

SPEECH, DEBATE, AND THEATRE MANUAL

Missouri State High School Activities Association

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ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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(573) 214-3133

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Ed Keppeler (2014)
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(636) 271-1414

Kansas City District

TBA (2014)

St. Louis District

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Parkway South HS
(314) 415-9792

Central District

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Jackson HS
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Northwest District

Susan W. Nauman (2012)
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PURPOSE AND PHILOSOPHY

- A. PURPOSE OF MANUAL:** This manual has been prepared to provide a better understanding of the administration of MSHSAA sponsored events. It will serve as a guide to the participating schools and will provide for greater consistency. All information will be included in this manual except such supplementary or incidental information as may be included in the MSHSAA Journal. The regulations in this manual shall be considered official unless the schools are notified in a Special Bulletin of any changes.
- B. PHILOSOPHY OF INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES:** Interscholastic activities are intended to supplement the secondary curricular program. These activities can provide the student with educational experiences and learning outcomes that contribute toward the development of good citizenship. This can be accomplished only when the emphasis is placed upon teaching "through school activities." Interscholastic activities can be justified only when this is its primary philosophy and purpose.
- C. PURPOSE OF DISTRICT AND STATE CONTESTS:** The district and state speech and debate events are for the primary purpose of providing member schools an opportunity to demonstrate and to evaluate the best that has been taught in each school. Beginning with this evaluation at the local district level and proceeding to the state level enables teachers and school administrators to compare their programs with other programs in the state. Although a school may be eliminated at the district level, if the district winner advances to the state meet, those eliminated have a basis for evaluating the comparative quality of their speech and debate programs.

Many of our member schools that do not enter the district tournament have speech and debate programs in their schools. No pressure or influence is used by the Board of Directors to encourage these schools to enter the district tournaments. This is a local matter to be determined by the local school administration. It is the opinion of the Board of Directors that when programs in these schools are sufficiently developed and there is a desire to evaluate them in comparison with other schools, these schools will enter the district and state tournaments.

- D. USING THIS MANUAL:** All speech teachers and debate directors are urged to read the instructions in this manual carefully. Entry forms for the district and state tournaments have been included in the Speech Entry Form Book. These books will be mailed to each school and if you do not receive yours by November 1, contact the MSHSAA Office. When you receive your Speech Entry Form Workbook, please make note of all deadline dates for submitting entry forms. The MSHSAA wall calendar also includes the dates on which entries should be mailed. It is the responsibility of each school to make certain their entry forms are properly submitted on or before the deadline date. Any questions concerning the forms or instructions should be referred to the MSHSAA Office.

SECTION 1: ETHICS

- A. INTERSCHOLASTIC CONTESTS:** Interscholastic contests in speech are organized and conducted for the purpose of developing competence in speech. These contests, properly conceived, are definitely pedagogical in their aims and objectives and should be viewed as educational projects. Since the tournament format is utilized for Speech and Debate, competition is, naturally, an important element of participation. The desire to win supplies a strong incentive to achieve and improve. This aspect of the activity is desirable in that winning is correlated with performance of merit. All the Rules and Regulations governing the events are designed to make the winning of contests synonymous with good speaking and good debating. While this objective has been largely realized, it sometimes happens that, under the stress of a desire to win, individuals become over zealous and their actions reflect on the good name of the school they represent. Every possible effort should be made to preserve friendly relations and to conduct all contests on the highest plane. A speech contest is a friendly contest and to keep this spirit, it must be conducted in a fair and impartial manner by directors, students, and judges alike.
1. The highest kind of school loyalty is that which reflects credit on the home school, not that which tries to secure a victory at any cost.
 2. Participants, directors and all observers should hold the judge's decision with the highest regard. Talk with the judges, learn all you can from them, and remember that their honesty should be held without question.
 3. Directors and others present should always display proper audience behavior regardless of the nature of the remarks made by the speaker.
 4. Directors should recognize that judging their own students is not the accepted manner in running a tournament.
 5. The speeches being performed by the students should be the honest efforts of the students involved.
 6. Cell Phones and other electronic communication devices may not be turned on while in the preparation rooms, competition rooms, or in the awards ceremony. **EXCEPTION: Cell phones can be turned on in competition rooms to be used as timing devices, but they cannot be used for any other function during rounds of competition.**
- B. FOR DIRECTORS:**
1. Always be on time for judging assignments.
 2. Always get the approval of the director to change judging assignments.
 3. If, for some reason, you must leave before a tournament is over, inform the director of your plans.
 4. Go through the proper channels of appeal without causing "A Scene".
 5. Always use appropriate language.
 6. It is inappropriate to falsify debate evidence.
 7. Always show respect for the host school and follow the rules for the use of the building.
 8. Remember to always be a positive role model for your students.
 9. Remind students to use internet message boards in a positive manner.
 10. Cell Phones and other electronic communication devices may not be turned on while in the preparation rooms, competition rooms, or in the awards ceremony. **EXCEPTION: Cell phones can be turned on in competition rooms to be used as timing devices, but they cannot be used for any other function during rounds of competition.**
 11. Encourage students to develop original interpretations of their selections.
 12. **Never provide coaching/direction/advice to contestants/debate teams during competition rounds.**
- C. FOR STUDENTS:**
1. Respect the activity, their opponents, and the schools they represent.
 2. Courteous audience behavior shall be displayed while viewing any performance.
 3. Debate competitors should respect the ideas and arguments of their opponents as well as the style of debating employed.
 4. It is inappropriate to falsify or plagiarize material. Students should only use internet message boards in a positive manner.
 5. Debate competitors should shun ridicule, name-calling, belittling, snide remarks, and degrading comments, both in and out of rounds of competition.
 6. Competitors should help maintain an atmosphere of fairness and mutual respect.
 7. Competitors should respect all property at the tournament site, particularly making certain that nothing is disturbed in the contest rooms.
 8. Competitors should do their part in adhering to the tournament schedule.

9. Competitors should abide by all tournament rules and requests by the tournament staff.
10. Cell Phones and other electronic communication devices may not be turned on while in the preparation rooms, competition rooms, or in the awards ceremony. **EXCEPTION: Cell phones can be turned on in competition rooms to be used as timing devices, but they cannot be used for any other function during rounds of competition.**
11. Students should develop original interpretations of their selections.
12. A contestant/debate team shall not receive coaching/direction/advice from other persons during a competition round.

SECTION 2: ORGANIZATION

A. DISTRICT TOURNAMENTS:

1. The state is divided into nine districts as qualifying centers for the State Speech Tournament.
2. Each district shall hold a tournament under the regulations adopted by the Board of Directors for the purpose of certifying individuals and teams for the state tournament.
3. The districts, managers, tournament dates and school assignments by county for 2010-11 are as follows:

NOTE: Schools reassigned from regular county assignments remain assigned to the new site unless notified by the MSHSAA Office.

2011 MSHSAA Speech District Tournament Sites, Dates, and Assignments (Information subject to change before final district assignments are released.)

#1 CENTRAL DISTRICT

STATE FAIR COMMUNITY COLLEGE: Ms. Jamie Yung, Lexington High School, 2309 Aull Lane, Lexington, MO 64067. (660) 259-4391; FAX: (660) 259-2166

DATES: March 1 Cross-Examination, Lincoln-Douglas, Public Forum
 March 4 One-Act, Readers
 March 5 Individual Events

All entries must be entered on or before February 1, 2010.

ASSIGNMENTS: Schools located in the counties of Bates, Benton, Cooper, Henry, Hickory, Johnson, Lafayette, Moniteau, Morgan, Pettis, Saline, and St. Clair.

#2 NORTHEAST DISTRICT

ROCK BRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL: Stacey Bonderer, Manager, Rock Bridge High School, 4303 South Providence, Columbia, MO 65203. (573) 214-3133, FAX: (573) 214-3109

DATES: March 17 Cross-Examination, Lincoln-Douglas, Public Forum
 March 18 One-Act, Readers
 March 19 Individual Events

All entries must be entered on or before February 17, 2011.

ASSIGNMENTS: Schools located in the counties of Adair, Audrain, Boone, Callaway, Chariton, Clark, Howard, Knox, Lewis, Lincoln, Linn, Macon, Marion, Monroe, Montgomery, Pike, Putnam, Randolph, Schuyler, Scotland, Shelby, Sullivan, and Warren.

#3 NORTHWEST DISTRICT

OAK PARK HIGH SCHOOL: Mr. Sean Nicewaner, Manager, Liberty High School, 1000 NE 104 St., Liberty, MO 64068. (816) 736-6800; FAX: (816) 736-7081

DATES: March 18 One-Act, Readers, Cross-Examination, Lincoln-Douglas, Public Forum
 March 19 Individual Events, Debate Finals

All entries must be entered on or before February 18, 2011.

ASSIGNMENTS: Schools located in the counties of Andrew, Atchison, Buchanan, Caldwell, Carroll, Clay, Clinton, Davies, DeKalb, Gentry, Grundy, Harrison, Holt, Livingston, Mercer, Nodaway, Platte, Ray, and Worth.

#4 SAINT LOUIS DISTRICT

PARKWAY SOUTH AND PARKWAY NORTH HIGH SCHOOLS: Michael Hachmeister, Parkway South High School, 801 Hanna Road, Manchester, MO 63021. (314) 415-9790, FAX: (314) 415-7712.

DATES: March 11 Cross-Examination, Lincoln-Douglas, Public Forum, One-Act
March 12 Readers, Individual Events, Debate Finals

All entries must be entered on or before February 11, 2011.

ASSIGNMENTS: Schools located in the counties of St. Charles, St. Louis, and the City of St. Louis (and Jefferson City High School).

#5 SOUTHERN DISTRICT

CARTHAGE HIGH SCHOOL: Bryan Whyte, Manager, Carthage High School, 2600 S. River, Carthage, MO 64836. (417) 359-7020, FAX: (417) 359-7037.

DATES: March 1 One-Act, Readers
March 4 Individual Events
March 5 Cross-Examination, Lincoln-Douglas, Public Forum

All entries must be entered on or before February 1, 2011.

ASSIGNMENTS: Schools located in the counties of Barry, Barton, Cedar, Dade, Jasper, Lawrence, McDonald, Newton, and Vernon

#6 SOUTH CENTRAL DISTRICT

CAMDENTON HIGH SCHOOL: Tom Martin, Manager, Camdenton High School, P.O. Box 1409, Camdenton, MO 65020. (573) 346-5651 Ext. 102, FAX: (573) 346-9238.

DATES: March 4 Cross-Examination, Lincoln-Douglas, Public Form, One Act, Readers
March 5 Individual Events, Debate Finals

All entries must be entered on or before February 4, 2011.

ASSIGNMENTS: Schools located in the counties of Camden, Cole (except Jefferson City High School), Crawford, Dent, Franklin, Gasconade, Howell, Maries, Miller, Oregon, Osage, Phelps, Pulaski, Shannon, Texas, Washington (and Viburnum High School).

#7 SOUTHEAST DISTRICT

SOUTHEAST MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY: Karen Kight, Manager, Dept of Communications MS2750, SEMSU, One University Plaza, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701. (573) 651-2519, FAX: (573) 651-5967.

DATES: March 4 Cross-Examination, Lincoln-Douglas, Public Forum, One-Act, Readers
March 5 Individual Events

All entries must be entered on or before February 4, 2011.

ASSIGNMENTS: Schools located in the counties of Bollinger, Butler, Cape Girardeau, Carter, Dunklin, Iron (except Viburnum High School), Jefferson, Madison, Mississippi, New Madrid, Pemiscot, Perry, Reynolds, Ripley, Scott, St. Francois, Ste. Genevieve, Stoddard, and Wayne.

#8 SOUTHWEST DISTRICT

MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY: Carol Maples and Teresa Sparkman, Co-managers, Kickapoo High School, 3710 S. Jefferson, Springfield, MO 65807. (417) 523-9132, FAX: (417) 523-8596.

DATES: March 4 One-Act, Readers, Individual Events
March 5 Cross-Examination, Lincoln-Douglas, Public Forum.

All entries must be entered on or before February 4, 2011

ASSIGNMENTS: Schools located in the counties of Christian, Dallas, Douglas, Greene, Laclede, Ozark, Polk, Stone, Taney, Webster, and Wright.

#9 WEST CENTRAL DISTRICT

WILLIAM CHRISMAN HIGH SCHOOL: Shelia Holt, Manager, William Chrisman High School, 1223 N. Noland, Independence, MO 64050. (816) 521-5355, FAX: (816) 521-5606.

DATES: March 18 Cross-Examination, Lincoln-Douglas, Public Forum, One-Act, Readers, Individual Events
March 19 Cross-Examination, Lincoln-Douglas, Public Forum.

All entries must be entered on or before February 18, 2011.

ASSIGNMENTS: Schools located in the counties of Cass and Jackson.

Late Entries: Entries submitted after the deadline dates, but before the scheduling of performances is completed, may be accepted provided the school pays a late penalty of \$100 (the late fee for additional entries submitted by a school that entered by the published deadline shall not be assessed if such additional entries are received seven or more days prior to the start of the district tournament). The district manager shall notify the MSHSAA in writing regarding late entries; the MSHSAA shall invoice any school(s) owing a late penalty fee; and the MSHSAA shall pay all late penalty fees to the host school(s).

B. STATE TOURNAMENT:

1. The state tournament will be held in Columbia on April 15-16, 2011, at the University of Missouri-Columbia, Rock Bridge High School, and Hickman High School. Cross-Examination, Lincoln-Douglas, and Public Forum Debate -- April 15 (Finals April 16); One-Act Plays and Readers Theater -- April 15 (Finals April 16); Individual Events -- April 16.
2. The state tournament will be open only to those individuals, teams, and play casts who qualify at the district tournament and are certified by the district managers.

C. EVENTS:

1. Representatives from the following events shall be certified for the state tournament:
 - a. Cross-Examination Debate
 - b. Lincoln-Douglas Debate
 - c. Public Forum Debate
 - d. One-Act Play
 - e. Readers Theater
 - f. Dramatic Interpretation
 - g. Duet Acting
 - h. Humorous Interpretation
 - i. Poetry Reading
 - j. Prose Reading
 - k. Storytelling
 - l. Radio Speaking
 - m. Extemporaneous Speaking
 - n. Original Oratory
2. In addition to those above, other events may be held at the district tournaments; however MSHSAA will not pay expenses for additional events.

D. TOURNAMENT MANAGEMENT:

1. A district manager will be appointed by the MSHSAA Office to assume responsibility for administering the district tournament under provisions included in this manual.
NOTE: The district manager should announce that the March NFL topic for Public Forum debate shall be used at the State tournament.
2. The manager shall appoint a committee of three speech directors from participating schools to assist in the tabulation of the district tournament and a second committee of three to serve as a grievance committee with the district manager. The members appointed to these committees should be rotated from one year to the next.
NOTE: It is advised to have separate I.E./debate and theatre grievance committees at district and state tournaments.
3. All facilities, including theatre sites, must be in compliance with Title III of the American with Disabilities Act as a place of public accommodation.

SECTION 3: ENTRIES, FEES, TERMS, & CONDITIONS

A. ENTRIES:

Entry information for the district and state events is located on the MSHSAA website (www.mshsaa.org).
NOTE: Schools must register for speech, pay the registration fee, and submit a student-eligibility roster online before any materials are sent and assignments are made.

1. District Entries: The entry process online through the MSHSAA website. Note: A school may make changes to its district tournament entries prior to 4:00 p.m. on the Monday immediately preceding the district tournament by submitting the changes in the competitor's names and/or the selection titles in writing to the district tournament manager. Schools shall be invoiced for entry fees.

2. State Entries: The entry process is online through the MSHSAA website. Although students may qualify at a district, they are not considered entered at the state tournament until their schools have submitted entries (schools shall be invoiced for entry fees). Directors are to report any known drops for the State tournament to the MSHSAA office by 4:00 p.m. on the eighth day (Thursday) prior to the start of the tournament. A school shall be fined \$100 for a drop or withdraw from the state tournament. The deadline for submitting changes in selections for the state tournament is one week after the last district tournament concludes.
3. Directors must indicate with their District and State entries if the school squad includes students requiring special physical accommodations.

B. LATE ENTRIES:

Entries submitted after the deadline dates, but before the scheduling of performances is completed, may be accepted provided the school pays a late penalty of \$100 (the late fee for additional entries submitted by a school that entered by the published deadline shall not be assessed if such additional entries are received seven or more days prior to the start of the district tournament). The district manager shall notify the MSHSAA in writing regarding late entries; the MSHSAA shall invoice any school(s) owing a late penalty fee; and the MSHSAA shall pay all late penalty fees to the host school(s).

C. SUBSTITUTIONS:

1. Substitutions at the district tournament may be made from the list of eligible students included on the school's student-eligibility roster submitted on the MSHSAA website. Any cancellations should be reported to the manager before the date of the tournament if at all possible.
2. Substitutions at the state tournament may be made in case of an unforeseen emergency and with prior approval of the MSHSAA Office in team/group events and such substitutes must adhere to the limitations on entries as listed in Section 3-D of the Speech Manual.
3. There shall be no substitutions in debate after the beginning of the first round.
4. All substitutes must be or have been eligible for the entry in which they are substituting beginning at the district tournament.

FOR EXAMPLE:

District Event Student Entered:	Student not eligible for substitution in event:
One Act Play	Readers Theater
Readers Theater.....	One Act Play
Cross-Examination	CX, LD, PF
Lincoln-Douglas.....	CX, LD, PF
Public Forum	CX, LD, PF
Entered in 3 events, regardless of further qualifications	4th Entry

Note: Members of a "fill-entry" in Cross-Examination debate at a district tournament are eligible to substitute in a school's Cross-Examination debate team at the state tournament in case of an unforeseen emergency provided the substitute(s) would have been eligible to enter the event at the beginning of the district tournament.

D. LIMITATIONS:

1. Only those students who meet the eligibility standards listed in Section 7-A of this manual may participate in the district and state speech events. (Exception: Children below high school age may be used in children's parts in the one-act play event.)
2. A school is permitted only one entry in each individual event, one in the Readers Theater event, one in the One-Act Play event, no more than two in Lincoln-Douglas Debate, no more than two two-member teams in Cross-Examination Debate, and no more than two two-member teams in Public Forum.
3. A student may participate in no more than three different events at the district tournament including Readers Theater, One-Act Play, and Debate. No student shall participate in both Readers Theater and One-Act Play events or in more than one Debate event.
4. No student is eligible who has participated in more than eleven interscholastic speech events the current school year (inclusive of the Missouri NFL Tournament, but exclusive of the MSHSAA District Tournament and State Tournament.)
5. A student shall not give the same speech (or revision of that speech) or present a selection or cutting from the same play or work in more than eleven tournaments, meets, or festivals during one school year (inclusive of the Missouri NFL Tournament, but exclusive of the MSHSAA District Tournament and State

Tournament.) This applies to all regular season tournaments (By-Law 262).

6. Repetition Prohibited
 - a. A selection shall not be repeated by a student who gave that selection in an interscholastic speech event in any previous school year (grades 9-12). This restriction applies to the regular season and the district and state events. In addition, a selection used by a school in the previous year's district or state events shall not be repeated by that school in the current year's district or state events. The restriction on schools repeating selections applies to the district and state tournaments only. A violation of this provision shall result in disqualification of the entry.
 - b. An individual student shall not use the same selection in a tournament in more than one event. A violation of this provision shall result in disqualification in all but one of the events.
 - c. A selection shall be defined as the entire work from which a cutting is taken, including plays. Adaptations of works which give credit to the original author shall be considered the same selection as the original work even if performed in different events.
7. A student must use the same selection in all rounds of the district tournament. Likewise, a student must use the same selection in all rounds of the state tournament. It is acceptable; however, to use a different selection at state than the one used at the district tournament.
8. The District manager shall record the selections utilized by each school in order to support the repetition rule.
9. The deadline for submitting changes in selections for the state tournament is one week after the last district tournament concludes.

E. PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS PROVIDE TIMERS AT DISTRICTS:

Each participating school must provide a timekeeper at the district tournament when requested by the tournament director.

F. PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS PROVIDE TIMERS AT STATE:

Schools having qualifiers in debate events and/or individual events at the state tournament shall provide timekeepers for the debates on Friday and individual event rounds on Saturday of the tournament. In the elimination rounds, directors/judges shall also keep time.

G. MATERIAL:

Material presented by all participants shall be appropriate for public performance by high school students. Every precaution should be taken to insure that no questionable materials are selected. If the appropriateness of materials is in doubt, it is recommended that the coach have the school's principal approve its usage.

H. ENTRY REQUIREMENTS FOR EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING:

Each school entering extemporaneous speaking at the district tournament shall submit, along with its entries, a list of ten (10) extemporaneous topics which will collectively serve as the pool for extemporaneous topics for the district tournament. Five (5) topics shall deal with domestic matters and five (5) topics shall deal with foreign matters. Schools qualifying for extemporaneous speaking at the state tournament are also requested to submit topics to the tournament manager.

I. ENTRY FEES

1. Entry fees for the district and state events shall be as follows:

Event	District	State
a) One-Act Play	\$35.00	\$40.00
b) Readers Theater	\$35.00	\$40.00
c) Each Cross-Examination Debate team	\$23.00	\$28.00
d) Each Public Forum Debate team	\$23.00	\$28.00
e) Each Lincoln-Douglas Debate entry	\$14.00	\$18.00
f) Each Individual Event	\$ 7.00	\$ 7.00

2. No refunds will be made for any cancellations.

SECTION 4: GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS- DISTRICT & STATE

A. TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE:

The manager shall appoint a tournament/grievance committee of three speech directors from participating schools to serve on a committee to assist in the management of the tournament to assign judges to avoid the possibility of a conflict of interests, and to serve with him/her as a jury of appeals to rule on questions arising at the tournament (appointed committee members should be rotated from one year to the next).

1. The committee shall include the MSHSAA Speech Advisory Committee member from the district when available and at least one coach from one of the smaller schools participating in the tournament.
2. Should a member of the committee's school be involved in the grievance, the committee member shall be replaced with a committee alternate and if the alternate is not available someone may be appointed to serve in this capacity by the tournament manager.

NOTE: The committee can determine that no one is allowed to watch/scout in the preliminary rounds.

B. TAB COMMITTEE:

The manager shall appoint a Tab Committee of speech directors from participating schools, which should reflect the various size schools participating in the tournament (appointed committee members should be rotated from one year to the next). If the host school provides personnel to tabulate results relieving school directors from this responsibility, a Tab Committee shall still be established to oversee the tabulation of the events throughout the tournament.

C. TAB ROOM:

The tab room shall be open to directors. Those directors working in the tab room are not obligated to judge.

1. The tab room may be closed as results are returned so the committee may record the necessary information, but the room will be reopened following each return.
2. Individuals working in the tab room should not discuss the standings with other individuals during the course of the tournament.

D. PROTESTS:

All protests shall be directed to the tournament manager in writing as soon as infractions to the rules are discovered. Any protest based on failure to follow the regulations contained in this manual shall be made to the tournament manager. Any performance which is in violation shall be disqualified.

NOTE: Please read Section 4-F regarding when results are considered to be final and the "MSHSAA Policy for On-Site Protests of Speech, Debate, and Theatre Contests" on pages 39-40.

E. SCHEDULE:

The order of performances shall be established by the local manager.

1. The manager shall establish a time by which all teams must arrive in order to draw debate codes and after that time, a proxy shall be used to draw codes.
2. 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.
3. Any debate, individual, One-Act Play, or Readers Theater entry that arrives after the scheduled time, through no fault of the tournament, shall be subject to forfeiture in that particular round or event.
 - a. The manager shall be authorized to make an exception when the entry is late or does not compete as scheduled because of emergency reasons beyond the control of the concerned party.
 - b. The rescheduling must not present an unreasonable inconvenience for the other participating schools.
4. Any entry which does not participate as scheduled shall forfeit and be subject to disqualification from the tournament. Advancement into the next scheduled round of competition shall be forfeited by the entry and any place earned shall be nullified.
 - a. The debate team which forfeits shall receive a "3-4" debater's rank and points equal to the average they received in remaining rounds.
 - b. The team which received a forfeit/bye win shall receive for that round the average of the total win-loss records of their other opponents' preliminary rounds. This team shall also receive the average of their ranks and quality points for their other preliminary rounds.
 - c. A Lincoln-Douglas Debate entry that forfeits a round shall receive losses from all judges and is to receive the lowest total speaker points.

- d. An individual event entry which forfeits will receive a ranking equal to the lowest possible rank that could be received in any section of the event, i.e. 3 sections with 2 sections having 8 contestants and 1 section having 9 contestants. In this case the forfeited ranking would be 9.
 - e. If a student performs in the wrong room, he/she shall be ranked last in that section.
5. All contestants in the individual events and duet acting at the district and state speech tournaments will participate in two preliminary rounds. They will be scheduled into sections by random draw.
- a. The number of individual event entries to advance into the final round at the district tournament (based upon the lowest ranking at the end of preliminary rounds) shall be determined by the total number entered in the event following the formula listed below:
 1 to 13 entries advance 6 entries to finals
 14 to 20 entries advance 7 entries to finals
 21 or more entries advance 8 entries to finals
 - b. At the state tournament the eight performers with the lowest rankings at the completion of the two preliminary rounds will be advanced to a final round of competition.
 - c. If a tie should occur in an individual event the following tie-breaking procedure shall be utilized to determine the contestants who will advance to the final round at the tournament in the order listed:
 - 1) Rank
 - **2) Reciprocals
 - *3) Quality Points
 - ***4) Adjusted Quality Points
 - 5) In the event of an unbreakable tie all entries involved in the tie shall be awarded the highest place for which they are tied and should the tie be for a position to advance to the next round of competition or a qualifying position for the state tournament then all entries involved in the tie advance.
 - d. Upon the completion of the final round the judges' rankings shall be tabulated to determine the placing in each event.
 - 1) Should ties occur in the final round, they will be broken by applying the following criteria in descending order:
 - * A) Judges Preference (applies to a two-way tie only)
 - **B) Reciprocals
 - C) Preliminary Ranks
 - 2) If a tie is not broken by applying these three steps, the tie-breaking procedure for determining qualifiers for the finals will be utilized.
 - e. The order of the performance of the final round of individual events shall be determined by a random draw and contestants shall be expected to perform in the order established. Speaker position shall be adjusted to avoid:
 - 1) Conflicts with another event in which a student(s) is participating.
 - 2) Scheduling students with the same selection back to back.

NOTE: If a student is double entered in the final round of debate and the final round of extemporaneous speaking at the state tournament, the schedule conflict will be resolved by adjusting the speaking order for extemporaneous speaking if possible. If this is not possible, the student will speak first in the final round of extemporaneous speaking and the final round of debate will be delayed.
6. If a tie should occur in One-Act Plays or Reader's Theater the following tie breaking procedures shall be utilized in descending order:
- a. Rank
 - * b. Judges Preference (applies to a two-way tie only)
 - **c. Reciprocals
 - d. Quality Points
 - e. Unbreakable Tie (see c-5 above)
- * Judges preference - comparing the rankings of judges for contestants tied and awarding the higher place finish to the contestant who was preferred by the majority of judges (applies to a two-way tie only).
 - ** Reciprocals-the assigned values for each rank used to break ties-Rank 1=1.00; 2=. 50; 3=. 33; 4=. 25; 5=. 20; 6=. 17; 7=. 14; 8=. 13; 9=. 11; 10=. 10. The entry receiving the higher total shall advance.

*** Adjusted Quality Points - In rounds where 3 or more judges are used to tabulate the results the highest and lowest ratings are dropped and then the average of the middle ratings is used.

F. POSTING RESULTS:

All results for the tournament will be posted in advance following the schedule below. Any error must be corrected at the appropriate time listed.

1. Following the end of preliminaries and before the elimination rounds all grids and ballots are to be available to the directors to verify the accuracy of the results in each event during an allowed twenty (20) minute time period and that a five (5) minute time period be allowed for the purpose of verifying results between elimination rounds in debate with all results being final once the next round begins.
2. Results will be final 20 minutes after the announcing and/or posting of results.
3. The grievance committee shall be allowed to correct clerical errors beyond the stated time limits if such action will not delay the tournament.

G. JUDGES:

1. Debate: Two judges shall be used for preliminary rounds of debate (provided qualified people are available) unless a majority of the directors desire to use only one judge. Three judges shall be used for all elimination debates.
 - a. High school directors will be assigned to judge preliminary rounds of Cross-Examination, Lincoln-Douglas, and Public Forum debates, at both the district and state tournaments but shall not be paid. Schools that qualify four or more students in debate for the state tournament shall be required to provide a second debate judge. If a coach refuses to judge or fails to provide a qualified person to judge, the school will be required to pay the fees for a hired judge; and if a coach does not report to judge on the day of the tournament, all of his/her entries will forfeit that round. Any coach who fails to fulfill his/her judging assignment(s) at the state tournament shall be fined \$50. **District tournament managers shall submit Special Reports to the MSHSAA office on all directors who do not fulfill their judging assignments.**
 - b. No debate judge at both the district and state tournaments shall hear the same team (or individual) debate the same side more than once, and it is recommended that a judge hear the same team (or individual) only once regardless of sides debated.
 - c. A panel of three school directors, if available, shall be used to judge the final round of LD, CX, and PF debate at both the district and state tournaments. All directors having a student qualify for the final round in an individual event at the state tournament shall be required to be available to judge the final round of LD, CX, and PF debate and must report to the tournament headquarters for assignment.
 - d. All directors who have students entered in debate events are required to be available to judge one round beyond the elimination of their schools' debaters at both the district and state tournaments. At least one judge on each panel shall be a school judge.

NOTE: If you qualify in debate, be prepared to judge any of the three debates.

2. Individual Events: Up to three judges may be used for each round of individual events. High school directors will be assigned to judge individual events at both the district and state tournaments, but shall not be paid. Should a coach refuse to judge or fail to provide another qualified representative accepted by the tournament manager without justifiable reasons, all of his/her participants shall forfeit that round. Any coach who fails to fulfill his/her judging assignment(s) at the state tournament shall be fined \$50.
 - a. In preliminary rounds of individual events at the state tournament two judges shall be used and both judges will be high school directors whenever possible. Whenever possible the two schools judges will not be from the same district. High school directors assigned to judge shall not be paid.
 - b. All directors having a student qualify for the final round in an individual event at the district and/or state tournament are required to judge in this round and should report to the headquarters or tab room to receive the judging assignments and materials.
 - c. All directors are required to be available to judge one round beyond the elimination of their student(s) in individual events at the district tournament.
 - d. No judge shall judge the same student in the same individual event more than once in the same tournament.

NOTE: If you qualify in one or more I.E. events, be prepared to judge any of the I.E. events.

3. One-Act Plays and Readers Theater: One to three (three recommended) judges shall be used for One-Act Plays and Readers Theater.

4. The district manager shall inform all judges that they should excuse themselves from rounds where they may have a conflict of interest with contestants or schools and, in such situations, a judge should notify the tournament manager or the judge coordinator.

NOTE: District managers shall make every effort to use neutral judges, if they are available.

5. Directors are encouraged to bring extra judges to the district and state tournaments or to identify to the tournament manager persons who are qualified and available to judge. **Hired judges must be in at least their second year after graduating from high school.**

NOTE: District managers can require each school to bring a second judge.

6. Oral critiques are **not** permitted in any event.
7. **Judges shall provide complete written comments on all ballots in order to make the experience educational.**
8. If a judge requires clarification of a rule prior to completing his/her ballot, the judge shall consult only the tournament manager.
9. Cell phones and other electronic communication devices may not be turned on while in the preparation rooms, the competition rooms, or in the awards ceremony. **EXCEPTION: Cell phones can be turned on in competition rooms to be used as timing devices, but they cannot be used for any other function during rounds of competition.**

H. JUDGES FEES AND EXPENSES FOR THE DISTRICT TOURNAMENT:

1. Readers Theater, One-Act Play and Individual Event judges shall be paid \$35.00 per day, provided the individual judges a minimum of 5 hours, and shall be paid \$17.50 per half day, provided the individual judges a minimum 2.5 hours. Judges completing less than a full day or half day as designated above shall be paid at the rate of \$6.00 per hour actually spent judging.
2. Debate: Cross-Examination debate judges shall be paid \$6.00 per round judged. Lincoln-Douglas and Public Forum debate judges shall be paid \$3.00 per flight judged.
3. Travel expenses: When a judge must be secured from out of the city in which the tournament is held, the individual shall be reimbursed for transportation expenses at the rate of 38 cents per mile per car actually driven if the judge travels by automobile, or shall be reimbursed for other transportation expenses actually incurred. Any meals provided judges by the host school shall not be charged to expenses of the tournament without pre-approval by the MSHSAA office.
4. All expenses incurred in the administration of the district event must be approved by the MSHSAA Office.

I. TIME KEEPING:

Each event (except Readers Theater and One-Act Plays) shall have a timekeeper.

1. Each participating school must provide a timekeeper for the district tournament.
2. Schools having qualifiers at the state tournament in CX, LD, PF, and any individual event shall be responsible for providing timekeepers for the day(s) on which their school participates.
 - a. Each school shall be notified of the timekeeper's assignment along with the state tournament confirmation letter.
 - b. Directors having qualifiers shall submit the name(s) of timekeepers and day to work along with the state entry form.
3. Timekeepers shall adhere strictly to the time schedule and shall notify the judge when the contestant exceeds the time schedule rather than stopping the performance.
 - a. Time cards should be used to indicate the time remaining and should be visible to the performer at all times.
 - b. If possible, local management should provide a wall clock with a sweep second hand placed within view of the contestants in the radio-speaking event.

4. In the elimination rounds of all events at the state tournament, with the exception of Readers Theatre and One-Act Play, a coach/judge timekeeper and a student timekeeper shall be utilized and each coach/judge timekeeper shall provide a stopwatch. If there is a discrepancy with the coach's/judge's timekeeping and the student's timekeeping, the coach's/judge's time shall take precedence. In the final round of such events at the state tournament, the panel of judges (school directors) shall secure/provide a student timekeeper.
5. A student or students who exceed(s) the prescribed time limit for an individual event 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 in debate by a reduction of quality points and/or speaker ranks and is to be determined by the judge's discretion.

NOTE: There is no built in 30-second grace period. The time limit is clearly stated in each event's judging regulations printed in the manual. It is strongly recommended that the length of any speech not push the time limit.

J. DETERMINING QUALIFIERS FOR THE STATE TOURNAMENT:

1. Individual Events: Each district shall certify students to the state tournament in individual events, duet acting, LD debate, CX debate, and PF debate according to the following formula: 1 through 7 entries -- certify 1 entry; 8 through 13 entries -- certify 2 entries; 14 through 20 -- certify 3 entries; 21 or more entries -- certify 4 entries.
 - a. The certification for individual events is based on the ranking given by the judge of the final round and not on whether or not the performance was rated excellent or superior.
 - b. If a tie for a qualifying position exists in individual events all entries involved in the tie shall advance.

NOTE: All tie-breaking procedures should be followed before certifying additional entries.

2. Should a cancellation occur following the drawing of the debate schedule in a district tournament, a fill entry shall be utilized if the schedule does not already include a fill. If so, the fill entry will be dropped.

NOTE: A fill entry is defined as an entry invited to participate in a tournament already scheduled to make an even number of teams. A fill entry in the district tournament is not permitted to advance into the elimination rounds and shall not be able to place in the tournament.

3. Readers Theater: Each district shall certify Readers Theater entries to the state tournament according to the following formula: 1 through 7 entries -- certify 1 entry; 8 or more entries -- certify 2 entries.
4. One-Act Plays: Each district shall certify plays to the state tournament according to the following formula: 1 through 7 entries -- certify 1 entry; 8 or more entries -- certify 2 entries.
5. If a tie for a qualifying position exists in Readers Theater or One-Act Plays all entries involved in the tie shall advance.

NOTE: All tie-breaking procedures should be followed before certifying additional entries.

6. Certification by the district manager according to the formulas shall be final.

K. AWARDS:

Medals will be awarded for places 1 through 8 at the district tournaments in all individual events and duet acting. Places 1 through 8 at the state tournament shall receive medals. Plaques and medals for first and second places in debate will be awarded at the district tournament with trophies and medals being awarded at the state tournament. Medals will be awarded to all quarterfinalists in debate at both the district and state tournaments. First and second place trophies shall be awarded in One-Act Play and Readers Theatre at both the district and state tournaments. At the state tournament, 10 medals shall be awarded to the cast and crew of the first four places in One-Act Play and in Readers Theatre (schools may purchase additional medals through the MSHSAA vendor).

L. COPYRIGHT RESTRICTIONS:

It shall be the responsibility of each coach and each school to enforce the Copyright Law.

1. Original material may be used in the One-Act Play and Readers Theater categories. The school director must submit a statement with the entry form certifying that the material is truly original.

2. Adaptations of books, plays etc. shall not be considered original works and therefore, a letter of permission from the author or a royalty statement shall be submitted with the entry form. Copyrighted, non-royalty material, performed exactly as printed (not adapted), does not need verification of permission.

SECTION 5: STATE TOURNAMENT ENTRIES AND SCHEDULE

- A. The state tournament will be open only to those individuals, teams, and play casts as are certified by the district managers. Qualifiers are not required to use the same selections and/or topic at both the district and state events. The deadline for submitted changes in selections for the state tournament is one week after the last district tournament concludes.
- B. **ENTRIES:** See Section 3-A of this manual for instructions on submitting state tournament entries.
 1. All schools entering the One-Act Play and Readers Theater events shall complete the required information, which is to be submitted with the school's entries through the online entry process.
 2. Any cancellation of a scheduled performance should be reported to the MSHSAA Office before the day of the tournament if at all possible. Directors are to report any known drops for the State tournament to the MSHSAA office by 4:00 p.m. on the eight day (Thursday) prior to the start of the tournament. A school shall be fined \$100 for a drop or withdraw from the state tournament.
- C. **SCHEDULE:** A schedule of performance times for the schools' entries will be mailed to participating schools by the MSHSAA Office. Please check the schedule carefully to avoid any conflicts and notify the MSHSAA Office immediately in the event a conflict is present.
- D. All schools and contestants are required to perform at their assigned sites at the State tournament in all events as originally established by the tournament administration.
- E. Schools will be assigned a code number for the state tournament. Entries in individual events will be identified by the assigned number at the state tournament and not by the school name.
- F. Critic forms will be available at the end of the tournament and those not picked up will be mailed to each participating school by the MSHSAA Office following the event. Oral critiques are **not** permitted.
- G. **DEBATE EVENTS:** High school directors will be assigned to judge preliminary rounds of Cross-Examination, Lincoln-Douglas, and Public Forum debates, at both the district and state tournaments, but shall not be paid. Schools that qualify four or more students in debate for the state tournament shall be required to provide a second debate judge. If a coach refused to judge or fails to provide a qualified person to judge, the school will be required to pay the fees for a hired judge, and if a coach does not report to judge on the day of the tournament, all of his/her entries will forfeit that round. Any coach who fails to fulfill his/her judging assignment(s) at the state tournament shall be fined \$50.
- H. **INDIVIDUAL EVENTS:** The order of performance for the final round at the state tournament shall be determined by a random draw by the tournament director and an MSHSAA representative. The order of performance shall be announced and posted for the participants.
 1. In preliminary rounds of individual events at the state tournament two judges shall be used and both judges will be high school directors, whenever possible. High school directors assigned to judge shall not be paid.
 2. All directors having a student qualify for the final round in an individual event at the state tournament are required to judge in this round and should report to the tab room to receive the judging assignments and material. Any director having students qualify for the final round of individual events shall also be available to judge the final round in Cross-Examination, Lincoln-Douglas, or Public Forum debate.
- I. Directors having entries in Readers Theater and/or One Act Plays shall be relieved of any judging responsibilities during the scheduled time for their schools' Readers Theater and One Act Play entries. Judging responsibilities will resume immediately after the scheduled time.
- J. Any coach who fails to fulfill his/her judging assignment(s) at the state tournament shall be fined \$50.

K. STATE TOURNAMENT TIME SCHEDULE

1. CX, LD, and PF Debate -- Friday, April 23

Registration	7:30 a.m.
General Meeting.....	8:00 a.m.
Round I.....	8:30 a.m.
Round II.....	10:00 a.m.
Extra Round	11:30 a.m.
Round III.....	1:00 p.m.
Round IV	2:30 p.m.
General Meeting.....	5:15 p.m.
Quarterfinals.....	5:45 p.m.
Semifinals.....	7:30 p.m.

CX, LD, and PF Debate -- Saturday, April 24

Finals.....	1:00 p.m.*
Awards	5:30 p.m.

*** If a debate event has a conflict with the finals of a theatre event, the time of the debate finals will be 3:00 p.m.**

2. Individual Events -- Saturday, April 24

Directors Meeting	8:15 a.m.
Round I.....	9:00 a.m.
Round II.....	11:00 a.m.
Final Round Drawing.....	2:30 p.m.

NOTE: Random draw will be conducted by tab room committee and announced to contestants.

Final Round.....	3:00 p.m.
Awards	5:30 p.m.

3. The preliminary round of competition for One-Act Play and Readers Theater will be scheduled in two sections each on Friday (the sections will be held at Rock Bridge High School, Hickman High School, and the University of Missouri). Whenever possible, two entries from a district will not be scheduled in the same section. The first **two** places from each of the two sections of One-Act Play and Readers Theater shall advance to a final round to be held on Saturday at the University of Missouri's Department of Theatre facilities.
4. An awards assembly will be held following the final round of individual events to recognize the place winners for One-Act Plays, Readers Theater, all individual and duet acting events, and debate. Directors and non-award winners may accept medals/awards for students but may not be in the event photograph.

SECTION 6: EVENT REGULATIONS AND JUDGING STANDARDS

A. CROSS-EXAMINATION DEBATE

1. The topic for debate will be the National Topic chosen by the Discussion and Debate Committee of the National Federation of State High School Associations.
 - a. The general problem area is as follows:
"MILITARY DEPLOYMENT"
 - b. Within this problem area the following proposition shall be debated:

RESOLVED: "The United States federal government should substantially reduce its military and/or police presence in one or more of the following: South Korea, Japan, Afghanistan, Kuwait, Iraq, Turkey."

2. Low-cost materials on the current year's debate topic may be purchased from the NFHS or the MSHSAA Offices. This year's order consists of four issues of the "Forensic Quarterly" for a cost of \$30.00. Shipment of all issues will be immediate upon receipt of the order in the respective office.
3. A debate team shall consist of two members, who shall debate both the affirmative and negative sides. A school may enter only two two-person teams.
4. Each debater shall present one constructive speech, one cross-examination, and one rebuttal speech. The time and order of speakers shall be as follows:

NOTE: Each debate team will be allowed five minutes preparation time during the course of the debate to be divided as it sees fit.

CONSTRUCTIVE:

First Affirmative Constructive Speech: 8 minutes

A Negative Speaker Cross-examines: 3 minutes

First Negative Constructive Speech: 8 minutes

An Affirmative Speaker Cross-examines the First Negative Speaker: 3 minutes

Second Affirmative Constructive Speech: 8 minutes

The Other Negative Speaker Cross-examines the Second Affirmative Speaker: 3 minutes

Second Negative Constructive Speech: 8 minutes

The Other Affirmative Speaker Cross-examines the Second Negative Speaker: 3 minutes

REBUTTAL:

First Negative Rebuttal: 4 minutes

First Affirmative Rebuttal: 4 minutes

Second Negative Rebuttal: 4 minutes

Second Affirmative Rebuttal: 4 minutes

5. All teams entered shall engage in four preliminary rounds of debate at a district tournament, except when there are only two teams entered in a tournament, in which case only a single final elimination round shall be held.
6. Schedule: The schools that are to meet in the tournament shall be determined as follows:
 - a. On the day of debate, when all debate entries have registered, each coach shall draw a number(s) which shall be used to identify his/her team(s) throughout the tournament, and determine the teams his/her school will meet. Directors entering two teams shall draw first and shall designate their teams "A" and "B" for that number as they are designated on the school entry form. A school's stronger team shall be designated its "A" team. Half of the directors entering only one team shall then draw a number from those remaining and their teams shall be designated as the "A" team for the number drawn. The numbers shall then be returned to the box to be drawn by other directors with one team. The second time the number is drawn, the team shall be designated as the "B" team for that number.

NOTE: All debate draws for identifying teams or individuals at the state tournament will be pre-drawn and the schools will be notified of their school judging assignments in their confirmation letter received prior to the tournament. Scheduling shall be done so that a fill entry should not be necessary.

- b. If a bye is necessary, the bye shall go to the remaining "B" position after all teams have drawn. District managers are authorized to utilize a "standby" debate team from a participating school in preliminary rounds to avoid bye rounds with the understanding the standby team may NOT advance to the elimination rounds. (A "fill entry" may have to meet another team from its own school.)

Do not start Round One of debate with more than one fill entry.

- 1) District managers shall select a "fill entry," if needed, by conducting a blind draw from those schools that checked the box on the entry form indicating the school's desire to provide such an entry. The draw for a fill team should be conducted right after the entries have been received.
- 2) Once a "fill entry" becomes a part of the debate schedule it shall remain a part of the schedule until the role of the "fill entry" is terminated by rule by the completion of the preliminary rounds.
- 3) If a bye is necessary because no "fill entry" is available, all opponents receiving the bye shall have rounds scored as a forfeit (Section 4-E-2-a & b).

- 4) Once competition has begun, if a vacancy occurs in the debate schedule due to an illness, injury, disqualification or emergency, the forfeit rule shall be invoked for the current round and remaining rounds where the vacancy then appears.
- c. The tournament manager shall create a schedule consisting of four preliminary rounds for all LD, CX, and PF debate events. These schedules shall be constructed as follows: Prior to the directors' meeting, the manager shall create a preliminary schedule based on numerical pairings which satisfies the guidelines listed below:
- 1) No entry shall meet another entry more than once unless there are five or fewer entries in the tournament.
 - 2) Two entries from the same school shall not meet in preliminary rounds.
 - 3) Each entry shall debate both affirmative and negative sides of the topic two times and shall alternate sides when possible.
- d. The preset preliminary schedule shall utilize a straight slide, A meets B format. A's shall meet only B's; B's shall meet only A's. A's meet the next four (4) B's in consecutive order.

For example:

1A meets 2B, 3B, 4B and 5B. 1B's round one opponent will be the A from the highest numbered school.

Sample Schedule

	Round 1		Round 2		Round 3		Round 4	
	Aff	Neg	Aff	Neg	Aff	Neg	Aff	Neg
Rm 1	1A	2B	3B	1A	1A	4B	5B	1A
Rm 2	2A	3B	4B	2A	2A	5B	6B	2A
Rm 3	3A	4B	5B	3A	3A	6B	7B	3A
Rm 4	4A	5B	6B	4A	4A	7B	8B	4A
Rm 5	5A	6B	7B	5A	5A	8B	9B	5A
Rm 6	6A	7B	8B	6A	6A	9B	10B	6A
Rm 7	7A	8B	9B	7A	7A	10B	1B	7A
Rm 8	8A	9B	10B	8A	8A	1B	2B	8A
Rm 9	9A	10B	1B	9A	9A	2B	3B	9A
Rm 10	10A	1B	2B	10A	10A	3B	4B	10A

- e. The following procedures shall be used in the elimination rounds.
- 1) When there are 7 or fewer debate entries, the top 2 seeds shall debate a single final elimination round with the winner advancing to the state tournament.
 - *2) When there are 8 to 13 debate entries, the top 4 seeds shall advance to a semifinal round. The winning teams in the semifinal round shall debate a final round to determine first and second places with both teams advancing to the state tournament.
 - *3) When there are 14 to 20 debate entries, the top 8 seeds shall advance to a quarterfinal round. The winners of the quarterfinal round shall debate a semifinal round. The winners of the semifinal round shall debate a final round to determine first and second places with both entries advancing to the state tournament. The losers of the semifinal round shall debate a consolation round with the winner of that round advancing to the state tournament.
 - *4) When there are 21 or more debate entries, the top 8 seeds shall advance to a quarterfinal round. The winners of the quarterfinal round shall advance to a semifinal round. The winners of the semifinal round shall debate a final round to determine first and second places. All four winners of the quarterfinal round shall advance to the state tournament.

NOTE: The state tournament shall follow the format for 21 or more entries.

*See Appendix A

- f. The following steps shall be applied in the order listed to break the tie, should a tie occur after the four preset preliminary rounds.

NOTE: For byes/forfeits, please refer to 4-E-4(b). For ties in Lincoln-Douglas Debate, please refer to items 1, 3, 5, 6, and 7 in that order, and in Public Forum Debate, to items 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, in that order.

- 1) The entry with the best total win-loss record (all ballots, including elimination rounds) shall be advanced.

- 2) The entry with the best (lowest) debater rankings shall be advanced. Judges shall be instructed to write the debaters rank after the debaters name on the ballot. (This applies to Cross-Examination and Public Forum Debates only).
 - 3) The school to be advanced shall be that which has competed against opponents with the greatest number of preliminary round total wins.
 - 4) If the tie is not broken under (3) above, the team shall be advanced whose opponents have the best (lowest) debater rankings. (This applies to Cross-Examination and Public Forum Debates only.)
 - 5) If the tie cannot be resolved under (4) above, the team with the greatest number of speaker points, shall be advanced.
 - 6) If the tie still is not broken, the team shall be advanced whose opponents have the greatest number of speaker points.
 - 7) In the case of an unbreakable tie, additional elimination rounds may be held.
- g. Team pairings for the elimination round(s) shall be based on the win-loss records for the preliminary rounds. (See Appendix A)
 - h. For all elimination rounds, teams shall draw for sides to uphold unless the teams have previously met in the tournament. In such case, they shall debate sides opposite to those upheld in the previous round.
 - i. If two teams from the same school meet in an elimination round, they shall debate as drawn.
7. Judging shall be governed by the following provisions:
- a. The ballot shall be that provided by the MSHSAA.
 - b. The judge shall write the debater's rank after the debater's name on the ballot.
 - c. Each debate in the preliminary rounds shall be judged by two persons whenever possible (one judge will be a paid judge and the other a coach or other qualified representative, from a participating school, accepted by the tournament manager.) All directors who have students entered in debate events are required to be available to judge one round beyond the elimination of their school's debaters at the district and state tournaments. If sufficient numbers of judges are not available only one judge may be used if such is the desire of the majority of schools. Teams shall be advanced on the basis of ballots won.
The elimination rounds should be judged by three persons provided judges are available and, at the state tournament, at least one of the three judges shall be a school coach.
The final elimination round shall be judged by three persons. At the state tournament, the three judges shall be high school directors.
 - d. A judge shall not be informed as to the names of the school represented in a debate. The school shall be identified by number on the ballot.
 - e. No judge shall hear the same team debate the same side more than once, and it is recommended that a judge hear the same team only once regardless of sides debated.
8. There shall be no substitutions after the first round of debate. A school violating this regulation shall be disqualified.
9. A school receiving a forfeit shall receive a win with debater rank and points equal to the average they received in remaining rounds. The debate team which forfeits shall receive a "3-4" debater's rank and points equal to the average received in the remaining rounds. The Lincoln-Douglas contestant that forfeits shall receive losses from all judges and is to receive the lowest total speaker points possible.
10. Judging Criteria
- a. Analysis and Case: Do the debaters deal with the basic issues? Are the major terms defined? Is the history and background of the questions given? Are the cases clearly organized and easy to follow?
 - b. Attack and Defense: Refutation is not confined to rebuttal speeches, it is interspersed throughout the debate. Do the debaters attack and defend the basic issues? Do the debaters answer satisfactorily those attacks made on their cases by their opponents? Is the rebuttal organized?
 - c. Evidence: Evidence consists of facts, authoritative opinions, and substantial material which supports or denies the proposition. Is the evidence pertinent? Dependable? Is the evidence sufficient to support the case? Does the debater use his/her evidence to establish proof? Does he/she show the relationship between the statement to be proved and the evidence he/she used to prove it? Is the argument sound?
 - d. Delivery: The debater should speak extemporaneously. Is his/her language adequate? Are his/her speech techniques adequate for his/her needs? The contestant should adapt what he/she says to arguments advanced earlier in the debate. Consider: Courtesy to opponents, directness, fluency, poise, audibility, and the use of good English.
 - e. Cross-examination: Cross-examination shall be used to clarify an obscure point, to explore factual error, or to obtain damaging admissions. It should not be used to attack a witness' integrity. The value decreases

if the questions do not evolve from the debate.

NOTE: Oral critiques are not permitted.

11. Unethical Conduct

Students participating in interscholastic debate are expected to follow all rules of the event and be ethical in their conduct and practices while preparing for or during debate. All conduct and actions should meet the rules of the event. These same actions should be honest, fair, reputable and good for the activity.

a. Challenging Evidence:

It shall be the responsibility of the opponent(s) only to challenge the opposition for the falsification or fabrication of evidence.

- 1) Indictments or protests of the validity of evidence shall be made on substantive grounds.
- 2) The challenger must have either the original source or a copy of the source being cited, or
- 3) The challenger must demonstrate that reasonable search has not been able to locate the source. (Such as copies of relevant pages in "Books in Print," "Readers Guide," "P.A.I.S.," etc.)

b. Procedure of Challenge:

- 1) The challenge must occur during the round.
- 2) The judge(s) shall make note of the challenge with the round continuing. If evidence is taken from a "handbook" and better evidence is provided the judge(s) shall weigh in the regular decision.
- 3) Entrants shall report to the tournament manager along with school directors. The manager shall hear the evidence then if needed convene the grievance committee.
- 4) If challenge is upheld the entrant(s) challenged shall be disqualified from the tournament and lose that round with no other ballots from previous rounds being altered.
 - a) Should a disqualification occur at a district tournament in Rounds 1, 2 or 3 a fill team, if available, shall be required to provide an entry to complete the preliminary rounds. If a disqualification should occur at the state tournament the disqualified team shall forfeit all remaining rounds.
 - b) Should the disqualification occur in an elimination round, the challenger(s) shall advance to the next round.

12. **The use of electronic retrieval devices shall be prohibited during the rounds. (Non-internet connected computers shall be allowed for a one-year trial basis, as per NFL rules, during the 2010-11 school year, including the district and state tournaments. Invitational tournament hosts may choose to prohibit the use of computers.)**

B. LINCOLN-DOUGLAS DEBATE

1. NFL September/October topic for MSHSAA October/November topic (released August 15).
NFL November/December topic for MSHSAA December/January topic (released October 1).
*NFL March/April topic for MSHSAA February through state tournament topic (released February 1).
*NOTE: For the first week in February the NFL November/December topic shall be used.
2. An orthodox variation of standard debate, Lincoln-Douglas Debate is also known as "One-Man Debate" and has been utilized often during political campaigns. Only two speakers are involved, one fulfilling the affirmative case responsibilities and the other, the negative. Since students participating in Lincoln-Douglas debating are usually speaking to an audience, they should be encouraged to develop a direct and communicative delivery. Emphasis is necessarily placed upon the issues involved rather than upon strategy in developing the case. The statement of the topic is a resolution of value rather than of policy. This results in emphasizing logic, theory, and philosophy while eliminating "plan" arguments. Because of time limits, a wealth of evidence cannot be used, but research supported by good background reading is necessary.
3. Each school will be allowed two entries; the stronger designated "A" and the second, "B".
4. The district and state tournaments will both use the NFL topic for March/April.
5. The time limits of the speeches shall be as follows:
Affirmative constructive: 6 minutes
Negative cross-examination: 3 minutes
Negative constructive: 7 minutes
Affirmative cross-examination: 3 minutes
Affirmative rebuttal: 4 minutes
Negative rebuttal: 6 minutes
Affirmative rebuttal: 3 minutes
6. Each debater will be allowed a total of three minutes of preparation time during the course of the debate to be divided as he/she sees fit.
7. The use of electronic retrieval devices shall be prohibited during the rounds.

8. Each debater will compete in four preset rounds of preliminary competition, unless only two participants are entered, in which case only a single final elimination round shall be held. Scheduling will be handled just as it is in cross-examination debate. (Straight slide, "A" meets "B", etc. refer to Section 6-A-6).
- The debates will be scheduled so that they run two to every one of cross-examination debate.
 - Each judge will judge two debates per round. The following is a sample schedule:

Lincoln-Douglas Sample Schedule

	Round 1		Round 2		Round 3		Round 4	
	Aff	Neg	Aff	Neg	Aff	Neg	Aff	Neg
Rm 1	1A	2B	3B	1A	1A	4B	5B	1A
	2A	3B	4B	2A	2A	5B	6B	2A
Rm 2	3A	4B	5B	3A	3A	6B	7B	3A
	4A	5B	6B	4A	4A	7B	8B	4A
Rm 3	5A	6B	7B	5A	5A	8B	9B	5A
	6A	7B	8B	6A	6A	9B	10B	6A
Rm 4	7A	8B	9B	7A	7A	10B	1B	7A
	8A	9B	10B	8A	8A	1B	2B	8A
Rm 5	9A	10B	1B	9A	9A	2B	3B	9A
	10A	1B	2B	10A	10A	3B	4B	10A

9. For breaking ties, refer to items 1,3,5,6, and 7 (in that order) in 6-A-6-f.

10. Judging Criteria:

- Logic: Did the debater demonstrate clear, rational analysis of the proposition?
- Topicality: Did his/her arguments clearly relate to the proposition? Did each debate address the relevant arguments of the opponent?
- General Knowledge: Did the debater have a clear understanding of the topic? Did the debater bring general knowledge to bear on the proposition?
- Persuasion: Is the speaker convincing? Is he/she sincere? Does he/she make reasonable and effective appeals to the judge? Is contestant aware of his/her judge?
- Delivery: Does the debater control rate, volume, emphasis, and tone for maximum persuasive appeal? Does he/she communicate efficiently and effectively?
- Organization: Are the speeches clearly structured? Was the judge able to understand and evaluate the debate without taking extensive notes?
- No plan arguments should be presented by either debater.
- In the final analysis the winning debater should be the one who presented the more believable position, who showed that values are more important than policies, and who demonstrated that logic is more important than evidence.

NOTE: Oral critiques are not permitted.

11. Unethical Conduct:

Students participating in interscholastic debate are expected to follow all rules of the event and be ethical in their conduct and practices while preparing for or during debate. All conduct and actions should meet the rules of the event. These same actions should be honest, fair, reputable and good for the activity.

a. Challenging Evidence:

It shall be the responsibility of the opponent(s) only to challenge the opposition for the falsification or fabrication of evidence.

- Indictments or protests of the validity of evidence shall be made on substantive grounds.
- The challenger must have either the original source or a copy of the source being sited, or
- The challenger must demonstrate that reasonable search has not been able to locate the source. (Such as copies of relevant pages in "Books in Print," "Readers Guide," "P.A.I.S.," etc.)

b. Procedure of Challenge:

- The challenge must occur during the round.
- The judge(s) shall make note of the challenge with the round continuing. If evidence is taken from a "handbook" and better evidence is provided the judge(s) shall weigh in the regular decision.
- Entrants shall report to the tournament manager along with school directors. The manager shall hear the evidence then if needed convene the grievance committee.
- If challenge is upheld the entrant(s) challenged shall be disqualified from the tournament and lose that round with no other ballots from previous rounds being altered.
 - Should a disqualification occur at a district tournament in Rounds 1, 2 or 3 a fill team, if

available, shall be required to provide an entry to complete the preliminary rounds. If a disqualification should occur at the state tournament the disqualified team shall forfeit all remaining rounds.

- b) Should the disqualification occur in an elimination round, the challenger(s) shall advance to the next round.

12. The use of electronic retrieval devices shall be prohibited during the rounds.

C. PUBLIC FORUM DEBATE

1. The topic for debate shall be the monthly topic chosen by the National Forensic League, which is released on the first day of the previous month. **The district and state tournaments shall use the NFL topic for March.**
2. Public Forum Debate may more appropriately be compared to engagements like a Presidential debate or CNN's Crossfire program. Students present dueling conversational arguments with limited and regulated amounts of clash -- or direct conflict and refutation among speakers. This approach focuses arguments while promoting an atmosphere of discussion. Thus, it is team debate with an emphasis on conversational delivery, lay judging and regulated argumentation.
3. A debate team shall consist of two members. Each school will be allowed two entries; the stronger designated "A" and the second, "B".
4. Immediately prior to each debate, there shall be a coin flip. The team winning the flip will select either the side (pro or con) or the speaking position (first or second) that they prefer. The team losing the flip is then allowed to choose their preference for side or speaker position (whichever the winning team did not choose).
5. The time and order of speakers shall be as follows (note that the final speeches shall be extended from 1 minute to 2 minutes beginning with the 2010-11 school year):

First Speaker - Team A = 4 Minutes
 First Speaker - Team B = 4 Minutes
 Crossfire = 3 Minutes
 Second Speaker - Team A = 4 Minutes
 Second Speaker - Team B = 4 Minutes
 Crossfire = 3 Minutes
 Summary - First Speaker - Team A = 2 Minutes
 Summary - First Speaker - Team B = 2 Minutes
 Grand Crossfire = 3 Minutes
 Final Focus - Second Speaker - Team A = 2 Minute
 Final Focus - Second Speaker - Team B = 2 Minute

6. Each team will be allowed a total of two minutes of preparation time during the course of the debate to be divided as it sees fit.
7. The use of electronic retrieval devices shall be prohibited during the rounds.
8. Each debate team will compete in four preset rounds of preliminary competition, unless only two teams are entered, in which case only a single final elimination round shall be held. Scheduling will be handled just as it is in cross-examination debate. (Straight slide, "A" meets "B", etc. refer to Section 6-A-6).
 - a. The debates will be scheduled so that they run two to every one of cross-examination debate.
 - b. Each judge will judge two debates per round. The following is a sample schedule:

Public Forum Sample Schedule

	Round 1		Round 2		Round 3		Round 4	
Rm 1	1A	2B	3B	1A	1A	4B	5B	1A
	2A	3B	4B	2A	2A	5B	6B	2A
Rm 2	3A	4B	5B	3A	3A	6B	7B	3A
	4A	5B	6B	4A	4A	7B	8B	4A
Rm 3	5A	6B	7B	5A	5A	8B	9B	5A
	6A	7B	8B	6A	6A	9B	10B	6A
Rm 4	7A	8B	9B	7A	7A	10B	1B	7A
	8A	9B	10B	8A	8A	1B	2B	8A
Rm 5	9A	10B	1B	9A	9A	2B	3B	9A
	10A	1B	2B	10A	10A	3B	4B	10A

9. For breaking ties, refer to items 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 (in that order) in 6-A-6-f.
10. Judging shall be governed by the provisions in 6-A-7
11. There shall be no substitutions after the first round of debate. A school violating this regulation shall be disqualified.
12. For forfeits, refer to 6-A-9.
13. Judging Criteria:
 - a. Analysis: Did the debater clearly explain the most important issues in the topic?
 - b. Evidence: Did the debater support arguments with facts and expert opinions?
 - c. Reasoning: Did the conclusions reached by the debater flow from the evidence?
 - d. Crossfire: Were questions relevant and brief? Were answers on point?
 - e. Rebuttal: Did the debater effectively counter the arguments of the opponents?
 - f. Delivery: Was the debater's delivery clean, pleasant, and easily understood?
 - g. No plan arguments should be presented by any debaters
 - h. In the final analysis the winning team should be the one which presented the more believable position.

NOTE: Oral critiques are not permitted.

14. Unethical Conduct:

Students participating in interscholastic debate are expected to follow all rules of the event and be ethical in their conduct and practices while preparing for or during debate. All conduct and actions should meet the rules of the event. These same actions should be honest, fair, reputable and good for the activity.

 - a. Challenging Evidence:

It shall be the responsibility of the opponent(s) only to challenge the opposition for the falsification or fabrication of evidence.

 - 1) Indictments or protests of the validity of evidence shall be made on substantive grounds.
 - 2) The challenger must have either the original source or a copy of the source being cited, or
 - 3) The challenger must demonstrate that reasonable search has not been able to locate the source. (Such as copies of relevant pages in "Books in Print," "Readers Guide," "P.A.I.S.," etc.)
 - b. Procedure of Challenge:
 - 1) The challenge must occur during the round.
 - 2) The judge(s) shall make note of the challenge with the round continuing. If evidence is taken from a "handbook" and better evidence is provided the judge(s) shall weigh in the regular decision.
 - 3) Entrants shall report to the tournament manager along with school directors. The manager shall hear the evidence then if needed convene the grievance committee.
 - 4) If challenge is upheld the entrant(s) challenged shall be disqualified from the tournament and lose that round with no other ballots from previous rounds being altered.
 - a) Should a disqualification occur at a district tournament in Rounds 1, 2 or 3 a fill team, if available, shall be required to provide an entry to complete the preliminary rounds. If a disqualification should occur at the state tournament the disqualified team shall forfeit all remaining rounds.
 - b) Should the disqualification occur in an elimination round, the challenger(s) shall advance to the next round.
15. The use of electronic retrieval devices shall be prohibited during the rounds.

D. ONE-ACT PLAY

NOTE: See Section 3-D-6 concerning repetition.

1. Each school entering a One-Act Play shall have prepared for presentation a One-Act Play or a cutting from a longer play. Readers Theater shall not be accepted as an entry in this event. No distinction shall be made between serious and light presentations; each play shall be considered by the critic upon its own merits. Non musical cuttings from musical plays are allowed for performance by One-Act Play entries; however, musical plays and musical cuttings from musical plays shall not be allowed. Music may be used for dramatic effect. The play should include the elements of stage movement and business. It is important that the selection be given some thought in order to ascertain the credibility of characters, development of plot, and facilities for presentation.
2. A student may not perform in both the Readers Theater and One-Act Play events.
3. Each play shall be approximately thirty minutes in length. Any play exceeding thirty-five minutes in length or exceeding thirty minutes for set-up, rehearsal, and take-down shall be reduced by 1 rank by each judge.
4. Each play shall have approximately thirty minutes for set-up, rehearsal, and striking, which may include music.
5. Each school shall supply its own make-up, costumes, and properties. Conventional stage furniture will be supplied. All special curtains, furniture and extra scenic effects must be supplied by the contestants.

6. Each play director, using forms provided by the MSHSAA, will supply a statement in triplicate, giving the playwright's theme or idea, director's objectives in the production, and limitations in casting or any special circumstances under which the play was produced. The director shall forward these forms with his/her contest entry blank.
7. Programs shall not be permitted to be distributed in One-Act Play or Readers Theatre at the district or State tournaments.
8. Certified permission for producing a royalty play or cutting from one should be provided the tournament manager with the entry form. Performance shall not be allowed if this is not provided to the manager prior to the performance time. Verification of non-royalty status shall also be provided.
9. Judging Criteria:
 - a. **Script Choice:** Was the selection, a one-act play or cutting from a longer play, given thought in order to ascertain the credibility of characters, development of plot, and facilities for presentation? Did it meet acceptable literary standards?
 - b. **Style:** Did the artistic choices that composed the production have a foundation in an interesting, defensible interpretation of the script? Did the production allow full expression of the values of the script as interpreted?
 - c. **Interpretation and Understanding of Theme:** Did the production reflect a defensible interpretation of the theme of the play?
 - d. **Stage Composition:** Was the furniture placement (or lack of it) conducive to the stage movement, groups, and picturization of the play?
 - e. **Movement, Business, and Groupings:** Did the stage movement, groupings, etc., make the play easy to follow and indicate the point of interest in the scenes? Did the business grow from the script or thrust the ideas of the case and/or director upon the play?
 - f. **Tempo, Rhythm, and Pace:** Was there an attempt to point up a defined rhythm in the production? Did the production give the impression of smoothness?
 - g. **Actors: Communication:** Were the actors able to communicate clearly and artistically the demands of the script as it was interpreted by the production?
 - h. **Actors: Characterization:** Did the actors have the training and ability necessary to devote themselves to the performance of the physical and emotional makeup of their character? Were the actors able to particularize the problems of their individual characters and avoid acting "in general?" Was the acting convincing?
 - i. **Ensemble:** Did each individual performance fit into the production as an integral part of the whole?
 - j. **Speech and Projection:** Were the actors audible and articulate?
 - k. **Scenery/Set:** Given that the contest production does not offer as much opportunity for participants to display as much competency in technical theatre as acting/direction, did whatever scenery used help the actors communicate the play to the audience?
 - l. **Costumes:** Were they stage worthy and communicative?
 - m. **Overall Effect:** Was the emphasis on the whole production rather than the individual? Did the director sufficiently challenge the actors and the audience? No distinction shall be made between serious and light presentations; each program shall be considered by the critic upon its own merits.

NOTE: Oral critiques are not permitted.

E. READERS THEATER-GROUP INTERPRETATION

NOTE: See Section 3-D-6 concerning repetition.

1. Each school entering the Readers Theater event shall have prepared for presentation a program which meets acceptable literary standards. This program may be taken from prose, poetry, plays, or a combination of these. No distinction shall be made between serious and light presentations; each program shall be considered by the critic upon its own merits. It is important that the selection be given some thought in order to ascertain the credibility of characters, development of plot, and the available facilities.
2. The Readers Theater group shall consist of three or more students. A student may not perform in both the One-Act Play and Readers Theater events.
3. Selections will be presented in a classroom or other room which provides classroom atmosphere.
4. Each program shall run approximately twenty-five minutes; however, any program exceeding thirty minutes shall be reduced by 1 rank by each judge. An additional total of ten minutes shall be allowed for set-up and striking.
5. Scripts must be read from.
6. No electronic effects other than music are allowed.
7. Live sound effects may be used but music may be used only as background or to establish mood. All playback devices for such music must be furnished by the participating school.
8. If possible, the host school will provide chairs, stools, and reading stands. If these are not available, the manager will notify the participating schools so they can bring their own. In addition, free standing ladders

and/or cubes may be used but participating schools will be responsible for bringing their own.

NOTE: Ladders and/or cubes may be used only for the same purpose as stools.

9. Area lighting will not be allowed.
10. No costumes or stage makeup may be used, but if schools would like to have the participants dress in a uniform manner, that is allowable. Attire which identifies characters or differentiates performers is not allowed and will be considered costuming.
11. Stage movement and business shall be limited; the narrator may move about and the compositional grouping may change. No props or set pieces shall be allowed other than undecorated scripts, stools, chairs, free standing ladders, cubes and reading stands.
12. Off-stage or mixed focus (a combination of off-stage and on-stage focus) is permitted.
13. Programs shall not be permitted to be distributed in One-Act Play or Readers Theatre at the district or state tournaments.
14. Materials used shall meet standards of good taste.
15. If a judge questions any of the above rules have been violated, the judge shall refer such concern to the site manager in writing after the conclusion of the performance in question. The site manager shall inform the tournament manager or grievance committee of the concern and notify the remaining members of the judging panel to withhold their final rankings of the performances until the issue has been resolved by the tournament manager and/or grievance committee.
16. Judging Criteria:
 - a. **Script:** Did the program meet acceptable literary standards? Was it good literature, in good taste? Was it well organized?
 - b. **Interpretation and Understanding of the Theme:** Did the artistic choices that composed the program have a foundation in an interesting, defensible interpretation of the script? Did the readers and director understand the theme of the program?
 - c. **Style:** Did the program allow full expression of the values of the script as interpreted?
 - d. **Business and Ensemble Grouping:** Did the placement of the interpreters facilitate the picturization of the program (the grouping may change to show changes in the literature)? Did the body language convey the meaning of the selection?
 - e. **Rhythm, Tempo, and Pace:** Was there an attempt to point up a defined rhythm in the interpretation? Did the interpretation give the impression of smoothness?
 - f. **Readers Communication:** Were the readers able to communicate the physical and emotional makeup of their characters? Were the readers able to communicate clearly and artistically the demands of the script as was intended by this interpretation?
 - g. **Readers Characterization:** Were the readers able to particularize the problems of their individual character? Were the characters believable?
 - h. **Ensemble:** Did each individual interpretation fit into the program as a whole? Was the emphasis on the whole interpretation rather than the individual? Did the group function as a unit?
 - i. **Voice and Dictation:** Were the voices of the readers adapted to the character(s) they were portraying? Was enunciation and articulation distinct? Did the readers project?
 - j. **Overall Effect:** Did the director sufficiently challenge the readers and the audience? No distinction shall be made between serious and light presentations; each program shall be considered by the critic upon its own merits.
17. Each director, using forms provided by the MSHSAA, will supply a statement in triplicate, giving the theme or idea of the selection, his/her objectives in the interpretation, and any limitations in casting or any special circumstances under which the program was produced. The director shall forward these forms with the contest entry blank.
18. Certified permission for producing any programs requiring royalties should be provided the tournament manager with the entry blank. Performances shall not be allowed if this is not provided the manager prior to performance time. Verification of non-royalty status shall also be provided.

NOTE: Oral critiques are not permitted.

F. DRAMATIC INTERPRETATION (10 minutes)

NOTE: See Section 3-D-6 concerning repetitions.

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.

1. The student entering dramatic interpretation shall:
 - a. Interpret a cutting from published, copyrighted, printed material. **The participant shall have available an original publication of the selection in case the material is challenged.**
 - b. Give a suitable introduction for his/her cutting; title(s) and author(s) of all selections must be identified.

- c. Choose material that meets acceptable literary standards.
 - d. Use no costumes or properties.
 - e. Present the interpretation from memory.
2. This event is an oral interpretation. Characterization and action are to be suggested rather than represented. Contestants shall be required to stand in place except for minor stance alterations. Communication of the interpreter's understanding of the ideas and mood of the scene is of primary importance.
 3. The time limit shall be not more than ten minutes, including the introduction.
 4. Judging Criteria:
 - a. Selection: Did the selection meet acceptable literary standards? Was the selection worthy of study on the part of the student? Was cutting adequate?
 - b. Introduction: Did the introduction give sufficient information to establish the scene, time, and place of the selection? Did it provide an understanding of what has happened in the plot up to the scene presented? Did it introduce the characters and their importance to the selection as a whole?
 - c. Delivery: Were the voice, gestures and facial expressions adapted to the selection? In the interpretation, were the inflections varied and meaningful? Was tempo correct? Did the student present the selection as an oral interpretation? Suggestion rather than representation is desired in delivery.
 - d. Understanding: Did the student appear to have an understanding of the mood and ideas of the selection? Did he/she understand the author's theme and purpose?
 - e. Characters: Were the characters differentiated clearly? Were the emotional and mental elements of the character understood and projected?

NOTE: Oral critiques are not permitted.

G. DUET ACTING (10 Minutes)

NOTE: See Section 3-D-6 concerning repetitions.

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.

1. Two students entering duet acting shall
 - a. Present a scene from published, copyrighted, printed material. **The participants shall have available an original publication of the selection in case the material is challenged.**
 - b. Memorize roles completely
 - c. 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.
 - d. Use no makeup, costumes or properties of any kind.
 - e. Adequately introduce their selections; title(s) and author(s) of all selections must be identified.
 - f. Choose material that meets acceptable literary standards.
2. The time shall be not more than ten minutes, including the introduction.
3. Judging Criteria:
 - 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?

NOTE: Oral critiques are not permitted.

H. HUMOROUS INTERPRETATION (10 Minutes)

NOTE: See Section 3-D-6 concerning repetitions.

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.

1. The student entering humorous interpretation shall:

- a. Interpret a cutting from a published, copyrighted, printed material from memory. **The participant shall have available an original publication of the selection in case the material is challenged.**
 - b. Give a suitable introduction for his/her cutting; title(s) and author(s) of all selections must be identified.
 - c. Choose material that meets acceptable literary standards.
 - d. Use no costumes or properties.
 - e. Present the interpretation from memory.
2. This event is an oral interpretation. Characterization and action are to be suggested rather than represented. Contestants shall be required to stand in place except for minor stance alterations. Communication of the interpreter's understanding of the ideas and mood of the scene is of primary importance.
 3. The time limit shall be not more than ten minutes.
 4. Judging Criteria:
 - a. Selection: Did the selection meet acceptable literary standards? Was the selection worthy of study on the part of the student? Was cutting adequate?
 - b. Introduction: Did the introduction give sufficient information to establish the scene, time, and place of the selection? Did it provide an understanding of what has happened in the plot up to the scene presented? Did it introduce the characters and their importance to the selection as a whole?
 - c. Delivery: Was the voice, gestures and facial expression adapted to the selection? In the interpretation, were the inflections varied and meaningful? Was tempo correct? Did the student present the selection as an oral interpretation? Suggestion rather than representation is desired in delivery.
 - d. Understanding: Did the student appear to have an understanding of the mood and ideas of the selection? Did he/she understand the author's theme and purpose?
 - e. Characters: Were the characters differentiated clearly? Were the emotional and mental elements of the characters understood and projected?

NOTE: Oral critiques are not permitted.

I. POETRY READING (8 Minutes)

NOTE: See Section 3-D-6 concerning repetitions.

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.

1. The student entering poetry reading shall:
 - a. Read poetry from published, copyrighted, printed literature. **The participant shall have available an original publication of the selection in case the material is challenged.**
 - b. Prepare an introduction (and transitions, if needed) to the selection or selections; title(s) and author(s) of all selections must be identified.
 - c. Select material from sources other than plays or prose.
 - d. Make the printed page "come alive" for his/her audience.
2. Although the material should be well in mind, it shall not be memorized and shall be read from the printed page with occasional eye contact. The student shall stand in place except for minor stance alterations. The student shall communicate an appreciation of the literature he/she is reading.
3. The time limit shall be not more than eight minutes, including introductions
4. Judging Criteria:
 - a. Introduction: Did the introduction serve a useful purpose?
 - b. Comprehension: Did the student appear to have an understanding of the meaning, mood, and emotion of the selection or selections?
 - c. Delivery: Although the material should be well in mind, it shall not be memorized and shall be read from the printed page. Was the student's voice suited to the selection? Did it indicate lively imagination and sympathy for the mood of the material, or did it fall into a tone and/or rhythm pattern? Was pronunciation correct? Enunciation clear-cut? Did bodily action contribute to the interpretation?

NOTE: Oral critiques are not permitted.

J. PROSE READING (8 Minutes)

NOTE: See Section 3-D-6 concerning repetitions.

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.

1. The student entering Prose Reading shall:
 - a. Read prose from published, copyrighted, printed literature. **The participant shall have available an original publication of the selection in case the material is challenged.**

- b. Prepare an introduction (and transitions, if needed) to the selection or selections; title(s) and author(s) of all selections must be identified.
 - c. Select material from sources other than plays or poetry which includes less than 50% dialogue.
 - d. Make the printed page “come alive” for his/her audience.
2. Although the material should be well in mind, it shall not be memorized and shall be read from the printed page with occasional eye contact. The student shall stand in place except for minor stance alterations. The student shall communicate an appreciation of the literature he/she is reading.
 3. The time limit shall be not more than eight minutes, including introductions and transitions.
 4. Judging Criteria:
 - a. Introduction: Did the introduction serve a useful purpose?
 - b. Comprehension: Did the student appear to have an understanding of the meaning, mood and emotion of the selection or selections?
 - c. Delivery: Although the material should be well in mind, it shall not be memorized and shall be read from the printed page. Was the student's voice suited to the selection? Did it indicate lively imagination and sympathy for the mood of the material, or did it fall into a tone and/or rhythm pattern? Was pronunciation correct? Enunciation clear-cut? Did bodily action contribute to the interpretation?

NOTE: Oral critiques are not permitted.

K. STORYTELLING (8 Minutes)

NOTE: See Section 3-D-6 concerning repetitions.

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.

1. The student entering storytelling shall:
 - a. Perform a published, copyrighted, printed story of his/her choice, originally intended for children. **The participant shall have available original publication of the selection in case the material is challenged.**
 - b. Use no costumes or properties of any type
 - c. Have the story well enough in mind to share it adequately with the intended audience.
 - d. Prepare an introduction to the selection, which may be given in a standing or seated position; title(s) and author(s) of all selections must be identified.
2. The contestant shall narrate the story:
 - a. In a combination of his/her own words and original essential phrases.
 - b. Using good speaking practices with an emphasis on good conversational style and spontaneous bodily activity.
 - c. From a seated position on a chair or stool (contestants must use the stationary chair or stool provided by the tournament host/site).
3. The time limit shall be not more than eight minutes, including the introduction.
4. Judging Criteria:
 - a. Introduction: Did the introduction adequately prepare the audience for the story?
 - b. Understanding: Did the student appear to have an understanding of the meaning, mood, and emotion of the story?
 - c. Delivery: Was it narrated by the contestant in a combination of his/her own words and original essential phrases from the author without the use of notes? Did the student have the story well enough in mind to share it adequately with the intended (age group) audience? Were good speaking practices used with emphasis on good conversational style and spontaneous bodily activity?

NOTE: Oral critiques are not permitted.

L. RADIO SPEAKING (5 Minutes)

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.

1. The student entering radio speaking shall:
 - a. Prepare and present a script which contains news, weather, and sports.
 - b. Use copy no more than 24 hours old as of the tournament's first round to prepare the script.
 - c. Use no commercials.
2. Each presentation shall be read over a microphone when provided. A contestant shall be permitted to make a microphone sound check. If so, the judge shall hear the presentation from another room. If not, the judge shall turn his or her back to the speaker while hearing the presentation.
3. The contestant's voice shall be pleasing when heard on radio. His/her articulation should be clear;

enunciation distinct and pronunciation accurate. The student's voice including quality, pitch, volume, modulation and rate should be used to good advantage. The individual should have a thorough understanding of the material he/she reads.

4. The speaking time shall be five minutes. (See 6-K-5-f.)
5. Judging Criteria:
 - a. Voice: Was the voice, including quality, pitch, volume, and rate, used to good advantage? Was the voice well modulated?
 - b. Phrasing: Did the phrasing bring out the meaning of the news? Did it allow for the proper breathing? Did it provide smooth continuity to the material read? Were the inflections varied, flexible, and meaningful? Did they fit the context of the material read?
 - c. Reading: Was the reading clearly articulated? Was pronunciation accurate and was enunciation distinct and appropriate to the speaker?
 - d. Microphone Technique: Did the speaker maintain proper distance from the microphone? Was breathing inaudible? Did the speaker eliminate script noise?
 - e. Composition: Was material well arranged? Were proper transitions made? Was excessive filler used? Were stories well developed and interesting?
 - f. Timing: Did the speaker effectively utilize the full 5 minutes with a minimum of "dead air" or overtime?

NOTE: Oral critiques are not permitted.

M. EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING (7 Minutes)

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. Each director shall submit topics to the district tournament manager per 3-H (page 8).

1. The student entering extemporaneous shall:
 - a. Be well read in leading periodicals and newspapers.
 - b. Have a thorough understanding of current problems.
 - c. Be able to speak precisely and intelligently on these problems.
 - d. Have command of adequate techniques for delivery.
 - e. Be adept at organizing his/her thoughts in such a way that he/she can put them across to audience with a lively sense of communication.
 - f. Use no notes in the delivery of the speech.
2. The topics shall be:
 - a. From current news magazines and newspapers.
 - b. Devoted exclusively to foreign matters in the first round of the district and state tournaments and to domestic matters in the second round of the district and state tournaments.
 - c. Equally divided between foreign and domestic topics in the final round of competition.
3. The event shall be carried out in the following manner:
 - a. A list of all contestants to speak in the event shall be posted.
 - b. Each contestant shall, following the order of speaking, draw three topics 30 minutes prior to assigned speaking time. He/she shall select one and immediately return the other two topics.
 - c. The student shall then be assigned a place to prepare the speech. The contestant may use any material which he/she has with him/her, except electronic retrieval devices. The individual may not consult with anyone during this period.
 - d. At the end of the 30 minutes, the student shall deliver his/her speech in the room designated for that purpose.
4. The speaking time shall be not more than seven minutes.
5. Judging Criteria:
 - a. Organization: Was the speech organized in its development from introduction to conclusion?
 - b. Relevance: Did the speaker deal directly and exclusively with his/her topic?
 - c. Delivery: Was the speech presented in the form of oral rather than those of written discourse? Did the speaker have a full realization of the context of the speech throughout delivery? Did the speaker exercise a lively sense of communication? Was the speaker's command of techniques adequate for his/her needs?
 - d. Knowledge of Subject: Did the speaker have adequate knowledge of the subject?

NOTE: Oral critiques are not permitted.

N. ORIGINAL ORATORY (10 Minutes)

A speech shall not be repeated by a student who gave that speech in an interscholastic speech event in any previous school year. 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.

1. The student entering original oratory shall:
 - a. Deliver a persuasive speech of his/her own composition with no more than 150 words of quoted material. **All quoted material shall be credited within the text of the speech.**
 - b. Deliver the speech from memory, without notes.
 - c. Choose a subject for the speech that is interesting and significant.
 - d. Use sensible appeals and sound reasoning.
 - e. Show a lively sense of communication, using bodily action and voice to the best advantage.
 - f. Use no visual aids.
2. A typed copy of the speech shall be presented to the tournament manager on or before the time of registration on the day of the tournament (any contestant failing to provide the copy is subject to disqualification).
3. The speaking time shall be not more than ten minutes.
4. Judging Criteria:
 - a. Content: Was the content of the speech worthy of communication? Was it a persuasive speech? Was the topic significant and interesting?
 - b. Organization: Was the speech well organized in its development from introduction to conclusion? Was the language suitable to the speech?
 - c. Delivery: Did the speaker adapt himself/herself to the speaking situation? Did the speaker have a full realization of the content of his/her speech throughout the delivery? Did the speaker exercise a lively sense of communication? Was his/her command of techniques adequate for his/her needs? Was the speech presented in the forms of oral rather than those of written discourse?
 - d. Total Effectiveness: Did the speech effectively fulfill its intended purpose?

NOTE: Oral critiques are not permitted.

SECTION 7: PROVISIONS FOR INTERSCHOLASTIC SPEECH

- A. **STUDENT ELIGIBILITY*:** Any student who represents his/her school in interscholastic speech activities shall meet the standards of eligibility which are included in By-Laws 210 and 260. Following is a summary of these standards:

*Each school shall submit an eligibility roster on the MSHSAA website. (The due date for processing eligibility rosters shall be the day before the first permissible contest.)

MSHSAA By-Law 210 - General Student Eligibility Requirements

1. **211.0 Definitions:**
 - a. **Participation:** Eligibility to represent a school in interscholastic activities is a **privilege** to be attained by meeting the standards of eligibility cooperatively set by the member schools through this Association and any additional standards set by a member school for its own students.
 - b. **Bona fide student:** In order to represent the school the individual must be a bona fide student and meet all eligibility requirements. A bona fide student is one who is enrolled in and regularly attending classes at the member school which meet the minimum academic requirements in By-Law 213.
 - c. **Interscholastic Activity:** An interscholastic activity shall be defined as any extra-class activity involving two or more schools in which two or more students participate who are identified with their schools.
2. **212.0 Citizenship Requirements:** Students who represent a school in interscholastic activities must be creditable citizens and judged so by the proper authority. Those students whose character or conduct is such as to reflect discredit upon themselves or their schools are not considered "creditable citizens." Conduct shall be satisfactory in accord with the standards of good discipline.
 - a. **Law Enforcement:** A student who commits an act for which charges may be or have been filed by law enforcement authorities under any municipal ordinance, misdemeanor or felony statute shall not be eligible until all proceedings with the legal system have been concluded and any penalty (i.e. jail

time, fine, court costs, etc.) or special condition of probation (i.e. restitution, community service, counseling, etc.) has been satisfied. If law enforcement authorities determine that charges will not be filed, eligibility will be contingent upon local school policies. Moving traffic offenses shall not affect eligibility, unless they involve drugs, alcohol, or injuries to others. After a student has completed all court appearances and penalties, and has satisfied all special conditions of probation and remains under general probation only, local school authorities shall determine eligibility.

b. **Local School:**

1. A student who violates a local school policy is ineligible until completion of the prescribed school penalties.
2. The eligibility of a student who is serving detention or in-school suspension shall be determined by local school authorities.
3. A student shall not be considered eligible while serving an out-of-school suspension.
4. A student who is expelled or who withdraws from school because of disciplinary measures shall not be considered eligible for 365 days from the date of expulsion or withdrawal.
5. If a student misses class(es) without being excused by the principal, the student shall not be considered eligible on that date. Further, the student cannot be certified eligible to participate on any subsequent date until the student attends a full day of classes.
6. Each individual school has the authority to set more restrictive citizenship standards and shall have the authority and responsibility to judge its students under those standards.
7. Each school shall diligently and completely investigate any issue that could affect student eligibility.

- c. **Student Responsibility:** Each student is responsible to notify the school of any and all situations that would affect his/her eligibility under the above standards. If the student does not notify the school of the situation prior to the school's discovery, then the student shall be ineligible for up to 365 days from discovery, pending review by the Board of Directors

3. **213.0 Academic Standards:**

- a. A student in Grades 9-12 must have earned, the preceding semester of attendance, a minimum of 3.00 units of credit or have earned credit in 80% of the maximum allowable classes in which a student can be enrolled in the semester, whichever is greater, and shall currently be enrolled in and regularly attending courses that offer 3.0 units of credit or 80% of the maximum allowable credits which may be earned, whichever is greater; or a student must be enrolled in a full course at his or her level in a special education program for the handicapped approved by the Missouri State Department of Education which, though upgraded, enrolls pupils of equivalent age, and that student must have made standard progress for his or her level the preceding semester. A beginning 9th grade student shall have been promoted from the 8th grade to the 9th grade for first semester eligibility. A student must be making satisfactory progress towards graduation as determined by local school policies. A student who is dually enrolled in college and high school classes but who does not receive high school credit on his/her high school transcript for the college work, may have college hours earned during a regular semester count up to a maximum of 1 unit of credit toward determining high school eligibility as follows: 1/2 unit of high school credit for a 2 or 3 credit hour class; 1 unit of high school credit for a 4 or 5 hour college credit class.
- b. A student who becomes academically ineligible shall lose the privilege to represent the school the fifth day of classes into the new semester (high school) or grading period (junior high). Exception: If a student becomes academically ineligible for the fall semester (high school) or first grading period (junior high) he/she is ineligible for all activities beginning with the first event.
- c. Credit earned or completed after the close of the semester shall not count as having been earned that semester, except in case of illness verified by a physician. This rule is automatically waived in case a student fails to complete the required units of credit in a given semester because of his being drafted or being called to service in the National Guard or military service.
- d. The Board of Directors shall have the authority to determine the academic standards students shall meet in a school which does not have a traditional two-semester school year. Any changes approved shall be equitable for all students.

4. **214.0 Semesters of Participation:**

- a. A student shall not participate in more than four seasons in grades 9-12 in any interscholastic activity. A student shall have only eight consecutive semesters (four consecutive years) of eligibility in high school, in which he/she may participate in one season per year in an activity, and these eight consecutive semesters shall begin on the twentieth (20th) day of the first semester a student enters the 9th grade **or** the first interscholastic contest in which the student participates, whichever occurs first. A student who participates in any part of an interscholastic event or contest shall count such as a season of participation. A student who applies for, is granted, and leaves school any time after the junior year

to take advantage of an early release program shall no longer be eligible for interscholastic competition even though he or she later returns to school. **Editor's Note: Exception - Baseball and softball have two seasons per year in which a student may participate as listed in By-Law 325.**

- b. A student is eligible for only TWO SEMESTERS in each the seventh and eighth grade beginning with the first semester of entrance in each grade. A student who is repeating a grade is not eligible.

5. **215.0 Entering and Withdrawing From School:**

- a. "Entering school" for the purpose of eligibility consists of regular registration for classes and attendance in classes.
- b. A student must have *ENTERED SCHOOL WITHIN THE FIRST ELEVEN DAYS* of the semester in which he/she is competing. This rule is automatically waived in case a student is prevented from entering high school within the required time limit because of service with the National Guard, United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps or Coast Guard, provided that the student enrolls in school within thirty days after he/she receives his/her discharge. A student transferring from a school district which has a school year beginning in September to a district which starts in August becomes eligible upon the change of residence and enrollment in a school in that district, provided he/she meets all other requirements.
- c. In case of withdrawal, if withdrawal occurs on or after the twentieth school day of the preceding semester, a student is ineligible for one complete semester; if withdrawal occurs before the first twenty school days of the semester have elapsed, that student will not be considered as having been in attendance that semester provided he or she has not participated in interschool activities during this period.

Editor's Note: Paragraph c. above applies only to those students who drop out of school altogether before the twentieth **school** day of a semester. It does not apply to students who transfer to another school during a semester and continue their attendance.

6. **216.0 Undue Influence:** A student shall not have transferred from one school to another because of solicitation or influence of anyone connected with the school or because of the undue influence of any individual or group outside the school. In case of such transfer the student shall be ineligible for 365 days and the school shall be penalized if the influence is exerted by anyone connected with the school.
7. **217.0 Violation of By-Laws:** A Student shall not violate any of the rules contained in the By-Laws of this association pertaining to the activity area concerned.
8. **218.0 Assumed Name:** A student shall not have participated under an assumed name.
9. **219.0 Local School Standards:** Any member school shall have the authority to set any additional eligibility requirements which are more restrictive than it deems advisable.
10. **Article IV, Section 6-p.:** The Board of Directors is authorized to grant eligibility to a student in a case that is beyond the control of a student or his (her) parents, which in the opinion of the Board involves undue hardship or an emergency and does not violate the intent of any standards of eligibility. Cases involving any choice on the part of the student or parents shall not be heard under this section.

B. **MSHSAA By-Law 260 - Student Eligibility Requirements for Speech**

1. **260.1 Student Eligibility:** Any students who represent his/her school in interscholastic speech activities shall meet the requirements contained in By-Laws 210 through 219, in addition to those under this article.
2. **261.0 Missing School Time:** Any student who misses school time because of participating in an unapproved speech event, or because of any travel involved, shall be ineligible to represent the school in interscholastic speech for a period not to exceed 365 days from the date of violation unless the absence is approved in advance by the school administrator.
3. **262.0 Limits on Participation:** Students enrolled in grades nine-twelve shall participate in no more than eleven interscholastic speech and/or debate meets, festivals, and/or tournaments during the school year, inclusive of the Missouri NFL Tournament and exclusive of the MSHSAA district and state tournaments. Seventh and/or eighth grade students shall participate in no more than five interscholastic speech and/or debate meets, festivals, and/or tournaments during the school year.

A student shall give the same individual speech/selection in no more than eleven (11) tournaments, meets, or festivals during a school year exclusive of Missouri National Forensic League and MSHSAA District and State events. An individual speech/selection shall not be repeated by a student who gave that

speech/selection in an interscholastic speech event in a previous school year (grades 9-12). This restriction applies to district and state events, as well as to the regular season.

4. **263.0 Certification of Speech Eligibility:**

- a. Each student, prior to participating in an interscholastic contest, must be certified as eligible through the MSHSAA Online Membership System by an administrator of the junior or senior high school the student attends. Changes in eligibility at the beginning of second semester shall be made on the system by an administrator.
 - b. New additions shall be certified as eligible as described above prior to allowing the student to participate in an interscholastic contest.
 - c. If a participant is omitted from the eligibility certification process in error and is certified in writing by the principal to have been eligible at the time of the participation, the Board of Directors shall have discretionary authority to determine whether a penalty is appropriate and the nature and duration of such penalty. The principal shall submit a report to the executive director explaining the circumstances of the omission error.
5. **264.0 Penalty for Violation of By-Law 260:** Any student who violates any of these standards shall be ineligible to represent the school in interscholastic speech activities for a period not to exceed 365 days from the date of the violation.

C. SCHOOL REGULATIONS (MSHSAA By-Law 100):

1. **101.0 Competition Only With Member Schools:** No member school of this Association may compete in any interscholastic activities with any other school, or against any other team, that is not a member of this Association or like association, or with a school that is suspended from the Association, or with a college/university team on which there are contestants above high school rank. However, a member school of this association which is a special education school organized and administered exclusively for the handicapped may compete with a team representing any nonmember school or institution by securing permission from the Board of Directors.
2. **102.0 Enforcement of Constitution and By-Laws:** The member school has the responsibility to educate students, directors and other appropriate persons of the state association requirements delineated within the Constitution, By-Laws and Board Policies, as adopted by the member schools, which could affect them. Further, the member school shall monitor its compliance with all requirements contained within the Constitution, By-Laws and Policies and enforce the same in regard to the school staff, students and other appropriate persons. The principal and/or superintendent of the school shall be responsible for the enforcement of the Constitution and By-Laws of this Association and shall be the official representatives of the school.
3. **103.0 Responsibility for Supervision:** No individual student, team, or activities group shall be permitted to participate in interscholastic events without being accompanied and supervised by a member of the school faculty or administrative staff of the applicable member school. It is not allowable for one faculty member from one school in a multiple high school/middle school district to supervise all students of all schools of the multiple high school/middle schools districts under this provision.
4. **104.0 Teacher Absenteeism Limit:** A school shall not enter more than six interscholastic events in any sport or music activity exclusive of district and state events sponsored by the MSHSAA, which cause an individual to be absent from his/her teaching duties. A school shall not enter more than six, of the season limit of 11, interscholastic speech events in a semester, exclusive of district and state events sponsored by the MSHSAA but inclusive of the NFL districts, which cause an individual to be absent from his/her teaching duties.

D. SPEECH REGULATIONS (MSHSAA By-Law 500):

1. **501.0 School Eligibility to Enter Events:** Any public or private high school of Missouri which is a member of Missouri State High School Activities Association is automatically eligible to enter contests and events in this area.
2. **510.0 Advisory Committee:** There shall be an Advisory Committee appointed by the Board of Directors with the advice and counsel of the Speech Association of Missouri with this Committee to be responsible to the Board of Directors.
3. **520.0 Board of Directors' Responsibility:** The Board of Directors with the advice and counsel of the Advisory Committee shall set up such contests and events as it deems advisable, formulate policies and regulations for administering these events, determine the districts and sites for the contests, select local directors, and determine the entry fees.
4. **530.0 Sanctioning of Non-school Sponsored and Interstate Events:** Any speech event which involves students from more than one school sponsored by a non-school organization or a college or university shall have the approval of the Board of Directors and interstate speech events shall have the approval of the Board of Directors and the state association of all states invited. Application for approval shall be submitted no later than 30 days prior to the first date of the event.

5. **530.0 Standards for Approval of Invitational Events by School Administrator:** An inter school speech event sponsored by a member school shall have the approval of the high school administrator and, for interstate events approval of the MSHSAA Board of Directors.
All events shall meet the following standards:
 - a. Only symbolic awards and a merchandise award with a manufacturer's suggested retail value not to exceed \$100.00 are permitted. No cash awards shall be offered.
 - b. No interscholastic speech event shall start before 4:00 p.m. on a school day, except that events may start as early as 2:00 p.m. on Friday. The MSHSAA District and State Tournaments shall be exempted from this regulation and a school may participate in one regular season contest (which may be the Missouri NFL Tournament) per school year that begins as early as 8:00 a.m. on a school day.
 - c. Shall be in accord with all other provisions contained in the Speech By-Laws.
 6. **530.0 Travel Limitations:** A school may participate in any approved interscholastic speech event within the state. A school may travel to the site of one out of state tournament or invitational meet per year beyond 250 air miles from the perimeter (border) of the state of Missouri, with the date and location to be determined by the local school administration. All remaining tournaments and invitations must fall within 250 air-miles from the state border.
 7. **540.0 Season Limits:** No senior high interscholastic debate, theatre, or speech events shall be neither held before the second Friday in October nor later than the date of the MSHSAA district tournament, other than the allowances listed below:
 - a. A school may participate in one interscholastic event following districts and prior to the Friday of memorial Day weekend. Such an event shall count as one of the school's allowable regular season events as per By-Law 262.0 (Limits on Participation) and must meet the travel regulations per By-Law 530-d.
 - b. Teams or individuals representing a school may participate in interstate, interscholastic events which may begin no earlier than the Friday of memorial Day weekend, only if the school has advanced from a qualifying event that takes place during the aforementioned season or if the event's selection procedure has been approved by the MSHSAA Board of Directors.
 8. Per MSHSAA Policy, all protests shall be resolved at the contest site and shall not be reviewed by the MSHSAA Board of Directors and/or staff.
 9. **550.0 Rules Review:** Each school shall be responsible for requiring its Speech, Debate and Theatre directors to take the MSHSAA online rules review sponsored by the Board of Directors every year. When a coach does not take the review, the school shall give reason for his/her failure to do so.
- E. **ADDITIONAL MSHSAA BY-LAWS AND POLICIES REGULATING SPEECH**
1. Per MSHSAA Policy, the practice of audio or videotaping speech and debate performances at any interscholastic speech event/contest shall be considered unethical and shall not be allowed.
 2. **810.0 Unsportsmanlike Conduct:** The Board of Directors is vested with the power to suspend schools from membership for the unsportsmanlike conduct of teams, directors, students or fans. Each school is responsible for the conduct of its teams, directors, students and fans at games both at home and away.
 - a. The Board may delegate to the Executive Director power to take immediate action when a situation demands such. The party or parties concerned shall have the privilege of requesting a hearing before the Board of Directors at its next regularly scheduled meeting for a review of the case and the action taken by the MSHSAA Office.
 - b. The Board of Directors may, at its discretion, substitute a fine not to exceed the sum of \$25.00 for each offense in lieu of suspension from the Association or to take any action that it deems advisable that does not exceed the maximum penalty of 365 days suspension from the association.
 - c. A player who is ejected from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct shall at a minimum be prohibited from playing in the next interscholastic contest at that same level.
 - d. A coach who is ejected during a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct shall at a minimum be prohibited from coaching and attending the next interscholastic contest for that team.
 3. **811.0 Removal of Team From Game:** Any school whose coach removes a team from play in protest may be required to appear before the Board at its next meeting to show reason why the school shall not be suspended.

SECTION 8: INSTRUCTIONS FOR JUDGES

- A. Each event shall have at least one judge, and each event shall have a timekeeper. If a coach refuses to judge, his/her team or contestant will forfeit that round.
- B. 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 Theater. 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 ranking for that round, and in debate by the reduction of quality points and/or speaker ranks, and is to be determined by the judge's discretion. In One Act Play and Readers Theater, for exceeding the events time limit, each judge shall automatically lower the rank by 1 position.

NOTE: THERE IS NO BUILT IN 30-SECOND GRACE PERIOD. THE TIME LIMIT IS CLEARLY STATED IN EACH EVENT'S JUDGING REGULATIONS PRINTED IN THE MANUAL.

- C. 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. Judges shall provide complete written comments on all ballots in order to make the experience educational. A judge shall evaluate each performance independently and shall not collaborate with other judges when assigning rankings or ratings.
- D. 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 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.
- E. No judge is to designate any rank for the purpose of making an award of any type other than provided for in this manual.
- F. Each judge in the district speech and theatre events shall be provided a certification ranking form for each event he/she judges. The judge shall rank the contestants in each event judged.
- G. **No** oral critiques are permitted in any event. The judge shall not reveal the ranking or rating of cast, team or individual.
- 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 rank and ratings and post the results.
- I. The judge shall keep in mind that he/she is 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. Debate judges shall write the debater's rank after the speaker's name on the ballot.
- K. Debate judges shall be responsible to deal with challenges. The challenge shall be made during the round. If evidence is from a brief and in error and better evidence is provided, then the judge shall weigh in his/her regular decision. Other challenges shall be reported to the manager following the completion of the round. Please refer to Section 6-A-11 for more specific procedures.
- L. In debate at the state tournament two judges from the same district shall not judge together in the same room. Also, a judge from one district shall not judge a debate entrant from the same district.
- M. The Board of Directors shall set fees for judges in the district and state events.
- N. 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.
- O. 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.

- P. The district manager shall inform all judges that they should excuse themselves from rounds where they may have a conflict of interest with contestants or schools and, in such situations, a judge should notify the judge coordinator.
- Q. No judge shall judge the same student in the same individual event more than once in the same tournament.
- R. A critic shall not attempt to recruit high school speech students participating in district or state events in which he/she is acting as a critic. 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 distraction may affect the student's performance.
- S. Cell phones and other electronic communication devices may not be turned on while in the preparation rooms, the competition rooms, or in the awards ceremony. **EXCEPTION: Cell phones can be turned on in due date for processing such rosters shall be the day before the first permissible contest.**
- T. **The use of electronic retrieval devices shall be prohibited during the rounds. (Non-internet connected computers shall be allowed for a one-year trial basis, as per NFL rules, during the 2010-11 school year, including the district and state tournaments. Invitational tournament hosts may choose to prohibit the use of computers.)**

SECTION 9: POINTS OF EMPHASIS

- A. Section 3-C provides specific details for substitutions.
- B. The 2011 State Speech Tournament is April 15-16, 2011.
- C. Directors with individual event entries shall be required to judge in preliminary and final rounds of individual events and be available to judge the final round of debate at the state tournament. (Section 10-F and G)
- D. Schools participating in any debate event or any individual event at the state tournament shall provide a timekeeper. (Section 3-F)
- E. Schools entering extemporaneous speaking at the district tournament shall provide the manager with ten extemporaneous topics through the district entry process.
- F. Audio or videotaping of performance is prohibited. (Section 7-E-1)
- G. Code of Ethics established in print. (Section 1)
- H. All judges for individual events at the state tournament will be school judges, whenever possible. (Section 4-G-2-
a) It is recommended that two judges in a section of an individual event not come from the same district.
- I. The qualifying formula for the state tournament is as follows:
Individual events and Cross-Examination, Lincoln-Douglas, Public Forum Debate: 1 - 7 entries - certify 1; 8 - 13 entries - certify 2; 14 - 20 entries - certify 3; 21 or more entries - certify 4.
Readers Theater and One-Act Plays: 1 - 7 entries - certify 1; 8 or more entries - certify 2. (Section 4-J-1, 3, and 4)
- J. At the state tournament, for Readers Theater and One-Act Play, there shall be a preliminary round of two sections on Friday. Each of the two sections will advance the first two places to a final round to be held on Saturday. (Section 5-J-3)
- K. In Cross-Examination, Lincoln-Douglas, and Public Forum debate, first place will be decided by a final round of debate at the district tournament. Districts that advance three entries to the state tournament will hold a head-to-head debate to decide the third entry that will advance. (Section 6-A-6-e-3)
- L. Schools shall submit an eligibility roster for speech and debate on the MSHSAA website. (Per Section 7-A, the due date for processing such rosters shall be the day before the first permissible contest.)
- M. At both the district and state speech tournaments, high school speech directors will be used as judges for the final round of debate, whenever possible, and at least one high school speech coach will be used for each semifinal and quarterfinal panel. All directors who have students entered in debate events are required to be available to judge one round beyond the elimination of their school's debaters at the district and state tournaments. (Section 6-A-7-c) All directors are required to be available to judge one round beyond the elimination of their student(s) in individual events at the district tournaments.
- N. At the state tournament, whenever possible, two entries from a district in One-Act Play and Readers Theater shall not be scheduled into the same section.
- O. Medals will be awarded to all quarterfinalists in debate at both the district and state tournaments.
- P. Oral critiques are **not** permitted in any events at the district and state tournaments.
- Q. All schools and contestants are required to perform at their assigned sites at the State tournament in all events as originally established by the tournament administration.
- R. **Schools qualifying four or more students in debate for the State Tournament are required to provide a second debate judge.**

- S. Any coach who fails to fulfill his/her judging assignment(s) at the state tournament shall be fined \$50.
- T. Cell phones and other electronic communication devices may not be turned on while in the preparation rooms, the competition rooms, or in the awards ceremony. **EXCEPTION: Cell Phones can be turned on in competition rooms to be used as timing devices, but they cannot be used for any other function during rounds of competition.**
- U. **The use of electronic retrieval devices shall be prohibited during the rounds. (Non-internet connected computers shall be allowed for a one-year trial basis, as per NFL rules, during the 2010-11 school year, including the district and state tournaments. Invitational tournament hosts may choose to prohibit the use of computers.)**
- V. The deadline for submitting changes in selections for the state tournament is one week after the last district tournament concludes.
- W. A school shall be fined \$100 for a drop or withdraw from the state tournament.

SECTION 10: DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

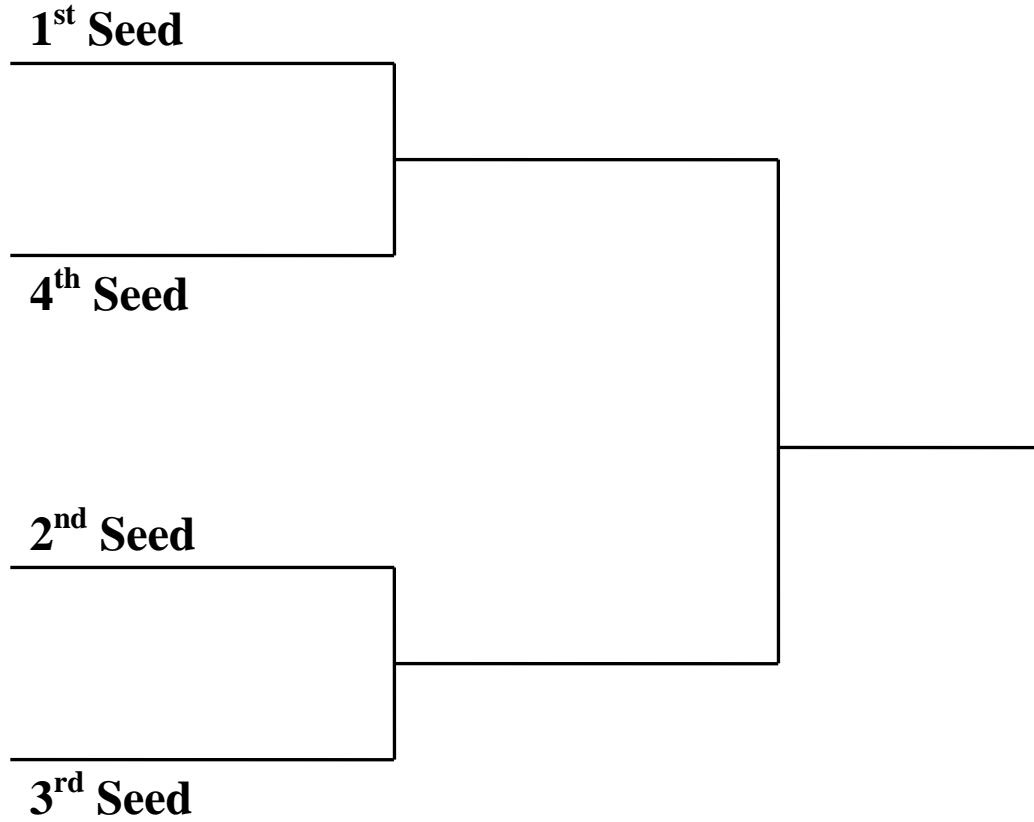
- A. The manager shall appoint a committee of three speech directors from participating schools to serve on a committee to assist in the management of the tournament, to assign directors to serve as debate judges to avoid the possibility of a conflict of interest, and to serve with him/her as a jury of appeals to rule on questions arising at the tournament. The committee shall include the MSHSAA Speech Advisory Committee member from the district and at least one coach from one of the smaller schools participating in the tournament.
- B. Directors should expect to attend a pre-tournament meeting for the purpose of discussing administrative procedures and any possible problems.
- C. The topic to be used for Lincoln-Douglas debate in the state series will be that selected by NFL for the month of March/April. The NFL March topic shall be used in Public Forum Debate in the state series.
- D. Participating schools must provide a timekeeper at the district tournament.
- E. The tab room will be open at the district and state tournaments.
NOTE: The tab room may be closed temporarily as results come in but will re-open after they have been recorded.
- F. High school directors will be assigned to judge all rounds of Cross-Examination, Lincoln-Douglas, and Public Forum debate at the district and state tournaments.
- G. High school directors will be assigned to judge the final round of all individual events and debate at the state tournament.
- H. Schools participating at the state tournament shall provide timekeepers on those days on which the school has participants.
- I. It is important that all adults involved in the interscholastic activities program set the proper example for our participants with regards to the use of tobacco products and alcoholic beverages. We cannot let actions teach a philosophy of double standards. Therefore, the Board of Directors has adopted the following policy statement to apply to all interscholastic athletic, music, and speech events: Directors, sponsors and contest officials are prohibited from using tobacco products or alcoholic beverages while directly involved in interscholastic activities. Involvement is defined in this policy as being in public view and when students are actually participating under the jurisdiction of the coach, director, and official. Proper enforcement is expected. Violations shall be reported to the school's administration and the MSHSAA.
- J. Non-musical cuttings from musical plays are allowed for performance by One-Act Play entries; however, musical plays and musical cuttings from musical plays shall not be allowed.
- K. Encourage students to develop original interpretations of their selections.
- L. Remind students to use internet message boards in a positive manner.
- M. Remind students and those individuals associated with the school's squad that cell phones may not be turned on while in the competition rounds or in the awards ceremony.
- N. Directors should only enter students in the district tournament who will be available to represent the school and the district in the state tournament.
- O. Cell phones and other electronic communication devices may not be turned on while in the preparation rooms, the competition rooms, or in the awards ceremony. **EXCEPTION: Cell phones can be turned on in competition rooms to be used as timing devices, but they cannot be used for any other function during rounds of competition (see 6-A-12 for use of non-internet connected computers in Cross-Examination Debate).**
- P. The deadline for submitting changes in selections for the state tournament is one week after the last district tournament concludes.
- Q. Directors are to report any known drops for the state tournament to the MSHSAA office by 4:00 p.m. on the eighth day (Thursday) prior to the start of the tournament (a school shall be fined \$100 for a drop or withdraw from the state tournament).

APPENDIX A: SAMPLE BRACKETS FOR DEBATE

SAMPLE 4-TEAM SEMI-FINAL BRACKET

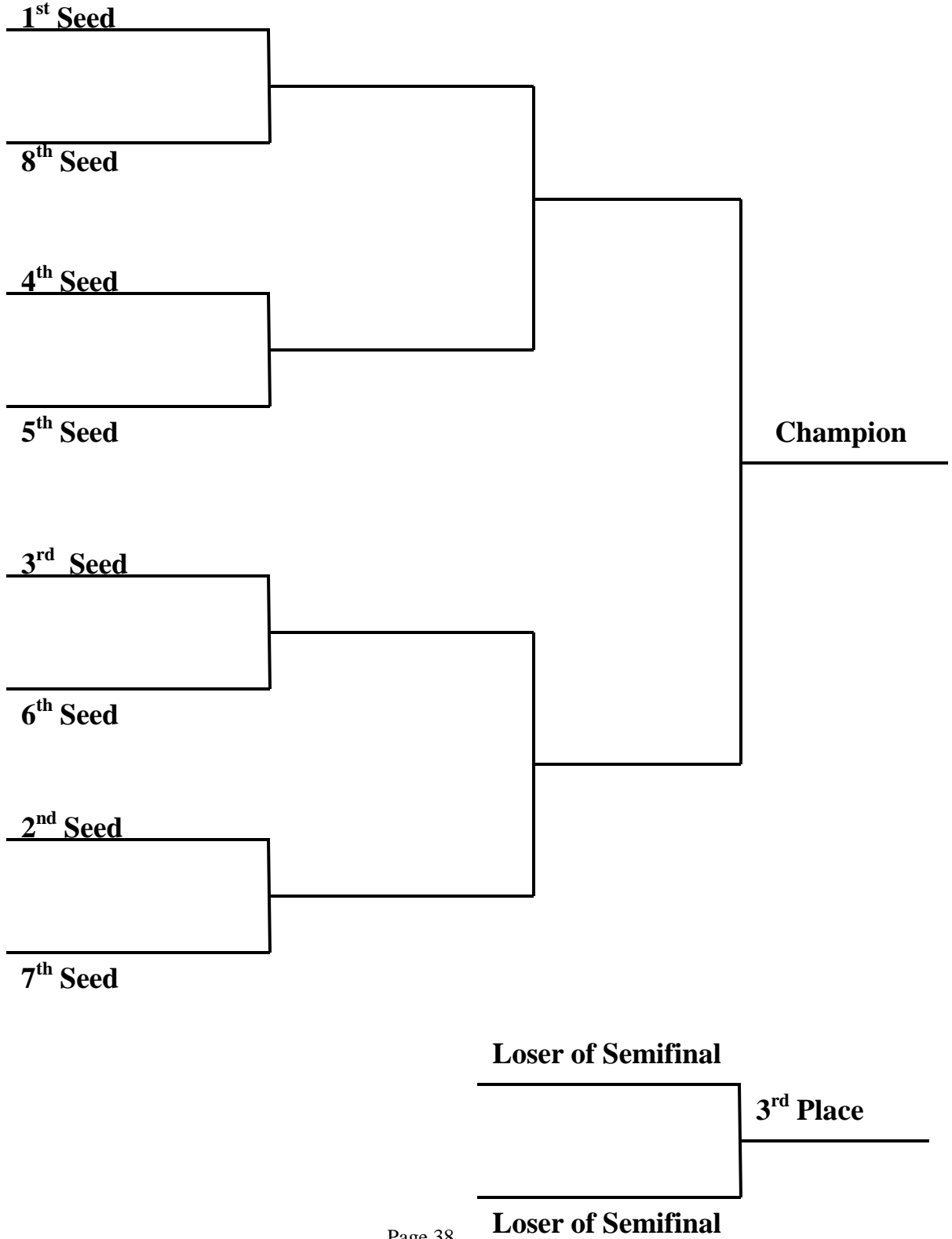
(If no Quarterfinal is necessary)

To be used if 8-13 entries enter the tournament.



SAMPLE 8- TEAM QUARTERFINAL BRACKET

To be used if 14 - 20 or 21 or more entries enter the tournament.
If 21 or more entries, do not use the consolation bracket.



APPENDIX B: PROCEDURE TO FOLLOW IN CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER

1. Check correspondence from your District Speech Manager for Radio and/or TV stations to listen to for announcements regarding the status of the tournament.
2. Directors should keep in contact with the weather service and Highway Patrol for updates on weather and road conditions.
3. If weather is a problem early, but appears that it might improve later in the morning, the District Manager may decide to hold the tournament, but start it late. Again, listen to the designated Radio and/or TV station for announcements.
4. The District Speech Manager will make the final decision to postpone the tournament.

APPENDIX C: USE OF TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL PRODUCTS BY DIRECTORS AND OFFICIALS

It is important that all adults involved in the interscholastic activities program set the proper example for our participants with regards to the use of tobacco products and alcoholic beverages. We cannot let actions teach a philosophy of double standards. Therefore, the Board of Directors has adopted the following policy statement to apply to all interscholastic athletic, music, speech, cheerleading, academic competitions, pom poms and other similar group events. "Coaches, directors, sponsors, and contest officials are prohibited from using tobacco products or alcoholic beverages while directly involved in interscholastic activities. Involvement is defined in this policy as being in public view and when students are actually participating under the jurisdiction of the coach, director, and official. Proper enforcement is expected. Violations shall be reported to the school's administration and the MSHSAA.

APPENDIX D: POLICY FOR ON-SITE PROTESTS

The Board of Directors acknowledges that occasionally tournament officials at speech, debate, and theatre contests make mistakes. The Board adopted the following Policy, June 2000, to address protests at the interscholastic speech, debate, and theatre events and contests.

1. The coach must request a review of an official's/judge's application of a rule through appropriate channels (only misapplications of MSHSAA By-Laws and event rules may be protested, not decisions of judgment).
2. All protests shall be resolved at the contest site by the tournament manager, the grievance committee, or the jury of appeals before any further competition occurs in the event(s) affected.
3. Protests that are not filed within the appropriate time frame shall be automatically disallowed.
4. The MSHSAA Board of Directors and/or staff shall not review contest protests.

APPENDIX E: APPLICATION OF PROTEST PROCEDURE

1. The tournament manager shall appoint a grievance committee of three speech directors from participating schools. The grievance committee shall serve with the tournament manager as the jury of appeals to rule on questions/protests arising at the tournament.
 - a. The committee shall include the MSHSAA Speech Advisory Committee member from the district when available and at least one coach from one of the smaller schools participating in the tournament.
 - b. Should a member of the committee's school be involved in the grievance, the committee member shall be replaced with a committee alternate and if the alternate is not available, someone may be appointed to serve in this capacity by the tournament manager.
2. All protests shall be directed to the tournament manager by the school coach in writing via tournament protest forms as soon as infractions to the rules are discovered, but within 20 minutes of the results of the protested event(s) becoming final. The written protest shall cite the rule(s) or By-Law(s) being protested.

3. Posting to finalize results: All results for the tournament will be posted and/or distributed in advance following the schedule in (a) and (b) below. Any error must be corrected at the appropriate time listed.
 - a. Following the end of preliminaries and before the elimination rounds, all grids and ballots are to be available to the directors to verify the accuracy of the results in each event during an allowed twenty (20) minute time period and that a five (5) minute time period be allowed for the purpose of verifying results between elimination rounds in debate with all results being final once the next round begins.
 - b. Results will be final 20 minutes after the posting/distribution of results.
4. Depending on the nature of a protest, the outcome to uphold or deny shall be determined by:
 - a. the tournament manager (or);
 - b. the grievance committee (or);
 - c. the jury of appeals (the tournament manager and grievance committee together).

The decision made at the tournament site by the appropriate entity listed above shall be final and shall be communicated to all involved parties by the tournament manager.

APPENDIX F: POLICY ON HAZING AND HARASSMENT

Hazing: Willful conduct directed at a student that is intended to physically or emotionally intimidate, punish, embarrass, humiliate, ridicule, or place any student in a disconcerting position for the purpose of initiation, affiliation, inclusion or membership in any team or organization.

Harassment: Unwelcome conduct by a person that is sufficiently serious, persistent or pervasive, so that it affects another person's ability to participate in or benefit from the school program or activity by creating an intimidating, threatening or abusive environment.

It is the policy of the MSHSAA that hazing and harassment have no place in school-sponsored activity programs and pose a significant risk to the physical and mental welfare of students. Coaches, directors and sponsors must take an active role in the prevention of all forms of hazing and harassment. Students directly or indirectly involved in hazing incidents, on or off school grounds, could be considered ineligible by the school administration under the MSHSAA citizenship standard, By-Law 212.

APPENDIX G: NO CELL PHONES PERMITTED IN LOCKER ROOMS/RESTROOMS

Due to the capacity of modern cellular phones to take photos, and the possibility of inadvertent use of this capacity to capture inappropriate images, the MSHSAA Board of Directors has established a no cell phone use policy in locker rooms/restrooms.

APPENDIX H: BOARD POLICY ON MSHSAA PROGRAM PRINTING

The Missouri State High School Activities Association strives to publish errorless Championship programs for all of its events. Since a majority of the information contained in Championship programs is submitted by directors of qualifying schools, it is imperative that the MSHSAA office receive correctly-spelled names, accurate classifications and complete records, results and statistics of participants and teams from the directors.

Effective as of September 1996, the MSHSAA Board of Directors has approved a fine process for all late, incomplete or illegible submissions for MSHSAA Championship programs. Schools that do not submit their forms to the MSHSAA in a timely, legible, complete and accurate manner will be fined \$25 per offense. In activities that require the electronic submission of program information, faxed or mailed copies of this information will not be accepted. Electronic reports must be submitted by the appropriate due date in the format and style included with the report instructions. It is the responsibility of the school to verify that the MSHSAA has received its program information, team photo, and any other required information by the appropriate deadline.

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