

Summary of the Speech, Debate, & Theatre Advisory Committee Meeting with Board Action

May 4, 2022

1. **Recommend:** Modifying the language for Lincoln-Douglas Debate description of the SDT Manual to read “A form of one-on-one debate that has been utilized often during political campaigns. Only two speakers are involved, one fulfilling the affirmative case responsibilities and the other, the negative. Students should be encouraged to develop a direct and communicative delivery. Because of time limits, a wealth of evidence may or may not be used, but research supported by good back ground reading is necessary.”

2. **Recommend:** Modifying the language for Lincoln-Douglas Debate description of the SDT Manual to read “Judging Criteria 1. Logic: Did the debater demonstrate clear, rational analysis of the proposition? 2. Topicality: Did his/her arguments clearly relate to the proposition? Did each debate address the relevant arguments of the opponent? 3. General Knowledge: Did the debater have a clear understanding of the topic? Did the debater bring general knowledge to bear on the proposition? 4. Persuasion: Is the speaker convincing? Are they sincere? Do they make reasonable and effective appeals to the judge? Is contestant aware of their judge? 5. Delivery: Does the debater control rate, volume, emphasis, and tone for maximum persuasive appeal? Do they communicate efficiently and effectively? 6. Organization: Are the speeches clearly structured? The focus of the debate should be on the value judgement of the resolution as a whole, however the affirmative and/or negative may choose to articulate that in terms as generally or specifically as they choose. 8. 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.”

3. **Recommend:** Develop a sub-committee to work on correcting discrepancies related to laptop usage, allowance of electronic devices, and the clarification of internet usage in Debate, US Extemporaneous Speaking, and International Extemporaneous Speaking in the SDT Manual.

4. **Recommend:** Update the District meet entry procedures for substitutions in the SDT Manual.

* 5. **Recommend:** To allow coaches/directors to serve on the SDT Advisory Committee representing the Board District of the District Tournament instead of the schools Board of Directors district

*** 6. **Recommend:** To allow District SDT Tournament managers to establish judging obligations for their own District Tournaments.

7. **Recommend:** To create an addition to the SDT Manual for One-Act Plays that strictly prohibits the usage of individual microphones at District and State Championships.

* 8. **Recommend:** Schools must participate in a minimum of 2 tournaments for Speech and Debate events prior to the District Tournament. This limitation would not apply to One-Act Plays and Reader’s Theatre.

9. **Recommend:** To eliminate the sentence “Note: Ladders and/or boxes may be used only for the same purpose as stools.” from letter H of the SDT Manual.

*** 10. **Recommend:** To develop a sub-committee to study District Tournament alignments and check District entries for the consideration to change the District SDT structure.

11. **Recommend:** To remove a statistical value from the One-Act Plays and Reader’s Theatre judges scoring rubric and replace it with a more holistic approach similar to other events in SDT competition.

12. Recommend: Remove letter K of the Reader’s Theatre portion of the SDT Manual which states that “Stage movement and business shall be limited; the narrator may move about and the compositional grouping may change.”

13. Recommend: Recommends the following rule be placed as a point of emphasis for Reader’s Theatre during the 2022-2023 Online Rules Review. “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.”

14. Recommend: Sweepstakes points should be awarded in cases where only one team entry is made.

15. Recommend: Recommends creating a checklist for host sites of District & State Reader’s Theatre & One-Act Play events.

- * Denied
- ** Tabled for further study
- *** Approved as amended
- **** No action necessary
- All others approved