

## EVENT RULES (Section 3 from the 2013 Tournament Brochure)

### A. Debate

#### 1. Team Debate

- a. The debate proposition shall be the National Topic for the 2012-2013 year.
- b. Each team shall consist of two speakers prepared to debate both sides of the proposition.
- c. Each team shall be allowed a total of ten (10) minutes preparation time during the debate. Any time beyond the ten minutes shall be deducted from subsequent speaking time.
- d. Each speaker shall be allowed nine (9) minutes for constructive argument, six (6) minutes for rebuttal speeches, and a three (3) minute cross-examination period. Debaters shall not be penalized for not utilizing their full time. At the end of the allotted time, the debaters shall be allowed to complete their immediate thought.
- e. People not involved in the specific debate round may take notes as long as the note taker has the permission of the contestants.
- f. NOTE: the AFA/NDT Evidence Guidelines are enforced at the Phi Rho Pi National Tournament.

#### 2. Lincoln Douglas Debate

- a. The debate proposition shall be the policy debate proposition. (See Team Debate)
- b. Each entry consists of one person prepared to debate both sides of the proposition.
- c. The Lincoln-Douglas format shall be:

Affirmative Constructive	8 minutes
Negative Cross-Examination	3 minutes
Negative Constructive	12 minutes
Affirmative Cross-Examination	3 minutes
First Affirmative Rebuttal	6 minutes
Negative Rebuttal	6 minutes
Second Affirmative Rebuttal	4 minutes
- d. Each speaker shall be allowed a total of six (6) minutes preparation time. Any time beyond the six minutes shall be deducted from subsequent speaking time.
- e. People not involved in the specific debate round may take notes as long as the note taker has the permission of the contestants.
- f. NOTE: the AFA/NDT Evidence Guidelines are enforced at the Phi Rho Pi National Tournament.

#### 3. Parliamentary Team Debate

- a. Each team shall consist of two people prepared to debate both the Government and the Opposition.
- b. The Speaking format shall be:

Prime Minister (Government)	7 minute
Constructive Leader of the Opposition	8 minute
Constructive Member of the Government	8 minute
Constructive Member of the Opposition	8 minute
Leader of the Opposition	4 minute
Rebuttal	

Prime Minister

5 minute Rebuttal

(There is no preparation time allowed between the speeches for either team.)

- c. Three topics will be used in both preliminary and elimination rounds. These resolutions will vary between policy, value and metaphor. During preliminary rounds, topics will be given in a manner so that odd and even rounds, in back to back succession, are assigned the same type of resolution. For example, if Round 1 is Value, Round 2 will also be Value. For topic selection, the judge will have one list of the three topic choices. The judge will first give the list to the Opposition who will then have one minute to read and strike one of the three topics. Immediately following, the judge will give the list to the Government who will then have one minute to read and strike one of the two remaining topics. The remaining topic will be debated in that round. The debate proposition will be restated by the judge in the room prior to preparation time, which will begin immediately.
- d. Each team shall be allotted fifteen (15) minutes total preparation time for the debate. The preparation time shall begin after the judge has announced the topic in the room. The Government team may leave the room during the preparation period.
- e. No coaching allowed in Parliamentary debate during the preparation period. Judges will patrol prep time in order to insure compliance of the closed prep rule.
- f. Only a dictionary and one almanac (including the CIA World Fact Book) are allowed during the preparation period in Parliamentary Debate.
- g. People not involved in the specific debate round may take notes as long as the note taker has the permission of the contestants.
- h. Electronic retrieval devices, such as cell phones, cannot be used for any purpose once preparation time has begun.
- i. NOTE: For rules other than those listed above, the NPDA constitution, by-laws, and guidelines, as of December 1 of the year prior to the tournament are followed at the Phi Rho Pi National Tournament.

#### 4. NFA-LD Debate

- a. The debate proposition shall be the National Forensics Association's proposition.
- b. Each entry consists of one person prepared to debate both sides of the proposition.
- c. The Lincoln-Douglas format shall be:

Affirmative Constructive	6 minutes
Negative Cross-Examination	3 minutes
Negative Constructive	7 minutes
Affirmative Cross-Examination	3 minutes
First Affirmative Rebuttal	6 minutes
Negative Rebuttal	6 minutes
Second Affirmative Rebuttal	3 minutes
- d. Each speaker shall be allowed a total of four (4) minutes preparation time.  
Any time beyond the four minutes shall be deducted from subsequent speaking time.
- e. Entry is limited to six (6) students per school.

- f. NOTE: For rules other than those listed above, the NFA constitution, by-laws, and guidelines, as of December 1 of the year prior to the tournament are followed at the Phi Rho Pi National Tournament.

## **B. Individual Events**

### **1. Public Address Events**

- a. **PERSUASIVE SPEAKING:** The purpose of the persuasive speech shall be to convince, stimulate, or actuate (to win belief, to reinforce conviction, or to ask for or move to action (speeches of eulogy, condemnation, inspiration, and problem-solving are equally acceptable). Not more than 10% of speech may be direct quotation.
- b. **INFORMATIVE SPEAKING:** The purposes of the informative speech are to describe, clarify, explain and/or define an object, idea, concept or process. (A speech explaining the nuclear test ban treaty would classify as an informative speech, while a speech giving a value judgment or advocating a position concerning the treaty would classify as a persuasive speech).
- c. **COMMUNICATION ANALYSIS:** Speeches of Communication Analysis may be a spoken event (i.e., speech, speaker, movement, etc.) or of other communication events (i.e., songs, posters, cartoons, slogans, symbols, etc.). The analysis should be critical rather than descriptive, in nature, strictly historical or biographical analysis is not acceptable. The speaker is to apply principles of rhetorical and/or communication theory to the event in order to contribute to a better understanding of that event.
- d. **SPEECH TO ENTERTAIN:** The Speech to Entertain shall be an original humorous speech, the primary purpose of which is to entertain. Just as in any other speech, there should be a central topic sentence or thesis statement which the speaker develops. This event is not merely a series of jokes or a "stand-up" routine.

(Audio-visual aids may be used so long as they do not interfere with the speaker's ability to communicate effectively with the audience. Contestants are advised that the Tournament will not supply special features for the use of aids.)

### **2. Interpretation Events**

- a. **INTERPRETATION OF POETRY:** Poetry shall include one or more selections written in rhymed or unrhymed meter or cadence of some regularity, excluding drama. If more than one selection is used, these selections should be linked thematically. All programs must include an introduction.
- b. **INTERPRETATION OF PROSE:** Prose shall consist of single or multiple selections of literature printed mainly in paragraph form, excluding drama. If more than one selection is used, these selections should be linked thematically. All programs must include an introduction.
- c. **DRAMATIC INTERPRETATION:** This event shall consist of a cutting or cuttings from a play, teleplay or screenplay, featuring monologue or dialogue. If more than one selection is used, these selections should be linked thematically. All programs must include an introduction.
- d. **PROGRAM ORAL INTERPRETATION:** This event is to consist of

unified presentation made up of at least two selections of different genre (i.e. prose, poetry, dramatic literature, play). A contestant may use the works of one or more authors. The selections should develop of theme.

- e. DUO INTERPRETATION: A cutting from source(s) of literature (prose, poetry, drama) involving the portrayal of two or more characters presented by two individuals. This is not an acting event; thus, no costumes, props, lighting, etc., are to be used. Presentation is from the manuscript, with the focus not to each other. Maximum time limit is 10 minutes including introduction.

### 3. Limited Preparation Events

- a. EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING: The general topics shall be National and International Events in the areas of Politics, Economics and International Relations of the three months preceding the National Tournament.
  - i. Thirty (30) minutes prior to speaking, each contestant will be given a choice of three topics. Drawing will be posted at seven- minute intervals. The speech must be the work of the student, but notes, books, and magazines may be used in preparation.
  - ii. Contestants in Extemporaneous speaking are allowed to use any electronic devices and/or internet access during their 30 minute preparation time. The use of printers is not allowed. Internet access is not guaranteed by the tournament nor is electrical access.
  - iii. Extemp topics will be separated by round based on the current Economic, National, and International format (e.g. Rnd 1: all Economic, Rnd 2: all International, etc.).
  - iv. Time limit for speaking is seven (7) minutes maximum, with no specified minimum. The speaker may use, for reference while speaking, a maximum of one note card, not to exceed 5" x 8" in size.

(Please Note: In the event computers are used, neither Phi Rho Pi nor the Tournament Hotel shall be held accountable for securing said computers, or financially responsible in the event of computer loss.)

- b. IMPROMPTU SPEAKING: The topics for all rounds shall be drawn from a variety of slogans, maxims, objects, lyrics or other creative topics exclusive of areas covered by extemporaneous speaking. One note card, not to exceed 3in x 5in, may be used by each speaker for reference.
    - i. Speakers will be given (3) topics as outlined above from which to select one topic on which to speak. The seven (7) minutes maximum time limit will begin when the speaker receives the topics. The speaker may divide the seven (7) minutes between preparation and presentation as desired. (The event will be held with all speakers in the room.)
4. General Rules: These rules apply to the events of Persuasion, Informative, Speech to Entertain, Program Oral Interpretation, Interpretation of Prose, Interpretation of Poetry, Duo Interpretation, Communication Analysis and Dramatic Interpretation.

- a. The Persuasion, Informative, Speech to Entertain, Interpretation programs, Duo Interpretation scenes, or speech(es) or communication act, selected for criticism, may be on any subject the speaker may desire.
- b. The speeches and the personalized introductions of interpretive programs in these events must be the original work of the student.
- c. No portion of the speeches and programs in these events shall be identical material used in competition prior to the preceding September.
- d. The time limits in these events shall be ten (10) minutes maximum, with no minimum time limit specified. A 30-second grace period may be provided if the judge having the discretion to determine if the overtime is due to audience response. Elimination rounds will not be timed. Timing of the event shall begin with the performance; however, set-up time is to be kept to a minimum.
- e. With the exception of Program Oral Interpretation, Interpretation of Prose, Interpretation of Poetry, Duo Interpretation and Dramatic Interpretation which require an introduction and the interpretation of selections from manuscript(s), the speaker must use, as means of presentation, memorized delivery, without notes.
- f. Each contestant shall have available a bibliography, footnotes outline, or manuscript for examination by the Tournament Committee at its request. The intent of this rule is to prevent plagiarism.
- g. No contestant may use any portion of a speech or program in more than one event.
- h. Contestants may not rewrite a prose, a poem, or a dramatic text so that the work differs from the original text.
  - i. Contestants may not add or reassign scenes or lines to the performed cutting. Although an occasional line might be added especially if a character has been deleted, this practice should be discouraged.
  - ii. Contestants may not change the text's narrative point of view or sex of a character.
  - iii. Contestants may not perform a text in a genre for which it has not been written. If material has appeared in more than one form, i.e. novel, play, essay etc., the classification of literature shall be determined by the source from which the cutting was taken.

- iv. If challenged, the coach is responsible for providing the original source or a photocopy.

**C. Interpreters Theatre**

1. Interpreters Theatre is defined as interpretation of literature by a group of oral readers who act as a medium of expression for an audience.
2. While Interpreters Theatre is both oral and visual, the emphasis is on the oral interpretation of the printed work and its resultant effects on the minds, emotions and imagination of the listeners/viewers. The audience should have feeling of unified whole in which each performer at all times contributes to the total effect desired.
3. The time limitation for the performance is twenty-five (25) minutes. An additional 2 minutes shall be allowed for set-up and take-down of material.
4. Interpreters Theatre is a team entry and is included in the six (6) teams per college limitation. A team is limited to a minimum of three (3) and a maximum of fourteen (14) participants.
5. Mechanics of presentation are limited as follows:
  - a. The audience must have a sense of production being interpreted from a manuscript. Director, performer, and judges should be allowed freedom to exercise artistic, interpretive judgment; however, manuscript(s) must be interpreted from during the presentation.
  - b. Suggestions in contemporary or ensemble dress may be used. The literature should determine the nature of this suggestion, although costuming should not be a focus of this presentation.
  - c. Reading stands, chairs, stools, ladders, platforms, steps, props, lighting effects may be used. HOWEVER, facilities limitations (space equipment, time etc.) should govern a director's choice.
  - d. Readers may stand, sit, or both and may move from one locale to another so long as the movement is consistent with the ideas or moods of the literature and the director's concept.
  - e. Music/sound effects recorded or live, are acceptable as background accompaniment and part of the context. Since the emphasis of Interpreters Theatre is on oral interpreting, complicated musical arrangements that dominate or distract from the oral interpretation will be considered inappropriate. A performer whose sole function is to play a musical instrument on or off-stage will be counted in the 14 person limit.
  - f. Teams will compete in six (6) preliminary rounds. Two teams will compete in each panel. Two judges will be used in each preliminary round of Interpreter's Theatre. Each judge will award a win and loss in the round. The judge will assign quality points to each team utilizing the following suggested scale: 21-25 Superior, 16-20 Excellent, 11-15 Good, 6-10 Fair, and 0-5 unprepared. Rounds one and two will be preset. All succeeding rounds will be

power matched. Elimination rounds will be used as necessary to determine awards.