

8.3.0 SPEECH

8.3.1 PHILOSOPHY

The Wyoming High School Forensics Association and The Wyoming High School Activities Association believe that speech, as an activity, offers an unexcelled potential for promoting the democratic ideal. It follows that speech activities programs should be broad enough to provide adequate areas for maximum student participation. Furthermore, opportunities should be provided for each student to take an active part at the level of his or her ability to communicate.

An effective speech training program is designed to create a responsible citizen by offering realistic situations requiring judicious listening, intelligent speaking, and mature patterns of behavior. With proper guidance and motivation, a student, through the many speech activities, soon begins to develop leadership abilities and express ideas reasonably and persuasively. Through various speech experiences, a student should become more confident and poised.

By competing with contemporaries in the areas of communication, a student soon learns the value of careful preparation, disciplined rehearsal, and appreciation for excellence. It is necessary that everyone visualizes speech tournaments and interscholastic meets not as ends in themselves, but as important teaching devices. They provide the means by which students and teachers can evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of presentations. By correcting weaknesses and by capitalizing on strengths, students are guided into self-improvement programs.

8.3.2 GENERAL RULES

A. The Number of Allowable Speech Tournaments

High Schools are allowed ten varsity and three novice meets a year, plus the State Forensic Meet and NFL.

1. This means each individual competitor is allowed to attend ten varsity tournaments.
2. Schools who violate this rule will not be allowed to compete for Sweepstakes at the season's State Tournament and will be reported to the WHSAA for appropriate actions toward the school. Violations will be ruled upon by the Executive Officers of the WHSFA, with their decision being final.

B. The Speech Tournament Season

The speech tournament season will run from November 1st through the NFL or State Speech Tournament, whichever is later.

C. Wyoming High School State Forensics Association Membership

Any interested person or school may become a member of the Wyoming High School Forensics Association by paying an annual fee of \$35.00.

D. Voting

Each school in good standing may exercise a vote on matters coming before the WHSFA. Each school has only one vote. Schools must be members in good standing prior to the State Tournament meeting.

E. Novice Competitor

Any student who has competed in ANY debate event at four tournaments or fewer in the previous season will be considered a novice debater in Lincoln-Douglas and Public Forum Debate. A novice season, for all students in their first year of Cross-X debate (regardless of previous experience in any other speech event), will extend throughout that speech season. All coaches and tournament hosts will be encouraged to follow these guidelines. Coaches who agree to participate actively will have full access to all resources. Participating coaches will follow the following agreements: disqualifying teams who do not follow the timelines for the parameters for novice cases, introductions of additional arguments like topicality, counter-plans and critiques. At participating tournaments through the end of February, a novice division will be offered.

A novice individual events competitor is defined as anyone who has competed in four tournaments or less.

F. Lincoln-Douglas Debate Topics

Each year the Lincoln-Douglas debate topic that will be debated at all Wyoming tournaments for the months of November through December is listed in the NFL ROSTRUM as the September/October topic. However, the WHSFA may choose a different topic at their September conference. After December, the topics announced in the ROSTRUM will be debated at all Wyoming tournaments for the months announced.

G. Cross-Examination Debate Topic

Each year the team debate topic designated by the National Federation and the NFL will be used at all Wyoming tournaments for the entire season.

H. Public Forum Debate

Each month the public forum debate topic is designated by the NFL as posted on their website and will be used at all Wyoming tournaments for that month.

8.3.3 STATE TOURNAMENT RULES

A. State Tournament Administration

1. Preliminary Considerations in Advance of the State Tournament

A brochure, containing the State Tournament Schedule and other necessary preliminary data, will be mailed to each school's Forensic Director five weeks prior to the State Tournament. The individual school's Forensic Director is responsible for complying with the instructions therein. If the brochure is not received five weeks prior to the State Tournament, the Forensic Director should notify the WHSAA office and the Tournament Director immediately.

State entry forms must be mailed, complete in all particulars, including accompanying judge information and extemporaneous speaking questions (if an extemp contestant is entered by a competing school), postmarked by the deadline date, in order for a school to be eligible for sweepstakes.

2. Eligibility

No entry will be accepted unless signed by the teacher in charge and by the high school principal, who shall attest each student's eligibility.

Each cancellation at registration (not substitution) will cost the infringing school \$20.00 for each student dropped and \$50.00 in the case of each debate team (Policy, Public Forum or L-D) entry. This penalty can be avoided by contacting the Tournament Director prior to registration on Thursday before the tournament begins.

The entry form must be accompanied with the appropriate fee. There will be no refunds for those students who are registered but do not attend.

3. Fee Schedule

School Registration Fee	- \$60.00
Each Cross-X Debate Team	- 20.00
Each Public Forum Debate Team	- 9.00
Each L-D Debate Entry	- 9.00
Each Duet Interpretation Team	- 9.00
Each Student Congress Entry	- 5.00
Each Individual Event Entry Slot	- 5.00

4. Entry Limitations

A student is limited to two events at the State Tournament and may not enter two events scheduled at the same time. A high school is limited to a total of 18 entry slots. Each student entered in any event slot constitutes as an entry, except for cross-examination debate. One cross-examination debate team counts as two entry slots; whereas, a duet interpretation team counts as one entry slot. A public forum debate team counts as one entry also. An individual student who is entered in two events counts as two entry slots. Schools may enter their allowable 18 entry slots distributed among the various events as they wish, so long as the maximum number of entry slots per school remains at 18.

5. Awards

Schools shall compete in the same classification as does their basketball team. The Wyoming High School Activities Association will provide appropriate awards for the winners in each category of competition. The Wyoming High School Forensics Association will be in charge of the awards ceremony.

Individual Events: 1st place through 6th place medals. All finalists shall be recognized with a medal. (Duet Interpretation: 2 medals for each team.)

Student Congress: 1st place through 6th place medals.

Lincoln-Douglas Debate: 1st place, 2nd place, and two 3rd place medals.

Cross-X Debate: 1st place, 2nd place, and four 3rd place medals: 2 medals for each team.

Public Forum Debate: 1st place, 2nd place and four 3rd place medals: 2 medals for each team.

Sweepstakes: A sweepstakes trophy, 2nd place and 3rd place trophies will be awarded for the following classes: Class 4A, Class 3A, Class 2A/1A. In the event that Class 1A has eight or more schools entered in the State Tournament, then Class 1A will be awarded a separate sweepstakes trophy.

Contestant Awards by Class: The top three contestants in each event, in each class, shall receive medals.
These classes shall be 4A,3A,2A/1A.

6. Coding

Contestants must be coded for tournament scheduling purposes. The contestant coding system shall be determined by the Tournament Director. Name tags are not to be issued to participants.

The Tournament Director will distribute a "school code" sheet to coaches at registration.

Judges will not be coded except to indicate school affiliation.

7. Ballot Verification and School Packets

All participants' ballots shall be placed in the appropriate school's packet and be available for checking during the designated ballot verification periods:

- At the end of the preliminary rounds of debate and individual events (according to the tournament schedule)
- On the last day of the tournament, to review their school packets as needed.

No ballots are to leave the jurisdiction of the tab room. Packets will be available at the conclusion of the Awards Assembly or, if absolutely necessary, when the school leaves the tournament.

8. Conflict Patterns

A student may not enter two events scheduled at the same time. A student may enter two events scheduled at different times in different conflict patterns with the exception of Student Congress. No student may double enter in the Student Congress conflict patterns.

The following conflict pattern shall be in operation at the State Tournament:

Pattern (A):

Cross-Examination Debate
Lincoln-Douglas Debate
Public Forum Debate
Memorized Dramatic Interp.
Memorized Duet Interp.
Student Congress

Pattern (B):

Extemporaneous Speaking
Memorized Humorous Interp.
Manuscript Poetry Interp.
Original Oratory (Memorized)
Student Congress

9. Adjudication Procedures

A Tournament Adjudication Committee shall be established which consists of the elected WHSFA officers and the Tournament Director (hereinafter referred to as the Tournament Committee). The Tournament Committee shall have full power to adjudicate any disputes and to clarify interpretations of these rules. The Tournament Committee's decision shall be final.

Problems, questions, protests, and points of disagreement must be submitted to the Tournament Director in writing. The Tournament Director will then arrange a meeting of the Tournament Committee.

Under exceptionally extraordinary circumstances, the Tournament Committee has the authority to modify the rules governing the operation of the State Tournament. The exercise of such authority shall be communicated to all coaches as soon as possible.

Should a member of the Tournament Committee be unavailable or involved as a party to a protest, the other members of the Tournament Committee shall appoint a replacement to insure timely consideration of the issue.

In general, protests concerning debate evidence shall follow all general, currently-in-place adjudication procedures. Specifically, the following procedures shall also apply:

- a. Protests shall be filed as soon as the infraction has been noted.
- b. The evidence in question shall be examined by the Tournament Committee and proof of authenticity shall be required to be submitted within two (2) hours. This proof of authenticity shall include: original or photocopies of the evidence and/or complete source citations of the evidence and/or other additional substantiation as deemed necessary by the Tournament Committee.
- c. Once the validity of the protest has been determined by the Tournament Committee, the burden of proof lies with the school whose evidence has been called into question.
- d. The Tournament Committee shall be accorded maximum flexibility in the exercise of their duties.

10. Late Entry to Rounds

The Tournament Director will provide the only valid permission for late entry to rounds.

11. Disqualification

The Tournament Committee has the authority to disqualify a student's continued participation in an event due to a breach of state tournament rules. Specific infractions are indicated in these rules. As outlined herein, adjudication procedures shall be followed.

12. Tab Room

The tab room shall be closed to all high school personnel except as necessary for the officers of the WHSFA to adjudicate problems and answer questions and except for those coaches assigned to and serving on the tournament staff.

The executive committee will serve in an oversight role at the State Tournament. They shall be available to handle questions and general tournament procedures. No person may work in the tab room who is an active high school speech/debate coach or who has been an active high school speech/debate coach within the past three years.

13. Judges

Judge assignments at the State Tournament are the responsibility of the tournament staff. Except for the strike procedures as stipulated herein, coaches and students are relieved of any further involvement in the process of assigning judges.

- a. From participating schools: Coaches and "Accompanying" Judges

The following commitment shall be required from those schools participating in the State Tournament:

6 or less entry slots:

2 rounds judged personally by the coach.

7-12 entry slots:

Either 2 rounds judged personally by the coach and provide one judge who shall be available for the entire tournament; or 4 rounds judged personally by the coach.

13 + entry slots:

Either 2 rounds judged personally by the coach and provide two judges who shall be available for the entire tournament; or 4 rounds judged personally by the coach and provide one judge who shall be available for the entire tournament; or 6 rounds judged personally by the coach.

Schools will be obligated for judging no more than the following rounds:

6 or less entry slots:	six rounds of judging
7-12 entry slots:	twelve rounds of judging
12-18 entry slots:	eighteen rounds of judging

No school shall be required to judge rounds in excess of their commitment. Schools may provide for all rounds of judging with as many judges as wish to provide. They may specify which judge is to cover which part of the obligation. No judge may be obligated to judge more than eight rounds.

The Commissioner of The WHSAA shall communicate this judging requirement to the Superintendents of Schools and/or Principals of all Wyoming high schools in advance of the State Tournament.

The entry form will require coaches to indicate which events they prefer and are competent to judge. Coaches and "accompanying" judges will not be assigned to judge students from their own schools. Coaches and "accompanying" judges shall receive no personal compensation for judging.

In the case of schools with co-directors of forensics, one coach must serve "personally" and the other coach must serve as an "accompanying" judge. The intent of this rule is to prevent co-directors from sharing one judging assignment/obligation.

Each coach should personally judge a minimum of two rounds, regardless of the number of "accompanying" judges provided. Each coach of a school entered in debate (either Cross-X and/or L-D) will be expected to judge debate (either Cross-X and/or L-D) or provide an "accompanying" debate judge (either Cross-X and/or L-D).

Accompanying judges may be substituted for a different accompanying judge upon submission of a judge information form.

Former Wyoming high school students who are one year out of high school and who were active participants in competitive speech activities shall not be permitted to serve as "accompanying" judges.

In Student Congress coaches and "accompanying" judges may be assigned to judge or serve as parliamentarian in this event. Every judge will only judge one session. Judges in Student Congress may not be from schools which have contestants entered in the event; however, only parliamentarians who have no affiliations with members in their assigned house of congress must be used. The same parliamentarian must be used for all sessions of congress within a given house.

Coaches and "accompanying" judges are expected to standby when they are not assigned to judge. "Accompanying" judges should check in at the judges' table 10 minutes prior to the start of each round and, if not assigned, should remain available within earshot until all ballots have been distributed. Coaches should be generally available for standby purposes, also.

If an "accompanying" judge should, on a flagrant basis, fail to show up and fulfill standby responsibilities or should fail to perform judging responsibilities in a professional manner, then a conference shall be called involving officials of the WHSAA, the WHSFA, the Tournament Director, and the coach of the school which brought the "accompanying" judge.

JUDGE USE PROCESS

During preliminary rounds, an attempt will be made to balance the mix of judges to maximize the probability that every student will be judged by a judge from each of the pools.

During out rounds, panels will be balanced by using one judge from each of the four pools when four judges are used; and three from differing pools when three judges are used. If panels are larger than four, no pool will be used three times until all pools are used twice. The exception to this is the coach pool, as defined in this subsection of rules, which may be assigned in excess of the pool.

In congress, to the extent possible, the parliamentarian and the judges in that house will come from different pools.

Judge pools will be defined as:

Hired: Those paid judges hired by the tournament director. No more than one-third (1/3) of the pool of hired judges will be affiliated with any single college or institution; or be graduates from the same high school.

Local: These judges are provided by the tournament host. No local judges will be assigned to judge students from the hosting school or institution.

Coach: These are Head Coaches and Assistant Coaches as identified by the school on their registration. Coaches will not be scheduled during the two coaches' meetings.

Accompanying: These are the judges schools bring who are not identified as coaches. Judges not affiliated with the host school/community [they come from other communities and are not paid] who volunteer to judge will be assigned as accompanying judges.

b. Hired Guest Judges

The WHSAA shall determine the payment amounts and the payment system for all hired judges.

The Tournament Director shall send pertinent information from the State Tournament Rules to all hired-guest judges in advance of the tournament. This data shall include payment information, event and tournament rules, judging instructions, the tournament schedule, and sample ballots.

Former Wyoming high school students who are one year out of high school and who were active participants in competitive speech activities shall not be permitted to serve as hired-guest judges. No college campus should provide more than one-third of the hired judges.

Alumni of a particular high school shall not be permitted to judge that school unless three (3) years have elapsed since graduation.

If a hired-guest judge should, on a flagrant basis, fail to fulfill judging responsibilities in a professional manner, then payment (per round, mileage, per diem) from the WHSAA could be in jeopardy. This is a determination to be made by the Tournament Committee.

c. "Walk-On" Judges

"Walk-On" judges are those individuals whom the Tournament Director did not expect to attend the State Tournament. As a general rule, the reliance on "walk-on" judges shall be discouraged by every means possible in advance of the tournament. However, should "walk-ons" materialize, the following procedures and rules shall apply:

- "Walk-ons" shall be held in abeyance so that they are not permitted to judge for a period of at least 2 hours after arrival
- During this 2 hour period, the "walk-on" judges must confer with the President of the WHSFA as to judging procedures and criteria
- During this 2 hour period, the "walk-on" judges' names and prospective events to be judged will be posted on the posting boards in the coaches' lounges;
- It is the responsibility of each coach to check the posting board for this data. Coaches who are judging will be notified concerning "walk-ons"
- Coaches must contact the Tournament Director if the coach wishes to revise his or her judge strike sheets (by adding the "walk-on" and deleting a previously struck judge if applicable)
This revision of the strike sheets must occur at least 45 minutes before the beginning of the round in which the "walk-on" is to be used as a judge
- "Walk-on" judges who are one year out of a Wyoming high school and who were active participants in competitive speech activities shall not be permitted to serve as judges
- "Walk-on" judges who are alumni of a particular school shall not be permitted to judge that school unless three (3) years have elapsed since graduation
- "Walk-on" judges, if utilized, are not eligible to receive payment per round, mileage, nor per diem
- "Walk-on" judges must fill out a blue judge's sheet.

d. Judging Strike System: Interpretation Events

While completing final registration on Thursday, each coach shall receive a comprehensive list of all interpretation events judges available for the preliminary rounds of competition in interpretation events. Each coach may strike five(5) judges or 10% of the pool, whichever is smaller, thereby precluding those judges struck from judging any contestant from that particular school during the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th preliminary interpretation event rounds. There is no strike system in operation during round one of the interpretation events.

During the "ballot verification period" for individual events preliminary rounds, each coach may strike an additional three (3) judges from a newly developed list which represents those judges available for individual events, semifinal, and final rounds.

It is the responsibility of the coach to check the event postings to insure against any possible tab room error in the event of assignment of a "struck" judge. This check by the coach must be made prior to the round starting and the coach must notify the Tournament Director before the round begins so that an acceptable replacement (i.e. a judge who has not been struck) can be sent. Once a round has begun, even if with a "struck" judge, then the round will proceed. No make-up rounds will be scheduled.

All interpretation events judge strike sheets will be held in confidence by the tournament staff.

No "blanket" strikes pertaining to all individuals from a given school or geographic area will be allowed.

e. Judging Strike System: Public Speaking Events

While completing final registration on Thursday, each coach shall receive a comprehensive list of all public speaking events judges available for the preliminary rounds of competition in public speaking events. Each coach may strike five (5) judges or 10% of the pool, whichever is smaller, thereby precluding those judges struck from judging any contestant from that particular school during the 2nd, 3rd and 4th preliminary public speaking events. There is no strike system in operation during round one of the public speaking events.

During the "ballot verification period" for public speaking events preliminary rounds, each coach may strike an additional three (3) judges from a newly developed list which represents those judges available for public speaking events, semifinal and final rounds.

It is the responsibility of the coach to check the event postings to insure against any possible tab room error in the event of assignment of a "struck" judge. This check by the coach must be made prior to the round starting and the coach must notify the Tournament Director before the round begins so that an acceptable replacement (i.e. a judge who has not been struck) can be sent. Once a round has begun, even if with a "struck" judge, then the round will proceed. No make-up round will be scheduled.

All public speaking events judge strike sheets will be held in confidence by the tournament staff.

No "blanket" strikes pertaining to all individuals from a given school or geographic area will be allowed.

f. Judge Strike System: Congress

Each school, which has Congress competitors, will be allowed one Congress judge strike. If it is not possible to honor all these strikes, a preferential system will be used. That is, the judges with the least number of strikes will be used. All student congress judge strike sheets will be held in confidence by the tournament staff.

g. Judge Strike System: Public Forum Debate

Preliminary Round of Public Forum Debate: While completing final registration on Thursday, each coach participating in debate shall receive a comprehensive list of public forum debate judges available for public forum debate preliminary rounds. In the event that a sufficient judge pool exists (as determined by the Tournament Director), each coach may strike five (5) public forum debate judges or 10% of the public forum debate judging pool, whichever is smaller. In the event that a sufficient judge pool does not exist to permit five (5) or 10%, then each coach may strike three (3) public forum debate judges or 5% of the public forum debate judging pool. This strike system is intended to preclude those judges struck from judging debaters from that particular school during all six public forum debate preliminary rounds. This procedure applies only to the public forum debate preliminary and, by extension, into public forum debate quarterfinal rounds.

Quarterfinals of Public Forum Debate: During the "ballot verification period" for public forum debate preliminary rounds, each coach may strike an additional three (3) judges from a newly developed list which represents those judges available for the forum debate quarterfinal round. This new series of strikes shall be added to those judges previously struck for forum debate preliminary rounds so that judges on the combined list shall be precluded from judging forum debate debaters from that particular school during the quarterfinal round. Judges who heard teams in the preliminary rounds, provided that they aren't struck, are eligible to judge them again in the quarterfinal round.

Semifinals of Public Forum Debate: Coaches are expected to be prompt if they wish to avail themselves of this procedure. The tournament staff will prepare a list of judges for each public forum debate; each coach may strike one judge, and alternately continue striking as needed, until the panel is constituted. Previous strikes, during the preliminary and quarterfinal rounds, no longer apply. Judges who heard teams in previous rounds are eligible to judge them in the semifinal round.

Finals of Public Forum Debate: Coaches are expected to be prompt if they wish to avail themselves of this procedure. The tournament staff will prepare a list of judges for the final public forum debate; each coach may strike one judge, and alternately continue striking as needed, until the panel is constituted. Previous strikes, during preliminary, quarterfinal and semifinal rounds, no longer apply. Judges who heard teams in previous rounds are eligible to judge them in the final round. In terms of semifinals and finals, should a coach not wish to strike a judge or should a coach not be in attendance at the conference, the tournament staff has the right to strike a judge for that coach.

It is the responsibility of the coach to check the event postings to insure against any possible tab room error in the event of assignment of a "struck" judge. This check by the coach must be made prior to the round starting and the coach must notify the Tournament Director before the round begins so that an acceptable replacement (i.e. a judge who has not been struck) can be sent. Once a round has begun, even if with a "struck" judge, then the round will proceed. No make-up rounds will be scheduled. All public forum debate strike sheets will be held in confidence by the tournament staff.

No "blanket" strikes pertaining to all individuals from a given school or geographic area will be allowed.

h. Judge Strike System: Cross-X and L-D Debate

Preliminary Rounds of Cross-X and L-D Debate: While completing final registration on Thursday, each coach participating in debate shall receive a comprehensive list of all debate judges available for debate preliminary rounds. In the event that a sufficient judge pool exists (as determined by the Tournament Director), each coach may strike five (5) debate judges or 10% of the debate judging pool, whichever is smaller. In the event that a sufficient judge pool does not exist to permit five (5) or 10%, then each coach may strike three (3) debate judges or 5% of the debate judging pool. This strike system is intended to preclude those judges struck from judging debaters from that particular school during all six debate preliminary rounds and includes both debate divisions. This procedure applies only to the debate preliminary and, by extension, into debate quarterfinal rounds.

Quarterfinals of Cross-X and L-D Debate: During the "ballot verification period" for debate preliminary rounds, each coach may strike an additional three (3) judges from a newly developed list which represents those judges available for the debate quarterfinal round. This new series of strikes shall be added to those judges previously struck for debate preliminary rounds so that judges on the combined list shall be precluded from judging debaters from that particular school, both debate divisions, during the quarterfinal round. Judges who heard teams in the preliminary rounds, provided that they aren't struck, are eligible to judge them again in the quarterfinal round.

Semifinals of Cross-X and L-D Debate: Coaches are expected to be prompt if they wish to avail themselves of this procedure. The tournament staff will prepare a list of judges for each debate; each coach may strike one judge, and alternately continue striking as needed, until the panel is constituted. Previous strikes, during the preliminary and quarterfinal rounds, no longer apply. Judges who heard teams in previous rounds are eligible to judge them in the semifinal round.

Finals of Cross-X and L-D Debate: Coaches are expected to be prompt if they wish to avail themselves of this procedure. The tournament staff will prepare a list of judges for the final debate; each coach may strike one judge, and alternately continue striking as needed, until the panel is constituted. Previous strikes, during preliminary, quarterfinal, and semifinal rounds, no longer apply. Judges who heard teams in previous rounds are eligible to judge them in the final round.

In terms of semi-final and finals, should a coach not wish to strike a judge or should a coach not be in attendance at the conference, the tournament staff has the right to strike a judge for that coach.

It is the responsibility of the coach to check the event postings to insure against any possible tab room error in the event of assignment of a "struck" judge. This check by the coach must be made prior to the round starting and the coach must notify the Tournament Director before the round begins so that an acceptable replacement (i.e. a judge who has not been struck) can be sent. Once a round has begun, even if with a "struck" judge, then the round will proceed. No make-up rounds will be scheduled. All debate strike sheets will be held in confidence by the tournament staff.

No "blanket" strikes pertaining to all individuals from a given school or geographic area will be allowed.

i. Judges' strike list forms

Potential interpretation events judges will be listed on the interpretation events strike sheet. Potential public speaking judges and controversy debate judges will be listed on the public speaking strike sheet. Potential cross-x and L-D debate judges will be listed on the debate strike sheet.

14. Entry Deadline

The entry deadline will be stipulated in the State Tournament Brochure which will be mailed to all schools five weeks in advance of the tournament. The entry deadline will be a "postmark" date two weeks prior to the start of the State Tournament. It is the responsibility of the school's director of forensics to adhere to this deadline. The Tournament Director will notify those schools for whom he does not have entry form by the "postmark" deadline.

In the event that entries are received from schools which are "postmarked" after the entry deadline, but before one week prior to the State Tournament, then those schools shall not be eligible for Sweepstakes awards.

In the event that entries are received from schools which are "postmarked" one week prior to the State Tournament, then those schools shall not be permitted to enter or participate in the State Tournament.

After the expiration of the entry deadline, schools who are entered in the State Tournament will be allowed to change, correct, update, or otherwise modify their State Tournament entry form provided that they promptly notify the Tournament Director by phone or in writing two days prior to the State Tournament. Two days prior to and through the day of registration, only name changes or substitutions will be allowed. It is the responsibility of the high school coach to update any corresponding fee assessment, based on changes made after the entry deadline, with the Wyoming High School Activities Association office.

Any "drops" occurring at registration will be charged the appropriate cancellation fee as indicated in Section 8.3.3.A.3. No "additional" entries will be permitted at registration.

In general, high school coaches are expected to be extremely conscientious in regard to the State Tournament entry forms and the additional information which they are required to submit. They should insure the accuracy of their school's entry in the State Tournament.

15. Time Limits

Cross- Examination Debate:

Aff.	8 min. constructive speech	Neg.	8 min. constructive speech
Neg.	3 min. cross-x period	Aff.	3 min. cross-x period
Neg.	8 min. constructive speech	Neg.	5 min. rebuttal speech
Aff.	3 min. cross-x period	Aff.	5 min. rebuttal speech
Aff.	8 min. constructive speech	Neg.	5 min. rebuttal speech
Neg.	3 min. cross-x period	Aff.	5 min. rebuttal speech

Each cross-x debate team will be allowed five (5) minutes of preparation time without penalty.

Lincoln-Douglas Debate:

Aff.	6 min. constructive speech
Neg.	3 min cross-x period
Neg.	7 min. constructive speech
Aff.	3 min. cross-x period
Aff.	4 min. rebuttal speech
Neg.	6 min. rebuttal speech
Aff.	3 min. rebuttal speech

Each Lincoln-Douglas debater will be allowed four (4) minutes of accumulated preparation time without penalty.

Public Forum Debate:

Speaker 1 Team A - 4 min.	Speaker 1 Team B - 4 min.
Cross-fire - 3 min.	
Speaker 2 Team A - 4 min.	Speaker 2 Team B - 4 min.
Cross-fire - 3 min.	
Summary Team A - 2 min.	Summary Team B - 2 min.
Grand Cross-Fire - 3 min.	
Final Focus Team A - 1 min.	Final Focus Team B - 1 min.

Each Controversy debate team will be allowed two (2) minutes of accumulated preparation time without penalty.

Oratory (Memorized): Orations must not be less than five (5) nor more than ten (10) minutes.

Extemporaneous Speaking: Extemporaneous speeches must not be less than five (5) nor more than seven (7) minutes.

Memorized Dramatic Interpretation
 Memorized Duet Interpretation
 Memorized Humorous Interpretation
 Manuscript Poetry Interpretation

Presentations must
 not be less than
 five (5) nor more than
 ten (10) minutes

It is the responsibility of the student to adhere to the time limits. Timekeepers in extemporaneous speaking and debate will be instructed to notify the judge as to the actual speaking time for each speech.

16. Sweepstakes

The high school with the largest accumulated total of sweepstakes points in each class is the winner in that class.

The point system to determine the sweepstakes winners in each class is as follows:

	Humorous Drama, Poetry Extemp. Oratory, Duet	Lincoln-Douglas Debate Public Forum Debate	Cross- Exam Debate	Student Congress
Placing:				
1st	7	7	14	7
2nd	6	6	12	6
3rd	5			5
4th	4			4
5th	3			3
6th	2			2
Semifinals only*	1	5 (3rd place)	10 (3rd place)	1**
Quarter-Finals only*		2 (5th place)	5 (5th place)	
*Not advancing	**Super Congress participants not ranked			

B. Individual Events

There will be four preliminary rounds, a possible quarter final, and a semifinal round, and a final round in all individual events at the State Tournament.

Individual events which have 60 or more competitors, will break to Quarterfinals of not fewer than 20 competitors, closest to 24 with a clean break. Top limit of 32 contestants. No sweepstakes points will be awarded for quarter finals in Humor, Oratory, Poetry, Extemporaneous Speaking, Drama or Duet.

For the preliminary rounds, the low "rank/points" (with rank having priority) will not be cumulated. The low score will not figure into the determination of student qualification for subsequent qualifying rounds. This "dropped" low score will be identified at the ballot verification period for individual events. A special note: a "no show" is indicated by a rank of 9 and 0 speaker points (rating). This "no show" designation is not dropped as the low score.

For the elimination rounds, there will be three (3) judges in any subsequent qualifying rounds for the individual events. Only ranks in the round will be tabulated; speaker points will not be used. Should ties have to be broken, the "judge preference" system of tiebreaking shall be employed. If ties cannot be broken, tied speakers will advance or place.

In the interpretation events of Poetry, Drama, Humor, and Duet the following provisions shall apply: Individual events cuttings/material must be from sources of literary merit. The literature must have been published.

In the prepared individual events of Oratory, Poetry, Drama, Duet, and Humor the following provisions shall apply: A contestant may not use the same cuttings/material or any portion of that content, in more than one prepared event at the State Tournament. A contestant may not substantially change cuttings/material content in subsequent rounds at the State Tournament.

No student may use an interpretive selection that he/she has used in any previous competitive season if the selection has two of the following three aspects: Author, Title or Source.

Presentations shall be without the use of visual aids or costume.

Judge Preference System: To the extent that any two speakers are tied on total ranks (with three judges), then an examination/analysis of those tied will reveal who was "preferred" by the judges in terms of a comparison only between those who tied.

For example:

	Judge X	Judge Y	Judge Z	Total	Place
Speaker A	1	6	3	10	4th
B	4	4	6	14	6th
C	3	5	1	9	2nd
D	5	2	2	9	3rd
E	2	1	4	7	1st
F	6	3	5	14	5th

- in the tie between speakers C and D:

Judge X prefers C over D
 Judge Y prefers D over C
 Judge Z prefers C over D

therefore, Speaker C is preferred over D by 2 out of 3 judges and should receive the higher placement.

- in the tie between speakers B and F:
 Judge X prefers B over F
 Judge Y prefers F over B
 Judge Z prefers F over B
 therefore, Speaker F is preferred over B by 2 out of 3 judges and should receive the higher placement.

The State tournament shall not exclude students in individual events from advancing to the elimination rounds exclusively on the basis of speaker points. Instead, the primary criteria for advancing to qualifying rounds will be "clean breaks" in ranks.

Quarterfinal rounds will be provided in those individual events whose participants number more than 60. The first priority will be to break closest to 24. Secondly, to the extent that multiple options in break points are available, the second priority will be to advance more rather than fewer students. A minimum of 20 and a maximum of 32 may advance into quarterfinals, depending on where the clean break occurs.

Semifinal rounds will be provided in all individual events. The preferred break, first priority, will be to break closest to 12. Secondly, to the extent that multiple options in break points are available, the second priority will be to advance more rather than fewer students. A minimum of 10 students will advance into semifinals, depending on where the clean break in ranks occurs.

Literature in Interpretation Events: All interpretation competitors must have immediately available either (1) a photo copy of the title page (author, title, source and copyright date) as well as the performed-portion of the original script, or (2) the original edition of the unedited literature being used in competition.

Either must also include:

1. Any words/terms spoken must be highlighted. Lines not mentioned should be left unmarked.
2. Any changes and/or additions must be indicated clearly in ink. Transitional material spoken by the student should be clearly indicated on the script.

The State Tournament shall not exclude students in individual events from advancing to the elimination rounds exclusively on the basis of speaker points. Instead, the primary criteria for advancing to semifinals will be "clean breaks" in ranks. In the individual events, the preferred break, first priority, will be the break point closest to 12. Secondly, to the extent that multiple options in break points are available, then the second priority will be to advance more rather than fewer students. A minimum of 10 students will advance into semifinals depending on where the clean break in ranks occurs.

The following schematic illustrates the system to be employed:

# of students	Students per panel	Semifinal system
10	5 each	
11	5 & 6	2 panels per semifinal
12	6 each	advance 3 from each panel
13	6 & 7	into finals
14	7 each	
15	5 each	
16	5 & 5 & 6	
17	5 & 6 & 6	3 panels per semifinal
18	6 each	advance 2 from each panel
19	6 & 6 & 7	into finals
20	6 & 7 & 7	
21	7 each	

Please see Section 8.3.3.A.13.d and e for information concerning the "Judge Strike System" for interpretation and public speaking events.

1) Extemporaneous Speaking

a. Time Limits

Extemporaneous speeches must not be less than five (5) nor more than seven (7) minutes. Timers will show time to each speaker, from seven minutes down, changing the displayed time card as each minute elapses. If the speaker's time expires, the timer will stand. In rounds where no timer is present, the judge will show the extemper by some cue or hand signal when five minutes of speaking has elapsed. The judge may provide additional time cues, but the judge may not penalize a speaker for being overtime without having provided the five minute signal. Extemporaneous may use their own timer, or the judge may provide one for the extemper.

b. Topics

All topics will be in the area of current events and will be drawn from material in issues of TIME, NEWSWEEK, and U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT for the three months preceding the State Tournament. Each school participating in this event in the State Tournament must send a list of ten proposed topics (with the entry form) to be edited and revised by the Tournament Director. Schools, which fail to submit extemporaneous speaking topics, will not be allowed to compete in this event.

c. Procedures

Each participant, thirty minutes prior to his or her speaking assignment, will draw three topics. The participant will select one topic, and, after preparing the speech, give the topic slip (with code number and speaker's last name on it) to the judge at the beginning of the round. Failing to do so will disqualify the student. Extemporaneous speakers should remain in the contest room after speaking. During the final extemporaneous round, each speaker will be asked one question by the previous speaker at the conclusion of the speech. First speaker will take a question from last speaker - who will watch the first speaker and, then after the cross-examination, will retire to prepare his or her own speech. The questioner is allowed to take notes during the speech, but he or she may not use those notes during the cross-examination. The questioner has up to one minute to ask a question; the speaker has up to two minutes to respond to the question. The quality of the question asked and the quality of the answer given are a part of the total presentation and should be considered with the ranking of the speakers. After each speaker is finished, that speaker must remain in the room until the final round is completed.

d. Preparation

It is suggested that students expecting to participate in this event become familiar with the technique of writing a statement of purpose, a statement of central idea, and an outline in complete sentences of the main heading and supporting material. In reading and studying magazines, the extemporaneous speaker should try to trace and evaluate developments, trends, tendencies and relationships of current events.

The speaker may bring files of notes or clippings on various subjects to assist in the 30 minute preparation period. The speaker may use only one 3" x 5" note card for assistance during the presentation of the speech.

An adult supervisor shall remain in the extemporaneous speaking preparation room until each round is completed. This supervisor shall be responsible for the topic draw process and for maintaining decorum. Extemporaneous speakers must not be "coached" by any person during this preparation period. Coaching by anyone constitutes grounds for disqualification.

Students may consult published books, magazines, newspapers and journals or articles provided:

- 1) The materials are either the originals or xeroxed copies of the originals.
- 2) That the text of the original article or copy is intact and uncut.
- 3) There are no additional written comments on the original or copy.
- 4) A topical index without annotation may be present.

No other sources will be allowed in the extemp prep room other than the above. Extemp speeches, handbooks, briefs or outlines shall be banned.

No electronic retrieval device may be used; however, already printed copies of information from these sources may be used.

e. Standards

An extemporaneous speaker is not expected to display the preparation and polish of a debater or orator. The student is supposed to have gathered a considerable fund of information relevant to the topic selected and the extemporaneous speech should test the ability to quickly select, organize and present those ideas in a unified, significant communication.

2) Original Oratory (Memorized)

a. Time Limits

Orations must be not less than five (5) nor more than ten (10) minutes.

b. Quotations

An original oration must be the student's own work. Not more than 150 words may be quoted and it is presumed that the quotations will be properly identified. Any appropriate subject may be used, but the orator must be truthful. Any such nonfactual reference, especially a personal one, must be identified. Violations of this section constitute grounds for disqualification.

c. Submission of Copies

Copies of orations to be entered in the State Tournament must be in the hands of the Tournament Director by the close of registration, or the student will not be allowed to compete in this event.

d. Subject Matter

Theoretically, an orator may have any purpose. Students should be encouraged to deal with problems and subjects which concern them directly and of which they have personal knowledge and experience. Although emotional appeals are suitable in an oration, students should always support their main statements by evidence: Explanation, comparison, factual or hypothetical illustrations, specific instances, testimony, or logical reasoning.

e. Standards and Delivery

Orations are to be delivered entirely from memory, but an oration is to be evaluated by the same standards that apply to any oral communication, with a slight shift of emphasis. Since the wording and delivery of an oration are presumed to have been carefully worked out and practiced well in advance, more polished results will be expected in both of these aspects than would be expected of the same speaker in, for example, debate or extemporaneous speaking.

Any oration used in a previous school year is not acceptable. A contestant may not use material from Oratory in any other prepared event at the State Tournament. A contestant may not substantially change the content of the Oratory in subsequent rounds at the State Tournament.

3) Memorized Dramatic Interpretation

a. Time Limits

Presentations of memorized dramatic interpretation, including introduction, must not be less than five (5) nor more than ten (10) minutes.

b. Introductions

The interpreter of memorized dramatic literature should preface the interpretation by a few brief remarks to establish a personal contact with the audience and to help them achieve a receptive mood and frame of mind for the material to be presented. A dry, formal statement of biographical data should be avoided.

c. Standards

Selections for memorized dramatic presentations will be essentially of a serious nature and will create a solemn and thoughtful mood. Material may be a short story or a cutting from a short story, a personal essay, a single incident or a cutting from a novel, biography, speech, or a poetic or prose play.

The material must be from sources of literary merit. The literature must have been published (i.e. "published for distribution and sale"). It is recommended that all selections should be obtained from the works of a writer of recognized stature, NOT from a "declamation agency" or a recording. It is recommended that overly dramatic or emotional material be avoided.

Material should be thoroughly studied and analyzed, carefully practiced and prepared. The interpreter should remember, however, that the student is interpreting the author's work to the audience, not impersonating or directly presenting it.

A student may not use the same selection that he/she has used in any previous competitive season. A contestant may not use material from his or her memorized dramatic interpretation in any other prepared event at the State Tournament. A contestant may not substantially change the content of his or her memorized dramatic interpretation in subsequent rounds at the State Tournament.

d. Delivery

In Memorized Dramatic Interpretation, the material must be presented from memory. No manuscript or notes are allowed. Those using a manuscript will be disqualified.

Interpreting aloud is essentially speech and should have the same conversational communicative quality as good speaking or good acting. The interpreter does not act out the character or characters involved, but by changes in voice and in poise, facial expression and modified gesture, SUGGESTS the character and gives the audience an indication of attitude and frame of mind for the material being presented.

4) Memorized Duet Interpretation

a. Entries

A memorized duet interpretation team consists of two members.

b. Time Limits

Presentations of memorized duet interpretation must not be less than five (5) nor more than ten (10) minutes, including introduction.

c. Introductions

The interpreters should preface their Memorized Duet Interpretation presentation by a few brief, informal extemporaneous remarks to establish a personal contact with the audience and to help them achieve a receptive mood and frame of mind for the material to be presented. A dry, formal statement of biographical data should be avoided.

d. Standards

Memorized duet interpretation involves the portrayal of two or more characters presented by two individual contestants as a team. Selections for Memorized Duet Interpretation may be of a serious nature to create a solemn and thoughtful mood or may be of a light or amusing nature to create a mood of enjoyment and gaiety. Material may be a short story or a cutting from a short story, a personal essay, a single incident or a cutting from a novel, biography, speech, or a poetic or prose play. The material must be from sources of literary merit. The literature must have been published (i.e. "published for distribution and sale"). It is recommended that all selections should be obtained from the works of a writer of recognized stature, NOT from a "declamation agency" or a recording. It is recommended that overly dramatic or emotional material be avoided.

Material should be thoroughly studied and analyzed, carefully practiced and prepared. The interpreters should remember, however, that students are interpreting the author's work to the audience, not impersonating or directly presenting it.

Students may not use the same selection that he/she has used in any previous competitive season. Contestants may not use the same material from their memorized duet interpretation in any other prepared event at the State Tournament. Contestants may not substantially change the content of their memorized duet interpretation in subsequent rounds at the State Tournament.

e. Delivery

Interpreting aloud is essentially speech and should have the same conversational communicative quality as good speaking or good acting. Duet Interpreters do not act out the character or characters involved but by changes in voice and in poise, facial expression and modified gesture, SUGGEST the character or characters and give the audience an indication of attitude and frame of mind for the material being presented. Therefore, this is not an acting event.

The presentation is memorized, and the focus is off stage and not to each other. The use of a manuscript is not allowed. Those using a manuscript will be disqualified.

5) Manuscript Poetry Interpretation

a. Time Limits

Presentations of manuscript poetry interpretation must not be less than five (5) nor more than ten (10) minutes, including introduction.

b. Introduction

The interpreter in manuscript poetry interpretation should preface the reading by a few brief remarks to establish a personal contact with the audience and to help them achieve a receptive mood and frame of mind for the material to be read. A dry, formal statement of biographical data should be avoided.

c. Standards

The material presented may be a single poem, a cutting from a longer poem, or a group of related short poems (e.g., contrasting themes by one poet or the same theme as dealt with by different poets). The selection or selections should be from works of literary merit. The literature must have been published (i.e. "published for distribution and sale"). Material should be thoroughly studied and analyzed, carefully practiced and prepared. The interpreter should remember, however, that the student is interpreting the author's work to the audience, not impersonating or directly presenting it.

A contestant may not use the same selection that he or she has used in any previous competitive season. A contestant may not use material from manuscript poetry interpretation in any other prepared event at the State Tournament. A contestant may not substantially change the content of the manuscript poetry interpretation in subsequent rounds at the State Tournament.

d. Delivery

In manuscript poetry interpretation, the material should be read from a book or manuscript. Some form of script must be used.

Interpreting aloud is essentially speech and should have the same conversational communicative quality as good speaking or good acting. The interpreter does not act out the character or characters involved, but by changes in voice and in poise, facial expression and modified gesture, SUGGESTS the character and gives the audience an indication of attitude and frame of mind for the material being presented.

It is suggested that the reader have the materials to be read in a neat folder or notebook, easy to hold and handle, or a book, provided it can be easily handled. Loose paper, clippings, etc. should be avoided.

6) Memorized Humorous Interpretation

a. Time Limits

Presentations of memorized humorous interpretation must not be less than five (5) nor more than ten (10) minutes, including introduction.

b. Introductions

The interpreter in memorized humorous interpretation should preface the presentation by a few brief remarks to establish a personal contact with the audience and to help them achieve a receptive mood and frame of mind for the material to be presented. A dry, formal statement of biographical data should be avoided.

c. Standards

Selections for memorized humorous interpretation presentations will be essentially of a light or amusing nature with the interpreter endeavoring to create a mood of enjoyment and gaiety. Material for memorized humorous interpretation must be published (i.e. "published for distribution and sale") and may be a short story or a cutting from a short story, a personal essay, a single incident or a cutting from a novel, biography, speech, or a prose or poetry play. It is recommended that all selections be obtained from the works of a writer of recognized stature NOT from a "declamation agency" or a recording.

Material should be thoroughly studied and analyzed, carefully practiced and prepared. The interpreter should remember, however, that the student is interpreting the author's work to the audience not impersonating or directly presenting it.

A student may not use the same selection that he/she has used in any previous competitive season. A contestant may not use material from Humorous Interpretation in any other prepared event at the State Tournament. A contestant may not substantially change the content of his or her memorized humorous interpretation in subsequent rounds at the State Tournament.

d. Delivery

In Memorized Humorous Interpretation, the material must be presented from memory. No manuscript or notes are allowed.

Those using a manuscript will be disqualified.

Interpreting aloud is essentially speech and should have the same conversational communicative quality as good speaking or good acting. The interpreter does not act out the character or characters involved, but by changes in voice and in poise, facial expression and modified gesture, SUGGESTS the character and gives the audience an indication of attitude and frame of mind for the material being presented.

C. Debate

Responsibilities of debaters reading evidence

- Each debater is responsible for the validity of all evidence they read in the debate.
- In all rounds debaters shall orally deliver during each round complete citations for each piece of evidence introduced to include the name or the author, qualifications, complete source title and complete date. Lack of a full citation shall void any effect of that piece of evidence in the round.
- When presenting evidence from electronically retrieved sources, the debaters must orally deliver the complete citations as is standardized by the Modern Language Association (MLA). In addition, if the information is from an "on-line" source, the debater shall have - upon request of an evidence challenge - the complete electronic address.
- Should two or more quotations be used from the same source, the complete citation need be given only for the first piece of evidence used from that source.
- Either no internal ellipsis (ellipses occur after the first word of the quotation and before the final word) may be used in evidence cited on a card, or ellipsis may be shown on cards if the original source or a photo copy is present. The evidence may be read in ellipses form, but the entirety of the evidence must be available in one of the two ways cited.
- Personal letters or telegrams shall not be admissible as evidence.

Responsibilities of debaters challenging evidence

- Indictments or protest of the validity of evidence must be made on substantive grounds. A challenger must have either the original source or a photo copy of the source being cited,
or:
- A challenger must demonstrate that reasonable search has not been able to locate the source - photo copies of relevant pages in Book in Print, Reader's Guide, or P.A.I.S.
or:
- A challenger must prove that they have not been able to locate an electronic source, service, publication, etc.

Penalties for use of nonexistent evidence or evidence which seriously distorts the intention of the original source.

Definitions

1. A "Serious distortion" exists when evidence itself contains added or deleted word(s) which do not clarify, but - in fact - change the position of the author with respect to the issues in question.
2. "Nonexistence evidence" means that:
 - a. Reasonable search is unable to produce the original source and/or the team reading the evidence is unable to provide the original source or a photo copy of the relevant pages.
 - b. The evidence cited is not located in the original source cited.
Typographical errors in citation will not automatically result in the evidence being labeled nonexistent, if the debater(s) reading the evidence can produce the correct information.

Penalties

1. An infraction of serious distortion or fabrication of debate evidence rules shall result in the disqualification of the offending debater(s) from the tournament.

1) Cross- Examination Debate

a. Entries and General Procedures

A cross-examination debate team consists of two members. Each team shall be prepared to debate both negative and affirmative sides of the resolution.

Each debate team will debate six preliminary rounds, generally three affirmative and three negative (although not necessarily in alternating order).

All debates at the State Tournament will be judged on a win-loss basis and all debaters will be rated on a speaker-point scale. Team members may switch cross-exam periods or rebuttal speeches, but not both.

Please see Section 8.3.3.A.13.h for information concerning the "Judge Strike System" for Cross-Examination Debate.

Debate postings and ballots shall not show the school name.

d. Standards

Debate is regarded as competitive oral persuasion. Debaters are not attempting to solve a social problem, but rather to convince the judge of the desirability or undesirability of the particular solution set forth in the proposition debated.

2) Lincoln-Douglas Debate

a. Entries and General Procedures

A Lincoln-Douglas "team" shall consist of one member prepared to debate both negative and affirmative sides of the resolution.

Each L-D debater will debate six preliminary rounds, generally three affirmative and three negative (although not necessarily in alternating order).

All L-D debates at the State Tournament will be judged on a win-loss basis and all L-D debaters will be rated on a speaker point scale.

Please see Section 8.3.3.A.13.h for information concerning the "Judge Strike System" for Lincoln-Douglas Debate.

Debate postings and ballots shall not show that school name.

b. Preliminary Round Pairings

Please see Section 8.3.3.C.1.b. for the preliminary round pairing system which applies to both Cross-Examination Debate and Lincoln-Douglas Debate, and Public Forum Debate.

c. Elimination Round Pairings

Please see Section 8.3.3.C.1.c. for the elimination round pairing system which applies to both Cross-Examination Debate and Lincoln-Douglas Debate. In addition to those provisions, these criteria shall determine, in rank order, which L-D debaters shall advance to octafinals or quarterfinals:

1. win-loss record
2. strength of opposition throughout all preliminary rounds (total wins of opposition)
3. cumulative speaker points (high is best, drop high-low)

When the number of Lincoln-Douglas Debate participants is 44 or more, elimination rounds will begin in round seven with octafinals, allowing 16 students bracketed high-low in eight brackets. All other elimination rounds will follow the rules and schematic bracket (See 8.3.3. c.1.c) for cross-examination debate. In the event that there is an odd number (i.e. 11, 13, 15), the debater with the best record would receive a bye.

d. Standards

Debate is regarded as competitive oral persuasion. Since students participating in Lincoln-Douglas Debate are speaking to an audience/judge, they should be encouraged to develop a direct and communicative delivery. The statement of the L-D topic is intended as a resolution of value rather than policy. This value orientation should result in an emphasis on logic, analysis, theory, and philosophy while eliminating "plan" arguments.

3. Public Forum Debate

a. Entries and General Procedures

A Public Forum Debate team shall consist of two members. Each team shall be prepared to debate both pro and con sides of the resolution.

Each public forum debate team will debate six preliminary rounds. Sides for all rounds will be determined by the flip of a coin with the winning side determining either which side of the resolution they will defend, or where they will go first or last in speaking order. The other team will then choose from the remaining option of its side or whether to go first or last. In no instance, including the meeting of two teams for the second time, will sides be determined by any other method than by the flip of a coin between the two teams debating.

Please see Section 8.3.3.A.13.g for information concerning the "Judge Strike System" for Public Forum Debate,

b. Preliminary Round Pairings

Please see Section 8.3.3.C.1.b for the preliminary round pairing system which applies to Cross-examination Debate, Lincoln-Douglas Debate, and Public Forum Debate. The only exception to the pairing of Public Forum Debate is that sides debated will not be a criterion for pairing Public Forum Debate.

c. Elimination Round Pairings

Please see Section 8.3.3.C.1.b for the elimination round pairing system which applies to Cross-examination Debate, Lincoln-Douglas Debate, and Public Forum Debate. In addition to those provisions, these criteria shall determine, in rank order, which Public Forum Debate teams shall advance to octafinals or quarterfinals:

1. Win/loss record
2. Strength of opposition throughout all preliminary rounds (total wins of opposition)
3. Ranking points of the four debaters
4. Quality rating of the two teams

When the number of Public Forum Debate teams is 44 or more, elimination rounds will begin in round seven with octafinals, allowing 16 teams bracketed high-low in eight brackets. All other elimination rounds will follow the rules and schematic bracket (See 8.3.3.c.1c) for cross-examination debate. In the event that there is an odd number (i.e. 11, 13, 15), the public forum debate team with the best record would receive a bye.

d. Standards

Debate is regarded as competitive oral persuasion. Controversy debaters are encouraged to focus upon a social problem defined monthly by the National Forensic League. Because this event attempts to model media debate, judges may be active coaches who teach in a classroom or are community judges, but may not include judges who have college debate experience,

D. Student Congress

1. General Philosophical Statement

Student Congress (StuCo) should be viewed as one of the most exciting events in State competition, combining the very best of debate, extemporaneous speaking, and oratory. As well, it is desirable to maintain much of the decision-making processes in the hands of the competitors while continuing to ensure a high degree of competition.

The setting, as the dialogue between the participants, should be as formal as possible to maintain the demeanor of the house. Dress, actions, and conversation, therefore, should be consistent with and conducted as if it were taking place in the Congress of the United States.

StuCo (Student Congress), as in any democratic society, finds parliamentary procedure rooted in three principles: 1) the will of the plurality decides action and procedure; 2) the rights of the minority to address the assembly and otherwise participate are to be protected; and 3) the rules exist to serve the organization and are equally applicable to all of the membership.

2. Entries

Student Congress participants may double enter in any other event at the State Tournament so long as the other event is not in the same time schedule conflict pattern. The intent is that the student would be able to compete in both events without being absent for any aspect of the competition in either event.

EXCEPTION: Student Congress participants may NOT double in both Student Congress Patterns.

Procedure and guidelines for the participation in this event can be found in the NFL handbook. No NFL procedures or guidelines will be used at the State Tournament if they are in conflict with Student Congress procedures specifically stated in this document.

3. Number of Sessions

There will be one (1) organizational session, four (4) preliminary sessions and two (2) super congress sessions at the State Tournament. (Super Congress Sessions contingent upon having appropriate number of entries.)

4. Structure

Experience has demonstrated that a house with too many members will be unmanageable and not provide students the opportunity to fully participate. Conversely, a house with too few students will not offer sufficient interaction to make the competition worthwhile. NFL advises that the optimum membership in a house of a student congress is 20. Whenever possible during the course of the year but particularly during the State meet, this rule should be considered as inviolate as practical.

Student Congress participants will be informed as to which legislation will be debated in their house as soon as possible after the final split is determined

The formula Base of Three will be used. Coaches will be able to place up to three of their competitors within a given house, depending on the number of houses needed for student congress.

5. Organization

Each participant entered in Student Congress may submit one, and only one, Bill or Resolution. The Bill or Resolution must be properly typed on 8 1/2" x 11" white paper. All Bills and Resolutions received with the entry forms will be duplicated by the Tournament Director (or his/her staff) to be distributed to all schools entered in Student congress (one set of Bills/Resolutions per individual Student Congress participant). The clerk shall ensure the Bills/Resolutions are mailed to all schools at the same time to avoid any inherent advantage, and to do so as soon as possible following the deadline date.

Bills or Resolutions which are not submitted with the official entry forms and which are "late," i.e. submitted after the entry deadline, will not be accepted for duplication or distribution by the Tournament Director. If "late" bills or resolutions are accepted for addition to the agenda order, they may be added only to the bottom of the agenda order, after all the pre-submitted bills have been debated. Sufficient copies of "late" Bills and Resolutions must be provided by each school. The tournament staff will not duplicate "late" Bills or Resolutions at the site of the State Tournament.

Students who pre-submit Student Congress legislation with their State Tournament Registration will be guaranteed an authorship speech when the legislation comes to the floor, prior to the application of other parliamentary or procedural rules.

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 concentrate on the merits of the specific provisions it contains. Although they are not necessary, a Resolution may have "Whereas" clauses, but a Bill never has them.

The most repetitive offenses in legislation are the lack of line numbers, lack of penalties when required, initiation date, and the misunderstanding of the intent of what a bill and resolution does and doesn't do and confusing the two.

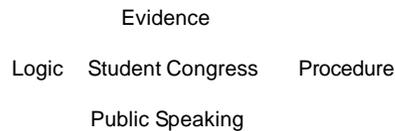
6. Parliamentarian's Duties and Obligations

A parliamentarian shall be used for all sessions of an assigned house. That Parliamentarian may not have students from his or her school as members of that given house.

All houses will operate much more effectively and efficiently if the Parliamentarian does not fear to intervene in order to head off potential problems. This should not be construed to mean that the parliamentarian should run the session, rather that he/she should have a firm hand on the reins to avoid a runaway congress. The parliamentarian should not be "rushed" into making a hasty or improper decision. After all, his/her decisions are final and should be made after due deliberation. The parliamentarian's guide should be the NFL Handbook and Robert's Rules of Order, tempered by common sense and a desire to see the session run as an orderly function. When the Parliamentarian is in doubt or the issues are clouded to the degree resolution cannot be attained without undue delay in the proceeding, the issue should be resolved by unrestrained debate of the participants; however, the Parliamentarian shall make this decision at his/her sole discretion and may elect to hear arguments from both sides of the issue for so long as it may take him/her to make a decision. Addresses to the problem by the members to the Parliamentarian shall not be counted as a speech and shall be considered by neither the judges nor the Parliamentarian in ranking the student.

Each school, which has congress competitors, will be allowed one parliamentarian strike. If not possible to honor all the strikes, the parliamentarian with the fewest strikes shall be used.

7. Judging Criteria in General



As the figure above would indicate, there is a hierarchy of criteria upon which to help in the selection of the best legislator. Evidence to substantiate the assertions of the speaker or questioner, for instance, has a greater primacy over analogy, and much more than mere opinion. In like manner, discernible flaws in logic during debate and the use of parliamentary procedure are also distinguishing features. As well, one cannot afford the luxury of ignoring the fact that StuCo is, after all, a public speaking event and the students' perceptive parliamentarian and judges will need to be extremely vigilant to observe shifts of strength during any given session.

One should clearly see the relationship of a superior speaker and his/her ability as related to the legislation within a structural framework of evidence, analysis and logic, extension and development of the issues, speaking ability, and leadership. Speakers who do nothing more than state the obvious or offer redundant arguments should be discouraged, although this should not preclude development of the issues. As well, one should not neglect assaults and justifications during the two-minute examination period which tests the extent of the speaker's knowledge and the questioner's ability to construct a foundation for later speeches or to later denigrate the position of the author or speaker. Elections of the best speakers, legislation and chair by the membership of the houses are done in conjunction with an independent parliamentarian and judges, however, this does not obviate the need for "political" activities and interaction of the members; indeed, it enhances this necessity. The officials should be acutely aware and sensitive to the "floor work" occurring in the chambers during the session.

8. Judges Duties and Obligations

One judge will be assigned for each session for each house that has fewer than 14 members. Two judges will be assigned for each session for each house that has 14 or more members

Individual judges will consider the results of one or two rounds as the needs of the congress and the availability of a judging pool dictates. A ballot should be completed by the judge for all members of the given house judged, whether the participants spoke during the session or not. Judges are requested not to confer with others about their decisions, reasons for ranking, individual likes or dislikes, or reasons for decisions with students, coaches, or each other until all rounds of congress have been completed. Completed scoring sheets by the judges will be given only to the congressional monitor to avoid an impression of collusion.

The judges will rank the highest scoring or the best participants. The ranks given will be one through seven (one being first place) at the end of each session. All other members of the session shall receive an eighth place. In the event of a tie after the cumulating of both sets of scores (if two judges are used) both members shall receive the higher rank and the next one will be skipped.

Each School which has congress competitors will be allowed one Congress judge strike. If it is not possible to honor all these strikes, a preferential system will be used. That is, the judges with the least number of strikes will be used.

All student congress judge strike sheets will be held in confidence by the tournament staff.

9. Membership Voting

Following the fifth session of Congress, the Parliamentarian shall make available, in no particular order, his/her top seven preferences for overall best speaker. The membership will individually rank these one through seven. The Parliamentarian and the fifth session judge or judges will tally these preferences. These totals will determine the membership's ranking of these seven students. This membership ranking is then multiplied by five, so that the voted ranking of the membership will weigh the same as that of the judges from all five sessions. In the final membership vote all participants not receiving a rank of 1-7 will be ranked 8

In the event of a tie, the Parliamentarian's preference will be added. If the tie is still not broken, the judges' preference will be added. If still not broken, the judges' preference will be added.

The parliamentarian will not reveal his or her ranks to the membership. The ranking ballot used by the parliamentarian should have "Parliamentarian" clearly marked on it. This ranking shall only be used to break a tie.

At the end of all sessions, the judges' rankings from each session will be added together, along with the membership ranking times five. Final placement will be determined by the lowest total cumulative score receiving first place, etc., on to the highest total receiving last place. In the event of a tie, the parliamentarian's preference will prevail. The top ten ranked legislators from the given conflict pattern will then advance to super congress. If only one house is in session during the preliminary rounds within a conflict pattern, the top ten legislators will advance to super congress. If two houses are in session during the preliminary rounds within a conflict pattern, the top five legislators will advance to super congress from each house. If three houses are in session during the preliminary rounds within a conflict pattern, the top three legislators will advance to super congress from each house.

10. Tab Room

At the end of all preliminary sessions the judges' rankings from each session will be added together, along with the membership ranking times five. Final placement will be determined by the lowest total cumulative score receiving first place, etc., on to the highest total receiving last place. These final results will have the tab room staff determine those legislators who advance to super congress. The same procedure will be used to determine the top six legislators in Super Congress.

11. Best Legislation:

Nominations for Best Legislation will be taken from the floor at the end of the last session by the Parliamentarian, but will not number more than five. After balloting, the top two will be selected by the body.

The tab room will tabulate the top winners of best legislation from each house. The authors of the best legislation from each house will be recognized during the awards program.

12. Best Chair

The Parliamentarian will nominate not more than three exceptional members of the congress for Best Chair. The body shall then make their will known by ballot.

The tab room will tabulate the top winner of best chair from each house. The best chair from each house, including super congress, will be recognized during the awards program.

13. Super Congress

- a. The top ten (10) best legislators from both student congress patterns will advance to Super Congress. No more than twenty (20) legislators will advance to Super Congress.
- b. All bills for Super Congress at State would be generated from the previous year's NFL national super congress. Any bills, which had been discussed, that are similar to the NFL national super congress bills will be eliminated by the tournament director. Bills to be discussed in Super Congress will be mailed with the informational state tournament packet prior to registration.
- c. A new parliamentarian and three judges will be appointed for Super Congress.
- d. Two sessions of super congress will be held during the last day of the state forensic meet.

Following the end of the Super Congress sessions, the Parliamentarian shall make available, in no particular order, his/her top seven preferences for overall best speaker. The membership will individually rank these preferences one through seven. The Parliamentarian and the Super Congress session judges will tally these preferences. These totals will determine the membership's ranking of these seven students. This membership ranking is then multiplied by three, so that the voted ranking of the membership will weigh the same as that of the judges from the Super Congress session.

In the event of a tie, the Parliamentarian's preference will be added. If the tie is still not broken, the judges' preference will be added.

The parliamentarian will not reveal his or her ranks to the membership. The ranking ballot used by the parliamentarian should have "Parliamentarian" clearly marked on it. This ranking shall be used only to break a tie.

At the end of the Super Congress sessions, the judges' rankings from the session will be added together, along with the membership ranking times three. Final placement will be determined by the lowest total cumulative score receiving first place, etc., on to the highest total receiving last place. In the event of a tie, parliamentarians preference will prevail.

- e. Semifinal points will be awarded to non-ranked Super Congress participants.