

## Speech & Debate Advisory Committee Recommendations

Spring 2025

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Recommend striking the word “non” in regards to Electronic Use in prep rooms for US and International Extemporaneous Speaking. (6.L.8 & 6.M.8)
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ \*\* 2. Recommend adjusting the district window for Speech & Debate to begin on the Monday of Week 35 and closing by the Wednesday of Week 36. In the case of inclement weather, with MSHSAA approval, districts must be completed by the end of Week 37.
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ \*\*\* 3. Recommend the addition of an area meeting topic regarding moving the school day start time exception from 2pm up to 12pm for Friday events.
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Recommend adjusting the wording of Prose Reading (6.I.2) to include plurals to sources in order to indicate that more than one piece of prose can be used and combined.
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Recommend the use of NSDA topics for March for districts, and April for the state championships, regardless of when the date of the respective tournaments fall.
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Recommend adjusting the wording of Radio Speaking to include *at least three levels (world, national, state, or local), weather, and sports from any level.* (K.2.a)
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ \* 7. Recommend the creation of a subcommittee to analyze and evaluate ballot language to ensure consistency with current and former manual changes.
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ \*\*\* 8. Recommend amending the wording of 5.G.1.b to: “A list of participants in each event shall be posted. Participants shall perform in order to the best of their ability as their name appears on the list. ~~If unable to do so because of a schedule conflict, the coach/director shall contact the tournament manager for an adjustment in the schedule.~~ Deviation from the list may occur at the discretion of the tournament manager or other designees”.
  
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. Recommend that speech events with 8 or fewer entries to have one final round at the district tournament. “For events with 8 or fewer entries, three ballots will be used to determine placement, whether that be three ballots in one round or one ballot in three rounds at the discretion of the tournament manager”. (G.3.a)

- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Recommend making the list of participating schools available prior to the state tournament via speechwire.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. Recommend requiring at least two judges to be used in prelims of districts, or to hold a semi-final round. "At least two judges must be used in preliminary rounds of speech events, or a semi-final round using three judges, where 8 and 8 advance, must be held. Tournament managers may determine whether to panel preliminary rounds or hold a semi-final round based on their entry numbers and judge availability." (G.5.b)
- \_\_\_\_\_ \*\*\* 12. Recommend MSHSAA staff works with committee members and activity experts to determine district tournament structure.
- \_\_\_\_\_ \*\*\* 13. Recommend the addition of an area meeting topic regarding the addition of another online speech & debate tournament be allowed after April 1 (By-Law 4.3.2). If a ballot proposal was eventually passed, the Speech & Debate manual would adjust accordingly. (4.3.4.c.2)
- \_\_\_\_\_ \* 14. Recommend the creation of a tabulation oversight/auditing committee.
- \_\_\_\_\_ \*\*\* 15. Recommend adding to Appendix E, an additional item reading: "Generative artificial intelligence should not be cited as a source or used to generate speech content. While ~~Chat GPT~~ generative AI may be used to guide students to articles, ideas, and sources, the original source of any quoted or paraphrased evidence must be available if requested. Students are prohibited from quoting or paraphrasing text directly from generative AI sources as speeches must be the original created work of a competitor. (Adopted from NSDA language).

#### BOARD ACTION

*	DENIED
**	TABLED FOR FURTHER STUDY
***	APPROVED AS AMENDED
****	NO ACTION

ALL OTHERS APPROVED