

2018 Speech Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes  
March 12, 2018 – Pierre

The SDHSAA Speech Advisory Committee met at the SDHSAA office in Pierre on March 12, 2018. SDHSAA Assistant Executive Director, Brooks Bowman, called the meeting to order at 9:40am. Committee members present were Cindy Froiland, Teresa Fester, Dr. Thomas Merriman, Travis Dahle, Justin Speck, Sally Pies, Susan Oleson, and Kim Davidson. SDHSAA Representatives present were Brooks Bowman and SDHSAA Executive Director Dr. Daniel Swartos. Audience members present Helene Wedel, Beth Poppen – DeSmet High School, and Jill Mendel – James Valley Christian High School.

The committee began by reviewing the minutes from the March 7, 2017 Speech Advisory Committee meeting. Travis Dahls made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Susan Oleson. The motion passed 8-0.

Brooks Bowman gave a report on the 2018 State One-Act Play participation. There were 45 participating schools, 26 Superior Plays, 179 Superior Performers, and 23 Superior Ensembles.

Future dates for One-Act Play competitions were reviewed. Those dates are as follows:

First Allowable One-Act Play Competition: January 7, 2019  
Class “B” & Class “A” Region Contests - January 14-17 & January 21-24, 2019  
State Festival – January 31-February 2, 2019 at Northern State University  
2020 State Festival – February 6-8, 2020 at Sioux Falls O’Gorman

The committee reviewed Article 6, Section 1 of the One-Act Play Handbook regarding selection of plays. Brooke Bowman discussed complaints that were received regarding questionable content in a play performed at the State One-Act Festival. Audience member, Helene Wedel, a concerned parent of a student from James Valley Christian High School, spoke to the committee regarding her concerns. Following her testimony, she asked that the committee consider adopting language from the SDHSAA Athletic Handbook regarding ethics and integrity of student participants, create guidelines for judges in determining what is in bad taste, and adding an administrative verification form requirement for all schools participating in One-Act Plays that administrators would need to sign to verify that their school’s play does not violate their community standards.

After much discussion, Justin Speck made a motion, seconded by Teresa Fester to approve the following 3 items:

1. Add the following to the SDHSAA Theatre Etiquette: “If you feel offended by the content of a play, you may quietly leave the theatre without causing a scene.”
2. Create an administrative verification form requiring 2 administrators to sign verifying that they approve of the content of the One-Act play being presented by their school.

3. Require schools to submit a brief synopsis of their play when registering for competition. These synopses will be made available to all audience members at the State Festival.

Kim Davidson motioned to amend the motion, seconded by Teresa Fester, in order to vote on each item separately. The motion passed unanimously.

Cindy Froiland motioned, seconded by Susan Oleson, to approve item 2. The motion passed 7-1, with Kim Davidson dissenting.

Teresa Fester motioned, seconded by Travis Dahle, to approve item 1. The motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Thomas Merriman motioned, seconded by Justin Speck, to approve item 3. Susan Oleson recommended that the language be changed to “If you must leave during a play, please do so respectfully”. The motion passed unanimously.

The committee went into recess at 11:02am, and was adjourned at 11:09am.

Brooks Bowman reviewed the number of participating schools in Region One-Act competition. It was reported that participation has seen an increase over the past several years. If this increase continues, the committee may need to consider increasing the number of class B regions for competition. No changes were recommended at this time.

Brooks Bowman reviewed copyright regulations regarding the use of copyrighted music in One-Act Play competition. According to conversations that Mr. Bowman has had with the three main Performing Rights Organizations, schools will not be prosecuted for use of recorded copyrighted music in their One-Act plays. If live performers create their own arrangements of copyrighted music, in sheet music form, an arranger’s license will be required. Once a license is created by the performing rights organizations to cover K-12 schools, Mr. Bowman plans to ask the SDHSAA Board of Directors to purchase this license for each SDHSAA member school. Until such license is made available schools are permitted to use recorded copyrighted music in their productions.

Brooks Bowman discussed the possibility of charging admission to audience members at the State One-Act Festival. A \$5 per student, \$10 per adult admission fee was discussed. State One-Act participants and directors would not be charged an admission fee. Logistics of how this would work will be taken care of by the SDHSAA. The committee did not see any concerns in adding an admission fee, other than working out any royalties that may be required. The SDHSAA will look into this concern.

Susan Oleson motioned, seconded by Kim Davidson, to approve “To Kill A Mockingbird” as the 2018-2019 Technical Theatre Contest prompt. After some discussion, Susan withdrew her motion to allow further discussion of other suggested plays. The committee discussed several

other possible options. After more discussion, Susan Oleson once again motioned, seconded by Kim Davidson, to approve "To Kill A Mockingbird" as the 2018-2019 Technical Theatre Contest prompt. The motion passed unanimously.

The committee then began a lengthy review of all submitted Call for Judges forms in order to determine a list of recommended judges for the 2018-2019 State One-Act Festival and State Oral Interp Festival. A list of judges was developed. Brooks Bowman will contact the recommended judges in the near future.

The committee began discussions regarding the State Debate Tournament. Brooks Bowman reviewed future dates for the debate program. The upcoming dates are as follows:

1. First Allowable Debate & Individual Events Competition - October 29, 2018
2. State Debate & I.E. Tournament - March 1-2, 2019 at Sioux Falls O'Gorman HS
3. Dates and site for the 2020 State Debate Tournament - March 6-7, 2020 at Huron

The committee next discussed the NSDA Big Questions Debate. It was motioned by Travis Dahle, seconded by Sally Pies, to add the following to page 2, Section D. of the Debate Handbook: "Students will be permitted to participate in the NSDA Big Questions Debate and World Schools Debate qualifiers outside of the regular debate season". The motion passed unanimously.

Travis Dahle motioned, seconded by Dr. Thomas Merriman, to utilize NFL and/or NSDA Extemp Topics from January and/or February for use in the SDHSAA State Debate Tournament. The motion passed unanimously.

The committee discussed the following rule change proposal from Lennox High School:

*"1. Each school that enters a team(s) in policy debate must provide one judge for each team entered who (is) are available to judge all policy. This does not need to be a head coach.*

*2. Each school that enter(s) (a) LD debater(s) must provide one judge for each LD debater entered who is available to judge all LD. One may be the same as one of the policy judges, but not both. \*Note teams that provide more judges than needed results in fewer rounds for those judges.*

*3. 1 to 2 Public Forum teams: a team must provide 1 person who can judge public forum and list them on tournament registration."*

Sally pies motioned, seconded by Travis Dahle, to approve the above rule changes. The motion passed unanimously.

The committee reviewed the seeding proposal submitted by Sioux Falls Roosevelt High School. Travis Dahle motioned, seconded by Dr. Thomas Merriman, to table this item. The motion passed unanimously.

The committee reviewed the proposals sent from Aberdeen Central High School. After reviewing these items, the committee decided to review multiple items in the Debate Handbook. After much discussion, Travis Dahle motioned, seconded by Sally Pies to approve the following changes to the State Debate Handbook. The motion passed unanimously.

Changes to the State Debate Schedule:

**Saturday,**

<b>7:45 a.m.</b>	<b>Meeting of Morning Session Public Forum Debate Judges</b>
8:00	State Policy Debate: Octofinals L-D Debate: Class "AA" – Octofinals L-D Debate: Class "A" – Quarterfinals Public Forum Debate: Class "AA" – Octofinals Public Forum Debate: Class "A" – Quarterfinals
9:30	Public Forum Debate: Class "AA" – Quarterfinals Public Forum Debate: Class "A" – Semifinals
10:00	State Policy Debate: Quarterfinals L-D Debate: Class "AA" – Quarterfinals L-D Debate: Class "A" – Semifinals
11:00	Public Forum Debate: Class "AA" – Semifinals Public Forum Debate: Class "A" – Finals
11:45	Extemp Draw: Class "AA" & Class "A" – Finals
12:00	Original Oratory: Class "AA" & Class "A" – Finals
12:15 p.m.	Extemp Speak: Class "AA" & Class "A" – Finals
1:15	Public Forum Debate: Class "AA" – Finals
1:15	State Policy Debate: Semifinals L-D Debate: Class "AA" – Semifinals L-D Debate: Class "A" – Finals
3:00	State Policy Debate: Finals L-D Debate: Class "AA" – Finals
5:00	State Debate & Individual Events Tournament Awards Presentation <i>(awards may begin before 5:00pm if rounds finish early)</i>

Page 9, Chapter 2, Section 3.A.4.d: **All head and assistant coaches are expected to judge all events in which their school has entries.**

Page 14, Chapter 3, Article 5, Section 4..H.3: In Policy/L-D Debate: The ~~chairman~~ **committee** will ~~select~~ **create a list of available judges from the judge pool of which** a panel of five (in semifinal rounds) or seven (in the final round) judges with the fewest number of objections from the

Criteria List below (sub-points 1-7) **will be chosen at random** and ask the coaches to agree on three. If, after three minutes, the coaches cannot agree, they may each strike one judge and the remaining three judges will be the panel. *\*(Brooks Bowman will contact committee members to create a better wording for this change prior to sending it to the SDHSAA Board for approval)*

Page 15, Chapter 4, Article 1, Section 6.B: ~~The timekeeper will keep a record of each contestant's time and submit this record to the State Tournament Committee.~~ **Each judge shall be one of the official timekeepers at every round, with a stopwatch or stop clock. The judges will keep a record of each contestant's time and submit this record to the committee managing the contest/festival. Time begins when the performance begins, either by the contestant's words or actions. The final time will be the average time of the three judges**

Page 15, Article 2, Section 1.A: All orations ~~must~~ **should** be memorized and be presented from memory.

Page 15, Article 2, Section 2.A: Failure to abide by the foregoing requirements shall automatically eliminate the contestant and his/her oration from the contest for which he/she might otherwise be eligible. **If a selection is not memorized a student cannot be ranked first in a round.**

Eliminate Page 15, Article 2, Section 3.A & B.

Add Page 15, Article 2, Section 3.A: **Each judge shall be one of the official timekeepers at every contest, with a stopwatch or stop clock. The judges will keep a record of each contestant's time and submit this record to the committee managing the contest/festival. Time begins when the performance begins, either by the contestant's words or actions. The final time will be the average time of the three judges**

Travis Dahle motioned, seconded by Dr. Thomas Merriman, to add a time for releasing brackets to page 13, Article 5, Section 4.d, to state "1<sup>st</sup> Brackets will be released at 7:30pm, and the rest will be released as they become available". The motion passed unanimously.

The committee reviewed rules regarding rankings for Individual Events. No changes were recommended.

Justin Speck was excused from the meeting at 2:10pm.

Next, the committee discussed Oral Interp competition dates for the 2018-2019 school year the dates are as follows:

1. Class "B" District Contest – October 29 – November 1 & November 5–8, 2018
2. Class "A" & "B" Region Contests November 12 – 14 & November 19 – 21, 2018
3. 2018-2019 State OI Festival November 30-December 1, 2018 – Watertown
4. 2019-2020 State OI Festival December 6-7, 2019 – Yankton

The committee discussed an increase to district and region chairperson stipends. No action was taken.

The committee discussed creating a standard fee for district and region Interp judges. No action was taken. Brooks Bowman will distribute a list to all district and region chairs containing all judge fees paid by all districts and regions from the previous year to help the chairpersons determine the proper amount to pay their judges for the current year.

The committee reviewed the new rubric and point system now being used at the State Interp Festival. After much discussion, it was motioned by Kim Davidson, seconded by Dr. Thomas Merriman, to remove the use of points in determining a Superior rating. If 2 of the 3 judges on a panel rate a performance as Superior, the student(s) will be awarded a Superior rating. The motion passed unanimously. The rubric will still be used by the judges to determine a performance rating.

Teresa Fester motioned, seconded by Kim Davidson, to make "Western Tales" the 2018-2019 Storytelling theme. The motion passed unanimously.

The committee made recommendations for the 2018-2019 NFHS Speech, Debate, and Theatre Outstanding Educator. Justin Speck and Bob Stevens were recommended. Brooks Bowman will send out a survey to get a vote from the membership.

The next Speech Advisory Committee meeting was set for Tuesday, March 12, 2019.

The committee thanked Kim Davidson for her years of service on the SDHSAA Speech Advisory Committee. Brooks Bowman will send out a request for nominations to replace her beginning in the 2018-2019 school year.

Travis Dahle made a motion, seconded by Dr. Thomas Merriman, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:47pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Brooks Bowman  
Assistant Executive Director  
South Dakota High School Activities Association

