Speech Events Rules-Times

Each student may DOUBLE ENTER in Speech Events.

Students CAN do both Speech Events and Debate.

- Students present LIVE Online ("synchronous").
- All Events are in Open Division (mark novices in registration for separate awards).

Breaking/Tie Break System

PRELIMS TO ELIMS: 1. Ranks from prelim round(s); 2. Reciprocal ranks (# of 1s, # of 2s) from prelim round(s); 3. Points from prelim round(s)

FINALS RESULTS: 1. Ranks from final round(s); 2.Judges Preference on Ranks (if tied) from final round(s); 3. Points from final round(s); 4. Points from all rounds.

SEE THE TOURNAMENT AI POLICY ON THE NEXT PAGE.

EXTEMPORANEOUS: Thirty minutes before speaking time, each speaker will select a topic from a choice of three—**distributed in the Extemp Prep Zoom Room**. Questions will be based on current events. Speaker will be expected to organize and analyze material relevant to the subject area and answer the chosen question. Time: seven minutes (7) maximum, with thirty seconds (30) grace.

IMPROMPTU: Student will be given a choice of three topics **distributed in round through the chat feature**. The student will choose a topic and have six minutes to prepare and speak on the chosen topic. Time may be used in any manner the speaker chooses (example-2 minutes prep and 4 speaking or 4 minutes prep and 2 minutes speaking). Time: six minutes (6) maximum, with thirty seconds (30) grace. Judges are required to provide time signals while students are preparing and while they are speaking.

INFORMATIVE (EXPOS): A speech that is designed to be informative in nature. Visual aids and note cards are permitted, but are not required. Time: ten minutes (10) maximum, with thirty seconds (30) grace.

PERSUASIVE (ORATORY): An original speech designed to persuade—that is, to change or reinforce an existing belief, to eulogize, to cause agreement with a speaker's position, or to motivate to action**.** This is a memorized event. Time: ten minutes (10) maximum, with a 30 second grace period.

SPAR: Each spar panel consists of approximately eight competitors. The debaters will be assigned affirmative or negative until all debaters are assigned to a side by the judge prior to the start of the round. The speakers will have one minute before speaking to prep. The first affirmative speaker will give a two-minute speech in favor of the resolution; immediately after that speech, the first negative speaker will refute the position in a two-minute constructive. Following the opening statements, there will be a five-minute open cross-examination. The pair should question each other and should be prepared to take at least a few questions from the audience, other competitors, and even the judge. Two rebuttal speeches of the affirmative and negative respectively (2 minutes each) complete the round. Judges should time and provide timing signals for the competitors. **Speaking Times: Aff-2; Neg-2; CX-3; Aff-2; Neg-2.**

If an odd number of students show up for the round, one student may give a repeat (unscored) additional performance. Answers by debaters to questions from the audience during the open CX period should be used in the scoring of the competitors who are actually debating, but should not be considered as relevant in the scoring of those who are merely asking questions, particularly since some students may be double-entered and will not have the opportunity to participate in the questioning process.

DRAMATIC INTERP: A cutting from a published play, prose, poetry, TV, or radio script, which is serious in nature. The presentation is memorized but given without props or costumes**.** Time: ten (10) minutes maximum with 30 second grace period.

DUAL INTERP: A cutting from a published play, prose, poetry, TV, or radio script, which may be either humorous or serious in nature. The selection must be memorized but given without props or costumes. Time: ten minutes (10) maximum with a 30 second grace period.

HUMOROUS INTERP: A cutting from a published play, prose, poetry, TV, or radio script, which is humorous in nature. The presentation is memorized. Time: ten (10) minutes with thirty seconds (30) grace**.**

Use of AI Policies

WSFA AI POLICY APPLIES TO ALL EVENTS AT OUR TOURNAMENT

AI examples: ChatGPT, Gemini, Co-Pilot, Claude, etc.

- **Verify sources.** AI-generated information cannot serve as the primary source for facts or figures. Students must verify and cite the original human-generated sources.
- **Disclose AI-assisted writing.** Competitors must disclose the use of generative AI for case or speech writing during the round when they begin using that content.
- **Cite AI material.** Direct quotations or paraphrases from generative AI must identify the specific AI source.
- **No AI during rounds or timed preparation.** Generative AI is prohibited during competition rounds and timed pre-round preparation, including Extemporaneous Speaking preparation. The prohibition applies to competitors, judges, and spectators.
- **Violations carry consequences.** The policy states that violations by competitors may result, at a minimum, in forfeiture of the round.