

NCA BUSINESS MEETING: Chicago Hilton, 2 p.m. on November 3, 1999

Agenda Items

- A) Officers Reports
- B) Elections
- C) Old Business
- D) New Business

Items 1-3 were submitted by Brian Shipley

Agenda Item 1

AMENDMENT TO NPDA BY-LAWS SECTION XII(C)(3)

---At the end of the sub-section (C)(3), add the following sentence

The performance of hybrid teams will not be included in the calculation of sweepstakes awards.

Justification:

Number 1 clarifies that hybrid teams do not earn sweepstakes points. This is what we've done for the past three or four years, but it has never been in writing. The reasoning has been that this is consistent with the policy that hybrid teams have always been able to hit teams from the schools which compose the hybrid. This past year, where one particular school had two-and-a-half or three-and-a-half teams entered, had the wins of their "half" been included, they would have moved up a few places in the sweepstakes ranks. So, the feeling has been that it would be much less controversial to be able to point to the policy in writing when explaining to the school why they took the place that they did.

Agenda Item 2

AMENDMENT TO NPDA BY-LAWS SECTION XII(D)

---At the end of section (D), add the following new sub-section

4. Both members of each team must participate in each debate. If one or both members of a team fails to show up for a scheduled debate round, the team will be considered to have forfeited the round.

Justification

Number 2 clarifies that "maverick" teams cannot win debate rounds. Again, this has been what we've done, but it would be less potentially controversial to have in the rules prior to starting the tournament. And, as with the case of hybrid teams, the question of "what happens when only one of the two debaters on a given side shows up?" has come up more than once each of the last three years.

Agenda Item 3

AMENDMENT TO NPDA BY-LAWS SECTION XII(I)(5)

---Delete the entire existing sub-section 5 and replace it with the following:

a. Championship Tournament Sweepstakes

- 1) All schools participating in the tournament will be eligible to receive a Championship Tournament Sweepstakes Award.
- 2) The top twenty (20) schools competing will receive Championship Tournament Sweepstakes Awards.

3) Ordinarily, the records of the four (4) teams from each school with the highest number of preliminary round wins will count toward the determination of sweepstakes awards. However, in the event that all schools wishing to enter four (4) teams at the national tournament cannot be accommodated, the maximum number of teams that count for tournament sweepstakes will be set at the number of teams that every school was allowed to enter.

4) The order of Championship Tournament Sweepstakes Awards will be determined using the following criteria, listed in order of importance

- a) The greatest cumulative number of preliminary round wins of up to four (4) teams.
- b) The greatest number of teams advancing to the first elimination round.
- c) The greatest number of teams advancing to the second elimination round.
- d) The greatest number of teams advancing to the third elimination round.
- e) The greatest number of teams advancing to the fourth elimination round.
- f) The greatest number of teams advancing to the fifth elimination round.
- g) The greatest number of teams advancing to the sixth elimination round.
- h) If all of the schools involved in a tie have at least four (4) teams whose records are used in calculating sweepstakes awards, then the greatest cumulative number of preliminary round wins for those teams after each school's best and worst teams' preliminary round records are thrown out ("adjusted").
- i) The lowest cumulative speaker award placings for the school's four (4) highest placing individual speakers.
- j) If the schools involved in a tie are indistinguishable based on all of the above criteria, then an "unbreakable tie" will be declared.

b. Two-Year College Tournament Sweepstakes

1) Those schools designated as two-year colleges that participate in the championship tournament will be eligible to receive a Two-Year College Championship Tournament Sweepstakes Award.

2) The top five (5) two-year colleges competing will receive Two-Year College Championship Tournament Sweepstakes Awards.

3) Ordinarily, the records of the four (4) teams from each school with the highest number of preliminary round wins will count toward the determination of sweepstakes awards. However, in the event that all schools wishing to enter four (4) teams at the national tournament cannot be accommodated, the maximum number of teams that count for tournament sweepstakes will be set at the number of teams that every school was allowed to enter.

4) The order of Two-Year College Championship Tournament Sweepstakes Awards will be determined using the following criteria, listed in order of importance

- a) The greatest cumulative number of preliminary round wins of up to four (4) teams.
- b) The greatest number of teams advancing to the first elimination round.
- c) The greatest number of teams advancing to the second elimination round.
- d) The greatest number of teams advancing to the third elimination round.
- e) The greatest number of teams advancing to the fourth elimination round.
- f) The greatest number of teams advancing to the fifth elimination round.
- g) The greatest number of teams advancing to the sixth elimination round.
- h) If all of the schools involved in a tie have at least four (4) teams whose records are used in calculating sweepstakes awards, then the greatest cumulative number of preliminary round wins for those teams after each school's best and worst teams' preliminary round records are thrown out ("adjusted").
- i) The lowest cumulative speaker award placings for the school's four (4) highest placing individual speakers.
- j) If the schools involved in a tie are indistinguishable based on all of the above criteria, then an "unbreakable tie" will be declared.

Justification

This action clarifies how we have calculated sweepstakes awards each of the past three years for "Four-Year

Schools." The current version, even as amended last year, still just refers to "the better performance by a school's teams in the elimination rounds." Each year, Renea and I and others have "interpreted" that phrase to mean what the below proposed language does, but in its current form it is ambiguous. There may be other new proposals for overhauling the sweepstakes system, but this at least represents what we've done in the past in case there aren't.

This item additionally does just the same thing for "Two-Year Schools." The by-law change from last year caps the number of teams that count for sweepstakes at the maximum number of teams that every school was allowed to enter. BUT!! Robert and I discovered earlier in the summer that the amendment mistakenly only was written as applying to the part of the by-laws that govern Four-Year Schools, and it did not apply to the part governing sweepstakes for Two-Year Schools.

Item number 4 was submitted by Skip Rutledge

Agenda Item 4

Proposed Amendment to By-Laws regarding assignment of different duties and responsibilities associated with running the NPDA National Championship Tournament

Host Financial Responsibilities: In general, the host is responsible for any finances not listed below in "NPDA Financial Responsibilities."

1. Facilities: Tournament Host is responsible for providing the following facilities and assuming any fees associated with them, such as facility rental fees or clean up fees, etc. . .
 - A. Debating rooms, ideally at least 100 rooms.
 - B. At least one large assembly hall, sufficient to seat all participants including debaters, coaches critics, and special guests.
 - C. At least 4 tournament management rooms, to include
 1. Two tabulation rooms, preferably adjacent, for mirror tabulation.
 2. One ballot stuffing room
 3. One NPDA administrative room for year end administrative work.
 - D. Participant gathering area, central location for participants to gather between rounds, and from which announcements can be made and postings provided and/or topics announced.
 - E. Ballot pick up and drop off area, preferably adjacent to participant area and not too far from tabulation rooms.
 - F. Host should make arrangements for all audiovisual needs, such as sound projection.
2. Tournament Hotel: Host will work with president to locate the most appropriate hotel to serve NPDA needs taking into consideration hotel size and social amenities, proximity to campus and other area attractions and dining opportunities, affordability of rooms, and willingness of hotel to work with NPDA on minimizing hotel facility expenses. If it helps to negotiate a more affordable room/night rental rate, president can require attending schools to stay at the tournament hotel as a condition of participation into the tournament. Any gratis or complimentary rooms go against the NPDA hotel room needs.
3. Meal Arrangements: Host is responsible for the following meal arrangements
 - A. President's Banquet - The main tournament banquet shall be billed to participants as a separate banquet fee, or as part of a meal package. The host shall make catering arrangements for the meal.
 - B. The host shall also make arrangements for an evening reception in coordination with the president. Up to \$1,000 of the expenses for that reception will be reimbursed by NPDA for this President's Reception. Any additional expenses are the responsibility of the host.

- C. Host is encouraged to provide other social opportunities for the gathering of debaters, coaches and critics throughout the tournament, but will be responsible for paying for them.
- D. If on-campus, or campus bordering, eating-places are not available for quick meals for breakfast or lunches, host shall also be responsible for arranging for meal packages to be purchased at the time of entering the tournament.

4. **Entry Commitments:** The host is responsible for meeting its own entry fees and judging commitments. Like any other school, the host must either provide judges to cover its commitment or pay judging fees.

5. **Participation Gifts:** It is recommended that some type of host gift memorializing the tournament, such as a tournament mug, glass and/or something more creative be provided for each participant. However, the host is entirely responsible for any gifts they wish to present to the competitors, officers, or tab room staff.

6. **Administrative Expenses:** Host will be responsible for typical administrative expenses such as paper supplies, copying, pens and pencils, poster boards for directional signs, etc. . . .

7. **Local Judging Pool:** Host will work with president to provide sufficient local qualified judges to meet tournament needs. These hired judges will be fairly compensated by NPDA as detailed below.

8. **Student Help:** Host will work with president to provide sufficient student workers to help as ballot stuffers, runners, directional assistants, etc. . .

9. **Sales Items:** Host will be entitled to offer for sale select tournament promotional items, such as T-shirts, caps, and/or sippers; or snacks and refreshments Host is entirely responsible for financing these items and may keep any revenue generated from their sale to help offset other tournament expenses. Items should be cleared through president to assure they are appropriate.

10. **Shuttle Services:** The host will pay for whatever shuttle services are provided.

11. **Video Production:** Host will be responsible for Video Taping the Final Round of Debate, with a two camera set up and good sound quality. Host should attempt, if facilities are available on campus, to produce and edit a good quality videotape. NPDA will be responsible for duplication and distribution of that tape. If host school lacks the facilities and expertise to edit the tape, NPDA will assist in its production.

NPDA Financial Responsibilities: The below expenses are anticipated in running most tournaments. It is a partial, but not exhaustive list of all possible tournament expenses. Should other tournament-related expenses arise which are not itemized in this document, the president is authorized to pay for those as well on behalf of NPDA.

1. **Topic Committee expenses**
 - A. Members of the topic committee are reimbursed for one night's lodging at the hotel.
 - B. Meals will be provided to members of the topic committee during the day spent on the topics. These meals will ordinarily be paid from the NPDA President's funds but may also be paid by the NPDA Treasurer.
2. **Administrative staff expenses**
 - A. Travel, lodging, and meals for officers and other members of the administrative staff shall be assumed by the NPDA. Officers will not count toward their school's judging commitment.
 - B. During the tournament, the NPDA treasurer will provide the NPDA President with a sum of money, which the President will use to pay ordinary expenses during the tournament. These expenses include but are not limited to meals for tab room, topic committee, meetings of officers, etc.

- C. The NPDA will provide a rental van for the NPDA treasurer for the purpose of transporting members of the administrative staff.
 - D. The NPDA will provide operating expenses for the administrative staff including assistance with computing, office supplies, and other operating expenses deemed appropriate.
3. Tabulation committee expenses
- A. Travel, lodging, and meals for the tabulation committee will be assumed by the NPDA.
 - B. The NPDA will provide a rental van for the NPDA President for the purpose of transporting members of the tabulation committee.
 - C. The NPDA will provide operating expenses for the tabulation staff including office supplies, ballots, copying, and other operating expenses deemed appropriate.
4. Direct tournament expenses
- A. The NPDA shall provide for the cost of a banquet and other meals for contestants at the tournament.
 - B. The NPDA shall provide for the cost of a Presidential reception for tournament participants.
 - C. The NPDA shall provide for the cost of trophies and other awards
 - D. The NPDA shall provide for the cost of preparing and mailing or faxing invitations, confirmations, and other materials related to the NPDA tournament.
5. Hired Judges
- A. Imported Judges: The president will approve a specified number of Imported Hired Judges each year (as opposed to Local Hired Judges provided by the host). Each of the officers may offer up to two judges for possible approval by the president. In addition, the president will select additional judges as needed.
 - 1) An imported hired judge has roundtrip transportation paid by NPDA.
 - 2) An imported hired judge has motel expenses paid by NPDA, but must stay in rooms with other hired judges if NPDA pays.
 - 3) An imported hired judge pays his/her own food expense and other expenses at the tournament except that NPDA will purchase whatever meals participants are required to eat on campus, including the banquet, meal packages, etc. . . .
 - B. Host School Arranged Hired Judges: The tournament host will provide the number of qualified judges requested by the president.
 - 1) NPDA will pay these judges for their service to the tournament an amount to be determined by the president in accordance with normal judge hiring practices.
 - 2) Hired judges shall be provided with the same meals mentioned above for imported judge, but shall be responsible for all their other meals.
 - 3) Local hired judges will be responsible for providing their own housing, or try to make arrangements with tournament host for local rooming if they do not live close enough to commute.
6. Tournament Publications
- A. Judging Philosophy Books The tournament host shall be responsible for preparing a judging philosophy book that contains the judging philosophy book from all judges and making them available to each two person team debating unless the required judging philosophies covering that team have not been provided in a timely manner.
 - 1) NPDA will reimburse host up to \$700.00 for the production and distribution of these books.
 - 2) Host will also be responsible, with the assistance of the president, for obtaining the judging philosophies from committed, imported hired, and local hired judges.

C. Registration Books: The tournament host shall be responsible for compiling and copying a registration book that will provide participants with helpful information about the tournament, the campus and the surrounding area.

1) Contents should contain, but not be limited to, welcome letters from NPDA president and host, and various campus, local, state or national dignitaries; a list of tournament participants, a campus map highlighting tournament locations, a tournament schedule, historical notes on past participants and noteworthy accomplishments, guides to local restaurants and attractions with directions, and other helpful information.

2) Funding for this book is the responsibility of the host but may come from advertisements from local businesses, campus or alumni groups, etc. . . . Additional revenue received beyond actual expenses may go to host to offset other expenses assumed by host. Discretion should be used in accepting advertisements, and where questionable should be submitted for approval by president. The purpose is not to overly commercialize this important event, but to help offset legitimate expenses with tasteful ads.

Item 5 was submitted by John Meany and Michelin Massey

Agenda Item 5

AMENDMENT TO THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RULES TO REQUIRE POSTING OF RESULTS AFTER EACH ROUND OF COMPETITION

Section 5D

Immediately after the completed tabulation of each round of preliminary debate competition, the tournament staff will post the results of that preliminary debate round, including round decision (win or loss), speaker points and speaker ranks for each of the participating teams.

Items 6-8 were submitted by Marty Birkholt

Agenda Item 6

BYLAW AMENDMENT TO PROHIBIT USE OF PUBLISHED MATERIALS DURING PREPARATION TIME. (Add to By-Law XIINPDA Tournament Rules, Section 3.)

Published materials (magazines, newspapers and electronically gathered sources, but not including the NPDA constitution and by-laws) may not be consulted before the debate in preparation time.

Agenda Item 7

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO INCLUDE THE NATIONAL TOURNAMENT IN SEASON LONG SWEEPS.

Amend Article VII, Section 3 of the constitution to include the sentence: The National Tournament may be included in the top 4.

Agenda Item 8

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO EXCLUDE NOVICE AND JUNIOR DIVISIONS IN THE CALCULATION OF SEASON LONG SWEEPS.

Amend Article VII, Section 2a of the constitution to read "open division" rather than "approved division."

Items 9-12 were submitted by Dan West

Agenda Item 9

BYLAW CHANGE TO INCLUDE ALL TEAMS WITH A 5-3 RECORD IN OUT ROUNDS AT THE NATIONAL TOURNAMENT

---Article 4, Direction of the National Parliamentary Debate Association
National Tournament/Convention

Delete the phrase, "up to a maximum of 64 teams."

The new section would now read: The National Parliamentary Debate Association shall be responsible for holding a National Parliamentary Debate Tournament/Convention in March or April of each year. These tournaments should have 8 preliminary rounds and offer elimination rounds for all teams with 5-3 record or better.

Justification When the constitution was originally different, I don't think anyone had the idea the tournament would become so large. Each year, more and more teams are left out of elimination rounds on points, which can be quite arbitrary. No team with a record should be denied the chance to compete in an elimination round. While this may extend the tournament by a round or two, I'm sure that the debaters who have been left out of elims in the past would say that they would have liked to have had the chance to debate.

Agenda Item 10

BYLAW CHANGE TO REQUIRE QUALIFICATION FOR THE NATIONAL TOURNAMENT

Add to Article IX of the by-laws a subpoint F.

Qualification for the National Tournament. To be eligible to compete in the National Parliamentary Debate Association National Tournament, a student must meet all eligibility requirements and have advanced to at least one qualifying elimination round (as defined in Article VII, Section 14 of the NPDA Constitution) in an Open division of Parliamentary Debate and at NPDA sanctioned tournament during the current academic year. Students qualify individually and debate teams must be comprised of two qualified students.

Justification: While the hosts of the next 2 national tournaments can handle large entries, it is remiss for us not to plan for the future. Many national forensic organizations set qualification procedures to manage the size of the national tournament. In order to manage the size of the national tournament as well as establish a minimum standard for entry, it is wise for us to adopt a qualification procedure.

It is suggested that if approved, this procedure be in effect for 2001 nationals.

Agenda Item 11

BYLAW CHANGE TO ADD DISTRICT SELECTION TO FINAL ROUND JUDGE PANEL

---Under By-Law Section XII, G, add subpoint 6

Final Round Judges. Prior to the publication of the NPDA National Tournament Invitation, each NPDA district will select one judge to represent them on the Final Round panel.

- a. Before the Final Round begins, judges from districts represented in the final round shall be removed from the panel.
- b. In the event that the remaining panel is comprised of an even number of judges, the tournament director shall randomly remove one member of the judging panel.
- c. No judge may represent the same district in consecutive years.

Justification: This provision provides for a guarantee of geographic diversity in the final round judging panel as well as the opportunity for adaptation to a judging pool by the debaters. Being selected as a final round judge would also become an honor equally upon all regions of the nation.

Agenda Item 12

BYLAW CHANGE REGARDING TOPIC ANNOUNCEMENT AND PREP TIME

---Amend By-Laws XII, E to include the following

Topic Announcement and Preparation Time. At the national tournament, topics for all preliminary rounds will be sealed in envelopes and attached to the judges ballot. Judges will open the topic envelopes and announce the topic at the announced start time for the round in the scheduled competition room and in the presence of the debaters. A 15 minute preparation time will begin after the announcement of the topic. In elimination rounds, topics may be announce in rooms or in an assembly to be decided by the tournament director. A fifteen minute preparation time will begin after the announcement of the topic.

Justification: Walking and prepping is not the same is prepping right outside the competition room. All teams should be afforded that same opportunity for preparation. It is also appropriate for prep time to remain the same in prelims as in elims. While this will add some work for the tournament staff, I will personally volunteer to stuff topics in envelopes for every national tournament.)

Agenda Item 13

AMENDMENT TO INCLUDE OUTROUNDS IN THE CHAMPIONSHIP SWEEPSTAKES AWARD.

Edit By-Law XII, I, 5, a, 3, a

add "and out" before round records in the first sentence of the subsection.