

**NATIONAL PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE ASSOCIATION**  
**BUSINESS MEETING**  
**Saturday, November 17, 2007**  
**12:30-1:45 PM**  
**Chicago, IL**  
**Palmer House Hilton, Crystal Room**  
**AGENDA**

- I. Call to Order
- II. Approval of Minutes (Spring 2007)
- III. Reports

(See reports online, where applicable. Short reports, as needed, will be presented orally at the meeting. Executive Reports and Committee Reports, where possible will be posted on the NPDA website 10 days before the meeting.)

- A. Executive Council
- B. Committees
  - 1. Nominating Committee
  - 2. Finance Committee
  - 3. Site Committee
  - 4. Additional Committees as Needed
- IV. Consent Items
  - A. National Tournament Prep Rooms (Rules and Standards Committee)
  - B. Electronic Voting (Michael Dreher)
- V. Discussion Items (Beginning with 5 minutes discussion on each item)
  - A. Season Long Sweepstakes – Divisions (Ad Hoc Committee on Sweepstakes)
  - B. Season Long Sweepstakes – Closed Tournaments (Ad Hoc Committee on Sweepstakes)
  - C. Judging Obligations – Judge Obligations (Chuck Walts)
  - D. Judging Obligations – Elimination Round Panels (Chuck Walts)
  - E. Eligibility – Allowing 10 Semesters (Adam Kretz)
- VI. Action Items

There are no action items held over from the Spring 2007 Meeting.

## **Addenda 1**

An amendment to the NPDA Rules of Debating and Judging concerning preparation rooms at the Championship Tournament

Strike from Rules of Debating and Judging, 3 (removed language in ~~striketrough~~):

### 3. Before the debate

~~The proposition team, if they wish, may use the room assigned for debate for their preparation. If the proposition team uses the debating room for preparation, both the judge and the opposition must vacate the room until the time for the debate to begin.~~

## **Addenda 2**

Amendments to the NPDA Constitution concerning electronic voting

Add and strike to/from Constitution, IX, A, 4-5 & C, 3 (new language in **bold**, removed language in ~~striketrough~~):

A.4. Within ten days following the Business Meeting, the Executive Secretary will distribute by mail **or electronic form** a ballot containing all proposed constitutional amendments. Balloting on these will cease at midnight thirty days after the date of the Business Meeting.

5. A two-thirds vote of the schools voting by mail **or electronic form** on the proposed amendment will be necessary for its enactment.

C.3. 3. Within sixty-five days of the publication of the proposed amendment, the Executive Secretary shall ~~mail~~ **distribute by mail or electronic form** a ballot to the membership containing a copy of the proposed amendment, along with a statement of the arguments for and against the amendment. The author of the amendment shall have the opportunity to include a statement of the reasons for the amendment. The President may designate an individual to outline potential objections to the amendment. Both of these individuals shall have access to the comments received by the Executive Secretary. Ballots shall be due no later than three weeks after the ~~mailing~~ **publication of the ballot**.

### **Addenda 3**

Amendment to the NPDA Bylaws concerning season-long sweepstakes divisions:

Add to Bylaws, III, A (new language in **bold**):

A. The National Parliamentary Debate Association will confer sweepstakes awards on outstanding schools that participate in sanctioned tournaments during the season. **Four season sweepstakes awards will be conferred; overall sweepstakes, open/varsity sweepstakes, junior varsity sweepstakes, and novice sweepstakes.**

### **Addenda 4**

Amendment to the NPDA Bylaws concerning “closed tournaments” and season-long sweepstakes points

Add to Bylaws, III, C (new language in **bold**):

C. Final sweepstakes awards will be based on the total points accumulated at the four sanctioned tournaments at which each school has gained the most points during the season. **Schools may only count one “closed” or “members only” tournament toward the four tournaments counting for sweepstakes points.**

### **Addenda 5**

Amendment to the NPDA National Tournament Operating Procedures to modify judging obligations

Strike from National Tournament Operating Procedures, H, 5 (removed language in ~~striketrough~~):

All judges are committed to judge two rounds past the elimination round of their last competing teams, ~~or octafinals, whichever is later~~. The Tournament Director will print a list of the judges being used for morning elimination rounds.

### **Addenda 6**

Amendment to the NPDA National Tournament Operating Procedures to modify the minimum number of judges on elimination round panels

Add and strike to/from National Tournament Operating Procedures, H, 1 (new language in **bold**, removed language in ~~striketrough~~):

Each preliminary round should be adjudicated by one judge. Each elimination round ~~prior to the quarter final round~~ will be adjudicated by no fewer than three judges. ~~The quarter final and semi finals will be adjudicated by no fewer than five judges.~~ **Five judge panels may be assigned at the discretion of the Tournament Director for rounds above octofinals.** The final round will be adjudicated by no fewer than seven judges. At the discretion of the Tournament Director, each team in the final debate may be allowed to remove one or more judges from a tentative panel. In this case, the Tournament Director has the right to name one or more judges who cannot be removed by either team.

## Addenda 7

Amendment to the NPDA Bylaws to extend eligibility to ten total semesters

Add and strike to/from Bylaws, VI, E (new language in **bold**, removed language in ~~strike through~~):

E. No person shall be allowed to participate in more than four NPDA Championship Tournaments as a contestant.

1. Undergraduate students are limited to no more than ~~eight~~ **ten** semesters of eligibility.

a. A semester is considered "used" when a student competes in three or more tournaments during the semester.

~~b. The number of semesters in which a student competes is superseded by the number of national tournament years in which the student competes.~~

2. Contestants are limited to four national tournament years.

a. A national tournament year is one in which a student competes in a national tournament sponsored by any national forensic organization including but not limited to: AFA-NIET, NFA-IE Nationals, Novice IE Nationals, NDT, CEDA, NEDA, Phi Rho Pi, Delta Sigma Rho-Tau Kappa Alpha, Pi Kappa Delta, Interstate Oratory, APDA, and any other nationally recognized organizations and tournaments that may be added to this list.

~~b. The number of national tournament years in which a student has competed supersedes the number of semesters in which he or she has competed.~~

c. The intent of this standard is to prohibit students from competing in national tournaments for more than four years, **but to bring the NPDA in line with the standards set by other national debate organizations, such as CEDA, NDT and NPTE**. During their four national tournament years, students may attend as many national tournaments as they wish or as their programs' budgets allow, but they may not compete in four AFA-NIET nationals or four CEDA nationals, for example, and then move on to compete in four NPDA Championship Tournaments over the course of several more years.