



Competition Rules Board Meeting, November 13, 2023

Location and Time: Online, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. CT

Call to Order/Welcome/Record of Approved Competition Rules Board Minutes

On November 13, 2023, Competition Rules Board meeting minutes will be read into the record. Minutes are available for discussion, as requested by Competition Rules Board members.

Notes in Extemp, Commentary, and Impromptu

The Competition Rules Board will assess a proposal to allow competitors in Extemporaneous Speaking, Extemporaneous Commentary, and Impromptu to use notes while delivering their speech. Currently, rules allow students to prepare notes during preparation time, but no notes may be used during the presentation.

PF and LD September/October Topic Release Date

The Competition Rules Board will assess a proposal to move the topic release deadline for September/October Public Forum and Lincoln-Douglas topics to August 1 to create consistency with other topic release dates used throughout the school year. Voting would occur the week before August 1.

World Schools Invitational Breaks

The United States World Schools Invitational manual states that all teams with a 4-2 or better preliminary round record will advance to elimination rounds. The Competition Rules Board will evaluate a proposal to change the advancement procedures in World Schools to advance a maximum of 64 teams that have a 4-2 or better record. Limiting the break to a triple octafinal would allow judge training for World Schools judges to be held Monday morning and guarantee that all competitors that do not advance to the double octafinal have the opportunity to re-register for supplemental events.

NSDA Online Schools District

In 2020, the Competition Rules Board created the NSDA Online Schools District to expand National Tournament qualification opportunities for educational institutions that conduct 100% of their schooling virtually. Participation in this district thus far has been too low to hold a national qualifying event, and participants have been limited to the Last-Chance Qualifier as their option for qualification. The Competition Rules Board will assess the opportunities created by the online schools district format and discuss whether potential adjustments for qualification are warranted.

Assess Qualification Opportunities

Association growth strategies continue to call for the exploration of alternative access points to the National Tournament. The Competition Rules Board will assess the existing avenues to qualify for the National Tournament through district tournaments, the Last-Chance Qualifier, and supplemental-only competition and explore whether additional avenues should be considered.

Equity Pause

At the end of deliberations, the Competition Rules Board will utilize the NSDA Equity Lens to consider, reflect on, and address whether their decisions and decision-making processes are transparent, accountable, and reflect the organization's core value of equity.

Adjourn