Judging Instructions

Evaluating Competitors:
In speech, you will be required to rank speakers in order of how good you thought they were. In debate, you will be asked to pick a winner of the round. If you would like more information on the factors that should go into that decision, please consult the event specific instructions. 1st is the best rank and speakers cannot tie on rankings. Judges will also be asked to assign each competitor speaker points. At this tournament, speaker points range from 1-10 and are awarded on the basis of speaking ability. Competitors can tie for speaker points.

Basic Logistics:
The tabulation of this tournament will be handled using Tabroom.com. Make sure you have signed up for live updates on Tabroom so that you will receive texts about when you are supposed to be judging. Prior to your round, you will receive a text message from Tabroom telling you what you are judging. If you are unable to judge a round, please text the Remind. Signing up for the Remind helpline by texting @uniend to 810-10 prior to the tournament is highly recommended. All ballots will be submitted electronically on Tabroom.

Rounds will take place in Zoom breakout rooms. Please show up to the Zoom call 5 minutes before the round is scheduled to start. Extemp has a draw off-set, so the time on the schedule is the speaking time. If a competitor does not show up, please wait 10 minutes after they were supposed to show up. If they don’t show up after 10 minutes, please mark them as a no-show on your ballot. The number of the breakout room you will be judging in is listed on Tabroom.

Because different events have different rules and specifications, please consult the information specific to your event prior to judging.

Requirements to Judge
Anyone who is over the age of 18 or who has competed in high school speech and debate for two years can judge. Judges are required to have Tabroom accounts (email us if you need help with this) and to have filled out the Judge Sign-Up form.

Judge Training:
Judge training will take place via Zoom at 7:00 CDT on August 13th. Attending judge training is highly recommended for judges, especially those who are new to using Tabroom, Zoom and/or evaluating speeches. If you wish to attend, but are unable to, please email annesmith123456789@gmail.com to be emailed a recording.
Extemporaneous Speaking

Event Description:
In extemporaneous speaking competitors receive three possible topics and have 30 minutes to research and prepare a 7 minute speech answering one. No notes are permitted. Good extemp speeches should present a clear argument for why their answer is correct and be persuasive and informative. Extemp speeches should be understandable.

Things to Consider When Ranking:
Extemp values both delivery skills and content knowledge. A good exemper should be like a good teacher- knowledgeable, organized, easy to understand and not boring. When evaluating speakers, try to put your own political biases aside. Extempers should be graded on the following:
- **Number of sources** - Good extemp should reference 3 newspaper, magazine, journal or think tank articles. Great extemp should reference 6 or more sources.
- **Quality of sources** - Does the speaker reference sources that further their argument or do they cite for the sake of having citations? Does the speaker cite think tank reports, journals and books or do they just cite magazines and newspapers?
- **Organization** - Is the speech well organized and easy to follow? Were the transitions effective?
- **Gestures** - Did their gestures seem natural? Did what they say match their movements?
- **Tone of voice** - Did their vocal inflection and tone add the speech or detract from it?
- **Speed** - Did the speaker speak too slowly or too quickly?
- **Introduction** - Was the introduction relevant and entertaining?
- **Topic Relevance** - Did the speech answer the question?
- **Fluency** - Did the speaker constantly have to correct themselves or say umm?
- **Confidence** - Did the speaker seem confident?
- **In Finals, Cross Examination** - Did the speaker do a good job of asking and answering questions?

Event Specific Procedures:
Because extemp is unprepared, most speakers will want time signals. Unless otherwise requested (some speakers like to time themselves), please give signals according to the following chart. Extimp has a 30 second grace period, so only if a speaker goes over 7:30, should you mark that they went over time on the ballot. If a speaker used notes, please contact Tab by texting the Remind. Competitors may stay and watch the speakers after them, unless the speaker objects. In finals, speeches will be followed by a 3 minute cross examination period. Cross ex may be done sitting and speakers are not allowed to use notes while asking questions.

Prior to the tournament, you will receive an email with the topics that will be given to speakers. Please do not share the topics with anyone. Many judges find it helpful to ask the speaker’s question before they speak.
Experimental Extemp

Event Description:
Experimental Extemp is similar to normal extemp, an event where students pick one of three questions and, after receiving thirty minutes of prep time, give a speech on it without the use of notes. It is evaluated like normal extemp, except in Experimental Extemp, the topics are a bit weird. For example, students may be basing speeches of off political cartoons instead of questions or be given a hypothetical scenario. Feel free to ask competitors what the task for their round was.

Things to Consider When Ranking:
Extemp values both delivery skills and content knowledge. A good exemper should be like a good teacher- knowledgeable, organized, easy to understand and not boring. When evaluating speakers, try to put your own political biases aside. Extempers should be graded on the following:

- Number of sources- Good extemp should reference 3 newspaper, magazine, journal or think tank articles. Great extemp should reference 6 or more sources.
- Quality of sources- Does the speaker reference sources that further their argument or do they cite for the sake of having citations? Does the speaker cite think tank reports, journals and books or do they just cite magazines and newspapers?
- Organization- Is the speech well organized and easy to follow? Were the transitions effective?
- Gestures- Did their gestures seem natural? Did what they say match their movements?
- Tone of voice- Did their vocal inflection and tone add to the speech or detract from it?
- Speed- Did the speaker speak too slowly or too quickly?
- Introduction- Was the introduction relevant and entertaining?
- Topic Relevance- Did the speech answer the question?
- Fluency- Did the speaker constantly have to correct themselves or say umm?
- Confidence- Did the speaker seem confident?
- In Finals, Cross Examination- Did the speaker do a good job of asking and answering questions?

Event Specific Procedures:
Because extemp is unprepared, most speakers will want time signals. Unless otherwise requested (some speakers like to time themselves), please give signals according to the following chart. Extemp has a 30 second grace period, so only if a speaker goes over 7:30, should you mark that they went over time on the ballot. If a speaker used notes, please contact Tab by texting the Remind. Competitors may stay and watch the speakers after them, unless the speaker objects. In finals, speeches will be followed by a 3 minute cross examination period. Cross ex may be done sitting and speakers are not allowed to use notes while asking questions. Prior to the tournament, you will receive an email with the topics that will be given to speakers. Please do not share the topics with anyone. Many judges find it helpful to ask the speaker’s question before they speak.
Impromptu

Event Description:
Impromptu is a 5 minute speech prepared after 2 minutes of prep. Each competitor receives 3 topics that can be just about anything and must choose one to speak about. Speeches range from serious to light hearted but, impromptu is often a speech to entertain. No notes are permitted. Good impromptu should be topic-relevant, insightful, entertaining and well delivered. Speaking skills are very important in impromptu.

Things to Consider When Ranking:
Speaking skills are very important in impromptu, as is topic relevance. Like with many speech events, just rank the speeches in terms of how much you liked them. Impromptu speeches should be graded based off of the following:
- **Organization**- Is the speech well organized and easy to follow? Were the transitions effective?
- **Gestures**- Did their gestures seem natural? Did what they say match their movements?
- **Tone of voice**- Did their vocal inflection and tone add the speech or detract from it?
- **Speed**- Did the speaker speak too slowly or too quickly?
- **Introduction**- Was the introduction relevant and entertaining?
- **Topic Relevance**- Where the speaker’s points related to the topic? Did they relate to the topic specifically or were they canned (generic points that can be used for almost every topic)?
- **Fluency**- Did the speaker constantly have to correct themselves or say umm?
- **Confidence**- Did the speaker seem confident?
- **Content**- Did the speaker bring up entertaining and/or insightful points?

Event Specific Procedures:
In impromptu, judges are responsible for distributing topics. The topics will be emailed to judges prior to the start of the tournament. Once speaker one is ready, paste them and send them to speaker one using chat. Do the same for subsequent speakers when it is their turn. Because impromptu is unprepared, most speakers will want time signals. Unless otherwise requested (some speakers like to time themselves), please give signals according to the following chart. Impromptu is a five minute speech, but there is a 30 second grace period. Only if a speaker goes over 5:30 should you mark it as overtime on your ballot. If you catch a speaker using notes, text the Remind so it can be taken into consideration.
Extemp Debate

Event Description:
Extemp Debate is a fast-paced limited prep event in which two students debate a topic. Sides are assigned and competitors only receive thirty minutes to prepare for the debate. The event is supposed to be accessible and it is commonly done by people from a wide variety of experience levels.

Things to Consider When Ranking:
Because Extemp Debate is a debate event, content is the primary factor that should go into your decision. You should consider the strength of their arguments and rebuttals and which team would have convinced you if you had no pre-existing opinion on the topic. More specifically, you can evaluate on the following:

- **Strength of Arguments:** Did the debater’s arguments make logical sense? Did they stand up well when their opponent refuted them?
- **Rebuttals:** Did the speaker do a good job of disproving their opponent’s arguments? Did they have a response to all of their opponents' contentions?
- **Asking Questions:** Did the debater ask questions that weakened their opponent's case? Were they polite during cross examination?
- **Answering Questions:** Did the debater successfully defend their arguments during cross examination?
- **Evidence:** Did the speaker have cited evidence to support their claims?
- **Organization:** Were the debater’s arguments organized and easy to follow?
- **Persuasion:** Did the debater convince you (or would the debater have convinced you if you had no prior opinion)?

Event Specific Procedures:
Competitors should show up to your breakout room after prep at the time listed as the round round start time. Speakers will almost alway have their own timers, so you shouldn’t have to worry about time signals. Extemp Debate will likely be double flighted, meaning that you could judge two sets of debaters back to back. For reference, here are the extemp debate times:
2 Minute Proposition Constructive
1 Minute Cross Examination of Proposition
2 Minute Opposition Constructive
1 Minute Cross Examination of Opposition
1 Minute Mandatory Prep Time
2 Minutes Proposition Rebuttal
2 Minutes Opposition Rebuttal
1 Minute Mandatory Prep Time
2 Minutes Proposition Rebuttal
2 Minutes Opposition Rebuttal