

Recording Reminders for Speech Competitors

Setting Up

Camera:

- If you're recording on your phone, horizontal is preferable. Set it far enough back that you can see most, if not all, of your body in the frame, but set it horizontal.
- Try not to have the camera too far below you; have the camera no lower than your eye level so you are not looking down at the audience
- **For Original Oratory and Informative:** A tighter focus worked just as well as a wider focus. A medium shot, from hip/waist up, worked well to hold attention and allowed for the boards to be more easily viewed in Informative. Please ensure you are looking towards the lens of the camera when doing your speech.

Audio:

- Make sure your space is as quiet as possible. Hang some blankets and cover the floor to prevent sound bouncing too much in the space.
- Make sure to remove obvious distractions around you (fans, loud clocks, etc.)
- Try not to have a clock in your video (in order to not show the passage of time during your speech)

Lighting:

- Use natural lighting when possible. The best way is to find a large window during daylight hours, maybe with some curtain shears that can be drawn to soften the light coming in. Set the phone near the window and face the window to record yourself. Alternatively, you can put a lamp behind the camera lens at the same height as the camera lens to provide a constant source of light to avoid shadows.
- Avoid backlighting at all costs.

Performing your Speech

- When looking at 'audience members', just slightly change your eyeline from the camera. So, imagine an audience member sitting on the corners of your computer/ phone and use that.
- Use the foreground area. Don't be afraid to come up to the camera during certain parts of your speech, even if we lose part of your body.
- Pause for jokes/ reactions
- After recording video, please post video on Youtube as an Unlisted video, and send URLs to the tournament director.

