual aids may not violate policies as dictated by state or local law (weapons,

drugs, etc.). Contestants may not distribute items to the judges or audience before, during, or after the round. This includes but is not limited to food, objects, handouts, flyers, and promotional merchandise. The host school is not responsible for providing any facilities, equipment including tables, chairs, or easels or assistance in a contestant's use of visual aids. This provision is only for the final round. Expedient set up and take down of aids is expected. If a visual aid displays published pictorial material, the source must be included in the work cited page but does not need to be cited orally.

- 13.7.6. Length.** The time limit is 10 minutes with a 30-second "grace period." If there are multiple judges in the round, all must agree that the student has gone beyond the grace period. Should a student go beyond the grace period, the student may not be ranked first. There is no other prescribed penalty for going over the grace period. The ranking is up to each individual judge's discretion. Judges who choose to time are to use accurate (stopwatch function) timing devices. No minimum time is mandated.
- 13.7.7. Quotation.** Not more than 150 words of speech may be direct quotation and such quotations must be identified orally and in a printed copy of the speech supplied prior to registration.
- 13.7.8. Re-Use.** A student may not use an informative speech the student used in district or State competition in any previous contest year.
- 13.7.9. Changing Speeches.** The speech used at the District Tournament must also be used at the Speech State Championships.
- 13.7.10. Manuscripts.** A copy of the speech, including the bibliography, must be available if requested by the Speech State Championship Director at the District or Speech State Championships. Failure to provide a manuscript if requested may be used as a basis for disqualification from the tournament.

### 13.8. Extemporaneous Speaking

- 13.8.1. Communication among judges during the round.** Judges must make independent decisions. Judges shall not discuss decisions with other judges prior to turning in ballots. Timekeepers may share the length of a given speech only. If questions arise regarding the rules or conduct of an event, judges shall ask at Speech State Championships headquarters.
- 13.8.2. Topic.** Current events of the current school year.
- 13.8.3. Drawing of Subtopics.** One-half hour before speaking time, each contestant shall draw three topics, one of which shall be chosen by the speaker.
- 13.8.4. Preparation.** Contestants may use books, magazines or electronic retrieval devices during the preparation period, but may not confer with any other person about the topic. An Extemp preparation room shall be available at Speech State Championships. See below for rules and guidelines concerning use of electronic retrieval devices.
  - (a)** Contestants may make use of electronic retrieval devices to store and retrieve subject files. Students can retrieve extemporaneous files to read but cannot write speeches or organize their thoughts on the computers. This rule in no way prevents students from utilizing traditional paper copy files. The OSAA takes no position on which form of file storage is preferable.
  - (b)** Electronic retrieval devices are defined as laptop computers, netbooks, iPads or other portable electronic retrieval equipment. Secondary devices such as flash drives or external hard drives are allowed as well.
  - (c)** Source Materials. Students may consult published books, periodical articles, newspaper articles, think tank articles, government reports, journal articles or other websites accessed on their electronic retrieval device or present in hard copy form provided:
    - (1)** There are no notations made within or on the saved article other than citation information.
    - (2)** Any highlighting or underlining of the articles is done in only one color within each article. Bolding, italicizing, or any other manipulation of the original text of sources (other than highlighting or underlining as previously stipulated) is prohibited.
  - (d)** No other source materials will be allowed in the Extemporaneous prep room other than stated above. Pre-written Extemporaneous speeches, handbooks, briefs or outlines are prohibited from the prep room, whether stored electronically or present in hard copy form.

- (e) **Power Source.** Power plugs or outlets may not be used in the prep room at any time. All computers used in the prep room must be battery operated at all times.
- (f) Competitors are responsible for making certain their electronic retrieval devices are fully charged at the start of each competition day and for proper power management ensuring that their device remains functional throughout the competition day. Contestants may not use external power sources in the prep room, such as wall outlets and/or extension cords.
- (g) **Internet.** Extemporaneous Speaking contestants may access the Internet while in the prep room. All computers must comply with the following provisions:
  - (1) Computers or other electronic devices may not be used to receive information from any source (coaches or assistant coaches included) inside or outside of the room in which the competition occurs.
  - (2) **Penalty:** Contestants found to have violated provision 1 will be disqualified for the tournament and will forfeit all rounds. The tournament director shall make the final decision concerning disqualification.
  - (3) **Liability:** Extemporaneous Speaking competitors accept full responsibility for the safety and security of their electronic retrieval devices throughout the entire course of the tournament. The OSAA and the host site do not assume any liability for the computers. The OSAA and the host site are not responsible for lost, stolen or damaged computers.
  - (4) **File Monitoring:** The OSAA and the tournament director retain the right to view and search any electronic retrieval devices to ensure compliance with any and all rules at any tournament.
  - (5) Devices shall be muted in the prep room. Contestants shall not play games or engage in other distracting activities on their electronic retrieval devices in the prep room. Tournament officials may ask a student to power off the device if it becomes distracting.
  - (6) Students from the same school may share computers during preparation. However, communication among contestants during preparation time is strictly prohibited.

**13.8.5. Length.** There is no minimum time limit; a maximum of seven minutes shall be allowed for each speech with 30 seconds of grace. A speaker may be disqualified if they speak more than 7 ½ minutes.

If laughter delays the speaker, the timekeeper shall make allowance by stopping the watch at the beginning and starting it at the end of each interruption.

No contestant may be penalized if a stopwatch was not used for timing.

**13.8.6. Notes.** No notes may be used during the delivery, and no promptings are allowed.

**13.8.7. Cross-Examination.** Each Tournament Director has the autonomy to determine whether cross-examination will be used in the final round of Extemporaneous Speaking events at their tournament. If cross-examination is used, the tournament must use the National Tournament final round format. Cross-Examination will be used at the state championships final round. Procedure: Each speaker shall be assigned a speaker order position. Drawing shall take place at 12-minute intervals. Thirty minutes after speaker first has drawn, speakers first and last shall enter the contest room. Speaker first shall give a speech and speaker last shall listen and may take notes. At the conclusion of speaker first's speech, speaker last shall question speaker first for two minutes. Speaker last shall return to the prep room and speaker first shall stay and question speaker second. Speaker second will question speaker third, etc. Unless it is unavoidable, students from the same school shall not cross-examine one another. Speaker order should be adjusted accordingly.

### **13.9. Impromptu Speaking**

**13.9.1. Communication among judges during the round.** Judges must make independent decisions. Judges shall not discuss decisions with other judges prior to turning in ballots. Timekeepers may share the length of a given speech only. If questions arise regarding the rules or conduct of an event, judges shall ask at Speech State Championships headquarters.

**13.9.2. Topic Area.** Choices that would include: One word, one philosophical phrase, one policy- oriented topic.

**13.9.3. Procedures of the Contest**

- (a) Each contestant shall draw a topic slip containing three topics.
- (b) Contestants may read aloud the topic chosen or may incorporate the topic statement into the speech.
- (c) Contestants shall have a total of six minutes for this event, with a 30-second period of grace. Students may use up to one minute of this time to prep. If the full one-minute prep time is not used, that time can be applied to their speaking time.
- (d) Notes, materials or previously prepared speech outlines shall not be allowed as the contestant speaks.
- (e) Contestants are not allowed to hear the other speakers before them. After a contestant has spoken, however, they may remain in the room to hear the speakers who follow.

**13.9.4. Length.** There is no minimum time limit; a maximum of six minutes with a 30-second period of grace is allowed. A timekeeper shall use hand signals showing the time left in the speech: 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, 1/2, 0.

The 60-second preparation period shall be counted as part of the speaking time.

If laughter delays the speaker, the timekeeper shall make allowance by stopping the watch at the beginning and starting it at the end of each interruption.

Contestants who violate the time limit may receive a lower rank. No contestant may be penalized if a stopwatch was not used for timing.

**13.10. Literary Interpretation for English Language Learners (LIELL)**

**13.10.1. Eligibility to participate in LIELL.** All students receiving ELL (English Language Learning) services, including Advanced ELL, and or who have been assessed at a beginning or intermediate English proficiency level using the ITP, ELPA or other equivalent assessment test used in Oregon, shall be eligible to compete in an open division of this event during the school year in which they either received these services and/or were so assessed.

**13.10.2. Communication among judges during the round.** Judges must make independent decisions. Judges shall not discuss decisions with other judges prior to turning in ballots. Timekeepers may share the length of a given speech only. If questions arise regarding the rules or conduct of an event, judges shall ask at Speech State Championships headquarters.

**13.10.3. Length.** There is no minimum time limit; contestants shall speak no more than five minutes with a 30-second period of grace including the introduction and reading.

Time signals may be given at the speaker's request; however, presentation within the time length is ultimately the responsibility of the speaker.

Contestants who violate the time limit may receive a lower rank. No contestant may be penalized if a stopwatch was not used for timing.

**13.10.4. Introduction.** Each reader shall appropriately introduce the material. Introductions should be memorized or delivered extemporaneously.

**13.10.5. Presentation.** The materials are to be read from a manuscript or printed page. Continued practice during the time of preparation may result in memorization of some passages. The aim of the reader, however, should not be complete memorization. Rather frequent references must be made to the manuscript during the presentation of the materials.

Contestants may use limited gestures while standing primarily in one place. The purpose of the speaker is to entertain the audience by suggestion of the characters, moods and changes in plot through voice, facial expression and limited movement and gesture.

Judges should be aware that most speakers in LIELL have not mastered precise pronunciation; their accents should not be held against them. It is appropriate, however, for a judge to write helpful comments on how to pronounce something correctly.

**13.10.6. Changing Material.** Materials given at the District Tournament must be given at the Speech State Championships.

- 13.10.7. Materials.** The materials shall be cuttings from published, printed short stories, novels, poems or scripts. This is a contest of interpretation of any published work. No speaker shall be penalized for lack of dialogue.
- 13.10.8. Re-use.** No student may use a cutting from the same source, which he used in any contest previous to the current school year.
- 13.10.9. Overlap.** Students may not use the same material, or cuttings from the same source, in LIELL and any other interpretation event.
- 13.10.10. Manuscript Submission.** Interpretation events must bring an original, electronic or photocopied version of their script(s) and original source material to State.

### 13.11. Humorous Interpretation

- 13.11.1. Communication among judges during the round.** Judges must make independent decisions. Judges shall not discuss decisions with other judges prior to turning in ballots. Timekeepers may share the length of a given speech only. If questions arise regarding the rules or conduct of an event, judges shall ask at Speech State Championships headquarters.
- 13.11.2. Length.** There is no minimum time limit; contestants shall speak no more than 10 minutes with 30 seconds of grace allowed. If laughter delays the speaker, the timekeeper shall make allowance by stopping the watch at the beginning and starting it at the end of each interruption.
- Time signals may be given at the speaker's request; however, presentation within the time length is ultimately the responsibility of the speaker.
- Contestants who violate the time limit may receive a lower rank. No contestant may be penalized if a stopwatch was not used for timing.
- 13.11.3. Introduction.** Each speaker shall appropriately introduce the material. The title and author of the selection must be given.
- 13.11.4. Presentation.** The materials are to be memorized. Physical objects, props or costumes are not allowed. Use of focal points and/or direct eye contact with the audience should be determined by the requirements of the literature being interpreted.
- 13.11.5. Changing Material.** Materials given at the District Tournament must be given at the Speech State Championships.
- 13.11.6. Materials.** Selections must be cuttings from a single work of literature – from one short story or one play, or one novel, or one or more poems – as described below.
- (a) Print Publications.** Includes novels, short stories, plays or poetry, published in print.
- (b) Digital (Online) Publications.** See 11.7 General Contest Rules: Sources for Interpretation Events.
- Monologues are allowed.
- 13.11.7. Re-use.** No student may use a cutting from the same source, which he used in any contest previous to the current school year.
- 13.11.8. Overlap.** Students may not use the same material, or cuttings from the same source, in Humorous Interpretation and any other interpretation event.
- 13.11.9. Manuscript Submission.** Interpretation events must bring an original, electronic or photocopied version of their script(s) and original source material to State.

### 13.12. Dramatic Interpretation

- 13.12.1. Communication among judges during the round.** Judges must make independent decisions. Judges shall not discuss decisions with other judges prior to turning in ballots. Timekeepers may share the length of a given speech only. If questions arise regarding the rules or conduct of an event, judges shall ask at Speech State Championships headquarters.

- 13.12.2. Length.** There is no minimum time limit; contestants shall speak no more than 10 minutes with 30 seconds of grace allowed. If laughter delays the speaker, the timekeeper shall make allowance by stopping the watch at the beginning and starting it at the end of each interruption.

Time signals may be given at the speaker's request; however, presentation within the time length is ultimately the responsibility of the speaker.

Contestants who violate the time limit may receive a lower rank. No contestant may be penalized if a stopwatch was not used for timing.

- 13.12.3. Introduction.** Each speaker shall appropriately introduce the material. The title and author of the selection must be given.

- 13.12.4. Presentation.** The materials are to be memorized. Physical objects, props or costumes are not allowed. Use of focal points and/or direct eye contact with the audience should be determined by the requirements of the literature being interpreted.

- 13.12.5. Changing Material.** Materials given at the District Tournament must also be given at the Speech State Championships.

- 13.12.6. Materials.** Selections must be cuttings from a single work of literature – from one short story or one play, or one novel, or one or more poems – as described below.

**(a) Print Publications.** Includes novels, short stories, plays or poetry, published in print.

**(b) Digital (Online) Publications.** See 11.7 General Contest Rules: Sources for Interpretation Events. Monologues are allowed.

- 13.12.7. Re-use.** No speaker may use a cutting from the same source that the speaker used in any contest previous to the current school year.

- 13.12.8. Overlap.** Students may not use the same material or cuttings from the same source, in Dramatic Interpretation and any other interpretation event.

- 13.12.9. Manuscript Submission.** Interpretation events must bring an original, electronic or photocopied version of their script(s) and original source material to State.

### **13.13. Oratory.**

- 13.13.1. Communication among judges during the round.** Judges must make independent decisions. Judges shall not discuss decisions with other judges prior to turning in ballots. Timekeepers may share the length of a given speech only. If questions arise regarding the rules or conduct of an event, judges shall ask at Speech State Championships headquarters.

- 13.13.2. Subject.** No limitation is placed on subject matter, other than that it be significant and worthy. The composition is to be the student's original work. No more than one hundred and fifty quoted words including all short words such as "a," "an," "the", etc., may be used.

- 13.13.3. Length.** There is no minimum time limit; each speech is limited to 10 minutes' presentation time with 30 seconds of grace allowed.

Time signals may be given at the speaker's request; however, presentation within the time length is ultimately the responsibility of the speaker.

If laughter delays the speaker, the timekeeper shall make allowance by stopping the watch at the beginning and starting it at the end of each interruption.

Contestants who violate the time limit may receive a lower rank. No contestant may be penalized if a stopwatch was not used for timing.

- 13.13.4. Manuscript.** A copy of the speech, including the bibliography, must be available if requested by the Speech State Championships Director at the District or Speech State Championships. Failure to provide a manuscript if requested may be used as a basis for disqualification from the Speech State Championships.

- 13.13.5. Memorization.** Verbatim memorization is optional. However, departures from the manuscript may not add to the length of the speech.

**13.13.6. Changing Speeches.** The oration used in the District Tournament must be used in the Speech State Championships.

**13.13.7. Notes.** No notes are permitted, and no promptings are allowed.

**13.13.8. Instructions to the Judges.** In this contest, the students have chosen their own subjects, written their speeches, and committed them to memory. They are, however, permitted to deviate from the original script in order to make a better adjustment to the speaking situation. Students are expected to choose a significant subject. They may discuss a problem of social, economic, moral, or political importance, or they may praise (eulogize) a person or idea, or inveigh against an immoral practice, law, group, or person. Ordinarily, the student combines argument with emotional appeal. Speakers employ materials and language that are graphic, striking and sometimes dramatic - but always with the desire to put the speaker's idea across, not to call attention to the speaker's techniques. The oration is a speech, not a dramatic reading.

#### **13.14. Poetry Reading.**

**13.14.1. Communication among judges during the round.** Judges must make independent decisions. Judges shall not discuss decisions with other judges prior to turning in ballots. Timekeepers may share the length of a given speech only. If questions arise regarding the rules or conduct of an event, judges shall ask at Speech State Championships headquarters.

**13.14.2. Theme.** Contestants are to choose poems, which are related to and organized around a central theme.

Example of Theme. A central or unifying theme may be a poet, statesman, philanthropist, an idea, a philosophy, nature, an element of nature, a community, trees, death, etc. For example, using the theme of love, cuttings may be taken from Robert Burns' "Mary Morrison", William Wordsworth's "She Was a Phantom of Delight", and Lord Byron's "When We Two Parted", or using the theme of nature's changing seasons; cuttings might be taken from Robert Bridges' "London Snow", Swinburne's "Autumn in Cornwall", and Robert Frost's "Stopping by the Woods on a Snowy Evening". Humorous poetry may be used.

**13.14.3. Poems.** No fewer than three poems or cuttings from three poems are to be used, and at least three poems are to be not less than eight lines. Judges should check the manuscripts to enforce this rule.

**13.14.4. Introductions.** Each poem should be appropriately introduced in order to give setting (if necessary), to relate it to the central theme and to establish the proper mood for the audience. Introductions should be memorized or delivered extemporaneously.

**13.14.5. Length.** There is no minimum time limit; contestants are allowed a speaking time of no more than eight minutes with 30 seconds of grace. This includes the introduction, poetry reading and necessary transitions.

Time signals may be given at the speaker's request; however, presentation within the time length is ultimately the responsibility of the speaker.

If laughter delays the speaker, the timekeeper shall make allowance by stopping the watch at the beginning and starting it at the end of each interruption.

Contestants who violate the time limit may receive a lower rank. No contestant may be penalized if a stopwatch was not used for timing.

**13.14.6. Presentation.** Students must read from a manuscript or from the printed page. Continued practice during the time of preparation may result in memorization of some passages. The aim of the reader, however, should not be complete memorization. Rather frequent references must be made to the manuscript during presentation of the materials. While standing primarily in one place, contestants may use limited gestures and facial, verbal and vocal expression.

#### **13.14.7. Materials - Sources.**

(a) Contestants are urged to select material within their grasp, their ability to understand and to interpret, but materials, which are good literature. Anthologies of modern poetry, British or American, as well as high school literature books should prove helpful. Original work of the student is encouraged.

(b) **Digital (Online) Publications.** See 11.7 General Contest Rules: Sources for Interpretation Events.

**13.14.8. Changing Readings.** Poetry prepared for and used at the District Tournament must also be used at the Speech State Championships.

**13.14.9. Manuscript Submission.** Interpretation events must bring an original, electronic or photocopied version of their script(s) and original source material to State.

**13.15. Prose Reading.**

**13.15.1. Communication among judges during the round.** Judges must make independent decisions. Judges shall not discuss decisions with other judges prior to turning in ballots. Timekeepers may share the length of a given speech only. If questions arise regarding the rules or conduct of an event, judges shall ask at Speech State Championships headquarters.

**13.15.2. Length.** There is no minimum time limit; contestants shall speak no more than eight minutes with a 30-second period of grace including the introduction and reading. If laughter delays the speaker, the timekeeper shall make allowance by stopping the watch at the beginning and starting it at the end of each interruption.

Time signals may be given at the speaker's request; however, presentation within the time length is ultimately the responsibility of the speaker.

Contestants who violate the time limit may receive a lower rank. No contestant may be penalized if a stopwatch was not used for timing.

**13.15.3. Introduction.** Each reader shall appropriately introduce the reading. Introductions should be memorized or delivered extemporaneously.

**13.15.4. Presentation.** The materials are to be read from a manuscript or printed page. Continued practice during the time of preparation may result in memorization of some passages. The aim of the reader, however, should not be complete memorization. Rather frequent references must be made to the manuscript during the presentation of the materials. Contestants may use limited gestures while standing in one place and freely using facial, verbal and vocal expression. Contestants may use transition steps during introductions and transitions, which should be presented in an extemporaneous manner making use of appropriate gestures and physical movements.

**13.15.5. Changing Readings.** Materials read at the District Tournament must also be read at the Speech State Championships.

**13.15.6. Materials.**

(a) *The prose material shall be a cutting from one single short story, novel or essay, published electronically or in print.*

(b) **Digital (Online) Publications.** See 11.7 General Contest Rules: Sources for Interpretation Events.

(c) Adaptations may be made for the purpose of continuity only. Selections may be chosen from any good literature without regard to publication date.

(d) Both narration and dialogue are encouraged, but MORE THAN 50% OF THE WORDS IN THE SELECTION MUST BE NARRATION.

**13.15.7. Re-use.** No speaker may use a cutting from the same source that the speaker used in any contest previous to the current school year.

**13.15.8. Overlap.** Students may not use the same material or cuttings from the same source, in Prose Reading and any other interpretation event.

**13.15.9. Manuscript Submission.** Interpretation events must bring an original, electronic or photocopied version of their script(s) and original source material to State.

**13.15.10. Instructions to the Judges.** This is a contest for the interpretation of a cutting from a published, printed short story, novel or essay. No speaker shall be penalized for a lack of dialogue in their presentation. The responsibility of the speaker is to entertain the audience with the material used. The speaker should suggest the characters, moods and changes of situation largely through his voice. Characterizations should be confined to facial expressions, postures and character placement, but there should be no movement of the entire body.



Special Note. Judges should expect that some readers, from constant practice of their selections, may be able to present portions from memory. Speakers are not to be penalized for this, as long as they refer rather frequently to their manuscripts or to the printed page in front of them.

### 13.16. Programed Oral Interpretation

- 13.16.1. Communication among the judges during the round.** Judges must make independent decisions. Judges shall not discuss decisions with other judges prior to turning in ballots. Timekeepers may share the length of a given speech only. If questions arise regarding the rules or conduct of an event, judges shall ask at Speech State Championships headquarters.
- 13.16.2. Theme.** Each student delivers a program of thematically-linked selections of literary merit, chosen from two or more genres of literature and writing (most common will be readings from Prose, Poetry, and Drama). A substantial portion of the total time must be devoted to each of genres used in the program.
- 13.16.3. Length.** The maximum time limit is 10 minutes, including an original introduction and/or transitions. There is a 30-second grace period, after which the student must be dropped in rank/rating. No performance violating the grace period may receive “1” in the round.
- 13.16.4. Nature.** Different genre means that material must appear in separate pieces of literature and/or writing (e.g., A poem included in a short story that appears only in the short story does not constitute a poetry genre). The introduction (and transitions when used) should provide adequate background for the reading as a whole and for the individual selections as needed in order to relate them to the whole. Genres should be understood fairly broadly. Non-fiction, advertising copy, and other sources are valid and legitimate – how they are used will determine the effectiveness of the Program. The Program as a whole should have a unifying theme or message. Pieces within the Program may be cut into smaller passages interspersed with passages from other sections.
- 13.16.5. Presentation.** The use of a manuscript during the performance is required. Common practices include the use of a binder or folder. Reading from a book or magazine is not permitted. The intact manuscript may be used by the contestant as a prop, so long as it remains in the contestant's control at all times. No costumes or props other than the manuscript are permitted. Pictures, graphics, and/or illustrations are considered a visual aid, even if included in the original manuscript, and may not be displayed. The contestant must address the script; however, introduction and transitional material may be memorized.
- 13.16.6. Introduction.** The introduction (and transition when used) should provide adequate background for the reading as a whole and for the individual selections as needed in order to relate them to the whole.
- 13.16.7. Materials.** This contest must include thematically-linked selections chosen from two or three genres: prose, poetry, drama (plays). At least two pieces of literature that represent at least two separate genres must be used. Unlike the other interpretation events, Program Oral Interpretation may use multiple sources for the program, appropriate sources described below.
- (a) Print Publications.** Includes novels, short stories, plays or poetry, published in print.
- (b) Digital (Online) Publications.** See 11.7 General Contest Rules: Sources for Interpretation Events.
- 13.16.8. Instruction to Judges.** The introduction should prepare the listener for the selection(s). In multiple selections, a relationship should be obvious between the literature chosen to develop the program and the theme of the program. The suitability of the material to the maturity level of the performer should be considered. The contestant must use a manuscript and must refer to it. Projection, diction, and flexibility of voice are important to the student's interpretation. Multiple character voices may be used but should be distinct from each other.
- 13.16.9. Manuscript Submission.** Interpretation events must bring an original, electronic or photocopied version of their script(s) and original source material to State.

### 13.17. Radio Commentary

- 13.17.1. Communication among judges during the round.** Judges must make independent decisions. Judges shall not discuss decisions with other judges prior to turning in ballots. Timekeepers may share the length of a given speech only. If questions arise regarding the rules or conduct of an event, judges shall ask at Speech State Championships headquarters.

**13.17.2. Subject.** The speech shall be an original news commentary dealing with current events of the current school year.

**13.17.3. Scripts.** The script is to be an analysis of news, not simply a running synopsis of news. It is to be original and written by the contestant. A copy of the manuscript, including the bibliography, must be available if requested by the Speech State Championships Director at the District or Speech State Championships. Failure to provide a manuscript if requested may be used as a basis for disqualification from the Speech State Championships.

**13.17.4. Quoted Material.** The speaker may use no more than seventy-five quoted words including all short words such as "a", "an", "the", etc.

**13.17.5. Length.** The script should be timed to end between 4:45 and 5:15 minutes. Any speaker ending before 4:45 minutes or after 5:15 minutes shall be disqualified.

No contestant may be disqualified if a stopwatch was not used for timing.

**13.17.6. Procedure.** Contestants shall be out of sight of the judges.

The script is to be read from a manuscript or printed page, and not committed to memory. It is not to be acted nor highly dramatized.

**13.17.7. Changing Speeches.** The radio speech used at the District Tournament must also be used at the Speech State Championships.

**13.17.8. Bibliography.** The script must include a bibliography of no fewer than two sources.

### **13.18. State Student Congress**

#### **13.18.1. Apportioning.**

(a) Each District shall be limited to five berths at the Congress, with a maximum of three berths for any one school.

(1) If more than five students in any District wish to attend the Congress, the District shall select the five entries.

(2) Districts may set their own priorities for selecting Congress representatives. Each District may use but is not limited to the following guidelines, listed in no order of priority.

Priority shall be given to students who:

a) Have attended a student congress during the current school year.

b) Have attended a student congress during any previous school year.

c) Attend a school that has not yet qualified a Speech State Championships competitor in any event during the current school year.

d) Are academic seniors.

e) Have achieved some measure of competitive speech success during the current school year.

f) Have been active in competitive speech for a significant period of time.

(b) If fewer than 25 total students attend the Congress, only one house shall be formed. For 26 to 50 students- two houses; for 51 to 75 students- three houses.

(c) The Congress schedule shall consist of preliminary sessions followed by session(s) for Super Congress (Congress Finals ONLY). Precedence resets between sessions on both days.

(1) The scorer from each session shall cast a ballot, ranking the top competitors from first to eighth, with all other competitors being given a nine. The parliamentarian shall rank all competitors from first to last at the end of the afternoon session. An equal number of students shall advance to Saturday's final congress from each chamber based on the lowest total rankings, consistent with rule 13.18.1 (c) (2) below.

- (2) The number of persons nominated for the Congress Finals shall be determined by the Congress Director based upon the total number of entrants at the State Congress. The Final Congress shall be composed of no fewer than 20 members, and no more than 25. The number of students nominated shall be a clean break between 20 and 25. Should the total nominated for finals be less than 20, the students with the highest number of speaker points per chamber will move up to finals provided they are not already nominated.
- (3) All award winners shall be selected from Final Congress members only, using the selection procedures outlined in the State Manual.
- (d) No student who has already qualified in another event shall be eligible for the State Congress. Alternates to the Speech State Championships in other events may attend the State Congress, but if they become eligible in another event, they will be required to choose between that event and Congress.

### 13.18.2. Congress Officials

- (a) Each house shall require the services of a parliamentarian to supervise that particular house, to preside in case a student officer becomes too deeply involved in parliamentary rules, to correct gross errors in procedure, and to record actions taken. Ordinarily, the parliamentarian should remain in the background, but step forward firmly when his / her presence is needed. This will be especially necessary when the presiding officer is weak. The presiding officer is the "boss" and members of the house should not be permitted to argue with him / her. The purpose of the Congress is to debate legislation, and it is the parliamentarian's duty to see that this is done.
- (b) An official scorer/judge (one for each session) shall be assigned to each house to assign speaking points and to rank legislators.
- (c) No coach shall be assigned to judge his / her own student in the Congress.

### 13.18.3. Bills and Resolutions

- (a) **Definitions.** A bill is an enumeration of specific provisions which if enacted will have the force of law. A resolution is simply a generalized statement expressing a conviction. A resolution will generally center debate on the broad principles of the concept; a bill is more apt to focus debate on the merits of the specific provisions it contains. Although they are not necessary, whereas clauses may be included in resolutions; bills never contain whereas clauses. The use of both bills and resolutions will add variety to Congress proceedings.

#### (b) Official Agenda

- (1) Each school with one or more State Student Congress qualifiers **must** submit two bills or resolutions to be received by the OSAA by the Thursday prior to the Speech State Championships Workday.
- (2) At the Speech State Championships Workday, the Student Congress Subcommittee shall select not fewer than ten bills or resolutions to be designated as the Official Agenda for each chamber per legislative day.
- (3) Bills and resolutions selected for the Official Agenda shall be posted on the OSAA website by 4pm on the Monday prior to the Speech State Championships.
- (4) Bills and resolutions on the Official Agenda shall be prioritized at the preliminary session Friday morning. At the conclusion of the preliminary session, participants shall recess to prepare for the morning and afternoon session.

#### (c) Agenda Items from the Floor

**Priority.** Bills and resolutions in the official packet will be considered first. In the event the Official Agenda has been exhausted, additional bills and resolutions will be provided by the State Championships Student Congress Subcommittee.

- (d) **Writing Bills and Resolutions.** (See <https://www.osaa.org/activities.spe> for sample templates)

- (1) Format.** In constructing your bill or resolution, be sure that the following procedures are followed:
- a)** The bill or resolution must be typed.
  - b)** Typing must be double-spaced, and the bill or resolution may not be longer than one page.
  - c)** The first words of a bill are "Be It Enacted"; following any whereas clauses, the first words of a resolution are "Be It Resolved."
  - d)** Each line of a bill or resolution must be numbered.
  - e)** A resolution may be preceded by one or more "whereas clauses" but bills never have them.
  - f)** The language of a bill must always be in the imperative mood. That is, it must state exactly what is to be done and by whom.
- (2) Bills.** A bill is an enumeration of specific provisions which if enacted will have the force of law. It must be definite; it must state exactly what is to be done or not to be done. A penalty must be stipulated, or the law will not have force. A bill does not have "whereas clauses."
- (3) Resolutions.** A simple resolution is a generalized statement expressing the beliefs of the group adopting it, and it does not have the force of law. Constitutional amendments fall into this category since they must be submitted to the states after they are passed by congress. Resolutions may be preceded by one or more whereas clauses, stating the principle reasons for adopting the resolution, but the number of clauses should be limited and may be omitted altogether.

#### 13.18.4. Presiding Officer

- (a)** The Presiding Officer shall follow parliamentary procedure according to Robert's Rules of Order and the Table of Frequently Used Parliamentary Motions (available at <https://www.osaa.org/activities/spe>). Rules may be suspended for personal privilege only.
- (b)** Bills and resolutions shall appear in the order in which they appear on the docket. To re-order the docket, a motion must be made following Robert's Rules of Order.
- (c)** A speaker from the authoring school shall be recognized to open the debate, but thereafter has no special privilege to be recognized over other members and does not have the privilege to close the debate.
- (d)** Using a stopwatch, the Presiding Officer shall time speakers and call "Time" at the expiration of three minutes.
- (e)** Amendments must be in writing and must state exactly the words to be added or stricken (NSDA Amendment Forms may be used and are available at <https://www.osaa.org/activities/spe>). Amendments must be approved by the presiding officer, then the parliamentarian. Amendments must maintain the spirit of the bill or resolution. Amendments must be made during consideration of the bill or resolution that is being amended. Amendments may be made during affirmative or negative speeches. Amendments shall be considered only if they receive a second from one third of the members by a show of hands.
- (f)** Members shall claim the floor in debate only if they wish to oppose the views of the preceding speaker; debate will alternate.
- (g)** A member may speak more than once on the same question.
- (h)** Use of the motion for previous question shall be discouraged so long as members have something new to contribute to the discussion. (When the motion for previous question is made, a standing vote shall be taken, as a two-thirds majority is required.)
- (i)** A member may not yield any portion of his / her speaking time to another except for a question. If the questioner attempts to make a statement or exposition, it should be suppressed immediately by the presiding officer.

- (j) Toward the close of the session, the presiding officer shall announce, "The chair will recognize only those who have not spoken more than once." As soon as debate lags, the presiding officer may state, "General recognition will be resumed."
- (k) The presiding officer should take votes quickly and with precision using the following or similar phrasing:  

"The question is the adoption of the motion (STATE THE EXACT MOTION). Those in favor say, 'Aye'; opposed say, 'No.' The Ayes have it and the motion is adopted."

On the final vote on a bill or an amendment to a bill, and in all cases where other than a majority vote is required for passage, the presiding officer should call for a standing vote. A division of the house may be demanded by any two members on any question on which a voice vote has been taken. The call for a division of the house must be made before another motion has been placed before the assembly.
- (l) Questions of procedures not covered by these rules shall be ruled on by the parliamentarian.
- (m) Other forms will be available at the State Championships (agenda, precedence).

#### **13.18.5. Superior Members**

- (a) First, second and third place shall be awarded in Congress as in other Speech State Championships events. A gavel shall be presented to the outstanding chairperson.
- (b) The scorer from each session shall cast a ballot, ranking the speaker from first to eighth, with all other speakers given a 9. The parliamentarian shall rank the speakers 1 through the final speaker.
- (c) The top three places shall be determined by the lowest cumulative totals. Ties shall be broken first by judges' preference, then by reciprocals, then by speaker points in Super Congress, and finally by speaker points from the preliminary round.

#### **13.18.6. The Official Scorer.**

- (a) The Official Scorer shall call the roll from the seating chart and verify that each member is seated in the place designated on the chart for that member.

#### **13.18.7. Awarding Credit Points.**

- (a) For each speech, a participant shall receive not more than six points as determined by the Official Scorer.
- (b) Points are given for speaking and chairing only; none are awarded for attendance or for clerical duties.
- (c) As a student finishes a speech, the Official Scorer shall award from 0 to 6 points.
- (d) No speaker may receive more than 24 points in any legislative day.
- (e) A student may not speak more than five times per day (not per session) unless no other student wishes to speak. Students may not receive more than five scores per Legislative day (including scores for the chair). If more than five, scores will be for feedback only.

#### **13.18.8. Parliamentary Procedure Review**

It is necessary for all Congress participants to have a working knowledge of parliamentary procedure and Congress rules. The following suggestions should be helpful. All students can profit from studying them.

- (a) Decisions on all bills and resolutions shall be by standing vote unless a roll call is demanded by one-fifth of the members.
- (b) A division of the house may be demanded by any two members on any question on which a voice vote has been taken. The call for division must be made before another motion has been placed before the assembly.
- (c) Speakers are not to ask for the floor unless they wish to oppose the views of the preceding speaker. Debate must alternate from affirmative to negative. If no one wishes to oppose the preceding speaker, the presiding officer may recognize a speaker upholding the same side.

- (d) All speeches are limited to three minutes in length. The first affirmative and negative speaker shall receive a mandatory two-minute question and answer period immediately following the three-minute speech. Following the first two speeches on legislation, the presiding officer will alternately recognize affirmative and negative speakers, who will address the chamber for up to three minutes, followed by one minute of questioning by other delegates.
- (e) A speaker from the authoring school shall be recognized for the privilege to open the debate on the bill or resolution, but thereafter has no special privilege to be recognized over other members and does not have the privilege to close the debate. This also applies to the author of an amendment.
- (f) Once a bill or resolution is taken up on the floor of the assembly, it no longer belongs to the author; it is the property of the group. It therefore is not correct to ask the author "what the bill (or part of the bill) means". The bill means what it says, and the group is not obligated to accept the author's interpretation of what it means.
- (g) The motion for the previous question should not be overworked. As long as someone has something to say, they should be allowed to say it.
- (h) The parliamentarian is the final authority on Student Congress rules and should correct any deviations from the rules.
- (i) Under no circumstances are members permitted to argue with the presiding officer. The members elected the presiding officer and should abide by his / her decisions unless those decisions grievously violate the rights of the assembly or its members.

#### **13.18.9. Guidelines for Electronic Device Use in Student Congress**

- (a) Computers or other electronic devices may not be used to receive information from any source (coaches or assistant coaches included) inside or outside of the room in which the Congress occurs. Internet access, use of email, instant messaging, or other means of receiving information from sources inside or outside of the competition room are prohibited.
- (b) Penalty. Contestants found to have violated provision (a) will be disqualified from the tournament and will forfeit all sessions. The tournament director shall make the final decision concerning disqualification.
- (c) Availability of Evidence: Contestants electing to use computers have the responsibility to promptly provide a copy of any evidence read in a speech for inspection by the Official Scorer, Parliamentarian or other members of the Congress present.
- (d) Contestants electing to use computers are responsible for providing their own computers, batteries, extension cords, and all other necessary accessories. Tournament hosts will not be responsible for providing computers, Internet, printers, software, paper or extension cords for contestants.
- (e) Because public speaking decorum remains an important element of debate, all debaters are expected to stand at the front of the room facing the judge while speaking.
- (f) Contestants choosing to use computers and related equipment accept the risk of equipment failure. Judges and/or contest directors will give no special consideration or accommodation, including no additional speech time or prep time, should equipment failure occur.
- (g) By choosing to use computers in the round, competitors are consenting to give tournament officials the right to search their files. Competitors who do not wish to consent should not use computers in the session.

#### **13.18.10. Congressional Debate Evidence Rules - Responsibilities of Contestants Reading Evidence in Congressional Debate**

- (a) **Evidence defined.** Debaters are responsible for the validity of all evidence they introduce in the debate. Evidence includes, but is not limited to: facts, statistics, or examples attributable to a specific, identifiable, authoritative source used to support a claim. Unattributed ideas are the opinion of the student competitor and are not evidence.
- (b) **Oral source citation.** In all debate events, contestants are expected to, at a minimum, orally deliver the following when introducing evidence in a debate round: primary author(s)' name (last) and year of

publication. Any other information such as source, author's qualifications, etc., may be given, but is not required. Should two or more quotations be used from the same source, the author and year must be given orally only for the first piece of evidence from that source. Subsequently, only the author's name is required. Oral citations do not substitute for the written source citation. The full written citation must be provided if requested by an opponent or judge.

- (c) **Written source citation.** To the extent provided by the original source, a written source citation must include:
- (1) Full name of primary author and/or editor
  - (2) Publication date
  - (3) Source
  - (4) Title of article
  - (5) Date accessed for digital evidence
  - (6) Full URL, if applicable
  - (7) Author qualifications
  - (8) Page number(s)
- (d) **Paraphrasing, authoritative source versus general understanding.** If paraphrasing is used in a debate, the debater will be held to the same standard of citation and accuracy as if the entire text of the evidence were read. For example, if a debater references a specific theory by a specific author, the debater must also be able to provide an original source. If a debater were to reference social contract theory in general, that would not be an authoritative source that would require citation. However, if the debater references "John Locke's Social Contract," evidence would need to be available.
- (e) **Ellipses prohibited.** In all debate events, the use of internal ellipsis (...) is prohibited unless it is a replication of the original document. Debaters may omit the reading of certain words; however, the text that is verbally omitted must be present in the text of what was read for opposing debaters and/or judges to examine. The portions of the evidence read including where the debater begins and ends must be clearly marked.
- (f) **Availability of original source.**
- (1) When challenged, the original source or copy of the relevant of evidence read in round must be available to the student making the challenge within two speeches. In all debate events, for reference, any evidence that is presented during the round must be made available to the opponent during the round if requested.
  - (2) **Original source(s) defined.** Understanding that teams/individuals obtain their evidence in multiple ways, the original source for evidence may include, but is not limited solely to, one of the following:
    - a) Accessing the live or displaying a copy of a web page (teams/individuals may access the internet to provide this information if requested).
    - b) A copy of the page(s) the evidence is on, the page preceding, and the page following, or the actual printed (book, periodical, pamphlet, etc.) source.
    - c) Copies or electronic versions of published handbooks (i.e., Baylor Briefs; Planet Debate, etc.).
    - d) Electronic or printed versions or the webpage for a debate institute or the NDCA sponsored Open Evidence Project or similar sites.
  - (3) Debaters, even if they have acquired the evidence other than by original research, are still responsible for the content and accuracy of the evidence they present and/or read.
- (g) **Distinguishing between which parts of each piece of evidence are and are not read in a particular round.** In all debate events, debaters must mark their evidence in two ways:
- (1) Oral delivery of each piece of evidence must be identified by a clear oral pause or by saying phrases such as "quote/unquote" or "mark the card." The use of a phrase is definitive and may be preferable to debaters. Clear, oral pauses are left solely to the discretion of the judge(s) and parliamentarian.
  - (2) The written text must be marked to clearly indicate the portions read in the debate. In the written text the standard practices of underlining what is read, or highlighting what is read, and/or minimizing what is unread, is definitive and may be preferable to debaters. The clarity of other means of marking evidence is left to the discretion of the judge.
- (h) **Private communication prohibited.** Private, personal correspondence or communication between an author and the debater is inadmissible as evidence.

#### 13.18.11. Definitions of Evidence Violations in Congressional Debate

- (a) “Distortion” exists when the textual evidence itself contains added and/or deleted word(s), which significantly alters the conclusion of the author (e.g., deleting ‘not’; adding the word ‘not’). Additionally, failure to bracket added words would be considered distortion of evidence.
- (b) “Non-existent evidence” means one or more of the following:
  - (1) The debater citing the evidence is unable to provide the original source or copy of the relevant pages when requested by their opponent, judge, or tournament official.
  - (2) The original source provided does not contain the evidence cited.
  - (3) The evidence is paraphrased but lacks an original source to verify the accuracy of the paraphrasing.
  - (4) The debater is in possession of the original source, but declines to provide it to a student who challenges, the chair, or the parliamentarian upon request.
- (c) “Clipping” occurs when the debater claims to have read the complete text of highlighted and/or underlined evidence when, in fact, the contestant skips or omits portions of evidence.
- (d) “Straw argument”. A “straw argument” is a position or argumentative claim introduced by an author for the purpose of refuting, discrediting or characterizing it. Reliance on a straw argument occurs in a debate round when a debater asserts incorrectly that the author supports or endorses the straw argument as their own position. Note: A debater who acknowledges using a “straw argument” when verbally first read in the round, would not be misrepresenting evidence. However, if the debater fails to acknowledge the use of a “straw argument” and their opponent questions the use of such an argument, then that debater has committed an evidence violation.

**13.18.12. Procedures for Raising Evidence Questions During a Congressional Debate Session.** The procedures for making an In-round evidence question are as follows:

- (a) Congressional Debate entries must rise to a point of information after a speech to formally request a copy of the evidence cited, the citation, or the original source of evidence. When requested during the point of information, the presiding officer will instruct the debater being challenged to produce the copy of the evidence, citation, or original source. The debater being challenged must produce the requested materials in a timely fashion. Should a debater feel they are not receiving the information they requested in a timely fashion, they may rise to another point of information for the presiding officer and parliamentarian to address the situation.
- (b) Debaters who request the information may receive the evidence from the presiding officer within a period of two speeches. The round would not be put on hold for the request to be completed. For example, if a debater rises to a point of order after speech #4, then by the conclusion of speech #6, the requested evidence should be presented to the presiding officer.
- (c) If after reviewing the evidence in question, a debater feels that an evidence violation has occurred, they may submit a formal allegation by completing an evidence challenge form (see Appendix) and, after making a motion to approach the chair, the debater will present the form to the presiding officer and parliamentarian.

**13.18.13. Penalties for Resolving Evidence Violations During Congressional Debate**

- (a) All evidence challenges must occur during the session of Congressional Debate where an alleged violation took place, and should happen before a vote on the pending legislation. If the concern arises during the last cycle of speeches the parliamentarian may grant a challenge after the vote, prior to the first speech on a new piece of legislation.
- (b) Parliamentarians are responsible for resolving disputes between debaters regarding oral citations and written source citations. When the parliamentarian has such a dispute in the round, the parliamentarian must submit the protest form to the tabulation committee. All protest forms will be submitted to the tabulation committee.
  - (1) The parliamentarian will determine the legitimacy of the challenge, and if the parliamentarian considers the request justified, the debater making the allegation will move a point of order to address the allegation to the chamber.
  - (2) The debater being challenged will be recognized by the presiding officer for a response to the evidence violation.
  - (3) The parliamentarian will evaluate the legitimacy and severity of the charge and make a recommendation to the presiding officer for action. The recommendation may be charged against either student involved in the dispute. Depending upon the severity of the offense, the parliamentarian may opt to censure the debater(s). Refer to section 7.5. for an outline of the severity of offenses and corresponding actions.



- (4) The presiding officer will announce the parliamentarian's decision and recognize either/both debaters for consequent action.

#### **13.18.14. Penalties for Evidence Violations in Congressional Debate**

- (a) If the parliamentarian determines that an entry has violated one of the rules listed in 7.1(A-D, F-H) (oral citation, written citation, indication of parts of card read or not read, use of private communication), the parliamentarian must notify the judge(s) of the violation. The judge(s) and parliamentarian may at their discretion disregard the evidence, diminish the credibility given to the evidence, take the violation into account (solely or partially) in the ranking of chamber participants, or take no action. These offenses are considered minor and a parliamentarian sanction is the only prescribed penalty.
- (b) If a debater(s) commits an evidence violation of "distortion" uses "nonexistent evidence" uses a "straw argument" or the use of "ellipses" such action will result in the debater(s) committing the evidence violation not being ranked by the judge(s) and parliamentarian. These offenses are considered major and censure by the parliamentarian would be applied.
- (c) Evidence infractions violate the Code of Honor. Depending on the severity, an offense may result in the notification of said offense to the contestant's high school administration and chapter advisor, loss of all District and/or National Tournament merit points, including trophy and sweepstakes points for the offending student(s), and/or revocation of Association membership.

## **APPENDIX**

### **A. Coaches' Code of Ethics.**

1. An ethical coach should not share the flow sheet on a debate judged while that coach's teams are still in contention. General discussion concerning types of cases is not considered the same as sharing a flow.
2. The coach should discourage the trading of flow sheets between schools during the tournament.
3. Judges should not share a debate flow sheet or discuss with the contestants what has been judged in any event during the tournament.
4. Fabrication of evidence or taking evidence out of context is unethical in any speech event.
5. When possible, an ethical judge should not judge a student whom the judge has instructed or who is a personal friend or relative.
6. Speech State Championships rules should be enforced concerning Extemp preparation: Contestants may use books, magazines or notes during the preparation period, but may not confer with any other person about the topic.
7. An ethical coach will not allow students to enter conflicting events when the rules prohibit it or allow students to bypass the conflict rule by entering contests under assumed names.
8. An ethical coach will not enter a student from another school as part of that coach's squad.
9. A coach should be reminded that the conduct of the squad reflects upon the total forensic organization.
10. The coach is responsible for instructing students on Speech Handbook rules regarding plagiarism.

### **B. Sample Bibliography.**

Dement, William C. Some Must Watch While Some Must Sleep. San Francisco: San Francisco Book Co., 1976, pp.56-83.

Doods, E.R. The Greeks and the Irrational. Berkeley, 1951; rpt. Boston: Beacon, 1957, pp. 10-11.

Erickson, Erik H. Insight and Responsibility: Lectures on the Ethical Implications of Psychoanalytic Insight. New York: Norton, 1964, pp.221-222.

Foulkes, David. "Dreams of Innocence." Psychology Today, 12 (December 1978), pp.78-88.

### **C. Recommended Debate Divisions at Invitational Speech Tournaments.**

1. Adopted by the OHSSLCA, April, 1989.
2. The following debate divisions are suggested to the directors of invitational debate tournaments in Oregon:
  - a) NOVICE: All students in their first year of competitive debate, including those who have attended summer workshops and camps.
  - b) JUNIOR: All students involved in their second year of debate competition.

- c) **SENIOR:** All students involved in their third or fourth year of debate competition.

**D. Guidelines for Judging Oregon Style Cross-Examination Debate.**

1. Teams are assigned code numbers in order to generate an atmosphere of impartiality. Judges are not to ask students about their school affiliation. If you find that you have a personal bias against any of the competitors in the round, please disqualify yourself and ask for another ballot.
2. Teams are assigned to debate either affirmative or negative. Please judge only on the quality of debating and eliminate all personal opinions about the topic. In other words, please do not debate the debaters.
  - a) The affirmative team must support the debate resolution.
  - b) The negative team must argue against the affirmative proposal for adoption of the resolution.
3. Speeches in the debate are limited by time, follow a strict order and have specific duties. Any material offered in overtime should be disregarded. The following briefly explains what happens in each speech.
  - a) The first affirmative constructive speaker (eight minutes) presents reasons to change from the present system. A plan to change from the present system must be presented by the first or second affirmative constructive speaker.
  - b) Cross-examination of the first affirmative by a negative speaker (three minutes).
  - c) The first negative constructive speaker (eight minutes) should attack the reasons to change and may attack the plan.
  - d) Cross-examination of the first negative by an affirmative speaker (three minutes).
  - e) The second affirmative constructive speaker (eight minutes) should defend the reasons to change.
  - f) Cross-examination of the second affirmative speaker by the negative speaker who did not question the first affirmative (three minutes).
  - g) The second negative constructive speaker (eight minutes) should attack the affirmative plan and may attack the reasons for change.
  - h) Cross-examination of the second negative speaker by the affirmative speaker who did not question the first negative (three minutes).
  - i) The first negative rebuttal speaker (five minutes) should re-attack the reasons for change.
  - j) The first affirmative rebuttal speaker (five minutes) must defend the plan and should defend the affirmative's reasons for change.
  - k) The second negative rebuttal speaker (five minutes) summarizes the debate while emphasizing the best negative arguments.
  - l) The second affirmative rebuttal speaker (five minutes) summarizes the debate while emphasizing the best affirmative arguments.
  - m) In addition to the above, each team has a total of five minutes' preparation time to be used between speeches at the discretion of the team.
4. No new arguments may be raised in the rebuttal speeches except the first affirmative rebuttal; however, new analysis or evidence supporting arguments presented in the constructive speeches is encouraged. The first affirmative rebuttalist must respond to the second negative's arguments. Judges and contestants should not be allowed to request to see evidence from debaters unless the evidence has been challenged as invalid by the opposing team during the round.
5. **The Win or Lose Decision:** Many judges consider these issues important in deciding who won the debate.
  - a) **Topicality** – Does the affirmative's proposed plan reasonably adhere to the limitations created by the resolution?
  - b) **Significance** – Is there a justification to change from the present system?
  - c) **Inherency** – Is there a clear barrier, which prevents the present system from solving the problems identified by the affirmative?
  - d) **Solvency** – Can the affirmative's proposed plan solve the problems better than the present system?
  - e) **Disadvantages** – Do the advantages of the affirmative's proposal outweigh the disadvantages presented by the negative?

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- f) **Courtesy** – It is the duty of all competitors to show courtesy and respect for their opponents at all times. Lack of courtesy and respect could be a factor in your decision.
- 6. **One team must win; one team must lose.** You must make an independent decision. Please do not discuss your decision with the debaters or with other judges on the panel.
- 7. The areas you are asked to check on the ballot are:
  - a) **Analysis** – Logical explanation of critical issues.
  - b) **Proof** – Sufficient quantity and appropriate interpretation of evidence with complete source citation including author, qualifications, page(s) and date of publication the first time a source is used. Any subsequent citation of that source must list author and page number.
  - c) **Organization** – Logical and orderly presentation.
  - d) **Refutation** – Direct response to issues raised by the opponent.
  - e) **Delivery** – Understandable, interesting and persuasive presentation.
- 8. Please be certain that you sign your ballot in case we need to contact you for clarification.
- 9. Judges should indicate on the ballot why each team won or lost. The debaters read each ballot carefully and will learn a great deal from your comments about their ability to communicate with you, the judge.
- 10. **Critiques.** Judges may not provide oral critiques. All critiques including specific comments about the round and general comments about debate strategies and philosophies shall be written on the ballot. A description of the judge's paradigm by the judge prior to the round shall not be considered an oral critique.
- 11. **Disclosure.** Except on the ballot, judges shall not disclose the outcome of a round with the participants in the round. Further, judges shall not discuss the performance of students they have judged with those students at any time during the tournament.
- 12. **Judging Protocol.**
  - a) Please remember that some of the students you will be judging are very young, impressionable and easily influenced. Your critique, written or verbal, may affect their feelings about themselves and their futures in competitive debate. Regardless of their levels of competency, please keep in mind that the students are courageously striving to learn and achieve. So, please be kind.
  - b) We thank you all for being here today and hope that you enjoy yourselves. You are the ones who make it possible for us to offer the speech and debate program for students.

**E. Guidelines for Judging Lincoln-Douglas Value Debate.****1. What is Lincoln-Douglas Debate?**

Lincoln-Douglas Debate is "one on one" argumentation where each debater attempts to convince the judge of the acceptability of his side of the resolution.

**2. Definition of a "Proposition of Value"**

The resolutions chosen for use in a Lincoln-Douglas Values Debates are propositions of value concerned with ethics. In a value debate, the debaters' reasons for supporting or opposing the resolution should be based upon some system of values. Each speaker should argue in favor of what a reasonable listener should presume to be good.

**3. Format**

Each speaker in any debate has an equal amount of speaking time to persuade the judge. In Lincoln-Douglas Values Debate, the time is divided in the following way:

Affirmative Constructive	6 minutes
Cross-Examination by Negative	3 minutes
Negative Constructive	7 minutes
Cross-Examination by the Affirmative	3 minutes
First Affirmative Rebuttal	4 minutes
Negative Rebuttal	6 minutes

Second Affirmative Rebuttal

3 minutes

Each speaker is allowed three total minutes of preparation time during the course of the debate.

4. **Duties of the speakers.**

- a) The affirmative speaker is required to present a position supporting the resolution.
- b) In the negative constructive speech, the speaker must:
  - 1) Present an opposing value to the resolution, and
  - 2) Directly clash with the affirmative value(s).
- c) Both speakers bear the burden of clash in the rebuttal speeches; that is, each speaker must respond to his or her opponent's value in the debate.
- d) It is the duty of all competitors to show courtesy and respect for their opponents at all times. Lack of courtesy and respect could be a factor in your decision.

5. **Making your decision.**

- a) **One speaker must win; one speaker must lose.** You must make an independent decision. Please do not discuss your decision with the debaters or with other judges on the panel.
  - b) Since neither side can conclusively prove a value, the decision should go to the debater who better upholds his / her side of the resolution through effective analysis, reasoning and evidence, refutation and delivery.
  - c) **Evidence Value** debating is more subjective (feelings / emotions) than policy debating (facts). That does not mean, however, that Value Lincoln-Douglas Debaters do not have to utilize evidence in support of arguments they present. In value debate, logic and reasoning are stressed, but as in all debate, evidence (quoted material from a nationally published source) should be used in supporting arguments.
  - d) No new arguments may be raised in the rebuttal speeches except the first affirmative rebuttal when responses to negative arguments are permitted; however, new analysis or evidence supporting arguments presented in the constructive speeches is encouraged. Judges and contestants should not be allowed to request to see evidence from debaters unless the evidence has been challenged as invalid by the opposing speaker during the round.
  - e) **THE FINAL DECISION IN THE DEBATE SHOULD NEVER BE BASED UPON THE JUDGE'S PERSONAL CONVICTION REGARDING THE TOPIC.** Remember, debaters have no choice about which side of the topic they must uphold. The ballot asks that you vote based upon "who did the better job of debating," NOT which side of the resolution you personally support.
6. **Critiques.** Judges may not provide oral critiques. All critiques including specific comments about the round and general comments about debate strategies and philosophies shall be written on the ballot. A description of the judge's paradigm by the judge prior to the round shall not be considered an oral critique.
7. **Disclosure.** Except on the ballot, judges shall not disclose the outcome of a round with the participants in the round. Further, judges shall not discuss the performance of students they have judged with those students at any time during the tournament.
8. **Judging Protocol.**
- a) Please remember that some of the students you will be judging are very young, impressionable and easily influenced. Your critique, written or verbal, may affect their feelings about themselves and their futures in competitive debate. Regardless of their levels of competency, please keep in mind that the students are courageously striving to learn and achieve. So, please be kind.
  - b) We thank you all for being here today and hope that you enjoy yourselves. You are the ones who make it possible for us to offer the speech and debate program for students.

F. **Guidelines for Tournaments Offering Parliamentary Debate.**

- 1. **Recommended Divisions** for invitational tournaments should be the same as other debate events.
- 2. **Topic Areas.**
  - a) Novice and Junior Division should be the only divisions with established topic areas.

- b) Speech State Championships Directors should establish a topic area or a list of topic areas, seeking out topics from other schools when necessary and mail out a copy with the invitation.
- c) Topic areas should be broad enough to allow for student research prior to the tournament.
- d) Topic areas should be general in nature allowing them to be very "debatable" (i.e., media, crime, economics, congress, social issues or Supreme Court).
- e) Topics should be limited to fact, value and policy resolutions only; metaphorical topics are not used at the Speech State Championships. Speech State Championships Directors may elect to use one type per round.
- f) Speech State Championships Directors may elect to offer three resolutions per round. The Proposition will select a resolution to eliminate; the Opposition eliminates a second. The remaining resolution is the one to be debated during the round.

**G. Guidelines for Judging Parliamentary Debate.**

- 1. **No Ties.** One team must win; one team must lose. You must make an independent decision. Please do not discuss your decision with the debaters or with the other judges if you are in a multiple judge panel.
- 2. **Evidence.** Evidence is of a general nature. Students may only use a dictionary while preparing for the debate.
- 3. **New Arguments.** No new arguments may be raised in the rebuttal speeches except when the proposition rebuttal responds to Opposition arguments; new arguments and analysis during constructive speeches is encouraged.
- 4. **Disregard Personal Opinion of the Topic.** The final decision in the debate should never be based upon the judge's personal conviction regarding the topic. Remember that debaters have no choice about which side of the topic they must uphold.
- 5. **Things to Reward.** Reward students for using good organization, analysis, logic and reasoning, and effective refutation.

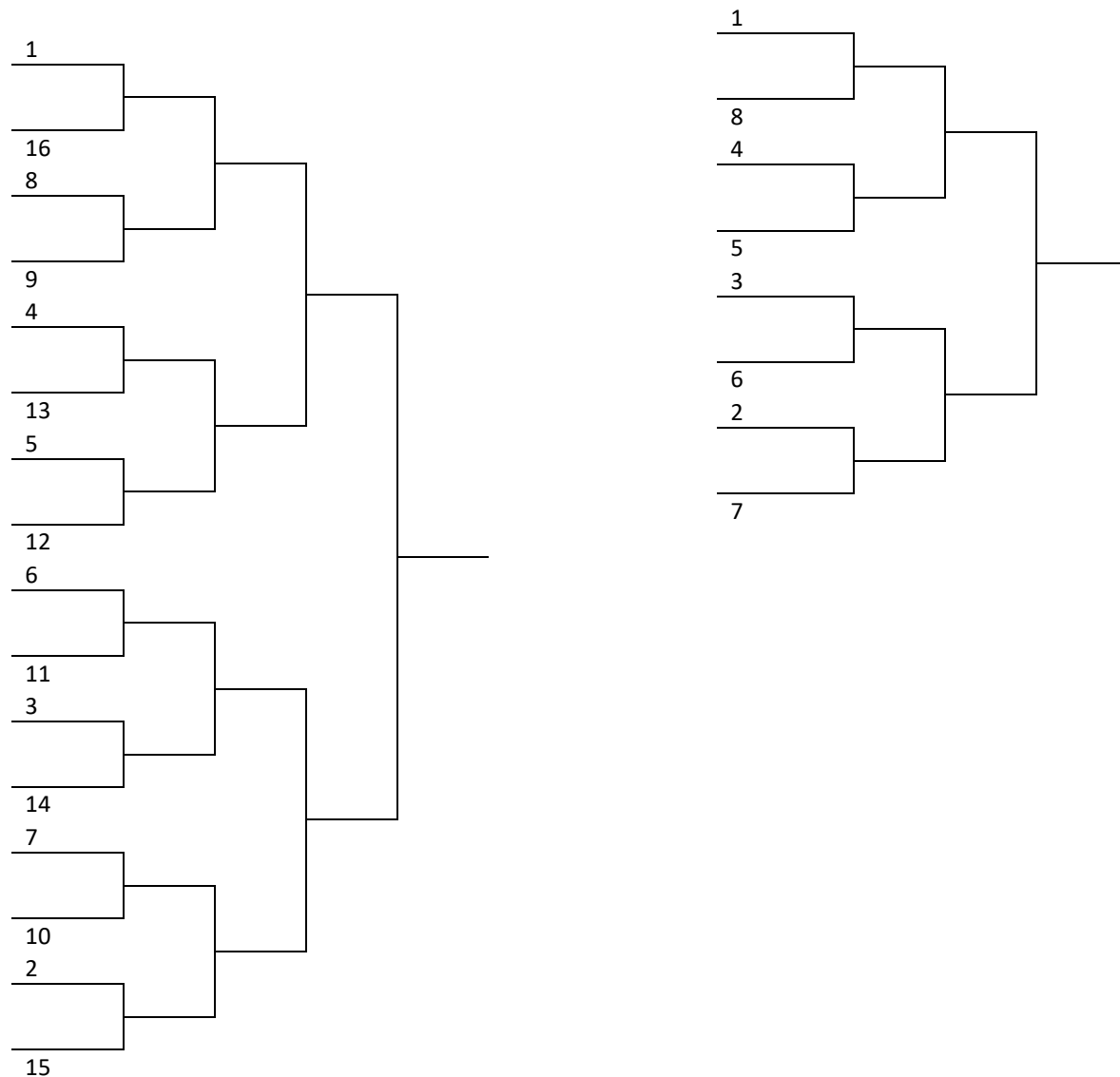
**H. Guidelines for Judging Public Forum Debate.**

- 1. **What is Public Forum Debate?** Public Forum is a unique debate form. While Policy Debate focuses on a plan to solve the problem(s) posed by the resolution, and Value Lincoln Douglas Debate focuses on the core value of the resolution, Public Forum Debate focuses on advocacy of a position derived from issues presented in the resolution, not a prescribed set of burdens.
- 2. **No Ties.** One team must win; one team must lose. You must make an independent decision. Please do not discuss your decision with the debaters or with the other judges if you are in a multiple judge panel.
- 3. **Debate Format.** There shall be two speakers on each team. The teams flip for sides at the beginning of the round. The team that wins the flip may choose one of two options: EITHER the SIDE of the topic they wish to defend (pro or con) OR the SPEAKING POSITION they wish to have (begin the debate or end the debate).
- 4. **Plans/Counterplans.** For the purposes of Public Forum Debate rules, a plan or counterplan is defined as a formalized, comprehensive proposal for implementation. Neither the pro nor con side is permitted to offer a plan or counterplan in Public Forum Debate; rather, teams should offer reasoning to support a position of advocacy. However, debaters may offer generalized, practical solutions.
- 5. **Crossfire.** During the "Crossfire" questioning periods in Public Forum debate, the time belongs to all debaters to ask and answer questions. The first question of each Crossfire period should be asked by the first speaking team. The questions and answers should be brief and specific. Speakers should stand during regular Crossfire and should remain seated for the Grand Crossfire.
- 6. **Support.** Logical reasoning, maturity of thought, and effectiveness of communication are of primary consideration. Evidence, examples and analogies are to be used for the purpose of illustration.
- 7. **New Arguments.** New arguments in the "final focus" should be ignored. The "final focus" must be based upon arguments and issues previously addressed in the debate.
- 8. **Disregard Personal Opinion of the Topic.** In making a decision, a judge should be as objective as possible. Remember these are propositions upon which the judge may have strong feelings of which the debaters are unaware. Judges should adjudicate the round as it is debated, not as they personally feel about the topic.
- 9. **Things to Reward.**
  - a) Reward students for displaying good reasoning, logic and analysis.

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- b) Reward students for utilizing evidence that supports their analysis.
- c) Reward students for directly clashing with the ideas presented by their opponents.
- d) Reward students for communicating ideas with clarity, organization, eloquence and professional decorum.

## DEBATE BRACKETS



**NOTE:** In Oregon Style Cross-Examination Debate and Lincoln-Douglas Policy Debate, teams shall “flip for sides” unless they have met previously in the tournament. Teams that have met previously shall reverse sides from the previous meeting.

Brackets shall be maintained unless it is necessary to break the brackets in order to avoid the meeting of two teams from the same school prior to the final round.

## **OSAA GENERAL POLICIES**

### **RULES**

#### **[Rule 3 – Contests – Sportsmanship – Crowd Control](#)**

See RULES - Athletic, Cheerleading and Dance/Drill “Rule 3-Contests-Sportsmanship-Crowd Control” in the OSAA Handbook.

#### **[Rule 7 – Out-of-Season and Non-School Activities](#)**

See RULES - Athletic, Cheerleading and Dance/Drill “Rule 7-Out of Season and Non-School Activities” in the OSAA Handbook.

### **EXECUTIVE BOARD POLICIES**

#### **1. [ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS / AREA-WIDE EMERGENCY PROCEDURES](#)**

See OSAA Executive Board Policy “ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS/AREA-WIDE EMERGENCY PROCEDURES” in the OSAA Handbook, revised May 2020.

#### **2. [MORATORIUM WEEK](#)**

See OSAA Executive Board Policy “MORATORIUM WEEK” in the OSAA Handbook, revised May 2014.

#### **3. [NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY](#)**

See OSAA Executive Board Policy “NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY” in the OSAA Handbook, revised July 2019.

**[\(Complaint Form\)](#)**

#### **4. [WITHDRAWAL DURING A COMPETITION](#)**

See OSAA Executive Board Policy “WITHDRAWAL DURING A COMPETITION” in the OSAA Handbook.