

MSHSAA CRITIC EVALUATION FORM

Round _____

DUET ACTING

Section _____

Room _____

Contestant _____ School Code _____

Selection _____ Date _____

TIME LIMIT--Not more than 10 minutes including the introduction. (Exceeding the time limit could result in the lowering of the contestant's speaking rank by one or more places in the round as determined by judge's discretion.)

- A. **Selection and Introduction**-- Did the selection meet acceptable literary standards? Was it properly introduced by one of the actors? Did the introduction adequately set the scene, time and place? Did it provide an understanding of what had happened in the plot up to the scene presented? Did it introduce the characters and their importance in the selection?
- B. **Characterization**-- Did the actors adequately portray the characters in the scene? Did they stay in character? Did they know and understand their lines? Did they pick up cues? Were the actions and gestures appropriate, movements natural and motivated? Was tempo suitable to this situation? Did the actors contribute appropriate visual aspects and gestures to the characterization?
- C. **Voice and Diction**-- Were the voices of the actors adapted to the characters they were portraying? Was enunciation and articulation distinct?
- D. **Stage Movement and Business**-- Did the stage movement and business create a vivid image and help to clarify the author's meaning and intent? Did the performers emphasize on-stage focus, interaction between performers and representation as opposed to presentation?

FACTORS CONSIDERED	COMMENTS
Selection and Introduction	
Characterization	
Voice and Diction	
Stage Movement and Business	

Comments on Total Effectiveness:

Rank and rate each contestant: **E**--Excellent **S**--Superior **G**--Good **A**--Average **BA**--Below Average

Circle the point value to distinguish quality of individual performance within the respective rating category.

E - 25 24 23 22 21 S - 20 19 18 17 16 G - 15 14 13 12 11 A - 10 9 8 7 6 BA - 5 4 3 2 1

Rank _____ Rating _____ Points _____ Judge _____

Note: Judges are reminded not to collaborate on their decisions.

This form is to be returned to the tournament director at the close of the round. **Oral critiques are not permitted.**

DUET ACTING (10 Minute Presentation Time) NOTE: See Section 5-A-4 concerning repetitions.

- A. A list of participants in each event shall be posted. Participants will perform in the order in which their names appear on the list. If unable to do so because of a schedule conflict, the coach shall contact the tournament manager for an adjustment in the schedule.
- B. Duet and Duo are not the same event. Duet is theatrical acting, Duo is interpretation.
- C. A student can be entered in both Duo and Duet, but may not use the same selection in a tournament in more than one event.
- D. Two students entering duet acting shall:
 - i. A student shall portray only one character. However, additional voice or character can be used only to progress the action.
 - ii. Emphasis should be on-stage focus, interaction between performers and representation as opposed to presentation.
 - iii. Present a scene from published and copyrighted material. The participant shall have available on site access to the original source of the selection in case material is challenged.
 - iv. Memorize roles completely
 - v. Limit stage furnishings to two chairs and one table, which shall be provided by the tournament management only. A violation of this rule shall result in disqualification.
 - vi. Use no makeup, costumes or properties of any kind.
 - vii. Adequately introduce their selections; title(s) and author(s) of all selections must be identified.
 - viii. Choose material that meets acceptable literary standards.
- E. **Students should develop original interpretation of their selections.**
- F. The time shall be not more than 10 minutes, including the introduction.
- G. Judging Criteria:
 - i. **Selection and Introduction:** Did the selection meet acceptable literary standards? Was it properly introduced by one of the actors? Did the introduction adequately set the scene, time and place? Did it provide an understanding of what had happened in the plot up to the scene presented? Did it introduce the characters and their importance in the selection?
 - ii. **Characterization:** Did the actors adequately portray the characters in the scene? Did they stay in character? Did they know and understand their lines? Did they pick up cues? Were the actions and gestures appropriate, movements natural and motivated? Was tempo suitable to this situation? Did the actors contribute appropriate visual aspects and gestures to the characterization?
 - iii. **Voice and Diction:** Were the voices of the actors adapted to the characters they were portraying? Was enunciation and articulation distinct?
 - iv. **Stage Movement and Business:** Did the stage movement and business create a vivid image and help to clarify the author's meaning and intent? Did the performers emphasize on-stage focus, interaction between performers and representation as opposed to presentation?
- H. A violation of any rule/regulation for this event will result in disqualification from the event. Any official protest of a disqualification shall be directed to and ruled upon by the tournament grievance committee who has the authority to overturn a disqualification.
NOTE: Oral critiques are not permitted.
NOTE: In finals, judges may allow a grace period for audience reaction.

Timekeepers shall adhere strictly to the time schedule and shall notify the judge when a contestant exceeds the time limit rather than stopping the performance. Time cards should be used to indicate time remaining to the performer for all events except one-act plays and readers theatre. Contestants who exceed the time limit may be penalized by the lowering of the contestant's speaking rank by one or more places in the final rankings for that round and is to be determined by the judge's discretion.

NOTE: THERE IS NO BUILT IN 30 SECONDS GRACE PERIOD. THE TIME LIMIT IS CLEARLY STATED IN EACH EVENT'S JUDGING REGULATIONS PRINTED IN THE MANUAL. In finals, judges may allow a grace period for audience reaction.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR JUDGES

NOTE: If a timekeeper is not present to start the round, DO NOT delay the start of the round. Start the round on time.

- A. Each event shall have at least one judge, and each event shall have a timekeeper. If a coach refuses to judge, the coach's school team shall be disqualified.
- B. Judges in any event are to use the standard critic evaluation form for that event, as published by the MSHSAA and provided by the tournament director. A judge shall evaluate each performance independently and shall not collaborate with other judges when assigning rankings or ratings.
- C. Ratings which will appear on the standard critic form are defined as follows: Excellent--shall represent an outstanding performance. (The number of excellent ratings given shall not be limited by the number qualifying for state competition. Qualification for state competition is determined by the ranking provided the manager by the judge and not by whether or not the performance received an excellent rating.) Superior--shall represent a performance that is outstanding in many but not all respects. Good--shall represent a good performance that may be above average in some respects and below average in others, but not outstanding in any respect. Average--shall represent a performance that is poor in some respects and not above average in any respect. Below Average--shall represent a performance that is poor in most respects.
- D. No judge is to designate any rank for the purpose of making an award of any type other than provided for in this manual.
- E. Each judge in the district/state speech and one-act play events shall be provided a certification ranking form for each event judged. The judge shall rank the contestants in each event judged.
- F. Oral critiques are not permitted.
- G. In finals, judges may allow a grace period for audience reaction
- H. After the last presentation in an event, the timekeeper or the judge shall take the completed evaluation forms in a sealed envelope to the tournament director who shall record the ranks, ratings, and post the results.
- I. Judges shall keep in mind that they are judging high school students and not college or professional groups. The judge's comments should be presented so that they provide an educational experience. Specific suggestions should be written on the individual evaluation forms to help make the ratings meaningful and in such a way that the student is encouraged to try to do better the next time.
- J. Judges shall consult evaluative criteria for the events they are to judge. A violation of the regulations for the event shall be noted to the manager.
- K. Judges of individual events at the state tournaments shall rank and rate each contestant in the two preliminary rounds. The eight performers with the lowest rankings at the end of the two preliminary rounds will qualify for a final round.
- L. A critic shall not attempt to recruit high school speech students participating in district or state events. The Board of Directors is opposed to any recruiting of high school students during the time a tournament is in progress because of the possibility that this distracting may affect the student's performance.