

\*AGENDA\*

\*I. \* \*Call to Order made by Michael Middleton at 12:03pm\*

\*II. \*\*Spring 2015 Minutes approved.\*

III. \*Reports\*

A. President's Report Michael Middleton

1. The website is new and is in development. There is a link on the website where contact info can be updated. Visit the website to assist NPDA in updating info.
2. Phase two of website updating is the Executive Secretary side. It is clunky at the moment. The change in phase two probably won't happen until next Fall.
3. NPDA Journal is back in business. The editors are not here. The Fall was spent fixing structural problems including getting inclusion in databases and working with EBSCO. We will have a document published by the end of the calendar year. Future publications will occur in March and November of each year. Dan Schabot is taking the lead on submissions and Marty Birkholt is helping with negotiations with EBSCO. Currently, a list of reviewers is needed to increase diversity.
4. Sexual Harassment Officer has been found for the National Tournament.
5. Two committees proposed: Committee for General Review of Bylaws and Committee on Accessibility. Review of Bylaws Committee is aimed at doing review of bylaws and cleaning them up to reflect how business is being done or what should be done in the future. Committee on Accessibility will be asked to review organization sexual harassment policies. It was written without concern for trans and should be reflected in documents. Efforts also need to be made to address ADA issues with language to encourage best practices which in turn will assist in guiding decisions at national tournaments. Volunteers for Bylaw Review Committee:

Phil Sharp, Rob Layne, Steven Farias, Cameron Terlaje

Volunteers for Accessibility Committee: Phil Sharp, Nick Matthews, Matt Swanson, Cameron Terlaje

B. Vice President's Report Jeannie Hunt

1. National Tournament preparation ? everything is on time and seems to be going well. We need two more people for site committee. Current members are Exec Comm members and Nick Russell, Long Beach host. Open nominations for site committee until December 1st.
2. Elections will be occurring soon for Executive Secretary and Treasurer. Current nominees are Marlin Bates for Executive Secretary and Bob Becker and Phil Sharp for Treasurer. Open the floor for further nominations? None given. Nominations will be accepted until December 1st. We will be doing an email vote in December. Emails will be going to DOFs.
3. National Tournament 2017 ? In January there will be a call for 2017 tournament host. There is a form on the website. Jeannie can also be emailed for questions.
4. All American Awards ? Call for nominations will occur in January. Get nominations done early. We would love to have nominations from a broad category.

C. Tournament Director's Report David Worth

1. A visit is scheduled for December 10th. They are working on getting invitation out. Currently, we don't anticipate problems at Long Beach.
2. Tournament hotel will be Best Western Golden Sails.
3. There is no free parking on Cal State campus. On Saturday and Sunday parking will be available for \$5 a day. Long Beach is having some general lots designated for the tournament. On Monday parking will be very difficult. There are two guest lots - Lot One and Lot Three which are\* not\* close to tournament. The Monday of the tournament, school will be in session. Concerning food, Campus Dining will provide a meal card. We will be using the Ballroom for finals and awards.

4. Ballroom and rooms. They do close facilities at 9pm or 10pm, so we may not have access if we run late. On Monday we may not have a static set of rooms; it may require some moving around for prep rooms. Overall, things look like they are set.

5. Questions: \*Phil Sharp\* ? With parking being difficult on Monday, would it be reasonable to have a shuttle paid for by someone? \*MM:\* We can look into it. \*Brent Northrup:\* The auditorium could be significant problem. We need to look at schedule to help guarantee that we will be done by that time. \*Nick Matthes\* ? I believe there is a public transportation bus from campus to hotel every 45 min. May be a viable option for people if we want to advertise.

#### \*IV. Action Items \*

\*A. \*\*Addition of TOP to Bylaws. Proposed by President Joe Gantt and Vice President Michael Middleton. \*

\*Rationale:\* \*For the past seven years, the tournament operating procedures document has existed as its own document outside of the NPDA Bylaws. At the time the TOP was removed from the Bylaws, a number of revisions were made to the TOP outside of the normal legislative process. The removal of the TOP from the bylaws has left the document in a confusing place. Technically, there is no provision in the Constitution or Bylaws that gives a specific provision for amending the TOP. We have used our normal legislative process for amendments, but that is nowhere codified. The Executive Council could still change this document at any time without the approval of the membership. At this point for the organization, both the current President (Gantt) and the incoming President (Middleton) agree that the TOP should be reincorporated into the bylaws so as to have a clear method of amendment using the normal NPDA legislative process. This would eliminate the possibility of executive fiat without membership oversight. The Executive Council could still make changes to the document according to the NPDA Constitution, but such changes would only have the force of Bylaw until the next business meeting, where it would be placed on the agenda. As we reincorporate the TOP into the bylaws, there are a number of places where the language does not match our practice (such as the use of electronic ballots, some anachronistic language, etc.) We have attempted to identify those places in an overall examination of this document. They are

listed as comments beside each proposed change (see attachments for specific proposed TOP changes). See attachments.\*

\*MM:\* This is a carryover from discussion at Spring meeting. Most of the changes are just bringing TOP into alignment with how tournament has been run since 2005. Also, it calls to reunite TOP with bylaws

\*Discussion:\*

\*MM:\* Any discussion on item? None.

Is there a call for the question? Question was called and seconded.

Voting occurred to accept all revisions as stated and reunify with Bylaws. Addition and suggested changes to TOP passed.

\*I.           \*\*New Business\*

\*MM:\* Any other business proposed?

\*A. Accessibility\*

\*PS:\* Concerning accessibility issues, if our committee agrees on needed changes that need to occur at the national tournament, should we have a discussion now so that it can be an action item at the next meeting?

\*MM:\* Raising a motion would only allow it to be a discussion item at this current meeting. ADA accommodation is usually worked out with the

Tournament Director after verification of the need. This will continue to be the best practices at this tournament. Current general practice has those needing assistance to prove the educational deficit, a discussion of the board and then communication with the Tournament Director. Any other questions or concerns?

**\*B. Prep Time and Travel Time\***

**\*Matt Swanson:\*** Do we need leadership on how we deal with people who have problems with getting to a round on time? It seems semantic as a national guideline with best practices would help provide a unifying policy.

**\*Rob Layne:\*** It seems natural right now. People should follow the rules and if not, there are consequences. This rule already exists.

**\*MS:\*** Are we willing to remove sanctioning from tournaments if they are not following the rules/

**\*Steve Farias:\*** People complaining are the ones that get forfeited. I worry about applying sanctioning procedure. Our tournament is the one we are talking about. We followed the NPDA guidelines.

**\*MM:\*** It would be difficult to remove sanctioning after the fact as we would have to decide what constitutes sufficient evidence. Also, withdrawing sanctioning would punish every school that attended.

**MS:** If tournaments are not following the rules, why are they sanctioned?

**\*Nick Russell:\*** Allowing the Exec Comm to retroactively sanction a tournament would punish the students who attended in good faith. Also, it could change the outcome of sweepstakes points. When a school goes to a tournament, they are communicating by their action that the school is supporting the Tournament Director and their decisions. If they don't support the decisions of the TD, then don't go to the tournament.

**\*MM:\*** For the national tournament, David Worth makes this decision. He would probably say we use a universal timer on topic page ? official tournament page. The rules make enforcement the province of the judge in the round. They will either do that or not. Teams will be forfeited properly or improperly. They can appeal. It would be a good idea to tell students to take video of tournament clock and students not in room in order to prove their case.

\*MS\*: I still think having a best practices is a good call. It is important to remind ourselves Tron?s thoughts on best practices.

\*RL\*: Bylaws are set up as suggestions. It?s really up to the tournament. As long as that is reasonably explained, I don?t know that we need a new rule.

\*II. \*\*Adjournment\*

\*MS\*: motion to adjourn.

\*PS\*: Phil seconded.

\*In Attendance\*

Bob Becker            NWC

Matthew Swanson    SMC

Rob Layne            Utah

Bill Neeson           Long Beach

Nick Russell           Long Beach

Nick Matthews       Irvine Valley

Phil Sharp            UNR

Steven Kalani Farias University of the Pacific

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|--------------|-------------------------------|
| Steve Woods  | Western Washington University |
| Jason Jordan | Utah                          |
| Todd Graham  | SIU                           |
| David Worth  | Rice                          |