

Speech

I. GENERAL RULES:

- A. Each school must enter a maximum of three participants and a minimum of one in each of the following:
 - 1. Oral Interpretation
 - 2. Original Oratory
 - 3. Impromptu Speaking
 - 4. Extemporaneous Speaking
- B. A Section Director will be appointed by the Convention Director.
- C. The Section Director should avoid scheduling a round that could possibly be interrupted, especially during Impromptu Speaking.
- D. Audience members shall be allowed to enter and leave competition rooms between speakers. Doors will remain closed while the speaker is performing and no one will be permitted to enter or leave. Special case Impromptu Speaking: Audience members shall be permitted to enter the room between speakers, but no one shall be permitted to leave the room until the end of the round except coaches and AIC's with proper identification. [Note: No exceptions to this rule will be entertained beyond those that are legitimate, pre-identified crossover participants speaking in that room.] An Impromptu speaker may be escorted from the room after performing by either a coach or student volunteer staff if he/she is participating in an event which is scheduled simultaneously.
- E. Speakers will not be allowed to come late to a round unless they have been entered in an event that was scheduled at the same time. The Section Director must be notified in advance by the student and the coach.
- F. Students may participate in no more than two events.
- G. No props are permitted in any event. Props are understood to include visual aids. Podiums, however, can be made available. If podiums are being used then a small step should be accessible as the podiums are not all the same height and neither are the event participants.

- H. Impromptu speakers must wait outside until it is their turn to speak; other speakers may remain outside if they wish.

II. RULES FOR ADJUDICATION

- A. It is the responsibility of the host school to select thoroughly the judges. All IASAS schools will be responsible for providing one judge in each forensics event from their coaching team. Each of these judges will be expected to judge in all rounds including the finals unless otherwise noted. The host will advise schools of the events blocked against each other within the schedule so that this is possible. A speech coach may not judge their own event but may be involved in judging several different events. Anyone who judges OO or OI in the preliminary rounds may not judge the same event in the finals. Each school should identify who will be the final round OO and OI judge for these specific events. It is the responsibility of each school to ensure that judges are appropriately trained.
- B. Preliminary competitions must be adjudicated by three judges; final rounds must be adjudicated by five judges.
- C. In all timed events, clocks should not, under any circumstances, be stopped.
- D. Whenever possible, judges should not be scheduled to judge back-to-back events.
- E. Ballots and rankings can be released at the conclusion of the event. [May 2024]
- F. Tabroom will be used for adjudicating all of the Speech disciplines. Accordingly, this will eliminate the need for paper adjudication sheets. (May 2024)

III. RULES FOR CONTESTANTS

- A. Each student will be identified by their first name and last initial. [May 2024]
- B. All speakers must participate in a minimum of three rounds before elimination.
- C. Under no circumstances may speakers perform wearing badges, buttons, caps, or school letters, etc. that reveal their school. References in speeches that link the speaker to a particular school, city or country are also not permitted.
- D. Engaging in plagiarism, distortion or fabrication are acts of cheating, and as such are considered major violations of IASAS rules. These terms shall be defined as the following:

Plagiarism: To give the impression that you have written or thought something that you have in fact borrowed from someone else (Source: MLA handbook for Writers of Research Papers).

Distortion: To misrepresent a piece of evidence. (Source: Basic Debate, 3rd Ed., pg. 47)

Fabrication: To make up a piece of evidence (Source: Basic Debate, 3rd Ed., pg. 47).

IV. RULES FOR JUDGES

- A. No person should be allowed to judge unless he or she has attended a comprehensive workshop for each event he or she is judging. Workshops should include:
 1. a trained facilitator
 2. printed copies of event rules
 3. a video and/or a live performance of the event for practice critiquing
- B. Judges' packets should include:
 1. A sample adjudication sheet
 2. A sample ballot sheet
 3. copy of the rules of the event
 4. Impromptu topics for that round – for Impromptu judges only.

Adjudication and ballot sheets will now be completed via Tabroom. Accordingly, all of the necessary information for the ballots and

adjudication sheets will be prepared and ready to go. [May 2024]

- C. Judges' sample packets will be delivered to the judges prior to the event. All judges will need to sign up and be familiar with Tabroom so that they can adjudicate the events using the online application, and have a tablet or computer at their disposal in order to use Tabroom. [May 2024]
- D. Judges will complete the ballots and adjudications sheets utilizing Tabroom at the conclusion of each round. [May 2024]
- E. No coach will judge his/her own event, however, in the finals, a coach can judge his/her own event if their students are not participating in that final round. [May 2024]
- F. In all rounds speakers will be ranked 1 through 6. [May 2024]
- G. When judges rank speakers any change in rank due to time infractions will be clearly stated on the ballot before submitting to Tabroom.
- H. Because of the potential audience response, final rounds in Original Oratory and Oral Interpretation will not be timed. Impromptu and Extemporaneous will be timed.
- I. **Implicit Bias:** We are all influenced by implicit bias or stereotypes that, when unchecked, influence our judging in ways that may negatively impact the students we are called to judge impartially. Before writing comments or making a decision, please take a moment to reflect on any preconceived notions you may hold that may impact your decision-making process and/or jeopardize the student experience. [May 2024]

V. RULES FOR TIMERS

- A. Timers will be trained and rehearsed by the Section Director before the convention. No person will be allowed to time unless he/she has been properly trained.
- B. Timers will be trained to handle an electronic timing device (iPad, Tablet, or Laptop). If a tablet, an iPad, or a Laptop is being used, care should be taken to see that the item is fully charged and that the auto shutdown is disabled.

- C. For all timed events, timers will start the clock when the speaker begins. The time should be visible to the speaker for the duration of the speech. A timer will stand if a speaker reaches 7 minutes 10 seconds (except for Impromptu where the timer will stand at 5 minutes and 10 seconds). At the end of the speech, the timer will stop the clock and show the judges the final timing of the speech.
 - D. In no case should the clock be stopped until a contestant has finished speaking (even if it runs over time and the timer has stood). The speech must continue to be timed until its completion.
 - E. Timers may be responsible for calling the next speaker by number. The timekeeper shall announce each speaker in turn by number never by name of school.
 - F. Timers should also remind audience members to turn off mobile phones before a round begins.
 - G. Two timers and one door monitor shall be assigned to each performance. Coaches may not serve as a timer for any event involving their students. Judges should not time while judging.
 - H. Timers will deliver the judging packets to the judges before the round begins.
 - I. Timers will ensure that no audience photography or video recording take place.
 - J. To accommodate audience response in Oral Interpretation there will be no time penalty in the final round. However, speakers are not at liberty to extend the length of their presentation.
 - K. Timers will collect the ballots from the judges at the end of the round and hand-carry them to headquarters.
- school are indicated on this Speech Matrix document.
- C. Because speakers need an audience for their performances, the Section Director should make every effort to schedule events in classrooms with an audience whenever possible. English, Social Studies and Humanities classes are recommended. Traffic and conversation in hallways can distract performers in rooms, or speakers preparing in the hallway. Whenever possible, the events should be scheduled in areas of the school where hallway traffic is light and without lockers if possible.
 - D. Whenever possible, there should be no more than one speaker from each school in a preliminary round.
 - E. The Section Director should make every effort to adjust the sections in each round so that a speaker is not always competing with the same speakers as in the previous round.
 - F. The maximum number of competitors in each preliminary round should be six; the minimum should be five.
 - G. There will be six finalists in each Speech event. To determine which six students advance to the final round, each student's total cume (nine ranks – three from each prelim round) with the highest rank and lowest rank dropped (resulting in seven ranks total) should be used. If a three-way tie for fifth place, or a tie for sixth place exists, the tie-breaker for placement is reciprocals. If the tie still exists, the number of students in the final round should be expanded. [May 2024]
 - H. Posting of preliminary results will be made after the Friday Student Activity. The host school will post the results in the team rooms. Final results should be announced at the Awards Ceremony.
 - I. The Speech Competition of the Cultural Convention does not strictly follow the National Forensics League Rules. However, in the unlikely event of a situation where agreement cannot be reached, the final decision may be determined by the National Forensic League Manual.
 - J. All final rounds will be video recorded with copies to be shared with all schools.

VI. TOURNAMENT ORGANIZATION

- A. The Section Director can be the coach of any of the speech events. [May 2024]
- B. The order of the speakers will be determined by the Speech Matrix (see the document located in the FORMS section of the IASAS Handbook). The letter designations for each

- K.** A microphone must be available to students in the final round.

VII. COACHES' RESPONSIBILITIES

- A.** It is the responsibility of each coach to:
1. Exercise mature judgment for guiding students in selection of materials, including the use of materials which may be politically sensitive to the host country.
 2. Instill a feeling of friendly competition.
 3. Teach by example positive responses to both winning and losing.
 4. Refrain from any harassment of judges.
 5. Register legitimate complaints with the Section Director.
- B.** Coaches should notify the Section Director of any substitutions or drops at the Coaches' Meeting the night before the Convention. Coaches should double check that cross-over participants are scheduled so that their time for different events are as widely spaced as possible.
- C.** Because of scheduling problems that may result, coaches may not increase the number of participants at the Coaches' Meeting the night before the tournament.
- D.** Adjudication sheets are made available electronically via Tabroom at the end of each round. [May 2024]
- E.** A follow-up meeting with coaches must be scheduled where rules changes and

recommendations for the following year can be discussed. Please note that major rule changes will not be entertained without a clear proposal being sent through to all schools at least one week prior to the convention. Minor changes will be considered.

VIII. AWARDS

- A.** Patches and certificates of participation are given to all participants.
- B.** Medals are awarded for the top three finishers in each event.
1. Champion - Gold Medal
 2. Second Place – Silver Medal
 3. Third Place – Bronze Medal

NOTE:

When ties occur in an individual medal event – the medal awards for a position will be made based on the number of places above the awardee. For example, if two tie for first, the next award would be the third place award; if two tie for second, there would not be an award for third place. If there is a tie for third, then the speaker with the greatest number of first place rankings would earn the bronze medal. If still tied, then continue to second place rankings, etc.. To accomplish this, it must be noted that in the final rounds judges will have to rank the speakers from 1 to 6.

- C.** IASAS Traveling Plaques are given to the champion of each event.

Rules for Oral Interpretation

I. MATERIALS

Only one selection of poetry and/or prose that allows for **an aspect of interpretation (themes, use of language, character development, etc.)** should be prepared. Selections from drama are not permitted. The selection may be one piece or a combination of related pieces from one author. It should not be one the speaker used in a previous IASAS tournament. Submitted material may not be changed once the competition has begun; such action will result in disqualification. At the Wednesday evening coaches' meeting a copy of each speaker's material, including their introduction, will be handed to the Section Director for the duration of the tournament and will be kept on file at the tournament headquarters for the duration of the contest. At the start of each round each speaker will post an A3 sheet with candidate number, title, and author on the board.

II. DELIVERY

The selection is to be read. The speaker is required to make visual contact with the script, which must be with the speaker at the lectern or in his or her hands at all times. Costumes, make-up lighting, and music are not permitted. Reminder: this is not a solo acting category (see below for solo acting descriptors). The following information may prove useful in determining whether a student is exceeding the bounds of oral interpretation:

Oral Interpretation:

- Performance focuses firmly on the words being read.
- Theme and character development will be conveyed through the voice.
- Facial expression is appropriate to the piece and should not convey more meaning than the spoken words.
- Vocal variations explicitly related to the text are permitted.

Solo Acting (Not Allowed):

- Performance extends well beyond the written word and is not read from the page.
- Theme and character are developed through an array of techniques such as costume, lighting and the use of props.
- Gesture and body movement are freely used.

- A wide range of emotional expression is used, such as laughing or weeping, which may be completely independent of actual words in the script.

III. TIME LIMIT

The entire presentation may last not more than seven minutes nor less than five, including introductory remarks. Presentations of more than 7:10 minutes or less than 4:50 minutes shall automatically receive a drop in rank, unless in the opinion of the judge, the under time or overtime is due to audience reaction. The Oral Interpretation event will consist of three rounds in which each contestant must participate, followed by a final round. To accommodate audience response there will be no time penalty in the final round. However, students are not at liberty to extend the length of their presentation.

IV. SELECTION AND DELIVERY RULES:

A. Text Selection

1. Selections for presentation are not required to be from a recognized literary list but must be published in print, excluding self-published works.
2. Selections should allow for aspects of interpretation (themes, voice, character, etc.)
3. No children's literature is permitted.

B. Movement

1. Head movement is permitted
2. Shoulder movement is permitted
3. No hand, leg or foot movements are permitted
4. Limited movement of the torso is permitted; for example, forwards/ backwards/to the side.
5. Students may stand or sit during the presentation.
6. Facial Expression is directly related to the nature/needs of the text.

Rules for Original Oratory

I. CONTENT/CONSTRUCTION

- A. The Original Oratory event will consist of three rounds in which each contestant must participate, followed by a final round.
- B. An oration must be persuasive or informative. Although many orations do deal with a problem and do propose a solution, this is not the only acceptable form of oratory. Some examples of original oration may be to alert the audience to a potential danger or important idea, strengthen dedication to an accepted cause, or present a eulogy.
- C. The speech must be the original work of the speaker. No more than 150 words of quoted material may be included. Quotes must be so designated in the manuscript. All sources from which material is quoted must be submitted to the coach. Coaches will ensure that quoted material does not exceed the limit.
- D. Coaches will e-mail working drafts of speeches with bibliographies and originality reports from a plagiarism site (i.e. Turnitin.com or Safe Assign to the host school no later than Monday of convention week. Only if changes are made will the coach give an updated copy to the host school at the Wednesday coaches' meeting.
- E. Once speeches have been submitted to the host school at the initial coaches' meeting, presenters may not add, delete or modify content.
- F. No student will be allowed to participate without providing a digital copy of the speech. Speeches which are politically sensitive to the host school country must be reviewed by the host school prior to the Cultural Convention. The host school has the right to withdraw any politically sensitive speech at any time. It is the responsibility of each advisor to contact the host school if there are any questions.

- G. Speakers must avoid references that indicate which school the speaker is from e.g. shopping malls, streets, cities etc.
- H. Speeches do not necessarily need to have titles. No speech titles are to be written on the board; neither are titles to be stated aloud.

II. DELIVERY

- A. The student must be very familiar with the material and must demonstrate this by making regular eye contact with the audience. Students must have their script, but they do not have to make visual contact with it. On the other hand, the speech should not be simply read.
- B. (1) Thought and composition should be judged on the basis of their effects as a speech performance, not as an English composition. (2) Evaluation will be weighted sixty-five percent for content and thirty-five percent for delivery.
- C. Oration of more than 7:10 minutes or less than 4:50 shall automatically receive a drop in rank unless, in the opinion of the judges, the overtime or under time is due to audience reaction.
- D. There will be no time limit and no timer in the final round.
- E. Hand movement and vocal characterization should be appropriate to the content of the speech.
- F. Speakers may elect to use a podium to deliver their oratory or may stand to one side of the podium. The speech may either be held by the orator or rested on the lectern. In either case, the speaker must remain stationary.
- G. Speakers may not use audience participation such as call and response as part of their delivery.

III. Judges Training – see section 18.2 IV (4/11)

Rules for Impromptu Speaking

I. CONTENT

- A.** The Impromptu Speaking event will consist of three rounds, in which each contestant must participate, followed by a final round. These rounds will be of light philosophical nature (e.g. a subject such as money, a proverb, or a one-liner). During each round the contestant should strive to use original and varied examples to avoid creating the impression of a pre-prepared speech. Timing of the one-minute preparation period will begin only when the topic card is removed from the envelope by the contestant.

- B.** Two topics for each round will be determined by the coaches during the pre-convention meeting the night before the Cultural Convention. A choice within the lightly philosophical category and one-liner will be offered. The word and phrase should be on the same note card.

During the season, all Impromptu coaches must keep a running list of all words/phrases used in practices/meetings, and bring those to the Cult. Conv.

- C.** No writing before speaker receives and opens the prompt. The speaker will have one minute to select and plan the topic. Participants should be given A4 lined paper to use during competition. He/she may jot down notes during this minute. He/she may not confer with anyone or use notes already prepared. He/she may ask the judge to define the word. Timing will stop and restart only after a judge has given the definition.

- D.** Movement from the Impromptu Room should be granted to all coaches and administrators-in-charge with proper identification. No one else is allowed to leave the room except an impromptu speaker who is participating in another Forensic Event that is scheduled simultaneously. The speaker must be escorted to the designated room by either a coach or a runner.

II. PROCEDURE

- A.** Each contestant is brought into the room by the timer who will provide the envelope with the prompts. Timers are responsible for putting the prompts back into the envelope between speakers.

- B.** The timer or the assistant timer will hand the topics to the speaker.

- C.** The speaker must not speak less than 2:50 minutes and not more than 5:10 minutes. Overtimes and under times will result automatically in a deduction of 1 rank in the round.

- D.** Evaluation will be weighted sixty percent for content and forty percent for delivery.

- E.** The topic for a round must be presented to the judges as part of the judges' packet.

- F.** After each impromptu speech in the round, timers should replace the card in the envelope and the envelope should be placed on the table where it can be seen by the judges and the audience.

Rules for Extemporaneous Speaking

I. TOPICS

- A. Topics will be in the form of questions of a “Yes/No” variety, the wording of which should not encourage simplistic analysis. Students are expected to answer the question using the exact wording of the question provided.
- B. Topics shall be ongoing current events of political, economic, social and cultural importance discussed in major media outlets such as The New York Times, The Economist, and The Guardian (though students are strongly encouraged to investigate different viewpoints and research a wider variety of sources).
- C. Four weeks before the convention, the host school should send a request for questions. Each school’s list of questions should be categorized prior to submission to the host school as follows: (1) Africa, (2) Americas, (3) Europe, (4) General (non-country/religion specific topics of a social or cultural nature), (5) Middle East and Islamic World (Mauritania to Pakistan), and (6) Asia/Oceania. Models for acceptable and unacceptable questions, such as those shown below, should accompany this request.

Acceptable samples:

- 1. Is a peaceful solution a real possibility in South Africa?
- 2. Can the developed world overcome its dependence on oil?
- 3. Can President Bush create a positive legacy in the final few years of his presidency?

Unacceptable samples:

- 1. Is De Klerk sincerely opening the doors for the blacks in South Africa or is he setting up traps to lure them into a compromise with the white dominated government?
- 2. President Bush is proposing the number of forces stationed in Europe be reduced to 1,195,000 for both the US and Soviet Union. Why is he doing this and how far should he go? (Asks two questions and is too long).
- 3. “The importance of European Council depends on the seriousness of the problems it faces”. Do you agree or disagree with this

statement made by President Mitterand at the December 1989 European Summit Talks? (Uses quotations and is too long).

- D. Three weeks before the convention, each school must submit 35-45 participant/coach generated questions to the host school. No new questions may be added after this time unless coaches agree that events after this time justify inclusion.
- E. Two weeks before the convention, the host school must compile and categorize all of the questions received, combine similar questions together, and number the questions.
- F. One week before the convention, the host school will send all questions to all IASAS schools. All extemporaneous coaches should review the questions in preparation for discussion at the Wednesday night meeting that should take place during dinner.
- G. Coaches may not share the master list with any participant nor share with any participant the questions agreed upon at the Wednesday meeting.
- H. Organization of Questions in Rounds
 - 1. Preliminary Rounds
 - a. Each preliminary round will feature pairs of questions from two of the above categories (e.g. Round One: Americas and Africa; Round Two: General and Middle East, etc.)
 - b. In each preliminary round (one, two, three) the first speakers in each round are given a choice of the same two questions. This procedure will be followed by all subsequent speakers in all subsequent rounds (i.e. all second speakers will be given the same two choices which are different from those given to the first speakers). The purposes of this procedure are: (1) to limit the number of questions needed per round to twelve; and (2) to avoid unfair disclosure of questions to subsequent speakers.
 - 2. Final Round
 - a. The final round will have questions from all categories.

- b. The final round will have a different pair of questions for each of the finalists.
- c. Topics used for questions in the preliminary rounds may be used again in the final round as long as the nature of the question is different and the question is worded differently.

Consistent with present practice, files may not be supplemented after that time.

- G. A Prep Room, significantly spacious, will be provided and equipped with: 18 desks and chairs, 3"x5" index cards (preferably both lined and unlined), paper, pencils, and a trained, dedicated adult Prep Room Proctor.

II. PROCEDURE

- A. Four weeks before the convention, the host school will inform the other schools about the exact computer resources (laptops or desktops) and platforms (e.g. PC or Mac) that will be provided in the Prep Room. The computers in the Prep Room will not be connected to the Internet. If a school plans to use electronic files, they are to be stored in advance on the school's own portable storage devices, such as flash/thumb drives and CDs
- B. If a school does not use the computer platform that is being provided by the host school, that school may bring their own laptops to be used in accordance with the rules. They will notify the host school of this at least three weeks before the convention.
- C. On Wednesday night, all Extemp Coaches will be allowed to leave the general coaches' dinner as soon as they arrive to begin working on the questions to be used in the competition.
- D. On Thursday morning, all Extemp Coaches and the Prep Room Proctor will meet together with all Extemp participants before the convention begins to inform all participants of all rules and procedures.
- E. Resource material may include original or photocopied sources. Highlighted but not annotated notes may be made in the body of the source. Previously written speeches and outlines are not acceptable. Violation of this rule shall result the forensics site director making a decision.
- F. Files may be in either electronic or hard copies, or both. All electronic drives and hard copies will be officially placed in the Prep Room on Wednesday evening or Thursday morning.

- H. The Prep Room will be locked when participants are not preparing for a round. Participants may only be in the Prep Room during their preparation time.
- I. All resource materials must be placed in the Prep Room on Thursday morning, no later than 15 minutes prior to the first round. No material may be added or removed from the Prep Room during the course of the competition. Host schools are only required to provide the resources listed in point G.
- J. Thirty (30) minutes is to be set aside at the beginning of each day for participants accompanied by a coach to confirm that their laptops are working and to check resource files already placed in the Prep Room.
- K. Each contestant should arrive 35-40 minutes prior to their scheduled speaking time as indicated on the detailed Extemp schedule.
- L. Preparation must be made without consultation with coaches or any other person(s). Participants may only use their own team's resource materials. The Prep Room should be silent but participants will be allowed to stand while preparing and silently practicing their speech.
- M. The participant may ask the Proctor for clarification on the wording of the topic.
- N. The Prep Room will be proctored at all times to enforce these rules.
- O. Each contestant will have a full thirty minutes to prepare in the prep room after drawing the question. These thirty minutes do not include passing time from the Prep Room to the speaking room. There will be 5-10 minutes between speakers to allow for passing.

Participants will be escorted to the competition room by members of the tournament staff.

will write the question on the adjudication sheet before the speaker begins.

P. An adult hallway monitor will be assigned to ensure that all three speakers in each flight enter their speaking rooms at the same time, as listed on the detailed Extemp schedule.

S. One 3"x5" notecard is allowed during the presentation of the speech. The speaker will turn in the note card to the timer at the end of their speech.

Q. Contestants may not leave the Prep Room prior to the appointed time. Violation of this rule shall result in the forensics site director making a decision.

T. All rounds, including finals, will be timed with the same limits – 4:50 min., 7:10 max. Presentation in all rounds of more than 7:10 minutes or less than 4:50 minutes shall automatically receive a drop in rank unless, in the opinion of the judges, the overtime is due to audience reaction.

R. In the competition room, before the speaker begins, the timer will stand and clearly and loudly state the speaker's question, and judges

U. Evaluation will be weighted seventy percent for content and thirty percent for delivery.