

**NATIONAL PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE ASSOCIATION
BUSINESS MEETING**

Wednesday, November 18, 2015

Noon

Lambada A, Rio Hotel Conference Center (Las Vegas, NV)

AGENDA

I. Call to Order

II. Approval of Minutes (Spring 2015)

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

i. Finance Committee

ii. Site Committee

iii. Additional Committees as Needed

C. Tournament Director

D. Other reports: NPDA Journal

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.*

IV. New Business

No new business proposed.

VI. Adjournment