

2025 Speech Meeting Minutes – Zoom Meeting February 10, 2025 – 6:00pm(CT) One-Act Play

1. Call meeting to order.

The meeting was called to order by Brooks Bowman at 6:00 PM CT. Committee members present were:

Corrine Kallemeyn, Steve Hirsch (joined the meeting late), Molly English, Kristi Fischer, Laurie Richards, Adam Rudebusch

2. Dates for 2025-26 One-Act Play contests:

First Allowable One-Act Play Competition: January 12, 2026

Class "B" & Class "A" Region Contests - January 19-22, 2026. ***Regions are encouraged, but not required, to schedule their contests during the first available week. January 26-29, 2025 can then be used as make-up days for postponed contests due to weather the previous week.***

State Festival – February 5-7, 2026 at Rapid City Central High School

2027 State Festival – February 4-6, 2027 at Mitchell High School

3. Consider proposal to continue to allow all schools to select their play genre.

Motion: Molly motioned to allow all classes to choose their own play genre.

Second: Adam Rudebusch

Pass unanimous

4. Review of 2025 State One-Act Festival and consider keeping SDSU as a host site

Motion: Kristi Fischer motioned to add SDSU to the site rotation for the State One-Act Play Festival.

Second: Laurie Richards

Pass unanimous

5. Review state festival schedule

Brooks presented the festival schedule that was used for the 2025 State Festival. He explained that there were 7 instances that required class AA judges to watch a play, give a critique, watch another play, and give another critique without any break in between. The class B judges ran into this situation twice. Brooks explained that this schedule is not sustainable.

6. Discuss creating class AA regions and requiring AA schools to compete at region level to advance to the state festival

Brooks presented a proposal that would create 4 regions for class AA schools for one-act competition. The regions would be:

Region 1 AA – Sioux Falls Roosevelt, Sioux Falls Lincoln, Sioux Falls Washington, Sioux Falls Jefferson, O’Gorman

Region 2 AA – Yankton, Tea Area, Harrisburg, Brandon Valley, Brookings

Region 3 AA – Watertown, Aberdeen Central, Huron, Mitchell, Pierre

Region 4 AA – Rapid City Central, Rapid City Stevens, Douglas, Spearfish, Sturgis

Class AA schools would compete at the region level in order to advance to the state festival. The top 2 plays at each region would advance. Region chairs would need to be assigned, contest sites and dates would need to be established, and judges would need to be hired for each region. Brooks would assist each region chair with organizing things for their contests.

Motion: Laurie Richards motioned to approve the proposal to create 4 class AA regions and require class AA schools to compete at the region level in order to advance to the state festival.

Second: Molly English

Pass

Kristi – yes

Adam – yes

Molly – yes

Laurie – yes

Corrine - no

7. Discuss fine arts officials registration on the SDHSAA website.

Brooks reviewed the fine arts officials registration process. All fine arts adjudicators should register at the start of each school year in order to get listed in our database as an adjudicator who is available to judge contests during the current school year. The

committee would like to see more officials registered so there are more options for contest organizers when they are searching for judges.

8. Choose 2025-26 prompt for Technical Theatre Contest –

By consensus, the committee decided to use the musical, “My Fair Lady” by Lerner and Loewe for the 2025-26 Theatrical Design Contest prompt.

2025 Speech Meeting Agenda – Oral Interp.

1. Dates Scheduled for 2025

- a. Class “B” District Contest – November 3-6 & November 10-13, 2025
- b. Class “A” & “B” Region Contests November 17-20 & November 24-26, 2025
- c. 2025-2026 State OI Festival December 5-6, 2025 – Watertown

2. 2026-2027 State OI Festival December 4-5, 2026 – TBD – possibly Huron

3. Discuss hosting issues and possible solutions/schedule change for State Festival

Brooks explained how several schools that have hosted the state festival previously have backed out of hosting in the future due to the intrusion the event causes in their school day on the Friday of the festival. A new festival schedule is being proposed in order to start rounds after school gets out on the Friday of the festival. The proposed schedule is as follows:

Friday Afternoon, December 5

3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Registration

4:00 p.m. – 7:30pm

“AA” – Non-Original

Oratory

“A” - Serious

Interpretation

“B” – Readers

Theatre

4:15p.m. – 7:45pm

“AA” – Serious

Interpretation

“A” – Duet

Interpretation

“B” – Storytelling

4:30p.m. – 8:00p.m.

“AA” – Humorous

Interpretation

“A” – Non-Original

Oratory

“B” – Serious

Interpretation

Saturday Morning, December 6

7:00-8:00 a.m.

Registration for

Schools Not

Previously

Registered

8:00a.m. –

11:30a.m.

“AA” – Storytelling

“A” – Humorous

Interpretation

“B” – Non-Original

Oratory

8:15a.m. –

11:45a.m.

“AA” – Readers

Theatre

“A” - Poetry Reading

“B” - Humorous

Interpretation

Saturday Afternoon,
December 6

1:00-2:00 p.m.
Registration for
Schools Not
Previously
Registered

2:00 p.m. – 5:30p.m.

"AA" - Poetry
Reading
"AA" - Duet
Interpretation
"A"- Readers Theatre
"A"- Storytelling

"B"- Duet
Interpretation
"B" - Poetry Reading

Motion: Molly English motioned to approve the festival schedule.

Second: Corrine

Pass unanimous

4. Discuss fine arts officials registration on the SDHSAA website.

This was discussed earlier in the meeting.

5. Update Article 6, Section 4.b: At the State Festival, ~~the State Festival Committee must lower the composite rating of~~ any performance exceeding 10 minutes, 30 seconds- **will be disqualified.**

Motion: Adam motioned to approve the change to the handbook.

Second: Molly English

Pass unanimous

6. Update Article 7, Sections 6.4 and 6.5: **STATE FESTIVAL RATINGS.** At the State Festival, each judge is to rate the contestants using a rubric. A student will receive a Superior rating if two of the three judges rate the performance as "Superior". **A student who is given a perfect score from all 3 judges will be recognized as receiving a "Superior with Distinction".**

ALL CONTESTANTS WHO RECEIVE A "SUPERIOR" RATING OR SUPERIOR WITH DISTINCTION RATING SHALL BE AWARDED A MEDAL.

Motion: Molly English motioned to approve the change to the handbook.

Second: Kristi Fischer

Pass unanimous

7. Consider proposal to change the chart used to determine rankings at Oral Interp region contests.

No motion was made on this item.

8. Storytelling theme selection –

Brooks will send the committee members a list of previously used themes and the committee will choose a theme after reviewing the list of previous themes.

9. Other topics the committee wishes to discuss

Molly discussed concerns shared with her by coaches about stark difference between judging between district, region, and state interp contests, feedback not justifying ratings, interp shouldn't be "acting", "unspoken rules" regarding judging and scoring, themes should not be topics, remove the theme for storytelling, concerns about singing during interp performances, and judges not being informed of rules.

Corrine talked about the use of scripts, and asked if the state rubric is available online. Brooks stated that the rubric is not posted, but he will send it to anyone who requests it. He also sends it to region chairs every year.

Laurie asked if the SDHSAA has resources available to new coaches who are starting a new Interp team. Brooks sent a link to a video created by a collegiate interp student a few years ago that goes into detail regarding how to run an interp program. He also mentioned that there are resources at nfhslearn.com.

10. Oral Interp Class A rep. position for 2025-2030

Molly English's term on the committee will expire at the end of this school year. Brooks will send out a request for nominations for a class A Oral Interp rep. Coaches will vote to elect the next rep for the committee.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35pm.

The committee met again on February 25th to consider a Storytelling theme for Oral Interp and to reconsider the proposal for the creation of class AA regions for One-Act Play. The minutes from that meeting are below.

2025 Speech Meeting Agenda – Zoom Meeting February 25, 2025 – 6:00pm(CT) One-Act Play

12. Call meeting to order.

Brooks Bowman called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Committee members present were Steve Hirsch, Corrine Kallemeyn, Molly English, Kristi Fischer, Adam Rudebusch. Laurie Richards was not present for the meeting.

13. Storytelling theme selection –

The committee considered multiple topics, including:

Friendship

Wonder

Justice

Freedom

Open category

Motion: Steve motioned to allow an open category for the Storytelling category.

Second: Kristi seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

The committee recommends releasing a list of previously used themes to coaches.

14. Consider proposals submitted regarding future One-Act Festival schedules and the creation of class AA regions.

The committee discussed the following proposals.

1. Change the time limit to 40 minutes per play

The committee did not feel that this proposal would solve the scheduling issue. No motion was made on this proposal.

2. Iowa model – Each class will perform on a single day and three judges will be hired for that day BUT each judge will view plays separately and at the end of the day each will choose ONE “critic’s choice” (Iowa’s term)/ Superior Play award along with acting awards for the plays they viewed. While one play is being performed for one judge another is in critique with a different judge. There would be 3 awards for each class.

The committee discussed time concerns for class AA, which would be a 15-hour contest in order to fit 20 school performances into 1 day. No motion was made on this proposal.

3. Option 1: Eliminate oral critiques at the state festival. Develop rubrics to be used by judges for their critiques and ratings. Judges would fill out critique sheets after each play. Critique sheets would be given to directors after the awards are presented, along with rubrics for acting and tech awards. Require judges to give a reason for their decision when not rating a play as Superior.

Option 2: Limit oral critique to 15-20 minutes and have only 1 judge summarizing the notes from all other judges. The judges would rotate who gives the critique.

Steve motioned to approve this proposal. There was no second to the motion.

4. Allow 3 schools to advance from AA regions

The committee discussed the creation of four class AA regions with 5 schools in each region. The top 3 plays in each region will advance to the state festival. AA schools would be placed into regions as follows:

Region 1AA: SF Lincoln, SF Jefferson, SF Washington, SF Roosevelt, O’Gorman

Region 2AA: Brookings, Brandon Valley, Tea, Harrisburg, Yankton

Region 3AA: Watertown, Aberdeen Central, Huron, Mitchell, Pierre

Region 4AA: RC Central, RC Stevens, Spearfish, Sturgis Brown, Douglas

Adam motioned to approve this proposal.

Molly seconded the motion.

Adam – yes

Molly – yes

Kristi – yes

Steve – no

Corrine – no

The motion passed with a 3-2 vote.

5. Eliminate the 4th judge assigned to rate technical theatre. Assign the 3 judges hired to rate the acting to also rate technical theatre.

Steve motioned to approve this proposal. There was no second to the motion.

15. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:42pm.