

OHSSL-CA Fall Coaches Meeting
October 17, 2015
(Thanks to Katie K for her note-taking!)

- Welcome
- Introduction of OHSSL-CA (attending)
 - Jennifer Conner, Forest Grove, President
 - Katie Kantowitz, Silverton, 1st Vice President
 - Rachel Wilczewski, Sam Barlow, 2nd Vice President
 - Pat Leahy, South Albany, SpeechOregon.org Webmaster
 - Protest Committee: Pat Johnson (Westview)
 - Rules Committee: Jane, Rob Moeny (North Valley), Rob Bingham (Ashland), Rachel
 - OSAA Advisory Member: Jane Berry-Eddings (Sprague)
 - State Tournament Director: Jane Berry-Eddings
 - North NSDA Chair: Michael Curry (Sprague)
 - South NSDA Chair: Tori Marshall (Grants Pass)
- Program Business
 - Confirmation of District Tournament Directors (Peter)
 - Defaults to host, if not confirmed; please do it now rather than later
 - Confirmation of Speech Districts (Peter)
 - Online at OSAA.org, check to make sure you're in the right district, your AD has paid the \$25 to be eligible for OSAA (different than coaches dues), and any new programs in your area have been added
 - Coaches Association Dues
 - Allows coaches a vote at the State Meeting in April
 - Paid per coach, may be paid for consecutive years
 - Invoice available at SpeechOregon.org under "Minutes and Business"
 - State Tournament Committee (time: Sat workday, Thurs/Fri/Sat at State)
 - 11 Members (elect 5); positions for IE, debate, congress, judges, general assistance
 - Process: Nominations sent to me (Jennifer)
 - Ballots go to Exec Committee and District Directors
 - National Federation of High Schools (Susan McClain, Glencoe; also, National Debate Topic Rep)
 - NFHS has resources available on their website if you're looking (inexpensive membership)
 - Have insurance available that is affordable and beneficial for traveling teams
 - CX Novice Cases: not all states do novice areas, will be talking about it for the next year
 - If you are a new program please make sure we (Jennifer, Pat) have your information (email, contact)
 - If you are interested in Nationals, please reach out to your North (Michael) or South Chair (Tori)
- Discussion Topics
 - NSDA Events
 - New Events: Inform, POI
 - Inform: 10 min/30 sec grace expository (only real difference is time; Oregon expos is 8 min/30 sec grace); both allow VAs (optional, not required), NSDA will allow "projected images," Oregon rules allow audio, but not visual
 - POI: Mixed-genre interpretation; must use 2/3 of Drama, Prose, Poetry 10 min/ 30 sec grace; allows for diversity of topics (e.g. advocacy for a position, current events; not just death, love, tragedy, etc)
 - Webinar available on NSDA's website; run by Kenny Lau, national collegiate champion in POI
 - A few college pieces available on YouTube; unsure of how it will look on the national level
 - Both are *pilot* main stage events; they may not be permanent

- Worlds Debate
 - 3-5 members on the team; all 5 can prep, only 3 will speak
 - 3 on 3 debate format (8 minute speeches, 2—4 minute replies)
 - Impromptu (given an hour before the debate) and Prepared Motions (released ahead of the tournament)
 - Students may bring evidence, especially for prepared motions; some restrictions on impromptu debate preparation. (NSDA has handouts available online.)
 - OSAA rules do not allow cooperation between schools outside the tournament (known hybrid teams). At a competition, hybrid teams can be made.
 - Sprague Debate Tournament will run Worlds Debate in this style in November. Coaches will enter Worlds participants individually, then they will be drawn into teams the morning of. Students may prepare materials in advance for the prepared motions and bring it with them (can prep with own teammates ahead of time).
 - Nationals is an event outside OSAA jurisdiction, so cooperation for Nationals is allowed. (Rule is to prevent super teams.)
 - Rose City Round Robin (Lincoln) will also have Worlds Debate
- Inform vs Expos
 - Which event should we prefer?
 - Survey: “Expos only” was the plural winner; “Inform only” was close behind. The main rationales:
 - “Expos only”: Oregon event/Oregon rules make it qualify for Proven Excellence; keeps the event clear/undiluted (numbers)
 - “Inform only”: Prepare kids for nationals; no substantive difference between the two events other than time
 - “Expos and Inform as Separate Events”: Less favorable as it would dilute numbers (Proven Excellence issue, less competition in general)
 - “Expos and Inform as the Same Event”: There are no minimum times in either event; could run as long as 10 mins/30 sec grace (however, becomes an issue with Proven Excellence)
 - Other issues to consider
 - Recording NSDA points (point difference between Inform/Expository)
 - Do we need to “clean up” Expos (e.g. VA rules—no “projected images” allowed) to perhaps align with National event, or just make it easier/clearer for our own event?
 - “Historical understandings” are bad; we need rules clarified and/or codified; not helpful for coaches, students, etc
 - (Historical understanding being a convention but not an actual rule that programs must follow.)
 - Proven Excellence
 - Consensus that Inform (National event) and POI will not have any effect on Proven Excellence (Oregon event rules need to be followed)
 - Changes
 - No changes can be made until spring
 - Perhaps consider rule changes that are contingent on what the NSDA decides to do with POI/Inform (make them permanent)
- POI Ballots
 - Ohio has a good example of one; can perhaps be adapted for tournaments offering POI (Rachel used at Barlow)

- NSDA Qualifier: can POI, Inform, and Worlds be a separate tournament?
 - These qualifiers do not count against the totals
 - North NSDA is considering options/open to suggestion (especially since we loved the new schedule last year)
 - South NSDA is considering Congress Qual on March 5, IEs/Debate on Mar 11-12 at U of O, or potentially Mar 18 as well; Tori will keep you updated/ask for suggestions/preferences
- NSDA vs Oregon
 - Survey: Is there too much focus on NSDA/NSDA events, so much that it is a detriment to Oregon events or non-National schools?
 - Consider aligning our events with nationals; especially if they are substantially the same/only minor differences (would help clean up the rules)
 - Do we have too many events? (Oregon events and keeping up with National events)
 - Yes, there are too many events for some (dilutes competition, hard for new kids to narrow down options, etc)
 - OSAA is concerned with number events because we cost them money and we don't make them money
 - If we wanted to add events (like POI/Worlds) to State, we may have to eliminate one or more so there is balance
- North vs South
 - Survey concern that there is not equal representation on committees, not a lot of communication between North/South Metro/Rural schools
 - Coaches' Facebook group is great; really helps keep all the schools connected and coaches enjoy hearing about other tournaments around the state
- State
 - Judges: What can we do to increase the number, quality, and diversity of the judging pool?
 - Need to publicize judges can make \$10 per round, likely have mileage reimbursed by OSAA
 - Could we go quid pro quo with WA coaches in exchange for helping out at their state tournament?
 - Should parent judges need to attend a minimum number of tournaments to be eligible?
 - What about Idaho's system, which requires a webinar/quiz to certify judges (\$5 fee, repaid through their pay for judging)
 - College: can we create more alumni returns/judges by increasing the social aspect, e.g. a reception?
 - Tournament schedule is currently Thurs/Fri/Sat; difficult because most would-be judges are working
 - OSAA would likely not allow a two-weekend nationals (IE/Debate split) because of money concerns
 - Sunday tournament day is not allowed (OSAA)
 - Southern OR has a difficult time because of travel (leave Weds, return late Sat)
 - Nationals has a judge bond/standby pools
 - OSAA likely will not like bond idea
 - Perhaps maybe entry fee per student (not school fee) that could go to paying judges more
 - Maybe \$5, would that economically difficult for schools? (Really depends on your school size!)
 - Create a statewide judging database that could be used?
 - Tab Committee is eligible to judge (everyone except protest committee head)

- Location
 - WOU seems to be the only school that responds to Peter Weber's requests about hosting
 - Fewer schools seem to be able to handle the 500+ students/coaches/judges
 - Geographically, nicer to have it centralized
 - Consider swinging the tournament between locations (e.g. SOU, WOU, etc)
- Electronic Tab
 - Only with reliable wifi!
 - Jennifer note: going to work with some different Tab programs (online) to see if it can handle our schedule and judges better; will let you know what I find
- Tournament Fees
 - Survey input: Can we agree on a certain fee amount? Why do some schools charge more/less?
 - Some schools are facing budget issues and may appreciate a hard look at the how/why of what schools charge (understanding they are often significant fundraisers)
- Schedule
 - LIELL
 - Own schedule (too alienating?) vs same schedule (respectful of time?)
 - Wilson's tournament will utilize Fri night short schedule; compared to last year when it ran in regular schedule, Don went from zero to 9 entries.
 - Can we normalize schedules?
 - Any way to make the days shorter?
 - Any interest in splitting IEs/Debate into different tournaments?
 - Shorter day
 - May see a judging split issue (judge coverage to IE or to debate)
 - We want well-rounded kids, but that may promote the idea that kids are just "IEers" or just "debaters."
 - One day tournaments are preferable though
- Rule changes
 - If you are interested in submitting a rule change, the process is:
 - Submit rule change to Rachel/Rules Committee by the end of January
 - Rules Committee will review Pros/Cons of each rule, submit a review sheet to coaches before the State Meeting (including explanation, pros/cons)
 - In the past, rules changes have not been handled ideally; hopefully this will alleviate some of the questions/issues in the past (discussion, clarifications, etc)
 - Congress
 - Survey: More clarification for the State committee members running Congress
 - Either align Oregon and National rules, or differentiate more clearly between the two
 - Debate
 - Oregon Parli
 - Open Prep
 - One topic, Open Prep
 - Opposition Strength to be the second tie breaker in debate, after win-loss record and before speaker points (doable with tab software or by hand)
 - Extemp Evidence Use
 - Need stronger clarification to kids what is/is not allowed (e.g. no debate briefs/compilations)
 - Rules could be clarified on power cords, electronic retrieval, etc (e.g. clean up event)

- Electronics
 - Electronics are only permitted in LD and PF
 - The extemp portion says that no use of power cords is permitted. Is that what extemp needs?
 - The portion that prohibits phones ---yet some students retrieve (offline) articles from them as they don't have computers (e.g. event/rule clean up)
- Primary Sources/Interps
 - Should the original script be made available at State? It is currently mandated for platforms (oratory, expos, etc) but not interps
- Ditch Proven Excellence?
 - Coming at the expense of good competition
 - The collapsing of novice and open to get 15 teams seems to be troubling for coaches who have true novice; going against advanced senior member in first tournament or two seems unfair and perhaps inhibiting
 - Maybe the proven excellence could result from a tournament with 15 total (open & novice) teams, but novice are still permitted to compete only against novice.
 - Should PE not kick in until November (or January) to allow for focus on Novice events?
- SLAM Poetry
- Not having same speech in platforms
 - Should there be a rule concerning “overlapping content?”
 - Again, overlap rule exists with interps, but not platforms
 - If we remain with just Expos, could someone use Expos as their Inform? (Or vice versa?)
- Open Issues
 - Accessibility: Survey responses wanted more awareness about accommodating students with particular needs; please indicate if students (or judges, etc) need accommodations
 - Workshop—is this something we want to keep?
 - Is there a date that works better for teams?
 - Should it be moved to a more central location?
 - Can we combine with Kris’ novice congress?
 - Middle School Tournaments
 - WA teams have growing middle schools competitions, confirmed one for Apr 30 in Bothell, WA
 - Follow up with Brent DeCracker (brent.decracker@cedarpark.org)