

**DEBATE &  
INDIVIDUAL EVENTS  
HANDBOOK  
2018-19**

**South Dakota  
High School Activities Association**

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*Review information in the General Speech Handbook for regulations pertaining to all speech events.*

## DEBATE & INDIVIDUAL EVENTS GENERAL INFORMATION

### IMPORTANT DATES

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
<b>First Practice</b>	Not Restricted	Not Restricted	Not Restricted
<b>First Allowable Competition</b> (Monday Week 18)	October 29	November 4	November 2
<b>Intent to Participate Form (SP-7) due</b>	January 20	January 20	January 20
<b>Class “AA” &amp; “A” State Tournament Forms</b> (Wed. Week 34) <b><u>Online Form due*</u></b>	<b>February 20</b>	<b>February 26</b>	<b>February 24</b>
<b>Class “AA” &amp; “A” State Tournament</b> (Friday –Saturday, Week 35)	March 1-2 O’Gorman HS	March 6-7 Huron	March 5-6 Aberdeen

**\*NOTE: LATE ENTRY FEE – ONLINE entries electronically submitted after the deadline will be assessed a \$50.00 late entry fee.**

**ORIGINAL ORATORY MANUSCRIPTS.** A copy of all original orations that are listed as entries and reserved entries for the state tournament do not need to be submitted to the SDHSAA but must be immediately available for review at the tournament if requested.

### **MANDATORY DEBATE & INDIVIDUAL EVENTS RULES MEETING DATES:**

**Approximate date available online** – August 15, 2018

**Date to be completed** – October 1, 2018

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**A. PARTICIPATION FEES FOR DEBATE AND INDIVIDUAL EVENTS TOURNAMENT.** Each school will be assessed a \$60.00 participation fee. This fee will be billed to your school and is due by May 1.

### **B. CONTEST LIMITATION FOR STUDENTS.**

1. SDHSAA “Debate Regulations” establish a 12-contest limitation for students during the Debate & Individual Events season: **“Exclusive of the SDHSAA State Debate & Individual Events Tournament and the National Speech and Debate Association district tournament, a student may compete in no more than 12 invitational forensic contests\* in a season. Each school will be required to certify compliance with this regulation when entering students for the State Tournament.”**

**\*NOTE:** An “invitational forensic contest” is one that includes debate or debate and individual events.

2. The “12 Contest Limitation” applies to all students who compete in either debate and/or individual events during the “debate” season.

**C. CONTESTS HELD DURING N.S.D.A. QUALIFIER TOURNAMENTS.** During the two weekends when the South Dakota NSDA Districts hold their district qualifier tournaments, only schools that are members of the district can enter a forensics tournament. Specifically, during the weekend of the Northern Tournament, only Northern NSDA schools can compete in forensics competition and only in their own district tournament. During the weekend of the Rushmore Tournament, only Rushmore NSDA schools can compete in forensics competition and only in their own district tournament. (**NOTE:** This rule also applies to Oral Interpretation competition that occurs during the forensics season following the State Oral Interpretation Festival.) An exception to this policy exists whereby SDHSAA member schools that are members of the Nebraska/Wyoming NSDA District can compete in one out-of-state forensic tournament during the weekends of the South Dakota NSDA district tournaments.

**D. IN-SEASON PARTICIPATION RULE.** Once a student reports for the school’s Debate & Individual Events (Forensics) squad, the student can compete only at tournaments and contests as a representative of his/her own school’s team. Participation on a “club” or non-school sponsored team is not permissible. However, a student can participate as an individual, not affiliated with a school in non-team contests such as the American Legion Oratory Contest, Voice of Democracy Contest, etc. Students will be permitted to participate in the NSDA Big Questions Debate and World Schools Debate qualifiers outside of the regular debate season.

**E. SDHSAA INTERSTATE SPEECH COMPETITION SANCTION POLICY.** Speech contests and tournaments that are held in other states during the school year must secure interstate sanctioning before SDHSAA member schools participate.

**1. SANCTION REQUIREMENT FOR SPEECH COMPETITION.**

- a. No competition will be held on Sunday.
- b. Each school entered in the competition guarantees its membership is in good standing in its own state high school association.
- c. Each participant shall be eligible under the rules of his or her home state association.
- d. Awards shall be limited to those permitted by the state association with the most restrictive award rule.

**2. SANCTIONING OF BORDERING STATE COMPETITION.** In January 2000, the SDHSAA Board of Directors determined that competition that is held in states bordering South Dakota **is sanctioned** and no sanction form is required provided the competition is held within 300 miles of the South Dakota state border.

**3. 300 MILE OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL RESTRICTION.** During the school year speech and debate contestants representing SDHSAA member schools must follow a 300-mile limitation (starting at the South Dakota border) when attending speech contests and tournaments held out-of-state.

**300 Mile Exception:** SDHSAA member schools are limited to one (1) interstate meet or tournament per year that exceeds 300 one-way miles from the South Dakota State border. If the competition is in a non-bordering state, the competition must receive interstate sanction from the SDHSAA. All Sanction requirements including the “No Sunday Competition” and the “No Interstate Competition on NSDA Qualifier Tournament Weekends” must be followed.

**4. LISTING OF SANCTIONED CONTESTS.** All SDHSAA sanctioned out-of-state speech contests and festivals will be listed on the SDHSAA website or may be obtained by calling the SDHSAA office.

**5. COMPETITION DURING SUMMER MONTHS.** During the summer vacation period; there is no mileage restriction. Each SDHSAA member school shall decide whether their speech group(s) shall be allowed to travel during the summer vacation period.

**F. INTERSTATE SANCTION DENIAL.** All interstate sanctions for forensics contests scheduled to be held at the same time as the State Debate & Individual Events Tournament shall be denied.

**G. SCHOOLS MAY ENTER ONLY INDIVIDUAL EVENTS.** Students may participate in one of the Extemporaneous speaking events or in the Original Oratory competition without involvement in debate.

**H. STATE TOURNAMENT FORMAT**

- 1. SDHSAA member schools with A.D.M. enrollments of 575 and above will compete in the Class “AA” State Tournament. Each “AA” school may enter up to two entries in each of the following events: Lincoln-Douglas Debate, Public Forum Debate, Original Oratory, and U.S. or Foreign Extemporaneous.
- 2. Class “A” schools are all schools with A.D.M. enrollments below 574.999. Class “A” schools may enter up to two entries in each of the following events: Lincoln-Douglas Debate, Public Forum Debate, Original Oratory, and U.S. or Foreign Extemporaneous.
- 3. State Policy Debate: In 2016, the SDHSAA Board of Directors voted to eliminate Class A Policy Debate and combine Class A and AA for Policy Debate. Any SDHSAA member school entering contestants in Policy Debate will compete in the “State Policy Debate” category, regardless of school classification.

**I. STATE DEBATE AND INDIVIDUAL EVENTS TOURNAMENT SCHOOL CLASSIFICATIONS.**

**Class “AA” Schools**

Aberdeen Central	Harrisburg	RC Stevens	Sioux Falls Washington
Brandon Valley	Huron	Sioux Falls Lincoln	Watertown
Brookings	Mitchell	Sioux Falls O’Gorman	Yankton
Douglas	RC Central	Sioux Falls Roosevelt	

**Class “A” Schools**

Class “A” includes all schools other than those classified as “AA” that participate in debate or individual events.

**J. POLICY DEBATE PROPOSITION FOR 2018-19.** The following proposition shall be used for the entire debate season:

**POLICY DEBATE PROBLEM AREA**

*Immigration*

**POLICY DEBATE PROPOSITION**

*Resolved: The United States Federal Government should substantially reduce its restrictions on legal immigration to the United States.*

**K. STATE TOURNAMENT PUBLIC FORUM DEBATE PROPOSITION.** The Public Forum topic to be debated at the State Tournament will be the February topic announced on or before January 1<sup>st</sup> by the National Speech and Debate Association. The topic will be announced on the NSDA website (www.speechanddebate.org).

**L. STATE TOURNAMENT LINCOLN-DOUGLAS PROPOSITION.** The Lincoln-Douglas resolution to be used for the State Tournament shall be the proposition released by the National Speech and Debate Association for use in January/February.

- M. STATE DEBATE TOURNAMENT PAIRINGS.** The “Contest Regulations” provide that, “debate pairings ... shall be drawn randomly for the first three rounds.” Schools with Policy debate teams, Lincoln-Douglas debaters and Public Forum debate teams will be randomly assigned competition numbers for their entries in the pre-set random pairing of Rounds 1-3.
- N. STATE TOURNAMENT DRESS POLICY FOR AWARDS.** Students receiving awards at the State Tournament must wear “Competition Appropriate” clothing.
- O. STATE DEBATE & INDIVIDUAL EVENTS TOURNAMENT ROTATION AND TIME SCHEDULE.** Listed below is information about the rotation and the future dates and sites for the State Debate & Individual Events Tournament. **This is subject to change and is not final until contracts are approved by the SDHSAA Board of Directors.** The anticipated time schedule for this year’s State Debate & Individual Events Tournament is on the next page.

## STATE DEBATE & INDIVIDUAL EVENTS TOURNAMENT ROTATION FOR FUTURE DATES AND SITES

### HOSTING COMMUNITIES:

Aberdeen	Yankton	Huron	Harrisburg
Mitchell	Watertown	Brookings	Sioux Falls O’Gorman

### FUTURE DATES & SITES (Standard Calendar Week 35):

2018-19	Sioux Falls O’Gorman	March 1-2, 2019
2019-20	Huron	March 6-7, 2020
2020-21	Aberdeen	March 5-6, 2021
2021-22	Harrisburg	March 4-5, 2022

**NOTE:** All students participating at the State Debate and Individual Events Tournament shall be accompanied by qualified staff personnel or will be prohibited from participating.

# STATE DEBATE & INDIVIDUAL EVENTS TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

March 1-2, 2019

O’Gorman High School, Sioux Falls, South Dakota

## Friday, March 1

<b>8:15 a.m.</b>	<b>SDHSAA Judges Breakfast Meeting at O’Gorman High School (SDHSAA hired judges only)</b>
8:00	Registration Opens
9:00	State Policy Debate: Round 1
10:45	State Policy Debate: Round 2
12:30 p.m.	State Policy Debate: Round 3
2:00	Extemp Draw: Class “AA” & Class “A” – Round 1 Original Oratory: Class “AA” & Class “A” – Round 1
2:30	Extemp Speak: Class “AA” & Class “A” – Round 1
3:30	Extemp Draw: Class “AA” & Class “A” – Round 2 Original Oratory: Class “AA” & Class “A” – Round 2
4:00	Extemp Speak: Class “AA” & Class “A” – Round 2
5:15	L-D Debate: Class “AA” & Class “A” – Round 1
<b>5:30</b>	<b>Meeting of Evening Session Public Forum Debate Judges</b>
6:15	Public Forum Debate: Class “AA” & Class “A” – Round 1 L-D Debate: Class “AA” & Class “A” – Round 2
7:15	Public Forum Debate: Class “AA” & Class “A” – Round 2 L-D Debate: Class “AA” & Class “A” – Round 3
8:00	Public Forum Debate: Class “AA” & Class “A” – Round 3

## Saturday, March 2

<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 Public Forum Debate: Class “AA” – 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	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>

# CONTEST REGULATIONS FOR DEBATE & INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

## CHAPTER 1 – GENERAL STATE DEBATE & INDIVIDUAL EVENTS REGULATIONS

### ARTICLE I-STATE DEBATE & INDIVIDUAL EVENTS TOURNAMENT MANAGEMENT AND CONTEST EVENTS

**Section 1. MANAGEMENT OF STATE TOURNAMENT.** Management of the state tournament is the responsibility of the SDHSAA Assistant Executive Director in charge of speech activities with the assistance of the Speech Advisory Committee members present at the state tournament. The Committee shall have the power to meet all unforeseen emergencies at the State Tournament.

**Section 2. STATE TOURNAMENT ENTRY SUBMISSION.** Schools entering the State Tournament **MUST** be registered online by Wednesday of Standard Calendar Week 34. (February 20, 2019). **Schools whose entry form is not electronically submitted on or before the submission deadline will be penalized by paying a \$50.00 late fee.** The entry form will include the names of the entries and reserve entries for the school.

#### **Section 3. STATE TOURNAMENT CONTEST EVENTS.**

##### **A. Debate Events.**

1. Policy Debate
2. Lincoln-Douglas Debate
3. Public Forum Debate

##### **B. Related Individual Forensic Events.**

1. Extemporaneous Speaking. Extemporaneous Speaking at the State Tournament will be divided into two contest types:
  - a. United States Extemp with topics dealing with domestic issues.
  - b. International Extemp with topics of an international nature.
2. Original Oratory

#### **Section 4. ENTRY LIMITS FOR STATE TOURNAMENT.**

Students are not allowed to enter into two debate (Public Forum, Lincoln Douglas, or Policy) events at the State Debate Tournament.

##### **A. POLICY DEBATE**

1. Schools may enter either one or two 2-person switch side teams.

##### **B. LINCOLN-DOUGLAS AND PUBLIC FORUM DEBATE.** Each school entering the Tournament may enter:

1. Lincoln-Douglas - one or two debaters
2. Public Forum - one or two teams. (A team consists of two speakers.)

##### **C. EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING.** A school shall be entitled to enter one or two contestants in each Extemporaneous Speaking event:

1. United States Extemp
2. International Extemp

**NOTE: No student is allowed to enter both Extemporaneous Speaking contest divisions at the State Tournament in the same contest year.**

##### **D. ORIGINAL ORATORY.** Each school may enter one or two Original Oratory contestants. Students are allowed to double enter in one extemp event and original oratory.

**Section 5. WITHDRAWAL FROM CONTEST NOTIFICATION AND PENALTIES.** If a school finds it necessary to withdraw from the State Tournament after filing an "Intent to Participate" Form, such school shall notify the SDHSAA of its withdrawal **by February 15**. Failure to file such notice of withdrawal makes the school responsible for all participation fees it would have otherwise incurred. If a school is unable to give notice of withdrawal before the deadline due to weather conditions, the illness of contestants or some other act of God, a report should be filed with the SDHSAA as soon as possible. The report should provide an explanation of the circumstances for not notifying the SDHSAA of withdrawal from the Tournament.

**Section 6. FINANCING THE STATE TOURNAMENT.** The SDHSAA shall provide the financing for the State Tournament administrative expenses (including a limited number of SDHSAA hired judges). Each participating school is to provide its own meals, lodging, transportation, incidental expenses and judges (**SEE: Chapter 2, Article IV for an explanation of each school's judge obligations**).

**Section 7. ETHICAL BEHAVIOR, SCOUTING OPPOSING SCHOOLS, AND AUDIENCE CONDUCT DURING ROUNDS.** Scouting of opposing teams or debaters during the Tournament is considered highly unethical. It is also considered unethical conduct for any member of the audience or other participants to distract a speaker.

While an audience is always encouraged, members of an audience observing a debate during the State Tournament **shall not** be allowed to take notes. Observers may only observe competition involving teams from their own school until such time as their school is eliminated from competition and then they may observe any round. **NOTE: No debater/team still competing in the tournament can observe another debate in their event until they are eliminated from competition in the event.**

Observers who exhibit distracting behavior during a round may be asked to leave the round by the judge(s).

**Section 8. VIDEO TAPING, AUDIO RECORDING AND FLASH PICTURES.** Except at the direction of the contest management, videotaping, audio recording and the use of flash cameras during a State Tournament round are prohibited.

**Section 9. PROCEDURE TO FOLLOW IN THE EVENT OF A COMPLAINT. (Adopted: June, 2010)**  
*Complete all of the following within 20 minutes*

- Listen to complainant
- Search Speech Section for relevant information including potential penalties
- Consult judges
- Inform other affected coach/coaches that a complaint has been received and get relevant information
- Make decision
- Announce decision to coaches involved
- Inform coaches that a written protest must be made within 24 hours

If there is judge conflict following a debate round at the state tournament the ballot will be thrown out. If this results in a tie, both teams will be awarded a win for the round. The conflict would have to be known to the committee prior to the round finishing.

## **ARTICLE II – CONTESTANTS**

### **Section 1. STUDENT ELIGIBILITY.**

- A. Students entered in invitational forensic contests, the National Forensic League District Tournament or the State Debate & Individual Events Tournament must meet all SDHSAA eligibility regulations.
- B. Students in grades 7 through 12 may participate in the SDHSAA State Debate & Individual Events Tournament.

**Section 2. IN-SEASON PARTICIPATION RULE.** Once a student reports for the school's Debate & Individual Events (Forensics) squad, the student can compete only at tournaments and contests as a representative of his/her own school's team. Participation on a "club" or non-school sponsored team is not permissible. However, a student can participate as an individual, not affiliated with a school, in non-team contests such as the American Legion Oratory Contest, Voice of Democracy Contest, etc.

**Section 3.** Students and teams in the State Tournament will be recognized by school name and team number.

## **ARTICLE III - STATE DEBATE & INDIVIDUAL EVENTS TOURNAMENT AWARDS POLICY**

### **Section 1. SCHOOL AWARDS FOR THE DEBATE EVENTS.**

- A. Championship and Runner-up plaques will be presented to the schools of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place State Policy Debate teams, Class "AA" and Class "A" Lincoln-Douglas debaters and Public Forum Debate teams.
- B. Semi-finalist plaques will be presented to the school of each team/debater eliminated in the Semi-Final round.

### **Section 2. INDIVIDUAL STUDENT AWARDS FOR THE DEBATE EVENTS.**

- A. Individual trophies will be presented to the members of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place State Policy teams, Class "AA" and Class "A" Lincoln-Douglas debaters and Public Forum teams.
- B. Bronze medals will be presented to the members of the semi-final Policy teams, Lincoln-Douglas debaters, and Public Forum teams.
- C. Antique Bronze medals will be presented to the members each team/debater losing in the quarter-final round.

### **Section 3. AWARDS FOR STATE INDIVIDUAL EVENTS CONTESTS.**

- A. Individual trophies shall be presented to the Class "AA" and Class "A" 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place speakers in each of the Extemporaneous Speaking events and in Original Oratory.
- B. Antique Bronze medals shall be presented to the individuals placing 4th through 6th in the final round of each Extemporaneous Speaking event and in Original Oratory.

### **Section 4. SDHSAA STATE TOURNAMENT SWEEPSTAKES AWARDS**

- A. Championship and Runner-up Team trophies will be presented to the 1st and 2nd place sweepstakes teams in Class "AA" and Class "A". A 3<sup>rd</sup> place sweepstakes plaque will be awarded for class "AA" and class "A" as well.
- B. Sweepstakes points will be awarded for all entries from each school in each of the State Debate & Individual Events Tournament contests (State Policy Debate, Original Oratory, United States Extemp, International Extemp, Lincoln-Douglas Debate, and Public Forum Debate).
- C. Sweepstakes points will be calculated based the following points system:
  - 1. State Policy, L-D & Public Forum Debate
    - Each win = 6 points
    - Each loss = 3 points

2. Individual Events (prelim rounds)
  - 1st place = 6 points
  - 2nd place = 5 points
  - 3rd place = 4 points
  - 4th place = 3 points
  - 5th place = 2 points
  - 6th place or lower = 1 point

3. Individual Events (Final Rounds)
  - 1st place = 12 points
  - 2nd place = 10 points
  - 3rd place = 8 points
  - 4th place = 6 points
  - 5th place = 4 points
  - 6th place or lower = 2 points

D. Sweepstakes tie breakers are:

1. The largest number of State Champions
2. The largest number of 2nd place recipients
3. The largest number of 3rd place recipients

**Section 5. SDHSAA STATE TOURNAMENT AWARDS POLICY.** During the State Tournament no awards will be given out prior to the official Awards Presentation session. Schools finding it necessary to leave the tournament prior to the awards session will need to make arrangements to pick up their awards at the SDHSAA office in Pierre.

## CHAPTER 2 – STATE TOURNAMENT POLICIES REGARDING JUDGES AND JUDGING

### ARTICLE I-JUDGE NEEDS AND CRITERIA TO JUDGE

**Section 1. PHILOSOPHY FOR ASSIGNING JUDGES.** The philosophy being used in assigning judges is to use three judge panels for all rounds in both the Class “AA” and Class “A” Tournaments. The debate Championship rounds will use five judges.

A. **Lincoln-Douglas Exception:** Rounds I, II and III of Lincoln-Douglas Debate will be preset using three judge panels. To achieve three judge panels, judges may be piggy-backed to judge flights “A” and “B” in some preliminary rounds. **However, the Committee has the discretion to use single judge panels in the preliminary rounds (Rounds I – III) if necessary.** Three judge panels must be used in quarter-finals and semi-finals. Five judge panels will be used in the Championship rounds.

#### **Section 2. CRITERIA FOR JUDGES.**

- A. All State Policy Debate and L-D Debate Judges must meet the requirement of having judged Policy Debate and/or Lincoln Douglas Debate at two tournaments at the JV level or higher.
- B. Assistant coaches, hired, or volunteers, who judge at the State Tournament shall have graduated from high school at least two years prior to the current school year.
- C. It is desirable for schools to utilize competent lay judges (non-coach) for Public Forum Debate.

#### **Section 3. STATE TOURNAMENT SCHOOL OBLIGATION JUDGE POLICY.**

- A. **Debate Judges:** Schools are allowed to enter up to 6 total combined Policy teams, Lincoln Douglas debaters, and Public Forum teams with no more than two entrants in any event. In order to provide 3-judge panels, schools will be expected to meet the judge requirements listed below:
  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.
  4. Individual Events
    - a. 5-6 entries = 2 judges (can be the same as debate judges)
    - b. 4 or fewer entries = 1 judge



5. Coaches Judging Obligations:

- a. Head debate coaches are expected to judge in all preliminary debate events, but will be excused from the judging pool if their students are competing past the preliminary rounds. Unless their team is still competing in the final round, all head coaches are required to be available to judge if needed in the final round.
- b. The State Tournament Committee may move judges across events as the situation warrants.
- c. Debate judges should also be competent to judge Individual Events.
- d. **All head and assistant coaches are expected to judge all events** in which their school has entries.
- e. Head coaches must register online for all events that they have students entered in.

**B. Individual Events Entries:** Schools are allowed to enter up to 6 competitors in any combination of United States Extemporaneous Speakers, Foreign Extemporaneous Speakers or Original Orators, with no more than two entrants in any event.

1. 5 or 6 individual event entries: -- 2 judges. These judges may also be judges for debate.
2. 4 or fewer individual event entries: -- 1 judge. This judge may also be a debate judge.

**C.** All judges (both school provided and those employed by the SDHSAA) are expected to remain available for the duration of the tournament (**SEE: [Policy Debate Chapter 2, Article III for penalties when missing an assigned State Tournament round of competition](#)**).

**D. Additional Public Forum Debate Judges:** The securing of additional Public Forum lay judges will be the responsibility of the school hosting the state tournament, and the South Dakota High School Activities Association.

## ARTICLE II- JUDGING INSTRUCTIONS AND STATE TOURNAMENT BALLOTS

**Section 1. JUDGE INSTRUCTION SHEET AND BALLOTS USED.** In State Tournament debate and related forensic individual events, each judge shall be provided with an instruction sheet that contains the points he/she should consider to arrive at a decision.

- A. The ballot for each type of debate has space for the judge to prepare critical notes on the given debate. The ballots will be given to the debate teams at the conclusion of the tournament.
- B. Public Forum Debate judges, in addition to the instruction sheet containing the points that should be considered in arriving at a decision, will be provided with a sample ballot.
- C. The ballot for each of the individual events will include the judging instructions for the contest event. The judges are not expected to prepare written notes or a critique of any of the speeches.
- D. **NO ORAL COMMENTS.** Judges will give no oral comments during or after any debates or round of individual events.

### Section 2. INSTRUCTIONS FOR JUDGES.

**A. Policy and Lincoln-Douglas Debate Judge Instructions:** In arriving at a decision, the Policy or Lincoln-Douglas judge shall consider the following points:

1. The ability of each team/debater to interpret and analyze the proposition, discovering its meaning and boundaries and determining the main issues, reducing the question to the form of a logical brief.
2. The ability of the teams/debaters to establish or overthrow a case by means of proof, involving skill in the selection and application of evidence.
3. The ability of each team/debater to reason logically, conclusively, and persuasively toward definite and valid conclusions.
4. Power of adaptation. Ability of the teams/debaters throughout the debate to adapt their arguments to those of their opponents, to provide clash, and to insure clearness, logical relations and to demonstrate points of agreement and difference.
5. Adequacy of source of evidence.
6. The extemporaneous ability of the speakers.
7. Manifestations of alertness, keenness, and originality of thought in accurately presenting essential points of refutation.
8. Mental attitudes of the speakers in relation to the question, opponent, and audience.
9. Analytical ability of the teams in following the course of the arguments as the debate progresses, along with fair play, honesty, and accuracy in handling opposing arguments.
10. The ability of the teams/debaters as effective speakers, including audience contact, correct use of language, and control of voice and body as agents of delivery. Percentages shall not be given for each item in the plan because debate judging should not be reduced to a mathematical process. The judge shall give due weight to these essentials and vote for the team which has excelled in their use. The judge shall circle Affirmative or Negative on the ballot.

**B. Public Forum Debate Judge Instructions:** In arriving at a decision, the Public Forum judge shall consider the following points:

1. **Analysis:** The ability to select, interpret, and explain the most important issues in the topic.
2. **Evidence:** Supporting arguments with facts and expert opinions.

3. **Reasoning:** The ability of the teams to reason logically, conclusively, and persuasively toward definite and valid conclusions.
4. **Crossfire:** Asking civil, relevant, brief questions to clarify the issues, support one's own case, and refute the opponent.
5. **Rebuttal:** Effectively countering the arguments of the opponent.
6. **Delivery:** Speaking persuasively in a pleasant, understandable style.

### C. Extemporaneous Speaking Judge Instructions

1. A judge shall render a decision on the basis of the effectiveness with which a speaker handles his/her particular topic. The relative merits of the topics are not to be considered.
2. Each speaker shall be graded on his relative effectiveness as compared to other contestants. On the discussion proper, the speakers shall be graded between 75 percent and 100 percent. The poorest speaker should receive no less than 75 percent and the best speaker should receive no more than 100 percent. No two speakers are to be given the same final percentages.
3. In ranking contestants in extemporaneous speaking, the judges shall rank the contestants 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and shall rank all other contestants 6.
4. As a basis for judging the effectiveness of extemporaneous speaking, the judges are required to observe chiefly the following points:
  - a. Ability to answer the question.
  - b. Organizing and outlining the material.
  - c. Originality of treatment.
  - d. Degree of conversational quality.
  - e. Effective use of voice and action in delivery.
  - f. Diction.
  - g. Making audience contact.

### D. Original Oratory Judge Instructions

1. The decision of the judges shall be based upon these two factors:
  - a. **Composition of the oration.** In judging the composition of the orations, the judge shall consider the originality of the composition, the style, the structure, and any other factors that he/she deems pertinent.
  - b. **Presentation of the oration.** In judging the presentation of the oration, the judge shall consider the speaker's sincerity, poise, and audience contact; his/her control and effective use of the voice; his/her bodily action; and his/her application of all other principles necessary to a proper presentation of the oration.
2. Each of the foregoing factors, composition and presentation, shall count 50 percent toward the final ranking of the oration. The poorest speaker should receive no less than 75 percent and the best speaker should receive no more than 100 percent. No two speakers are to be given the same final percentage.
3. In ranking the contestants in original oratory, the judges shall rank the top contestant 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and shall rank all other contestants 6.

## ARTICLE III- CHARACTER OF JUDGES AND RESPONSIBILITY TO MEET ASSIGNMENTS

### Section 1. EXPECTATIONS, CONDUCT & INTEGRITY OF JUDGES.

- A. Judges employed by the SDHSAA for the State Tournament will be expected to maintain the highest standards of ethical conduct, integrity and behavior before, during and immediately following the State Tournament. The conduct and actions of a judge will not impair or prejudice their effectiveness as a judge. Such standards of conduct would include:
  1. Making decisions based upon the rules for the debate or individual events contest being judged.
  2. Avoiding judging situations in which the judge could have a conflict of interest.
  3. Judges shall arrive at their decisions independently from other judges and individuals.
  4. Judges shall not consult with one another until their ballots are submitted to the contest management.
  5. Judges shall direct any questions regarding contest procedure or interpretation of contest regulations to the committee conducting the State Tournament.
  6. Judges shall not fraternize with any of the tournament contestants or give oral critiques or suggestions to speakers or teams.
  7. Judges will be expected to dress in a professional manner befitting the occasion (Non-appropriate attire includes jeans, shorts and t-shirts).
  8. Judges will be expected to report to all assigned rounds mentally alert and capable of listening to the round and making a sound judgment.
- B. Following investigation of an alleged violation of the "Ethical Conduct Standards" (*as listed above*), if a judge has been found to have violated the ethical standards of the tournament, the judge could be denied part of his/her financial reimbursement or if the offense is deemed of a sufficiently serious nature, the judge could be suspended from the tournament.

### Section 2. JUDGES MISSING ASSIGNED ROUNDS.

- A. If a school's head coach, assistant coach or provided judge should miss an assigned round of debate or individual events during the State Tournament, their school will be assessed a \$75.00 fine for each round missed.
- B. Judges hired by the SDHSAA that miss an assigned round will be assessed a \$25.00 fee per round missed.

## **CHAPTER 3 – STATE TOURNAMENT POLICIES REGARDING DEBATE EVENTS**

### **ARTICLE I-GENERAL REGULATIONS GOVERNING DEBATE**

**Section 1. UNPRINTED LETTERS ARE BARRED FROM DEBATE.** In Policy Debate and Lincoln-Douglas Debate, no speaker shall introduce into the debate the testimony of authorities, letters or written matter from experts, which has not appeared in print.

**Section 2. COACHING DURING DEBATE FORBIDDEN.** The debaters shall be separated from the audience and shall receive no coaching while the debate is in progress.

**Section 3. TOURNAMENT TIMEKEEPERS.** In the State Tournament, one judge shall be appointed to serve as timekeeper.

**Section 4. DEBATE PREP TIME.** Each team/debater will be allowed prep time between constructive arguments, cross-examination and rebuttal arguments. The total prep time allowed will be that established by the National Forensics League. **NOTE:** The allowable prep time is the total time for each side to use during the debate. If a team/debater uses more than a total of their allowable prep time, the excess time comes off the allotted time for that team's/debater's next speech.)

**Section 5. TIME LOST THROUGH INTERRUPTION.** Time lost through interruption, if unavoidable, shall be made good to the speaker.

**Section 6. NEW ISSUES IN REBUTTAL.** New issues cannot be introduced in rebuttal speeches.

**Section 7. ELECTRONIC RETRIEVAL USAGE IN DEBATE EVENTS.** The use of non-networked computers will be allowed in all debate and individual events excluding those which are to be memorized. Laptop use is not mandatory. Those debaters and teams using laptops in debate rounds must adhere to the following "Guidelines for Laptop Use in Debate Events."

#### **Section 8. GUIDELINES FOR USE OF LAPTOPS IN DEBATE EVENTS**

- A. Computers equipped with removable wireless cards must have the cards removed before the beginning of any round of competition. It is the responsibility of the contestant to disengage the equipment.
- B. Computers with built in wireless capability may be used only if the wireless capability is disabled. It is the responsibility of the contestant to disable the equipment.
- C. Wired connections (Ethernet or phone) during rounds of competition are not permitted.
- D. Computers or other electronic devices may not be used to receive information from any sources (coaches or assistants 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 of the competition room are prohibited. (This does not prohibit non-electronic communication between debate partners during prep time.)
- E. **Penalty:** Contestants found to have violated provisions A through C above will forfeit the round of competition. Contestants found to have violated provision D (above) will be disqualified from the tournament and will forfeit all rounds.
- F. **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.
- G. Contestants electing to use computers have the responsibility for providing their own computers, batteries, extension cords, and all other necessary accessories. The tournament host will not be responsible for providing computers, printers, software, paper, or extension cords for contestants.
- H. Because public speaking decorum remains an important element in debate, all debaters are expected to stand at the front of the room facing the judge while speaking.
- I. Contestants choosing to use laptop 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.
- J. By choosing to use laptop 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.

**Section 9. FORFEITURE RULE.** There will be a ten minute forfeiture rule for all rounds.

**Section 10. ROUNDS THAT ARE FORFEITED.** In a situation where a forfeit occurs, the forfeit will not be considered a bye, the win would be recorded and the team would be eligible for a bye later in the tournament.

## ARTICLE II-POLICY DEBATE STYLE, SPEECHES AND TOPIC AREA

**Section 1. TYPE OF DEBATE.** State Policy Debate schools shall use the cross-examination debate style during the State Policy Debate Tournament.

**Section 2. TYPE AND LENGTH OF POLICY DEBATE SPEECHES.**

- A. Each speaker shall give a constructive speech, serve as a witness, serve as a cross-examiner, and give a rebuttal speech.
1. Constructive speeches shall be eight minutes in length.
  2. The cross-examination period shall be three minutes in length.
  3. The rebuttal speech shall be five minutes total.

**Section 3. ORDER OF SPEECHES.** The debate shall open with a constructive speech by the affirmative. Constructive speeches shall be given alternately by the affirmative and the negative with the final constructive speech by the negative. Following each constructive speech there shall be a three-minute cross-examination period. The first speaker for the affirmative shall be cross-examined by one member of the negative team, and the first speaker of the negative shall be cross-examined by one member of the affirmative team. The second speaker for the affirmative shall be cross-examined by the other member of the negative team, and the second speaker for the negative shall be cross-examined by the other member of the affirmative team. Each cross-examination shall occur immediately after the constructive speech involved. Following the final cross-examination, the rebuttal speeches are opened by the negative and alternated, with the final one being given by the affirmative.

**Section 4. POLICY DEBATE TOPIC AREA AND RESOLUTION.** The debate question that is debated each year shall be the one chosen by the National Federation of State High School Associations process.

## ARTICLE III- REGULATIONS GOVERNING LINCOLN-DOUGLAS DEBATE SPEECHES AND STATE TOURNAMENT TOPIC

**Section 1. ORDER AND LENGTH OF LINCOLN-DOUGLAS DEBATES.** All Lincoln-Douglas debates will observe the following format:

Affirmative Constructive Speech	6 min.	Affirmative Rebuttal Speech	4 min.
Negative Cross-Examination of Affirmative	3 min.	Negative Rebuttal Speech	6 min
Negative Constructive Speech	7 min.	Affirmative Rebuttal Speech	3 min.
Affirmative Cross-Examination of Negative	3 min.		

**Section 2. STATE TOURNAMENT DEBATE TOPIC.** The debate resolution to be used during the State Tournament shall be the one used for the January and February invitational tournaments taken from the NSDA.

## ARTICLE IV-REGULATIONS GOVERNING PUBLIC FORUM DEBATE SPEECHES

**Section 1. TYPE OF DEBATE.** The rules and customs of Public Forum Debate may be found at the National Forensic League website: [www.nflonline.org](http://www.nflonline.org).

**Section 2. PUBLIC FORUM DEBATE TOPIC.** The topic to be debated at the State Tournament will be the February topic that is used for the February invitational tournaments. The topic that will be debated will be announced on the National Forensic League website ([www.nflonline.org](http://www.nflonline.org)) by January 1.

**Section 3. DETERMINING SIDES & SPEAKER ORDER. (COIN FLIP)** The contest begins with a coin flip. The winner of the coin flip has one of three choices:

- A. Choose a side (Pro or Con) to advocate.
- B. Plan to begin the debate as 1st speaker or go second.
- C. Defer the first choice to the opposing team.

If the winner of the coin toss chooses side or speaker order, the other team gets the remaining choice.

**Section 4. TYPE, LENGTH (TIME LIMITS) & ORDER OF SPEECHES.**

Team A 1 <sup>st</sup> speaker	4 min	A1 summary	2 min
Team B 1 <sup>st</sup> speaker	4 min	B1 summary	2 min
Crossfire between A1 & B1	3 min		
Grand Crossfire (All speakers)	3 min		
Team A 2nd speaker	4 min		
Team B 2nd speaker	4 min	A2 final focus	2 min
Crossfire between A2 & B2	3 min	B2 final focus	2 min

## ARTICLE V-STATE TOURNAMENT ELIMINATION and PAIRING SYSTEM

## DIRECTIONS FOR ELIMINATION and PAIRING ROUNDS

*These directions will be followed in pairing Policy, Lincoln-Douglas, and Public Forum Debate*

**Section 1. PRELIMINARY ROUNDS “OPEN EVENT” PAIRING CRITERIA.** If there are fewer than 6 teams/debaters in a debate division, the first three rounds of competition in that division will be an “Open Event” with rounds between the two classes. If “open event” pairing is necessary, the pairing philosophy will be to preserve as many rounds within each school’s own class as possible. Therefore, the first two rounds will be paired within class (i.e., Class “AA” against Class “AA” and Class “A” against Class “A”) the third round will be randomly paired. \*This rule does not apply to “Policy Debate” due to it collapsing to 1 division at the 2016 Spring Board of Directors meeting

### **Section 2. PAIRING ROUNDS I, II, AND III for Double Elimination.**

- A. Prior to the State Tournament, the SDHSAA shall randomly pre-draw the pairings for the first three rounds of debate. Each team/debater is guaranteed one affirmative and one negative round over the three preliminary rounds, with the exception of Public Forum which will conduct a coin flip to determine the sides.
- B. A team shall not debate its own counterpart, nor may schools debate each other twice in the same round. (See “Conflict Criteria” below.)
- C. **Conflict Criteria:** In Rounds I, II and III, teams will be paired to avoid conflicts.
  - 1. The meeting of two teams from the same school.
  - 2. The meeting of two teams which have met previously.
  - 3. The meeting of two schools which have met previously.
  - 4. Schools debating each other twice in the same round.
- D. If it is not possible to pair the tournament, the conflicts may be waived in ascending order.
  - 1. General Rule on Choosing Sides and Speaker Order: In Policy and LD Debate, each team/debater will be guaranteed one affirmative and one negative round in the preliminary rounds. In Public Forum, a coin flip is standard operating procedure at the beginning of each round, regardless of how many times teams and schools may meet during the tournament.

**Section 3. PROCEDURES TO DETERMINE BYES:** All rounds that are randomly paired will use a random drawing for byes. Schools not having two entries in a debate event are not eligible for a bye in any pre-set rounds for that event.

- A. Byes may occur in elimination rounds due to the seeding of entries based on preliminary results as described in Section 4. Due to the seeding process, it is possible for a team that receives a bye in the preliminary rounds to receive a bye in the first elimination round. No more than one (1) bye can be given to a school throughout the preliminary rounds of the tournament.
- B. A Bye will count as three ballots won for the team receiving the bye. A bye will not count in determining the strength of opposition when used in seeding.

### **Section 4. Elimination Rounds – Single Elimination**

- A. Eliminate all teams with two or more losses in the preliminary rounds.
- B. Remaining teams will be seeded into an appropriate bracket as determined by the number of remaining teams. Options include an octo-final bracket for 9-16 teams remaining; a quarter-final bracket for 5-8 teams remaining; a semifinal bracket when four or fewer teams remain. The bracket will be viewable to head coaches in the tabulation room.
- C. Teams will be seeded along the following criteria in this order:
  - 1. Win-loss
  - 2. Ballot count
  - 3. Strength of opposition as determined by opponents’ win-loss percentage
  - 4. Random draw
- D. Teams will be placed in the appropriate bracket for the next round of competition. The highest seed will debate the lowest seed. In situations where an incomplete bracket exists, the top seeds will receive a bye to the next round. For example, if 13 teams break to the elimination round, the teams will be seeded into an octo-final bracket with seeds 1, 2, and 3 receiving a bye. Seed 4 would debate seed 13, seed 5 would debate seed 12, etc. First brackets will be released at 7:30pm, and the rest will be released as they become available.
- E. Brackets would be maintained throughout the elimination portion of the tournament with the exception of the occurrence where two teams from the same school would meet before the final round.
  - 1. The SDHSAA committee would be required to adjust brackets with the lower of the two seeds moving up one position into a higher seed to avoid the conflict.
  - 2. In the event the two teams from the same school are seeded next to each other and the above adjustment would not work the committee may move the lower seed down a position.

- F. All elimination rounds would be flip for sides except where two teams had met in a preliminary round. The teams would then meet on the opposite sides (except in Public Forum where a coin flip will always determine a side).
- G. It is possible for teams to meet in preliminary and elimination rounds before the final round.
- H. **Semi-Final And Championship Round Judge Procedures:**
  1. Starting in the semi-final round, the coaches involved in the round, (1 coach per school) will be called in for consultation.
  2. A judging panel of three judges is to be used in the semi-final round.
  3. In Policy/L-D Debate: The committee will 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. The coaches will be asked 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.
  4. NOTE in Public Forum Debate: Due to the nature of the judge pool, unlike Policy Debate or Lincoln-Douglas Debate, coaches do not have the option to strike judges during elimination rounds of Public Forum Debate.

## ARTICLE VI – METHOD OF ASSIGNING JUDGES TO THE ROUNDS OF DEBATE AT THE STATE TOURNAMENT

**Section 1. JUDGE PAIRING CRITERIA.** When pairing judges with teams/debaters the following criteria shall be considered:

- A. A judge may not judge a team/debater with whom they are affiliated either by school, personal relationship, or other factors that would contribute to a major bias either for or against a team/contestant. The tournament committee is given the discretion to make such decisions.
- B. A judge may not judge a team/debater they have previously heard, unless the use of that judge is unavoidable. In **Policy/L-D Debate**, if a judge must hear a team/debater a second time, the team/debater must debate on the opposite side of the question.

### **Section 2. JUDGE PAIRING MECHANICS.**

- A. The philosophy being used in assigning judges is to use three judge panels in all rounds except for the final round which shall use five judges.
- B. Autopair will be used with preference of use going to judges hired by the SDHSAA.
- C. Committee members may not move judges once they are assigned unless it is to remove head coaches from the round.
- D. Manual judge assigning for public forum will be used to ensure that volunteer judges are in as many rounds as possible.
- E The criteria for moving the judge cards shall be as follows. (*NOTE: Whenever it becomes impossible to assign judges to a round without conflict, the criteria for the round will be waived in descending order.*)

#### **Criteria to Move Judges - The judge cards should be moved if:**

1. The judge has heard either school debate.
2. (**Policy/L-D Debate**) The judge has heard either school on the same side.
3. The judge has heard a round between these schools.
4. The judge has heard both teams and given both teams a win.
5. The judge has heard both teams and given both teams a loss.
6. The judge has heard one of the teams.
7. The judge is “coded” for affiliation with one of the schools involved in the round.

## CHAPTER 4 –STATE INDIVIDUAL EVENTS CONTEST REGULATIONS ARTICLE I- STATE EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

**Section 1. EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING CONTEST TOPICS.** Topics will be selected from the NFL and/or NSDA Extemp topics that are released in January or February.

**Section 2. ILLEGAL RESOURCES.** Speakers are prohibited from using resource materials produced by debate handbook companies for their speeches.

**Section 3. ELECTRONIC RETRIEVAL USAGE FOR EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING.** Computers may be used in all debate and individual event rounds excluding those which are to be memorized.

### **Section 4. DRAWING FOR TOPICS.**

- A. The envelope containing the topics shall be opened just before the drawing for topics is to begin.
- B. The slips of paper on which the topics are written shall be placed face down on a desk or table.
- C. Thirty minutes before the contest is to begin, each contestant, at seven minute intervals and in the order in which he/she is to appear in the contest, shall draw three topics.
- D. A speaker will not speak on the same topic in more than one round. Should a speaker draw a topic on which he/she has previously spoken, he/she shall draw an additional topic.

- E. After the contestants have drawn and selected their topic, they shall remain in the room until they are released by the chairperson to go to the contest room and give their speeches.
- F. After the contestant has drawn and selected his/her topic, no consultation is allowed.

**Section 5. CONDUCTING THE CONTESTS.**

- A. The contestants shall be warned against spending too much time choosing the ideas for their speeches and not enough time planning how they are going to express those ideas.
- B. All contestants shall remain in the same room to prepare their speeches. They shall be under the supervision of the chairperson appointed to hold the drawings. Contestants shall not be permitted to use any previously arranged speeches and/or outlines, nor shall any contestants receive any assistance during the 30 minute prep-period preceding his/her speech.
- C. The judges of the contest shall be properly instructed as to the judging procedure and signing their ballots.

**Section 6. TIMEKEEPERS.** In the state contest, one judge shall be appointed to serve as the official (unless an alternate timekeeper is provided).

- A. The timekeeper will give time signals.
- B. Each judge shall be one of the official timekeepers at every round, with a stopwatch or stop clock. The judge 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.

**Section 7. TIME LIMITS.**

- A. The **maximum time limit** for each extemporaneous speech shall not exceed seven minutes (plus a 30 second grace period).
- B. There is **no minimum time limit**. An entry will not be penalized if the speech is less than seven minutes.
- C. **Time begins** when the speech begins, either by the extemper’s words or actions.
- D. The State Tournament Committee **must lower** the composite ranking by one position of any speech exceeding 7 minutes, 30 seconds.

**ARTICLE II- STATE ORIGINAL ORATORY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

**Section 1. REQUIREMENTS.** All original orations shall be subject to the following requirements:

- A. All orations should be memorized and be presented from memory.
- B. The presentation time of each oration shall be limited to 10 minutes. (**SEE:** Article II, Section 3)
- C. The work must be original on the part of the student.
- D. The oration may be written on any subject that the student desires, but it must have a title.
- E. An oration may not contain more than 150 words of quoted material.
- F. **COVER STATEMENT.** The following statement is to be typed on the cover sheet of the oration and signed by the student and the coach.

“I certify that the attached oration is the original work of this student and that the oration contains less than 150 words of directly quoted material.”

Student \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of Student)

Coach \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of Coach)

- G. The oration must be available for review at the state tournament if requested.

**Section 2. COMPLIANCE PENALTIES.**

- 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.
- B. If it is discovered that the work is not original on the part of the student, all points earned by the student in Original Oratory of the State tournament and any awards that may have been won by the student will be forfeited. This may affect State Tournament Sweepstakes results.

**Section 3. TIMEKEEPERS.** 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.

**Section 4. ORIGINAL ORATORY TIME LIMITS.**

- A. The **maximum time limit** for each oration shall not exceed ten minutes (plus a 30 second grace period).

- B. There is **no minimum time limit** (i.e., an entry will not be penalized if the oration is less than ten minutes).
- C. **Time begins** when the performance begins, either by the orator's words or actions.
- D. The State Tournament Committee **must lower** the composite ranking by one position of any oration exceeding 10 minutes, 30 seconds.

### ARTICLE III- STATE INDIVIDUAL EVENTS SECTIONING

#### Section 1. SECTIONING PROCESS.

- A. All contestants entered in the Individual Events competition will compete in two randomly paired preliminary rounds. Following the second preliminary round, the contest will break to a final round with the top six preliminary round contestants being scheduled in the final round.
- B. **The following criteria will be used to break ties and determine the finalists:**
  - 1. Composite rankings from the two preliminary rounds. The composite rankings for each round are determined by the table in Article IV.
  - 2. The cumulative total judge percentages from the two preliminary rounds.
  - 3. In case of a tie for the final position that would advance more than seven students to the final round, the final round will consist of fewer contestants.
- C. The model for the contest shall be as follows: The entries will be divided into sections with a variance of only one (**NOTE:** no more than 6 students in a section.) The object of Rounds I and II is to arrive at six contestants in the final round. The Committee shall have the power necessary to achieve the objective.
- D. In preliminary rounds, two students from the same school should not be in the same section.
- E. The speaking order for contestants shall be determined by lot.
  - 1. **Policy For Double Entries In Extemp Speaking & Original Oratory.** If a contestant is double-entered in individual events, this student is to be scheduled to create the least amount of conflict. All other contestants' positions in the speaking order of either contest will be determined by lot.
- F. Each student should speak in a different speaking position in each round. Speaking last in a section should be considered a speaking position.

### ARTICLE IV- TABULATING STATE INDIVIDUAL EVENTS CONTEST RESULTS

#### Section 1. Determining Final Rounds

The final round shall consist of six (6) contestants. The following procedures will be used to determine which students advance out of the preliminary rounds using all six judge scores.

- 1 – Lowest Cumulative Speaker Rank using all 6 judges
- 2 – Reciprocals of all 6 judges

Rank	1	2	3	4	5	6
Reciprocal	1	½	1/3	¼	1/5	1/6
As a Decimal	1	.5	.33	.25	.2	.17

Then add these numbers and the contestant with the highest score is the best of the three, and the next highest score receives the next rank, etc

#### STATE EXAMPLE

	Ranks	Converts to	Total	Place
Speaker A	1 3 3 = 7	1.00 .33 .33	1.66	2nd
Speaker B	2 1 4 = 7	.50 1.00 .25	1.75	1st
Speaker C	3 2 2 = 7	.33 .50 .50	1.33	3rd

If ties in cumulative rank bring the number to more than six (6), the following priority system shall be used to break ties:

- 3 – Highest Speaker Points
- 4 – Judge preference starting with the most 1's, 2's 3's and so forth.



**Section 2. Determining State Tournament Awards.** State Tournament Individual Events award will be based upon:

1. Lowest cumulative ranking of the judges from the final round only.
2. Judge preference.
3. Reciprocals of the final round judge rank- see table above.
4. Finals rankings plus preliminary rankings (9 judge rankings)
5. Highest Speaker points.
6. Seed entering finals.