



2015 – 2016

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# Kentucky High School Speech League

HANDBOOK



The Kentucky High School Speech League encourages all students to participate in academic competition and thereby receive an understanding of and appreciation for worthwhile speech, drama, and debate. KHSSL enhances and refines students' skills in acting, speaking, listening, and critical thinking, and provides an arena for extracurricular competition in speech, drama, and debate.

KHSSL is the oldest high school organization in the state of Kentucky. We are proud not only of the tradition of excellence associated with this organization but also of our continued efforts to promote speech, drama, and debate education in Kentucky schools. KHSSL is endorsed by the Kentucky State Legislature, the Kentucky Education Association, and the Kentucky Association of School Administrators.

## **SPECIFIC PURPOSE**

To promote various kinds of speech and drama activities in the schools of Kentucky, to foster via educational competition and understanding and appreciation of worthwhile speech and drama, to encourage all students rather than a select few to participate, to assist Kentucky schools in their efforts to establish and develop curricular and extra-curricular speech and drama programs, to maintain high levels of speech and drama achievement, to award suitable recognition for excellence in speech and drama performance, and to foster a respect for and appreciation of freedom of speech as a vital force of democracy.

Changes from 2014-15 are **noted in bold, red, underlined type.**

**This edition reflects the results of the June 2015 Board of Directors meeting.**

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## GENERAL INFORMATION

The Kentucky High School Speech League, Inc. encourages all students to participate in academic competition and thereby receive an understanding of and appreciation for worthwhile speech, drama, and debate. KHSSL enhances and refines students' skills in acting, speaking, listening, and critical thinking, and provides an arena for extracurricular competition in speech, drama, and debate.

KHSSL is the oldest high school organization in the state of Kentucky. We are proud not only of the tradition of excellence associated with this organization but also of our continued efforts to promote speech, drama, and debate education in Kentucky schools. KHSSL is endorsed by the Kentucky State Legislature, the Kentucky Education Association, and the Kentucky Association of School Administrators.

KHSSL offers competition in **twelve** Junior Division and twelve Senior Division speech events. **Eight** of these events are common to both divisions. The League annually sponsors a regional tournament for each division in each of the seven regions, as well as a State Championship Tournament in each division. Additionally, the League sanctions pre-qualifying tournaments hosted throughout the year by its member schools and any regional or state hosts.

### **Specific Purpose:**

To promote various kinds of speech and drama activities in the schools of Kentucky, to foster via educational competition and understanding and appreciation of worthwhile speech, debate, and drama, to encourage all students rather than a select few to participate, to assist Kentucky schools in their efforts to establish and develop curricular and extra-curricular speech and drama programs, to maintain high levels of speech and drama achievement, to award suitable recognition for excellence in speech and drama performance, and to foster a respect for and appreciation of freedom of speech as a vital force of democracy.

## MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the League is open to all elementary, middle, junior high, and senior high schools in Kentucky (public and private). Registration will be through the website and via dues payment. The Registration form must be completed on the website, and fees sent to the League office address found on the title page of this Handbook.

A family which home schools its children may join KHSSL as a member school. In addition, a local Home School Association may join KHSSL as a member school, and all children being home schooled by that Association's members will be considered students of that school. A local Home School Association may join KHSSL whether it was established for purposes of joining KHSSL or if it was previously established to support home schooling families. For purposes of membership, a local Home School Association is an association of home school families who reside either in the same county, city, or town or in a compact geographic area as permitted within the discretion of the Executive Director. Each home school or HSA will be placed in a KHSSL Region.

A student who has dual enrollment in a laboratory-school type environment may compete and qualify for State for either school during a given school year. The student may not compete for both schools, and the student is allowed to make the choice, subject to the director's approval. The choice must be made before the student competes.

A student who changes schools during the course of the school year is subject to the following rules:

- a. The student retains prequalification in solo events earned while at the former school.
- b. The student loses prequalification in dual events, as does the student's partner at the former school.
- c. If the student changes schools before the Regional Tournament, the student must compete at Regional as a member of the new school's team to qualify for State.
- d. If a State-qualified student changes schools after the Regional tournament, the student may compete for the new school at State. The former school may substitute a prequalified student or students for the student who has left the school.
- e. The new school must join KHSSL before either the Regional or State Tournament, depending on which of (c) or (d) above applies. The school may include its membership dues with its Regional or State entry fees.

A school which both submits its registration information and payment by 1 October may participate in Early Registration. Registration and/or payment after that date is late registration. Schools may join any time during the year. KHSSL registration fees must be paid before the Regional tournament. No student may prequalify for State at an invitational tournament taking place before that school has both submitted its registration information and paid its registration fee.

The Junior Division is open to students in grades 4-9 and the Senior Division to students in grades 9-12. Ninth graders housed in the same building as students in grades 4-8 must compete in the Junior Division while ninth graders housed in the same building as students in grades 10-12 must compete in the Senior Division. The Senior Division provides competition in speech, drama, and debate. Regional Managers are exempt from paying membership fees as well as entry fees into the regional and state championships.

**REGISTRATION FEES**

	Early Registration (by October 1)	Late Registration (after 1 October)
Senior Speech Only	\$100	\$115
Senior Debate Only	\$100	\$115
Senior Drama Only	\$100	\$115
Senior combined (all three)	\$150	--
Junior Speech	\$100	\$115

**Communication and Correspondence**

The League endeavors to provide members with all of the information needed to establish and maintain quality programs in their schools. The Executive Director will endeavor to keep the website as up-to-date as possible, and League members are referred there for most answers to most questions. Posts on the website will also appear on Facebook and on Twitter. Email is the best way to contact the Executive Director. Do not use FAX.

Because various means of communication will be needed at various times, it is crucial that, when registering, schools provide the League with accurate information. The school address, telephone number, and fax number are crucial pieces of information, along with the address, telephone number, and e-mail address of each coach desiring to receive regular communication. Schools should take great care in completing the registration form and in returning it promptly to insure that they begin receiving all important correspondence.

The League office will maintain regular office hours and will establish a regular schedule of correspondence so that member schools will know when to expect communications from the League and when they may best contact the office to obtain the information they need.

## REGIONS

The state is divided into seven geographical regions along county lines. Each region is administered by a Regional Manager who reports to the state director, hereafter referred to as the Director. A Board of Directors, consisting of two full-time faculty members (one from a Junior Division school and one from a Senior Division school) from each of these regions, meets annually to establish League regulations and contest rules. Board members shall be elected every 2 years with nominations being taken at regionals and a vote taken at the State Tournament. The Director is then, in turn, responsible for the enforcement of all League operations as stipulated by the Board. The counties comprising each of these regions are as follows:

Region	Counties
<b>Appalachian</b>	Boyd, Carter, Elliott, Floyd, Greenup, Johnson, Knott (only Beaver and Carr areas), Lawrence, Lee, Letcher, Magoffin, Martin, Menifee, Morgan, Pike, Rowan, and Wolfe
<b>Bluegrass</b>	Bath, Boyle, Casey, Clark, Clinton, Estill, Fayette, Garrard, Jackson, Jessamine, Lincoln, Madison, Marion, McCreary, Mercer, Montgomery, Nicholas, Powell, Pulaski, Rockcastle, Russell, Washington, Wayne, and Woodford
<b>Bowling Green</b>	Adair, Allen, Barren, Butler, Cumberland, Daviess, Edmonson, Grayson, Green, Hancock, Hart, Logan, Metcalfe, Monroe, Ohio, Simpson, Taylor, Todd, and Warren
<b>Louisville</b>	Breckinridge, Bullitt, Hardin, Henry, Jefferson, LaRue, Meade, Nelson, Oldham, Shelby, and Spencer
<b>Murray</b>	Ballard, Caldwell, Calloway, Carlisle, Christian, Crittenden, Fulton, Graves, Henderson, Hickman, Hopkins, Livingston, Lyon, Marshall, McCracken, McLean, Muhlenberg, Trigg, Union, and Webster
<b>Northern</b>	Anderson, Boone, Bourbon, Bracken, Campbell, Carroll, Fleming, Franklin, Gallatin, Grant, Harrison, Kenton, Lewis, Mason, Owen, Pendleton, Robertson, Scott, and Trimble
<b>Upper Kentucky River</b>	Bell, Breathitt, Clay, Harlan, Knott (excluding Beaver and Carr areas), Knox, Laurel, Leslie, Owsley, Perry, and Whitley

## CONTESTS AND CODE OF ETHICS

Interscholastic contests in speech, drama, and debate are organized and conducted for the purpose of developing competence in these areas. These contests, properly conceived, are definitely pedagogical in their aims and objectives and should be viewed as educational projects. As such, they are designed to capitalize upon a very natural and a very desirable rivalry between schools and between individuals. The desire to win supplies a strong incentive to application and achievement and is wholly commendable to the degree that winning is correlated with performance of merit.

All the rules and regulations governing contests are designed to make the winning of contests synonymous with good speaking, acting, and debating. While this objective has been largely realized, it sometimes happens that, under the stress of a desire to win, individuals become overzealous and commit actions which reflect poorly on the schools they represent. Every possible effort should be made to preserve friendly relations and to conduct all contests on the highest plane. To these ends, the following suggestions are offered:

1. A speech, drama, or debate contest is a friendly contest, not a war between enemies. Greet the representatives of the other school or schools. Do everything possible to make visitors feel welcome.
2. Make every effort to secure fair and impartial judges. If a contest cannot be won by performance of merit, it is better to lose it. A victory won by a vote of "friendship" is a most costly kind of victory. It is a moral defeat, and above all else, schools should exalt honor and high standards.
3. The highest kind of school loyalty is that which reflects credit on the school, not that which tries to secure victory at any cost.
4. Never allow anyone -- student, coach, or friend -- to quarrel with the judges after a decision. The real test of adulthood comes in defeat. Learn to lose gracefully. Talk with the judges, obtain their criticisms, and learn all you can from them, but never, under any circumstances, question their honesty.
5. Coaches and others present should not, by verbal, facial, or other expression, indicate their reaction in such a manner as to annoy the performer, regardless of the nature of the performance. Wriggling in the chair or scraping one's feet on the floor is a planned method of annoying the performer.
6. It shall be considered unethical for a judge to ask a contestant where he/she is from until after the decision is rendered and handed in to those in charge of the contest.
7. Coaches should recognize that judging their own students is not the accepted procedure. This usually means that the tournament manager has made an error. The judge, in such cases, should check with the tournament manager before the round to correct the situation.
8. Speeches performed by students in debate, extemporaneous speaking, impromptu speaking, oratory, and public speaking should be honest, original efforts of those students.
9. It is felt that coaches sometimes fill out a registration form without ever having checked with

the students regarding their intentions in attending the contest. This results in a great number of changes in the days preceding, or even on the day of the contest. Such changes can lead to much extra work on the part of the tournament manager to avoid unfair sectioning or pairings. Coaches must give the tournament manager consideration in filing such reports.

10. It should be considered unethical to check the scores of contestants one is about to judge.
11. No one shall audio or video tape any performances/speeches by any students during competition except by KHSSL for educational purposes.
12. Violation of any part of the Code of Ethics is grounds for disqualification. In addition to the issues raised above, this specifically includes the following:

**For Coaches:**

1. Failing to appear for judging assignments, or changing judging assignments without the tournament manager's approval.
2. Leaving unannounced before the tournament is over.
3. Creating a scene.
4. Failing to use appropriate language.
5. Falsifying debate evidence.
6. Giving critiques that are detrimental to the student.
7. Disregarding building rules of the host.
8. Allowing students to attend contests unsponsored.
9. Failing to officially drop contestants at a contest, or failing to pay drop fees or other fees owed.
10. Entering in the regional tournament a team or students who cannot attend the State Championship.
11. Allowing a student to compete with the same materials used in competition in a prior year.

**For Students:**

1. Displaying inappropriate behavior.
2. Creating a scene.
3. Misconduct during another contestant's performance (e.g., talking to others in the audience during the performance or using inappropriate verbal or nonverbal communication that interferes with the performance).

4. Failing to abide by the rules of the host school.
5. Being critical to a judge concerning a decision.
6. Falsifying debate or extemporaneous speaking evidence.
7. Plagiarizing material.
8. Performing individual events material from previous years:
  - in any event
  - in either division
  - from any league, and/or
  - from any competition (e.g.: FBLA, 4H, etc.)
9. Performing the same selection in two different events at the same tournament.

Coaches exhibiting flagrant rules or ethics violations, or allowing their students to do so, may have a grievance filed against them. At the Regional Tournament, if the Regional Manager cannot satisfactorily resolve the situation, a committee composed of the two board members from that region and the Regional Manager will decide upon the matter. If this committee cannot reach a decision, the issue will be resolved by the Director. At the State Tournament, if the Director cannot satisfactorily resolve the situation, he/she shall appoint a committee which, along with him/her, will decide upon the matter.

In addition to disqualification(s) where warranted, the first offense carries a warning and probation. The Director will send letters to the offending coach, his/her principal, his/her superintendent, and the Board of Directors, detailing the incident and notifying them of the action taken against the school. Subsequent violations are cause for suspension for no more than one year. Any school suspended from KHSSL may not participate in the regional or State Championship during the time of the suspension. The Director will send letters to the offending coach, his/her principal, his/her superintendent, and the Board of Directors, detailing the incident and notifying them of the action taken against the school. Further, KHSSL member schools will be notified when any school is suspended, and these member schools will be encouraged not to invite or accept entries from suspended schools.

A coach may appeal any disciplinary action by placing the appeal in writing and forwarding it to the Director within seven (7) days of notification of disciplinary action. Upon proper receipt of a notice to appeal, the Director will establish a committee of Board members who will hear the appeal, and shall give the coach the option to strike a reasonable number of names. The coach may appear before the committee to present his/her case. A specific time limit for this presentation will be determined by the Director. This committee will then render its decision which shall be final.

### **DROP FEES AND FINES AT STATE AND REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS**

Drop fees and fines may be levied at the Regional and State tournaments for a variety of actions which interrupt the smooth administration of the registration process. Drop fees and fines may be levied after the registration deadlines, and may be waived by the Executive Director and/or the Regional Manager for good and sufficient reasons. Drop fees and fines are set in the sections of this Handbook dedicated to the State and Regional tournaments

## SPEECH

KHSSL offers competition in **twelve** Junior Division and **thirteen** Senior Division Speech events. Eight of these events are common to both divisions.

The League annually sponsors a regional tournament for each division in each of the seven regions, as well as a State Championship Tournament in each division. Additionally, the League sanctions pre-qualifying tournaments hosted throughout the year by its member schools and any regional or state hosts. A description of each event, as well as procedures for these tournaments, follows.

## TIMESIGNALS

With an eye towards uniformity and consistency, KHSSL uses the following system of time signals.

Time signals MUST be provided in Extemporaneous Speaking, Impromptu, and Improvisational Duo. Time signals may be given in any other event at the request of the competitor. In any other event, the competitor may ask either for the Count-Down or the Count-Up method. In the three limited-prep events noted, the method used depends on the event.

1. Count-down Method (Required for Extemporaneous Speaking and Impromptu). In this method, the judge indicates the number of minutes remaining by holding up a number of fingers equal to the number of minutes remaining in the speech-time. A hand forming a "C" indicates 30 seconds remaining, while a hand forming a 'duck-bill' indicates 15 seconds remaining. A fist indicates 'time has expired.'
2. Count-up Method (Required for Improvisational Duo). In this method, the judge holds up a number of fingers indicating the number of minutes used during the speech.



Figure 1. 3 minutes



Figure 2. 30 Seconds



Figure 3. 15 seconds



Figure 4. Time

### KHSSL Source Rule

This rule applies to all events for which the words are those of another author. Individual events may narrow the permissible literature or genres. This rule is incorporated by reference into the rules for the following events:

<u>Both Divisions</u>	<u>Declamation, Poetry, Prose</u>
<u>Senior Division</u>	<u>Dramatic Interpretation, Duo Interpretation, Humorous Interpretation, Program Oral Interpretation</u>
<u>Junior Division</u>	<u>Duo Acting, Humorous/Dramatic Interpretation, Solo Acting</u>

#### Rule

Coaches should strive to use scripts with an ISBN, ISSN, or IFFN. If the script does not have an ISBN, ISSN, or IFFN, the coach or supervising adult should be able to prove the script was purchased or obtained commercially, i.e. from a literary agent or publisher or bill of sale, or is publicly available by internet URL and retrieval date. A selection is considered published if it has been presented for public consumption in the following places:

- a. on the commercial printed page.
- b. on the internet (at publicly available sites).
- c. read on the radio.
- d. read/recorded on the internet (e.g. YouTube).
- e. read in an open reading where the reading has been recorded.
- f. read/recorded in TV or movie scripts.

The guiding principle of this rule is equality of access to all members of the League.

### **SPEECH EVENTS IN BOTH DIVISIONS**

**The following eight events are common to both Junior and Senior divisions. Except where specifically noted, each event has the same rules in each division.**

## BROADCAST ANNOUNCING

### Senior and Junior Divisions

#### Rules

1. In this event, students assume the role of a radio broadcast announcer.
2. During all rounds of Broadcast Announcing, the judge may turn his or her back on the contestant while the contestant is actually performing. Eye contact is NOT a part of this event, and should NEVER be part of a judge's evaluation of the performance.
3. Competitors must remain outside the room until called to perform.
4. As each competitor finishes, the judge should collect the script, and the student may leave. The judge then calls in the next contestant.
5. The structure of rounds listed here is that for the State Championship Tournament. The Regional tournaments follow Rounds I and II, and uses Semi-final/Final format for any Final Round.
6. **Students are permitted to time themselves during any Broadcast Announcing round.**

#### Round 1--Commercial

The tournament director prepares a commercial for a real or fictitious advertiser. The text of the commercial should be in all capital letters. Each contestant should receive an individual copy of the script which should not leave the room.

The judge calls one contestant into the room at a time, obtains the student's code number and name, and hands the student a script. The student has three minutes to prepare delivery. The judge times the three minutes of prep and notifies the student when he/she must begin.

Student must present all of the copy as it appears in the script.

Students are not allowed to alter the script in any way.

#### Round 2—Student Prepared News Script

Each student prepares, in advance, a news script using up-to-date material. The students may find material in AP script (available at local radio stations), newspapers, internet sites, etc. Each student must compose/ prepare his/her own scripts. Students may not use the same script from tournament to tournament. Each competitor must provide a copy of the script to the judge. These scripts will be turned in to the tournament director in case there are any future questions about reusing scripts. There is no requirement for particular types of stories to be included in the news script.

An introduction, a sign-off and a brief commercial must be included in the broadcast. The suggested duration of the commercial is 15 seconds. Delivery of the script should last for three minutes, with a 15 second grace period both above and below the time limit.

The judge will invite competitors into the room one at a time, receive a copy of the script, and indicate when to begin. Students must present all of the copy as it appears in the script

Students who share scripts will be placed last in this round.

### Round 3—Tournament Prepared News Script

In the Prep. Room (which may also be the Extemp Prep room), competitors receive a copy of the tournament-prepared news script at approximately five minute intervals. Each competitor has fifteen minutes to prepare the broadcast. A competitor must present all of the copy as it appears in the script. Students are not allowed to alter the script in any way, but may use transitions in the news program. An introduction and sign-off are required.

The tournament host may choose a theme for this round, such as sports, fashion, or historical event, or the host may use current events.

### Semifinal and Final Rounds—News Program

In the Prep. Room (which may also be the Extemp. Prep. Room), competitors receive a packet of news-copy, prepared by the tournament director, at five-minute intervals. Competitors edit the copy and include an impromptu commercial, per the prompt included in the packet, to prepare a five-minute broadcast. An introduction, transitions, and sign-off are required. During the round, a student may use a stopwatch while performing; judges will NOT give time signals.

Each competitor has 30 minutes to prepare the broadcast. The Prep. Room monitor will send contestants to their competition rooms at five minute intervals.

There is a fifteen second grace period, after which the student must be dropped in rank/rating. No violation of the grace period in Regional/State Semifinal or Final rounds may result in disqualification. No performance violating the grace period may receive '1' in the round.

## PROCEDURES

Only minor accommodations are required for this event, most of which are found in every school. No Prep. Room is required for Rounds I and II. A Prep. Room as well as a monitor is needed for Round III and Semifinals/Finals. When the student enters the room, he/she should inform the judge of his/her code number and name.

## HINTS FOR JUDGES

1. Do not permit other students to listen before they have performed. Contestants must remain outside the room until called upon to speak.
2. Remember that this is Broadcast **Announcing**. Students must be judged solely on the basis of what is heard. Do not judge eye contact, facial expression, or body movement (unless distracted by paper rattling, gum chewing, etc.) Judges may wish to turn their backs to the contestants during the performance.
3. Round II news scripts will be prepared prior to the tournament by students and should

include up-to-date material. The arrangement and choice of material should be considered as well as the delivery. The brief commercial does not have to be timed. The 15 seconds is only suggested.

4. Do judge articulation, fluency, conviction, accuracy, clarity and variety of voice, understanding of content, appropriate tone, and pronunciation. Eye contact is NOT part of this event, and should not be regarded in any way, shape, or form.
5. In news programs, transitions should be appropriate.
6. In semi-finals and finals, editing skills should also be judged. Relevance of news selection and the arrangement of the articles should be considered.

### **HINTS FOR COACHES**

1. Tape students and review tapes with students.
2. Work on various types of broadcasts to show vocal variety.
3. Practice with AP script (available from most local radio and/or TV stations).
4. Get an updated pronunciation guide (available from most local radio and/or TV stations). Have students practice "names in the news" (people, places, and things) prior to each tournament.
5. Although only semi-final and final rounds require students to edit copy, do not neglect the need to have students practice this skill. It is a difficult one to master.

### **HINTS FOR STUDENTS**

1. Read aloud from newspapers.
2. Tape yourself and save the tape to compare with future readings as you progress.
3. Practice often with a variety of script types, including scripts which must be edited.

## DECLAMATION

### Junior and Senior Divisions

#### Rules

1. In this event, each competitor delivers a speech which was written by another person, presented in a public forum by a person other than the contestant, and taken from a published source.
2. **Declamation is open to all member students in the Junior Division. Only 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders may enter Declamation in the Senior Division.**
3. The maximum time is ten minutes, including a required introduction. There is a thirty second grace period, after which the student must be dropped in rank/rating. **Time signals may be given at the request of the competitor.** No violation of the grace period in Regional/State Semifinal or Final rounds may result in disqualification. No performance violating the grace period may receive '1' in the round.
4. The speech must be memorized and must have been written by another person, presented in a public forum by a person other than the contestant, and taken from a published source.
5. No time limit is placed on the length of the introduction. The introduction should reveal the background and the author's intent.
6. A lectern shall not be used.
7. **The Source Rule applies to this event and is included in the rules by reference.**

## PROCEDURES

No special procedures or facilities are needed for this event. A simple classroom with space in the front for the student to stand and speak is sufficient. Before a student performs, he/she should inform the judge of his/her code number, name, and title of selection.

## HINTS FOR JUDGES

1. The selection must be a self-contained unit. The speech may be edited to fit the time constraints so long as the presentation accurately reflects the author's intent.
2. The introduction should provide suitable background (e.g., the circumstances under which the speech was originally presented), but should not exceed thirty seconds.
3. No particular style should be demanded of the orator; rather, the speaker should feel free to select and develop his/her own style and then be judged according to the degree of perfection he/she has attained and his/her effectiveness in influencing the audience.
4. Movement and/or gestures should be natural and dictated by the material.
5. The suitability of the material to the maturity level of the performer should be considered.

**HINTS FOR COACHES**

1. Speech material may be historical or contemporary. If a speech is historical in nature, the student should understand the context from which it originated.
2. Assist students when necessary in editing the speech to fit the time limits, but be sure that the author's intent is preserved.
3. Added transitions are not allowed.
4. This is a speaking event rather than an acting event. Material should be delivered in a rhetorical style using eye contact, gestures, and movement appropriate to the material.
5. The emphasis in this event is on communication rather than dramatization.

**HINTS FOR STUDENTS**

1. Choose a speech you understand and with which you can identify.
2. Become familiar with the person who presented the speech.
3. Develop a rhetorical delivery style and practice so that you are comfortable with it.
4. Avoid unnatural and contrived body movements and gestures.

## EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING

### Junior and Senior Divisions

#### Rules

1. In this event, students used limited preparation time to prepare a speech which analyzes and answers a question addressing a current issue.
2. The maximum time for Extemporaneous Speaking is five minutes (Junior Division) and seven minutes (Senior Division). There is a thirty second grace period, after which the student must be dropped in rank/rating. No violation of the grace period in Regional/State Semifinal or Final rounds may result in disqualification. No performance violating the grace period may receive '1' in the round.
3. **Time signals are mandatory in this event. The count-down method must be used. See the KHSSL Time Signals page for details. The Time Signals rule is incorporated herein by reference.**
4. Preparation will take place and be monitored in the prep room and outside assistance is not permitted. Laptops are allowed in the Extemp. preparation room. Students will need to supply their own power source. The internet may not be used in the preparation room.
5. In the prep room, Junior Division students will draw at five minute intervals and Senior Division students at seven minute intervals. Students will draw three topics and select one of the three as their topic for that round, then be given thirty minutes to prepare. The speech must not be pre-written. The prep room monitor will announce when each speaker should leave the prep room and go to speak.
6. Source materials should be used, but direct quotations should not constitute a major portion of the speech (no more than 25%). The speaker may use one 3 X 5 note card (front and back). Students using more than the front and back of one 3 X 5 note card must be ranked last in the round. Additionally, no visual aids or props may be used.
7. Topics vary from round to round. Each round will have a specific area of concentration. These areas may include domestic, international, social, political, and economic issues. Junior division topics will vary also, but emphasis will be placed on domestic and social issues.
8. For the final round of the Senior KHSSL State Championship tournament and final rounds of Senior KHSSL Senior Regional extemporaneous speaking competitions each speaker shall be assigned a position in the speaking order. Drawing shall take place at twelve minute intervals. Thirty minutes after the first speaker has drawn, the first speaker and the last speaker shall enter the contest room. The first speaker shall give a speech and the last speaker shall listen and may take notes. At the conclusion of the first speaker's speech, the last speaker shall question the first speaker for three minutes. This is to be an open cross-examination where the questioner may ask as many questions as they like within three minutes. The last speaker shall return to the prep room and the first speaker shall stay and question the second speaker. The second speaker will question the third speaker, etc. Invitational tournaments will also have the right to utilize this form of cross-examination if they wish in their final rounds.

## PROCEDURES

Only minor accommodations are required for this event, most of which are found in every school. A large room with tables and chairs (library, cafeteria, etc.) to be used as a prep room and several small rooms (classrooms, library workrooms, etc.) in close proximity to the prep room, each having sufficient space in the front of the room for the student to stand and speak, are required. Before a student speaks, he/she should inform the judge of his/her code number and name and present his/her topic to the judge.

### **HINTS FOR JUDGES**

1. Be sure to take the student's topic before he/she speaks.
2. Clarify with the student before he/she begins how time signals will be communicated and give hand signals while the student is speaking.
3. Make an outline as the student speaks. Organization is a principal part of a successful speech, along with presentation and sources.
4. The student should answer the question. The questions are purposefully broad, and the student is expected to make his/her own limitations rather than try to cover all aspects of the topic. Try to judge on the basis of how well the speaker does what he/she sets out to do.

### **HINTS FOR COACHES**

1. Have students prepare an organized, indexed Extemp. file which may include magazine articles, newspaper articles, and pamphlets, along with a book of quotations, a thesaurus, and an almanac.
2. Encourage groups of students to have a discussion on the week's current events.
3. Students should prepare and give at least one speech per week. Videotaping speeches and having students critique one another is helpful.
4. Students should learn how to specifically answer the question that is posed.

### **HINTS FOR STUDENTS**

1. Prepare and continually update your files. Watch a news program and read a newspaper every day, and read magazines at least once a week.
2. Learn to follow an outline. Most judges stress organization as a principal part of a successful speech.
3. Practice often with another student giving time signals so you can become comfortable with the time limit.
4. Use a variety of sources, and be sure to give credit to your sources in your speech. Falsifying evidence is grounds for disqualification. If the judge has reason to believe that evidence has been falsified, he/she may ask you to bring your source to him/her before completing his/her ballot.

## IMPROMPTU SPEAKING

### Junior and Senior Divisions

#### Rules

1. In this event, each competitor prepares and presents a short speech with limited preparation.
2. The maximum time for Impromptu Speaking is seven minutes in both Divisions which includes both prep time and speaking time.
3. In the Senior Division, students may speak all seven minutes if they desire, but must be penalized if they speak for less than four minutes. In the Junior Division, students may speak for all seven minutes if they desire, but must be penalized if they speak for less than three minutes.
4. There is a fifteen-second grace period, after which the student must be dropped in rank/rating. No violation of the grace period in Regional/State Semifinal or Final rounds may result in disqualification. No performance violating the grace period may receive '1' in the round.
5. The judge will call out prep time. **Time signals are mandatory in this event. The count-down method must be used. See the KHSSL Time Signals page for details. The Time Signals rule is incorporated herein by reference.**
6. Prep time begins after the speaker has received the topic(s) and has been allowed a few seconds to view it (them).
7. No electronic devices (e.g., computers or tape recorders) may be used, and source materials are not permitted.
8. The speaker may use one 3 X 5 note card (front and back) while speaking. Students using more than the front and back of one 3 X 5 note card while speaking must be ranked last in the round. Students may use multiple note cards and/or paper to plan speeches during the preparation time before speaking begins.
9. In all rounds except the final round, the contestant will be given two quotations from which to choose one.
10. Students will remain outside the room until it is their time to speak, will prepare in the room, and may leave the room once they have spoken if they have another event to attend this round.
11. Finalists at the State Tournament will respond to an object. At all other rounds of the State Tournament, and in all Rounds at the Regional Tournaments, the topics will be quotations.
12. Invitational tournaments may follow the State or Regional format.

## PROCEDURES

Only minor accommodations are required for this event, most of which are found in a simple classroom and the hallway outside the classroom. There must be sufficient space in the front of the room for each student to stand and speak, and sufficient space outside the room for contestants to wait until it is their

turn to speak. Before a student is given the topic(s), he/she should inform the judge of his/her code number and name.

### HINTS FOR JUDGES

1. Do not permit other students to listen before they have spoken. Contestants must remain outside the room until called upon to speak.
2. Clarify with the student before he/she begins how time signals will be communicated.
3. Call out the student's prep time and give hand signals while the student is speaking.
4. Start timing after the student receives the topic(s) and has had a few seconds to view it (them).
5. Make sure the student returns the topic(s) to you after he/she has spoken.
6. Content and delivery are equally important.

### HINTS FOR COACHES

1. Have students practice from *Bartlett's Book of Familiar Quotations* or similar books. One may also get quotations from websites on The Internet.
2. Stress choice of material used in the speech, organization, and delivery.
3. Have practice at least once a week, and video students' performances when possible.

### HINTS FOR STUDENTS

1. Organization of the speech is important. An introduction, preview of points, development of points, and conclusion should be evident.
2. Practice often with another student giving time signals so you can become comfortable with the time limit.

## IMPROVISATIONAL DUO

### Junior and Senior Divisions

#### Rules

1. In this event involving limited preparation, two students create and present a performance portraying two characters.
2. Preparation time for Improvisational Duo is three minutes for senior division and five minutes for junior division. Setting up the table and chairs, when used, is part of preparation time. Preparation time is separate from performance time.
3. Performance time must be a maximum of six minutes.
4. There is a fifteen-second grace period, after which the student must be dropped in rank/rating. No violation of the grace period in Regional/State Semifinal or Final rounds may result in disqualification. No performance violating the grace period may receive '1' in the round.
5. Unless the tournament provides a prep room & prep room monitor, the judge will time the preparation time, and call out time intervals per contestant requires. Time signals during the performance are mandatory in this event. The count-up method must be used. See the KHSSL Time Signals page for details. The Time Signals rule is incorporated herein by reference.
6. No make-up, costumes, props, or lighting are permitted, but a table and/or two chairs may be used. Doors and walls are considered props and must not be used.
7. Each performer may portray ONE and only ONE character during the scene; dialogue must be equally shared over the course of the scene.
8. An introduction by one or both students is required to set the scene, and a resolution of the conflict must be evident at the end of the scene.
9. Profanity, sexual innuendo, and/or excessive physicality will result in the performance being marked last in the round.
10. If preparing in another room, students must remain outside the performance room until it is their time to perform.
11. The topics at the State Championship will alternate between serious and humorous and must be treated in the manner intended.

## PROCEDURES

Several accommodations are required for this event, but most can be found in any school. Each performance room must have two standard chairs, a small table, and sufficient space at the front of the room for the actors to perform. Ideally, each section will have a separate prep room near the performance room. If this is not practical, a large room in close proximity to the performance rooms and

with sufficient space and resources for all pairs of contestants from each section to prepare at the same time may be used or the students will prepare in the performance room under the supervision of the judge or a monitor. Before a pair of contestants performs, they should inform the judge of their code number and names.

### **HINTS FOR JUDGES**

1. The scene must be a self-contained unit holding together a story itself.
2. Students must resolve the conflict presented in the topic.
3. Criteria for judging include teamwork of the actors, timing, movement, consistent characterization, good speaking skills, pantomime of props, and the comedic or dramatic effect of the scene on the audience.
4. The suitability of the material to the maturity level of the performer should be considered.

### **HINTS FOR COACHES**

1. Pairs of students should prepare and present at least one improvisational performance per week.
2. Students must learn how to effectively pace the scene and specifically resolve the conflict presented in the topic.
3. Videotape students and allow them to critique each other.

### **HINTS FOR STUDENTS**

1. Keep a list of possible topics. Topics may be either "real world" or ones which require a great deal of imagination.
2. Learn to quickly organize your thoughts.
3. Practice often with your partner and have another student give you time signals so that you will become comfortable with the time limit.

## POETRY

### Junior and Senior Divisions

#### Rules

1. In this event, each student delivers an interpretation of a published poem (or poems) that is (are) narrative, descriptive, or lyrical.
2. The maximum time is ten minutes, including a required introduction. There is a thirty second grace period, after which the student must be dropped in rank/rating. **Time signals may be given at the request of the competitor.** No violation of the grace period in Regional/State Semifinal or Final rounds may result in disqualification. No performance violating the grace period may receive '1' in the round.
3. One poem or a program of shorter poems (narrative, descriptive, or lyrical) may be used and shall be from a published poet or poets of literary merit. Any decision to edit literature from a different venue, potentially defying the author's intent, to fit within this venue you do at your own risk. Students will not be disqualified for doing so.
4. A manuscript must be used and referred to.
5. The introduction (and transitions when used) should provide adequate background for the reading as a whole and for the individual selections as needed in order to relate them to the whole.
6. **Though movement is permissible in the introduction, during the performance upper body movement (e.g., emphatic gestures) is allowed, while lower body movement is limited to weight shifts and bending. Students may not walk-about or pivot.**
7. **The Source Rule applies to this event and is included in the rules by reference.**

## PROCEDURES

No special procedures or facilities are needed for this event. A simple classroom with space in the front for the student to stand and perform is sufficient. Before a student performs, he/she should inform the judge of his/her code number, name, and title of selection.

## HINTS FOR JUDGES

1. The introduction should prepare the listener for the selection(s).
2. In multiple selections, a relationship should be obvious between the literature chosen to develop the poetry program and the theme of the program.
3. The suitability of the material to the maturity level of the performer should be considered.
4. The contestant must use a manuscript and must refer to it.
5. Projection, diction, and flexibility of voice are important to the student's interpretation.

6. Multiple character voices may be used.

### **HINTS FOR COACHES**

1. Within the Junior Division, do not ignore the wealth of material to be found in children's literature.
2. Each of the three primary types of poetry -- narrative, dramatic, and lyric -- demands slightly different techniques of delivery. This should be considered.
3. Multiple selections may reflect a single topic or theme, show contrast, create a mood, or be by a single author.

### **HINTS FOR STUDENTS**

1. Know your introduction and deliver it in a conversational tone.
2. Do not "sing-song" your presentation.
3. Practice handling the manuscript so that it does not distract from the performance.
4. Read to express a complete thought rather than line-by-line.
5. Keep in mind that the reader should demonstrate a real, lively, and enthusiastic interest in sharing the selection with the audience

## PROSE

### Junior and Senior Divisions

#### Rules

1. In this event, each student presents an interpretation of a piece of fiction or nonfiction from narrative, descriptive, or expository prose of literary merit.
2. The maximum time is ten minutes, including a required introduction. There is a thirty second grace period, after which the student must be dropped in rank/rating. **Time signals may be given at the request of the competitor.** No violation of the grace period in Regional/State Semifinal or Final rounds may result in disqualification. No performance violating the grace period may receive '1' in the round.
3. The cutting shall be from a published narrative, descriptive, or expository prose of literary merit. Any decision to edit literature from a different venue, potentially defying the author's intent, to fit within this venue you do at your own risk. Students will not be disqualified for doing so.
4. Dialogue may comprise only a small portion of the total performance.
5. A manuscript must be used and referred to.
6. The introduction should provide adequate background for the selection.
7. **Though movement is permissible in the introduction, during the performance upper body movement (e.g., emphatic gestures) is allowed, while lower body movement is limited to weight shifts and bending. Students may not walk-about or pivot.**
8. **The Source Rule applies to this event and is included in the rules by reference.**

## PROCEDURES

No special procedures or facilities are needed for this event. A simple classroom with space in the front for the student to stand and perform is sufficient. Before a student performs, he/she should inform the judge of his/her code number, name, and title of selection.

## HINTS FOR JUDGES

1. The introduction should prepare the listener for the selection(s).
2. The suitability of the material to the maturity level of the performer should be considered.
3. The contestant must use a manuscript and must refer to it.
4. Projection, diction, and flexibility of voice are important to the student's interpretation.

**HINTS FOR COACHES**

1. Material should be suitable for the maturity level of the performer.
2. The author's purpose, motivation, and philosophy must be examined in the cutting.
3. In terms of the selection, the plot structure, conflict, mood, and characterization should be studied.

**HINTS FOR STUDENTS**

1. Know your introduction and deliver it in a conversational tone.
2. Practice handling the manuscript so that it does not distract from the audience.
3. The interpreter should keep in mind the author's purpose of informing, persuading, and/or entertaining.
4. Remember that the reader should demonstrate a real, lively, and enthusiastic interest in sharing the selection with the audience

## STORYTELLING

### Junior and Senior Divisions

#### Rules

1. In this event, each student recreates and retells a story for the purpose of entertaining the audience.
2. The maximum time is ten minutes, including a required introduction. There is a thirty second grace period, after which the student must be dropped in rank/rating. **Time signals may be given at the request of the competitor.** No violation of the grace period in Regional/State Semifinal or Final rounds may result in disqualification. No performance violating the grace period may receive '1' in the round.
3. The introduction should clarify all vital information needed for an understanding of the story.
4. Either a complete story or an excerpt from a longer one may be used, and the story may be either humorous or serious.
5. The story must be memorized, and the storyteller may sit on the floor (not in a chair), stand, or use a limited stage area to tell the story.
6. The use of costumes, props, or furniture or any kind is prohibited.

#### PROCEDURES

No special procedures or facilities are needed for this event. A simple classroom with adequate space in the front for the student to sit, stand, and/or use a limited stage area is sufficient. Before a student performs, he/she should inform the judge of his/her code number, name, and title of selection.

#### HINTS FOR JUDGES

1. Students should be judged for quality of performance, entertainment, and versatility.
2. The narration should be the major portion of the story, not excessive dialogue with a bit of narration.
3. Movement should be appropriate.

#### HINTS FOR COACHES

1. Selections may come from legends, tall tales, myths, children's stories, ghost stories, or folk material.
2. Stories should have an interesting plot.
3. The introduction should include the title, author, and information necessary to set the mood and provide for understanding of the story.

**HINTS FOR STUDENTS**

1. Choose a story you like and one that seems to fit your style and personality.
2. Eye contact with the audience is important for the narrator.
3. Use appropriate movement.

**SENIOR DIVISION EVENTS**

**The following five events are for Senior division competitors only.**

## DRAMATIC INTERPRETATION

### Senior Division Only

#### Rules

1. In this event, each student performs a published piece of serious literature, which may be a monologue or dialogue.
2. The maximum time is ten minutes, including a required introduction. There is a thirty second grace period, after which the student must be dropped in rank/rating. **Time signals may be given at the request of the competitor.** No violation of the grace period in Regional/State Semifinal or Final rounds may result in disqualification. No performance violating the grace period may receive '1' in the round.
3. The scene may come from a published play, short story, novel, TV, or movie. Any decision to edit literature from a different venue, potentially defying the author's intent, to fit within this venue you do at your own risk. Students will not be disqualified for doing so.
4. The selection must be memorized.
5. The cutting may be a monologue or dialogue.
6. If transitions are used, no more than 10% may be narrative.
7. Offstage focus must be employed when one character speaks to another character; however, if the speaker is supposed to address the audience, he/she may make eye contact.
8. Limited movement is permissible in the introduction and during the selection. Limited movement is defined as movement within an area of ten feet in diameter. The area may be used for actions including bending, stooping, turning, and pivoting. When a "teaser" taken directly from the script is used in the introduction, this is considered part of the selection and movement is therefore restricted as above.
9. Except as noted here, the rules for this event are the same as those provided by the National Speech & Debate Association.
10. **The Source Rule applies to this event and is included in the rules by reference.**

#### PROCEDURES

No special procedures or facilities are needed for this event. A simple classroom with space in the front for the student to stand and perform is sufficient. Before a student performs, he/she should inform the judge of his/her code number, name, and title of selection.

#### HINTS FOR JUDGES

1. The introduction should include enough background information to establish the selection with the audience.
2. Delivery should be interpretation rather than acting.

3. Character delineation should be clear. If you close your eyes, the vocal characterization should be very evident and appropriate to the character. Physical delineation (i.e., facial expression, gestures, and suggestive bodily delivery) should be evident.
4. The cutting should be a self-contained unit, including a beginning, middle, and an end.
5. The performance should emphasize interpretation skills (internalization) rather than techniques and mechanics.
6. Characters may address each other and/or the audience.
7. The suitability of the material to the maturity level of the performer should be considered.

### HINTS FOR COACHES

1. Material should be suitable to the ability of the student.
2. Character delineation may be achieved by eye placement of characters during dialogue. For example, place characters on the back wall behind the audience using different focal points.
3. Body attitude and accents may also be used.
4. The cutting should be a self-contained unit.
5. The introduction should contain sufficient information to establish the selection in the mind of the audience.

### HINTS FOR STUDENTS

1. Select material that interests you.
2. Read the entire play, short story, novel, or movie script.
3. Determine the author's intent of the literature. What is the author trying to say?
4. Edit the material with the author's intent in mind.
5. Write your own introduction.
6. Determine the rise and fall in the selection and, as you prepare your selection, develop a natural build. Be careful not to begin the selection at such a high emotional peak that you have nowhere to go.
7. Develop clear characterizations for all the characters in your selection. This should be done vocally, with facial expression, and/or non-verbally.
8. Be sure to develop the selection so that it has a definite conclusion.

## DUO INTERPRETATION

### Senior Division Only

#### Rules

1. In this event, two students perform a scene or cutting from a published play, novel, short story, or movie script.
2. The maximum time for Duo Interpretation is ten minutes, including a required introduction. There is a thirty second grace period, after which the student must be dropped in rank/rating. **Time signals may be given at the request of the competitor.** No violation of the grace period in Regional/State Semifinal or Final rounds may result in disqualification. No performance violating the grace period may receive '1' in the round.
3. The selection may be from a published play, novel, short story, or movie script, and the two competitors must have equal share of dialogue. Any decision to edit literature from a different venue, potentially defying the author's intent, to fit within this venue you do at your own risk. Students will not be disqualified for doing so.
4. Offstage focus must be employed when one character speaks to another character; however, if the speaker is supposed to address the audience, he/she may make eye contact with the audience.
5. Limited movement is permissible in the introduction and during the selection. Limited movement is defined as movement within an area of ten feet in diameter. The area may be used for actions including bending, stooping, turning, and pivoting. When a "teaser" taken directly from the script is used in the introduction, this is considered part of the selection and movement is therefore restricted as above.
6. Except as noted here, the rules for this event are the same as those provided by the National Speech & Debate Association.
7. One or both students may participate in the introduction.
8. Competitors in Duo Interpretation may portray one or more characters as needed. Dialogue should be equally shared between the performers.
9. **The Source Rule applies to this event and is included in the rules by reference.**

## PROCEDURES

No special procedures or facilities are needed for this event. A simple classroom with space in the front for the students to stand and perform is sufficient. Before a pair of students performs, they should inform the judge of their code number, names, and title of selection.

## HINTS FOR JUDGES

1. The selection must be a self-contained unit holding together a story itself.
2. Dramatic and humorous selections should be given equal consideration.

3. Criteria for judging include teamwork, timing, consistent characterization, good speaking skills, and the comedic or dramatic effect of the scene on the audience.
4. Delivery should be interpretation rather than acting.
5. Focal placement should be offstage, suggestive of actions, and appropriate for the heights of characters.
6. The suitability of the material to the maturity level of the performer should be considered.

### **HINTS FOR COACHES**

1. The selection must be an artistic, self-contained unit holding together a story itself -- capable of being appreciated without one having heard the entire play, novel, short story, or movie script.
2. Play titles and synopses can be found in publisher catalogues (e.g., Samuel French, Dramatist Play Service, Dramatic Publishing Company, Fireside Theatre, and Drama Book Shop).
3. Other selections may be obtained from novels, short stories, or movies scripts.
4. Choose material that corresponds to the ability and maturity of the performers.

### **HINTS FOR STUDENTS**

1. Introductions may be spoken, sung, or performed, and need to include who, what, when, and where.
2. A performer should not look at his/her partner while delivering lines. Presentation should be offstage unless the speaker is supposed to address the audience.
3. Read the whole play, novel, short story, or movie script from which the selection is taken.
4. Do a character study in preparation. Consider how other characters see your character (e.g., physical characteristics, mental attributes, etc.) and how other characters feel about your character

## HUMOROUS INTERPRETATION

### Senior Division Only

#### Rules

1. In this event, each student performs a published piece of humorous literature, which may be a monologue or dialogue.
2. The maximum time is **ten minutes**, including a required introduction. There is a thirty second grace period, after which the student must be dropped in rank/rating. **Time signals may be given at the request of the competitor.** No violation of the grace period in Regional/State Semifinal or Final rounds may result in disqualification. No performance violating the grace period may receive '1' in the round.
3. The scene may come from a published play, novel, short story, or movie script. Any decision to edit literature from a different venue, potentially defying the author's intent, to fit within this venue you do at your own risk. Students will not be disqualified for doing so.
4. The selection must be memorized.
5. The cutting may be a monologue or dialogue.
6. If transitions are used, no more than 10% may be narrative.
7. Offstage focus must be employed when one character speaks to another character; however, if the speaker is supposed to address the audience, he/she may make eye contact.
8. Limited movement is permissible in the introduction and during the selection. Limited movement is defined as movement within an area of ten feet in diameter. The area may be used for actions including bending, stooping, turning, and pivoting. When a "teaser" taken directly from the script is used in the introduction, this is considered part of the selection and movement is therefore restricted as above.
9. Except as noted here, the rules for this event are the same as those provided by the National Speech & Debate Association.
10. **The Source Rule applies to this event and is included in the rules by reference.**

## PROCEDURES

No special procedures or facilities are needed for this event. A simple classroom with space in the front for the student to stand and perform is sufficient. Before a student performs, he/she should inform the judge of his/her code number, name, and title of selection.

## HINTS FOR JUDGES

1. The introduction should include enough background information to establish the selection with the audience.
2. Delivery should be interpretation rather than acting.

3. Character delineation should be clear. If you close your eyes, the vocal characterization should be very evident and appropriate to the character. Physical delineation (i.e., facial expression, gestures, and suggestive bodily delivery) should be evident.
4. The cutting should be a self-contained unit, including a beginning, middle, and an end.
5. The performance should emphasize interpretation skills (internalization) rather than techniques and mechanics.
6. Characters may address each other and/or the audience.
7. The suitability of the material to the maturity level of the performer should be considered.

### HINTS FOR COACHES

1. Material should be suitable to the ability of the student.
2. Character delineation may be achieved by eye placement of characters during dialogue. For example, place characters on the back wall behind the audience using different focal points.
3. Body attitude and accents may also be used.
4. The cutting should be a self-contained unit.
5. The introduction should contain sufficient information to establish the selection in the mind of the audience.

### HINTS FOR STUDENTS

1. Select material that interests you.
2. Read the entire play, short story, novel, or movie script.
3. Determine the author's intent of the literature. What is the author trying to say?
4. Edit the material with the author's intent in mind.
5. Write your own introduction.
6. Determine the rise and fall in the selection and, as you prepare your selection, develop a natural build. Be careful not to begin the selection at such a high emotional peak that you have nowhere to go.
7. Develop clear characterizations for all the characters in your selection. This should be done vocally, with facial expression, and/or non-verbally.
8. Be sure to develop the selection so that it has a definite conclusion.

## ORATORY

### Senior Division Only

#### Rules

1. In this event, each student delivers an original speech which informs and/or persuades.
2. The maximum time is ten minutes, including a required introduction. There is a thirty second grace period, after which the student must be dropped in rank/rating. **Time signals may be given at the request of the competitor.** No violation of the grace period in Regional/State Semifinal or Final rounds may result in disqualification. No performance violating the grace period may receive '1' in the round.
3. The speech may be of an informative or persuasive nature.
4. The speech must be the original work of the student and must be memorized.
5. Direct quotations may be used, but they must be indicated and limited to 150 words of quoted material.
6. No props or visual aids are permitted.
7. Each Oratory contestant will submit an electronic copy of the Oratory for the Regional and State tournaments per the respective tournament rules or as indicated by the Executive Director.

## PROCEDURES

No special procedures or facilities are needed for this event. A simple classroom with space in the front for the student to stand and speak is sufficient. Before a student performs, he/she should inform the judge of his/her code number, name, and topic of speech.

## HINTS FOR JUDGES

1. The introduction should get the attention of the audience as well as preview the speech.
2. Good speaking skills should be evident.
3. Organization must be clear and easy to follow.
4. Eye contact is essential.
5. Audience rapport should be evident.
6. Sources should be used to support any facts or claims.
7. Fluency of language is important as well as logical development of content.

**HINTS FOR COACHES**

1. Help students select a topic that is fresh, or encourage them to use a fresh approach to a dated topic.
2. Topics should be appropriate to students' ages and speaking situations.
3. Have students use an outline in preparation.
4. Consult textbooks for styles of introductions, conclusions, and methods of development.
5. Make sure that paraphrasing is not plagiarizing.
6. Videotaping of students' gestures and movements is helpful. Gestures should be natural.

**HINTS FOR STUDENTS**

1. Read widely about your chosen topic before formulating a thesis.
2. Use a variety of sources.
3. Make an outline.
4. Write your speech using transitional phrases so your speech will flow smoothly.
5. Rehearse movement but retain spontaneity.
6. Maintain eye contact with the audience.
7. Deliver the speech in a conventional manner. Oratory is a speaking event, not an acting event.
8. Be able to adapt to the size of the room as well as the size of the audience.

## PROGRAM ORAL INTERPRETATION

1. In this event, each student delivers a program of thematically-linked selections of literary merit, chosen from two or more genres of literature and writing (most common will be readings from Prose, Poetry, and Drama). A substantial portion of the total time must be devoted to each of the genres used in the program.
2. The maximum time limit is 10 minutes, including an original introduction and/or transitions. There is a thirty second grace period, after which the student must be dropped in rank/rating. **Time signals may be given at the request of the competitor.** No violation of the grace period in Regional/State Semifinal or Final rounds may result in disqualification. No performance violating the grace period may receive '1' in the round.
3. Different genre means that material must appear in separate pieces of literature and/or writing (e.g. A poem included in a short story that appears only in the short story does not constitute a poetry genre). The introduction (and transitions when used) should provide adequate background for the reading as a whole and for the individual selections as needed in order to relate them to the whole.
4. Genres should be understood fairly broadly. Non-fiction, advertising copy, and other sources are valid and legitimate—how they are used will determine the effectiveness of the Program. The Program as a whole should have a unifying theme or message. Pieces within the Program may be cut into smaller passages interspersed with passages from other selections.
5. The performer may use single or multiple characters to animate and assist the interpretation.
6. A manuscript must be used and referred to.
7. The introduction (and transitions when used) should provide adequate background for the reading as a whole and for the individual selections as needed in order to relate them to the whole.
8. **Though movement is permissible in the introduction, during the performance upper body movement (e.g., emphatic gestures) is allowed, while lower body movement is limited to weight shifts and bending. Students may not walk-about or pivot.**
9. **The Source Rule applies to this event and is included in the rules by reference.**

## PROCEDURES

No special procedures or facilities are needed for this event. A simple classroom with space in the front for the student to stand and perform is sufficient. Before a student performs, he/she should inform the judge of his/her code number, name, and title of selection.

## HINTS FOR JUDGES

1. The introduction should prepare the listener for the selection(s).

2. In multiple selections, a relationship should be obvious between the literature chosen to develop the program and the theme of the program.
3. The suitability of the material to the maturity level of the performer should be considered.
4. The contestant must use a manuscript and must refer to it.
5. Projection, diction, and flexibility of voice are important to the student's interpretation.
6. Multiple character voices may be used, but should be distinct from each other.

### **HINTS FOR COACHES**

1. Work with students to ensure a central theme or message.
2. The overall structure and arrangement of the selections and cuttings is crucial to the message.
3. Encourage students to be fresh and imaginative in their selection of sources. This event allows a wide range of sources. Do not restrict students to sources for other events.

### **HINTS FOR STUDENTS**

1. Be imaginative in your source material.
2. Memorize your introduction, and make sure it gives the audience a strong sense of your message.
3. If you use multiple characters, make sure they are distinct from each other.
4. Use effective transitions between passages, and focus on solid performance for each genre.

Modeled on *Program Oral Interpretation*. (2014, August 11). Retrieved from Gustavus Adolphus College:  
<https://gustavus.edu/forensics/events/poi.php>

### JUNIOR DIVISION EVENTS

The four following events are for Junior Division competitors only.

## DUO ACTING

### Junior Division Only

#### Rules

1. In this event, two students perform a scene or cutting with two characters from a published play, TV, or movie script.
2. The maximum time for Duo Acting is **ten minutes**, including a required introduction. There is a thirty second grace period, after which the student must be dropped in rank/rating. **Time signals may be given at the request of the competitor.** No violation of the grace period in Regional/State Semifinal or Final rounds may result in disqualification. No performance violating the grace period may receive '1' in the round.
3. No make-up, costumes, props, or lighting are permitted, but a table and/or two chairs may be used. Doors and walls are considered props and must not be used.
4. The scene or cutting may come from a published play, TV, or movie script, and must contain only two characters with equal sharing of dialogue. Any decision to edit literature from a different venue, potentially defying the author's intent, to fit within this venue you do at your own risk. Students will not be disqualified for doing so.
5. One or both students may participate in the introduction.
6. The material must be memorized.
7. Each student may portray one and only one character.
8. **The Source Rule applies to this event and is included in the rules by reference.**

#### PROCEDURES

Only minor accommodations are required for this event, most of which are found in a simple classroom. The students must have available to them two standard chairs, a small table, and sufficient space in the front of the room for the actors to move about freely. Before a pair of contestants performs, they should inform the judge of their code number, names, and title of selection.

#### HINTS FOR JUDGES

1. The selection must be a self-contained unit holding together a story itself.
2. Dramatic and humorous selections should be given equal consideration.
3. Criteria for judging include teamwork of the actors, timing, movement, consistent characterization, good speaking skills, pantomime of props, and the comedic or dramatic effect of the scene on the audience.
4. The suitability of the material to the maturity level of the performer should be considered.

**HINTS FOR COACHES**

1. The selection must be an artistic, self-contained unit holding together a story itself -- capable of being appreciated without one having heard the entire play, novel, short story, or movie script.
2. Play titles and synopses can be found in publisher catalogues (e.g., Samuel French, Dramatist Play Service, Dramatic Publishing Company, Fireside Theatre, and Drama Book Shop).
3. Other selections may be obtained from novels, short stories, or movies scripts.
4. Choose material that corresponds to the ability and maturity of the performers.

**HINTS FOR STUDENTS**

1. Introductions should contain the title and author, as well as other information deemed necessary for the audience's understanding of the script.
2. Movement should encompass various parts of the performance area.
3. A performer should not look at the audience while delivering lines unless the lines are written as an aside to be spoken to the audience.
4. Read the whole play, novel, short story, or movie script from which the selection is taken.
5. Do a character study in preparation. Consider how other characters see your character (e.g., physical characteristics, mental attributes, etc.) and how other characters feel about your character.

## HUMOROUS/DRAMATIC INTERPRETATION

### Junior Division only

#### Rules

1. In this event, each competitor performs a published piece of humorous or serious literature that consists primarily of dialogue between two or more characters.
2. The maximum time is **ten minutes**, including a required introduction. There is a thirty second grace period, after which the student must be dropped in rank/rating. **Time signals may be given at the request of the competitor.** No violation of the grace period in Regional/State Semifinal or Final rounds may result in disqualification. No performance violating the grace period may receive '1' in the round.
3. The scene may come from a published play, novel, short story, or movie script. Any decision to edit literature from a different venue, potentially defying the author's intent, to fit within this venue you do at your own risk. Students will not be disqualified for doing so.
4. The selection must be memorized.
5. The cutting must have dialogue from two or more characters.
6. If transitions are used, no more than 10% may be narrative.
7. Offstage focus must be employed when one character speaks to another character; however, if the speaker is supposed to address the audience, he/she may make eye contact.
8. Limited movement is permissible in the introduction and during the selection. Limited movement is defined as movement within an area of three feet in diameter. The area may be used for actions including bending, stooping, turning, and pivoting. When a "teaser" taken directly from the script is used in the introduction, this is considered part of the selection and movement is therefore restricted as above.
9. **The Source Rule applies to this event and is included in the rules by reference.**

#### PROCEDURES

No special procedures or facilities are needed for this event. A simple classroom with space in the front for the student to stand and perform is sufficient. Before a student performs, he/she should inform the judge of his/her code number, name, and title of selection.

#### HINTS FOR JUDGES

1. The introduction should include enough background information to establish the selection with the audience.
2. Delivery should be interpretation rather than acting.
3. Character delineation should be clear. If you close your eyes, the vocal characterization should be very evident and appropriate to the character. Physical delineation (i.e., facial

expression, gestures, and suggestive bodily delivery) should be evident.

4. The cutting should be a self-contained unit, including a beginning, middle, and an end.
5. The performance should emphasize interpretation skills (internalization) rather than techniques and mechanics.
6. Characters may address each other and/or the audience.
7. The suitability of the material to the maturity level of the performer should be considered.

### **HINTS FOR COACHES**

1. Material should be suitable to the ability of the student.
2. Character delineation may be achieved by eye placement of characters during dialogue. For example, place characters on the back wall behind the audience using different focal points.
3. Body attitude and accents may also be used.
4. The cutting should be a self-contained unit.
5. The introduction should contain sufficient information to establish the selection in the mind of the audience.

### **HINTS FOR STUDENTS**

1. Select material that interests you.
2. Read the entire play, short story, novel, or movie script.
3. Determine the author's intent of the literature. What is the author trying to say?
4. Edit the material with the author's intent in mind.
5. Write your own introduction.
6. Determine the rise and fall in the selection and, as you prepare your selection, develop a natural build. Be careful not to begin the selection at such a high emotional peak that you have nowhere to go.
7. Develop clear characterizations for all the characters in your selection. This should be done vocally, with facial expression, and/or non-verbally.
8. Be sure to develop the selection so that it has a definite conclusion.

## ORIGINAL ORATORY

### Junior Division Only

#### Rules

1. In this event, each competitor delivers an original speech intended to inform or persuade.
2. The maximum time is ten minutes, including a required introduction. There is a thirty second grace period, after which the student must be dropped in rank/rating. **Time signals may be given at the request of the competitor.** No violation of the grace period in Regional/State Semifinal or Final rounds may result in disqualification. No performance violating the grace period may receive '1' in the round.
3. The speech may be of an informative or persuasive nature.
4. The speech must be the original work of the student and must be memorized.
5. Direct quotations may be used, but they must be indicated.
6. No props or visual aids are permitted.
7. Each Public Speaking contestant will submit a copy of the speech for the Regional and State tournaments per the respective tournament rules or as indicated by the Executive Director.

#### PROCEDURES

No special procedures or facilities are needed for this event. A simple classroom with space in the front for the student to stand and speak is sufficient. Before a student performs, he/she should inform the judge of his/her code number, name, and topic of speech.

#### HINTS FOR JUDGES

1. Look for an interesting, organized, well-written speech.
2. The student should demonstrate good general communication skills.

#### HINTS FOR COACHES

1. Encourage students to choose a topic in which they are interested.
2. Be sure students narrow a topic sufficiently to fit the time frame.
3. Be aware that judges are exposed to some topics repeatedly (e.g., child abuse and teen suicide). If a student uses a topic of this nature, encourage him/her to approach it from a fresh viewpoint.
4. The speech should demonstrate good organizational techniques.
5. Encourage an enthusiastic speaking style using movement, gestures, intensity, eye contact, and facial expression.

**HINTS FOR STUDENTS**

1. Choose a topic for which you have a personal interest, but not one that has been overdone.
2. Observe public speakers whenever possible.
3. Practice in front of a mirror.
4. Videotape yourself, observing voice, facial expressions, and gestures.

## SOLO ACTING

### Junior Division

#### Rules

1. In this event, each competitor delivers a performance featuring and recreating one character.
2. The maximum time is ten minutes, including a required introduction. There is a thirty second grace period, after which the student must be dropped in rank/rating. **Time signals may be given at the request of the competitor.** No violation of the grace period in Regional/State Semifinal or Final rounds may result in disqualification. No performance violating the grace period may receive '1' in the round.
3. The scene may come from a published play, TV, or movie script. Any decision to edit literature from a different venue, potentially defying the author's intent, to fit within this venue you do at your own risk. Students will not be disqualified for doing so.
4. The selection must be memorized.
5. The cutting may consist of a number of scenes but must be limited to one character.
6. The performer may use a chair and/or table, but no other props, makeup, costumes, or lighting may be used.
7. This is an acting event, so there is no restriction on body movements within the stage area.
8. **The Source Rule applies to this event and is included in the rules by reference.**

## PROCEDURES

Only minor accommodations are required for this event, most of which are found in a simple classroom. The student must have available to him/her a standard chair, small table, and adequate space in the front of the classroom to move about freely. Before a student performs, he/she should inform the judge of his/her code number, name, and title of selection.

## HINTS FOR JUDGES

1. The introduction should provide antecedent action and prepare the audience for the scene.
2. Movement, gestures, and stage business should enhance the acting.
3. The scene should be well paced and unified.
4. The character should be clearly defined.
5. The judge should try not to favor one form or selection over another (e.g., humorous over dramatic).
6. Take into consideration the age and experience of the contestant.

7. The suitability of the material to the maturity level of the performer should be considered.

**HINTS FOR COACHES**

1. Performers should use theatrical techniques as opposed to rhetorical techniques and aim for a total dramatic effect.
2. Choose material that is suitable to the performer's age and maturity.
3. The student should assume the character and demonstrate analysis and understanding of the character.

**HINTS FOR STUDENTS**

1. Consider the age, temperament, language, and mannerisms of your character.
2. Be familiar with the entire play, short story, novel, or movie script.
3. Be imaginative and creative. Try to portray this character through both voice and body language.

## INVITATIONALS AND QUALIFYING SPEECH TOURNAMENTS

We are fortunate to have a number of schools in both the Junior and Senior divisions who are willing to host invitational tournaments throughout the year. These tournaments provide benefits not only for the schools attending, but also for the host school. Contestants participating at these tournaments gain invaluable experience and practice for the tournaments at the regional and state level. The students and coaches running the tournament gain insight into the technical aspects of other tournaments they will enter and often realize a profit from entry fees, concessions, etc. which can be used to offset some of the costs of attending future tournaments.

Schools hosting invitational tournaments are strongly encouraged to follow all rules and regulations outlined in the *KHSSL Handbook*. Invitational tournaments are, by their very nature, independent, and while such tournaments may choose to offer additional events or modify certain rules, some standards are essential if the tournament is to be considered a KHSSL prequalifying tournament. School may set their own entry, drop, and drop fees and fines. To this end, the following rules and regulations apply to all invitational tournaments which are to be sanctioned by KHSSL as prequalifying tournaments:

1. Schools wishing to host an invitational tournament must submit a tournament request in the manner established by the Executive Director by no later than 30 days before the Spring Board meeting of the Board of Directors. The use of tabroom.com or another on-line registration and tabulation system is vastly preferred over paper. The Executive Director must be given administrative access to the tournament system used. If a pay-for electronic service (i.e., Joy of Tournaments) is used, then the Executive Director must receive pdf versions of all results printouts. Based on those requests, the Executive Director will draft a schedule reflecting the following priorities:
  - i. Schools hosting tournaments on their 'traditional weekends'
  - ii. No division may have two tournaments in the same Region on the same date, unless one is Debate-only, and the other is Speech-only.
  - iii. Higher priority on the requesting school's list of dates.
  - iv. When possible, tournaments in adjoining Regions should be avoided.
  - v. When possible, no more than two tournaments per division per date will be approved.

The Board of Directors will approve the schedule at the Spring Board meeting.

2. Events offered at invitational tournaments must be titled the same as KHSSL events and must follow the same guidelines for these events as outlined in the *KHSSL Handbook*.
3. Schools may offer novice-only tournaments for pre-qualification if all events follow KHSSL rules. Novice-only events must be clearly noted in the invitation. Schools who host novice tournaments/events must be prepared to devise a method of proof that competitors are novice (someone in their first year of competition in their respective division)
4. A novice student may compete in the novice category all year without respect to results at any previous tournament. Novice competitors must pre-qualify twice in a novice category in order to prequalify for state.

5. So that both contestants and judges may become familiar with these documents, tournament directors must use copies of KHSSL evaluation sheets for their ballots available on the league website. Ballots must contain a section for judges to note any rule violations.
6. To be eligible for prequalifying students to the State tournament, a tournament must, at a minimum, have two preliminary rounds and a final round. Ideally, all tournaments will have three preliminary rounds and a final round. Tournament directors may add semi-final rounds at their discretion.
7. Contestants should be mixed from round to round to avoid having the same students competing against one another each round, and there should be no more than eight contestants in each section. Sections of six contestants are considered ideal.
8. One judge shall be used in each preliminary round, three judges in a semi-final round, and three or five judges in the final round. If only two preliminary rounds are held, there may be two judges in one of the preliminary rounds to provide a total of three preliminary round scores. The same judge should not judge the same contestant in the same event more than once at a particular tournament.
9. At the conclusion of the preliminary rounds, contestants shall be placed in order as follows:
  - a. Contestants are first ordered by composite rank. Students with the lowest composite ranks are preferred. *For example, if one contestant has ranks of 1, 2, and 3, his/her composite rank would be  $1 + 2 + 3 = 6$ , and he/she would be preferred over a contestant having ranks of 2, 2, and 4 for a composite rank of  $2 + 2 + 4 = 8$ .*
  - b. Contestants having identical composite ranks are then ordered by composite reciprocal. Students with the highest composite reciprocal are preferred. The reciprocal of 1 is  $1/1$  or 1, the reciprocal of 2 is  $1/2$  or .5, the reciprocal of 3 is  $1/3$  or .333, etc. *For example, contestants having ranks of 1, 1, 3 and 1, 2, 2 both have a composite rank of 5; however, the first contestant has a composite reciprocal of  $1/1 + 1/1 + 1/3 = 1 + 1 + .333 = 2.333$  and is preferred over the second contestant who has a composite reciprocal of  $1/1 + 1/2 + 1/2 = 1 + .5 + .5 = 2$ .*
  - c. Contestants having identical composite ranks and composite reciprocals are then ordered by composite rating. Students with the highest composite rating are preferred. *For example, suppose a first contestant has ranks/ratings of  $1/100$ ,  $2/96$ , and  $3/94$  while a second contestant has ranks/ratings of  $1/100$ ,  $2/94$ , and  $3/85$ . Both contestants have a composite rank of 6 and a composite reciprocal of  $1/1 + 1/2 + 1/3 = 1 + .5 + .333 = 1.833$ , but contestant one has a composite rating of  $100 + 96 + 94 = 290$  and is preferred over contestant two with a composite rating of  $100 + 94 + 85 = 279$ .*
  - d. If two or more contestants have identical composite ranks, reciprocals, and ratings, they shall be considered tied in order.
10. The top six contestants in order shall advance to the final round. Only in the event of an absolute tie as outlined in items 7a-d shall additional contestants be advanced to the final round.
11. At the conclusion of the final round, contestants shall be placed in order as follows:

- a. Contestants are first ordered by **composite rank** as outlined in item 7a.
- b. Contestants having identical composite ranks are then ordered by **judges' preference** in finals.

Consider the following example which gives the ranks of two contestants from judges A, B, and C:

	A	B	C
Contestant One	1	4	2
Contestant Two	2	1	4

Judge A indicated that he/she preferred contestant one by giving him/her the lowest rank. Likewise, judge B indicated that he/she preferred contestant two and judge C indicated that he/she preferred contestant one. Contestant one is therefore preferred two judges to one.

- c. Contestants having identical composite ranks and on whom the judging preference method would not yield a majority decision are then ordered by utilizing **composite reciprocals** as outlined in item 7b and then reapplying judges' preference.

Consider the following example which gives the ranks of three contestants from judges A, B, and C:

	A	B	C
Contestant One	1	3	6
Contestant Two	6	1	3
Contestant Three	4	4	2

Each contestant has a composite rank of ten, so judges' preference is used next. As in the previous example, judge A indicated that he/she preferred contestant one, judge B indicated that he/she preferred contestant two, and judge C indicated that he/she preferred contestant three. Since no contestant was preferred by a majority of the judges, composite reciprocals are then used. Contestants one and two have identical composite reciprocals ( $1/1 + 1/3 + 1/6 = 1 + .333 + .167 = 2$ ) and are preferred over contestant three whose composite reciprocal is  $1/4 + 1/4 + 1/2 = .25 + .25 + .5 = 1$ . Looking only at the judges' preferences for contestants one and two, judge A preferred contestant one, judge B preferred contestant two, and judge C also preferred contestant two. Therefore, the order of contestants in this example is two, one, and three.

- d. Contestants who cannot be ordered by composite ranks, judges' preference, or composite reciprocal are then ordered by composite rating as outlined in item 7c.

Consider the following example which gives the ranks/ratings of three contestants from judges A, B, and C:

	A	B	C
Contestant One	1/100	2/97	3/94
Contestant Two	2/96	3/93	1/100
Contestant Three	3/92	1/100	2/96

Each contestant has a composite rank of 6, each judge prefers a different contestant (A prefers one, B prefers three, and C prefers two) and each contestant has a composite reciprocal of  $1/1 + 1/2 + 1/3 = 1 +$

$.5 + .333 = 1.833$ . Composite ratings are then used to place the contestants in the order one ( $100 + 97 + 94 = 291$ ), two ( $96 + 93 + 100 = 289$ ), and three ( $92 + 100 + 96 = 288$ ).

- e. Only when all of the above methods fail shall two or more contestants be considered tied in the final placement.
12. The tournament director will make results and numbers available in electronic form to the Executive Director within forty-eight hours of the end of the tournament. A tournament conducted on tabroom.com in the Kentucky Circuit is considered available.
  13. Upon receipt of the results from the tournament director, the Executive Director will determine those individuals who prequalified on the basis of the following guidelines:
    - a. Qualifying Events. A qualifying event shall be defined as an event which has an adequate number of *bona fide* participants to justify allowing those contestants who excelled in that event at that tournament to prequalify.
    - b. A "*bona fide* participant" is defined as a contestant who actually performs in all preliminary rounds of the tournament; thus students who drop either at registration or during preliminary rounds shall not be counted. Additionally, students from the host school shall not be counted, even if they participate.
      - If an event at an invitational tournament has 12 or more *bona fide* competitors, all finalists receive prequalification in that event's division.
      - For events with less than 12 *bona fide* participants the top three will qualify.
      - Students from non-KHSSL schools who are finalists will not pre-qualify for State. No contestants from outside the group of finalists as described will pre-qualify for State.
  14. All judges should be certified by KHSSL. The Executive Director shall establish procedures for certification by the end of September of each academic year. **A judge-training course will be available on line by December, 2015.**
  15. The League office will notify the appropriate schools of their prequalifiers after each tournament via the website. Students who prequalify in this manner gain a single advantage--namely, that they may be allowed to compete in the State Championship tournament, regardless of their performance at the regional tournament, provided they follow all other guidelines involving prequalification and the regional and State Championships. Coaches and students alike, therefore, need to be aware of these important regulations:
    - A student may not prequalify through an invitational tournament sponsored by his/her own school or through any out-of-state tournament.
    - A student can participate in a maximum of three events at the Regional and State Tournaments, even though he/she may have prequalified in more than three events.
    - To retain his/her prequalifying status for the State Championship in a particular event, he/she must appear on the regional entry form and that student must participate at the regional

tournament unless excused for good and sufficient reason by the Executive Director. The request should be documented as appropriate to the situation.

- If excused by the Executive Director, the excused student must appear on the Regional entry form and appropriate fees must be paid.

16. Regardless of the number of students who have prequalified for the State Championship from a particular school in a particular event, the school may enter a maximum of three students in each event at the Regional tournament. Additional prequalifiers may be used as substitutes at the State Championship until the registration due date.

## REGIONAL SPEECH TOURNAMENTS

During the month of February, a regional tournament will be conducted for each division (Junior and Senior) in each of the regions. While the League will make forms available on the league website, and retain general oversight of all regional tournaments, the administrative details and actual conduct of each regional tournament are entrusted to a Regional Manager appointed by the Director and approved by the Board. The following rules and regulations apply to all regional tournaments:

1. The date and site of each regional tournament will be set by the Regional Manager. The Regional Manager should schedule the tournament with due regard for standardized testing and other conflicts affecting a large number of students. He/she will forward this information to the League office which will, in turn, provide this and other general information to the schools registered in that region at the first of the school year. Dates of regional tournaments will be established at beginning of academic school year, unless schedule mandates change.
2. Each region must hold tournament regardless of number of schools entered.
3. Regional tournaments may not be held on Sundays.
4. Detailed instructions for each regional tournament will be sent by the regional manager as tournament time nears. The regional manager is solely responsible for setting the schedule for his/her regional tournaments (time of rounds, fighting, etc.), and will make such decisions as may be necessary when weather threatens postponement of the tournament.
5. Regional tournaments may be conducted on tabroom.com or on paper by the Regional Manager. It is preferred that Registration, at the very least, be conducted on tabroom.com. The Executive Director will set up the regional tournaments on tabroom.com, give access to the Regional Manager and any other tabulation officials designated by the Manager. Regional Managers are encouraged to establish a system allowing schools to phone/text any last minute changes while they are *en route* to the tournament.
6. The registration deadline must be at least seven days before the Tournament; this deadline is set by the Regional Manager. Adds after the registration deadline are subject to judge availability.
7. The Final Deadline is 5 pm two days before the tournament. The Regional Tournament will carry the following drop fees and fines; the Regional manager may waive them for good and sufficient reasons, with documentation:
  - i. Substitutions between the registration deadline and the final deadline—free
  - ii. Drops and Adds between the registration deadline and the final deadline—entry fee only.
  - iii. Substitutions after the Final Deadline but before arrival on-site for the Regional Tournament--\$5
  - iv. Substitutions on arrival for the Regional Tournament--\$25
  - v. Drops after the Final Deadline but before arrival on-site for the Regional Tournament--\$10 plus the entry fee
  - vi. Drops on arrival for the Regional Tournament--\$50 plus the entry fee.
  - vii. Judge Name Changes after the Final Deadline but before arrival on-site for the Regional Tournament—free

- viii. Judge Name changes on arrival--\$10.
  - ix. Judge Drops after the registration deadline--\$100 fine plus hired judge fees for the shortage. In addition, if a judge Drop leads to a school not covering its judge obligation, the school's entries may be reduced, but the school will still owe ALL entry fees.
8. Entry fees for the regional tournament are \$6.00 per individual entry and \$12.00 per duo entry (Duo Acting, Duo Interpretation, and Improvisational Duo); these entry fees shall apply in 2014 and 2015. In addition, a school must provide a judge for each six entries or fraction thereof. Each school failing to fill any judging slots will be charged \$65 per judge needed. The names of those serving as judges must also be listed on the regional entry form. Substitutions are permitted, but dropping a judge at any time will result in a \$100.00 drop fee. Again, coaches are urged to obtain commitments from judges before listing their names on the form and find replacements when necessary so that judging drops only occur in the most extreme emergencies. Schools may only pay for ONE hired judge at the Regional tournament. The judge drop fees will go to the Regional Manager.
  9. Students who enter the regional tournament must be able to attend the State Championship if they qualify; consequently, only students able to make this commitment should be considered when filling out the entry form. Any student who attends the regional tournament and qualifies for, but does not attend the state tournament will unless excused for good and sufficient reasons by the Executive Director, be prohibited from competing in the regional and State Championship the following year. Any school that attends the regional tournament and qualifies students for but does not attend the State Championship will unless excused for good and sufficient reasons by the Executive Director, be assessed drop fees for each qualifying entry and will be prohibited from entering the regional and State Championships the following year.
  10. On consultation with the Board of Directors, the Executive Director may allow students entered in a rescheduled Regional tournament which cannot take place owing to local conditions to qualify for the State tournament; these qualifications are known as "waivers". The decision to waive competitors into State may be done on a Region-by-Region basis.
  11. Both junior and senior division students may participate in a maximum of three events at the regional tournament, and the school may have a maximum of three entries in each event. This is true regardless of how many events a student has prequalified in or if a school has prequalified more than three students for an event. In such cases, students and coaches will have to make choices. In order to retain their prequalifying status, students who have prequalified for the State Championship at a sanctioned invitational tournament must be listed on the regional entry form and must participate at the regional tournament unless excused for good and sufficient reasons by the Executive Director. Students may not subsequently be used as substitutes at the State Championship as no substitutions are allowed at that tournament.
  12. At the regional tournament, all contestants participate in two rounds. The number of sections per round per each event depends upon the number of entries for that event. Sections will break down according to this formula:
    - a. 1-7 entries = 1 section
    - b. 8-11 entries = 2 sections
    - c. 12-15 entries = 3 sections
    - d. 16-19 entries = 4 sections

13. 20 or more entries should follow the same formula. When more than one section is used, there will be a different mix of contestants in each of the rounds. Whenever possible, students from the same school shall not compete in the same sections.
14. There will be one judge in each section of each round, and no judge shall evaluate the same event twice. Each contestant in each section receives a rank (the most effective contestant being ranked first or "1," the next most effective second or "2," etc.).
15. Each regional tournament will have a run-off to declare a regional champion and/or runner-up in an event in case of a tie.
16. A student competing at the Regional tournament qualifies for State in one of three ways:
  - a. The student prequalified at an invitational tournament; or
  - b. The student received a cumulative score of '7' or less in the Preliminary Rounds of the Regional Tournament; or
  - c. The student competed in an event with 7 or fewer entries actually competing at the Regional Tournament.
17. In addition to these individual awards, schools accumulate sweepstakes points based upon the success of their entries. Each entry having a composite rank of 2 or 3 is worth five points while a composite rank of 4, 5, or 6 is worth three points and a composite rank of 7, 8, or 9 is worth one point. Trophies are awarded to the first, second and third place schools having the greatest number of sweepstakes points. Ties for these places are broken in the following order:
  - a. greatest number of ranks of one,
  - b. greatest number of composite ranks of six or less,
  - c. greatest number of entries with composite ranks of three or less.

The regional manager will forward complete results of each tournament to the League office **IMMEDIATELY** following the tournament.

18. If a team drops from the Regional or State Championships, they must pay all the drop fees or a nuisance fee of \$150 (whichever is lower) by the time of registration in KHSSL the following year.
19. Each regional tournament shall have a third round for each event to find a champion and runner up in the event. Each junior/senior high tournament will have a run-off if needed to declare a regional champion in an event.

## STATE SPEECH CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT

During the month of March, a State Championship will be conducted for each division (Junior and Senior). The Executive Director shall serve as the Tournament Director, assisted by such persons as he or she may designate. The following rules and regulations apply to both State Championship Tournaments:

1. **Dates, times, & locations.** The dates and site of each State Championship will be set by the Director. He/she will forward this and other general information to all registered schools at the first of the school year.
2. **Tournament organization**Detailed instructions for each State Championship will be sent by the League office as tournament time nears. The tournament director is solely responsible for setting the schedule for the State Championships (time of rounds, flighting, etc.), and will make such decisions as may be necessary when weather threatens postponement of the tournament.
3. **Registration in general.** The State tournament will be conducted on tabroom.com, unless that service is not available. In any event, all aspects of the State Championship Tournament will be conducted electronically, although the Executive Director will ensure that paper tabulation is possible in the event of emergency. The on-line registration portal will open no later than the Monday after the earliest Regional Tournament. The Registration deadline for the State Championship will be designated by the Executive Director, but will be no closer to State than seven days before the start of the State Championship Tournament. The Final Deadline for the State tournament is 5 pm of the penultimate day before the state of the Tournament.
4. **Entry fees.** Entry fees for the State Championship are \$12.00 per individual entry and \$ 24.00 per duo entry (Duo Acting, Duo Interpretation, and Improvisational Duo); these entry fees shall apply in 2014 and 2015. In addition, a school must provide a judge for each six entries or fraction thereof. Each school is required to supply at least one-half of their judging quota (fractions round up). Judges may be made available on a per diem basis. The fee for each unfulfilled Judge Obligation is \$65 per day. A \$10.00 fee will be charged if a judge misses a round, and dropping a judge at any time will result in a \$100.00 drop fee. Judges will not be permitted to trade judging assignments with anyone, even judges on their own team, unless directed to do so by tabulation staff. Judges switching assignments without direction will incur a \$10 fee for the school they represent. Coaches are urged to obtain commitments from judges before registration and find replacements when necessary so that judging drops occur only in the most extreme emergencies.
5. **Registration.** School and entry registration must be made by the registration deadline. Changes after that deadline are subject to the following schedule of drop fees and fines:
  - a. Contestant substitutions before the Final deadline—free
  - b. Drops before the Final Deadline—entry fee plus \$10
  - c. Drops after the Final Deadline but before on-site registration—entry fees plus \$25
  - d. Drops during on-site registration—entry fees plus \$50
  - e. Judge drops after registration deadline--\$65 per day of obligation dropped plus \$100 drop fee. If the judge drop brings the school's judge coverage below its obligation AND no hired judges are available to cover the slot, the school's entry may be reduced.
6. **Regional obligation.** Any school that attends the regional tournament and qualifies students for

but does not attend the State Championship will, except in cases of illness, extreme emergency, or religious conflict, be assessed entry and drop fees for each qualifying entry and may be prohibited from entering the regional and State Championships the following year.

7. **Entry limits.** Both junior and senior division students may participate in a maximum of three events each at the State Championship, and each school may have a maximum of three entries in each event. Students who previously prequalified in an event but were not listed on the regional entry form in that event may be allowed as substitutes in extreme situations by the Executive Director. Only prequalified students may so be allowed.
8. **Tournament pairing.** At the State Championship, all contestants participate in three preliminary rounds per event. The number of sections per round for each event depends upon the number of entries for that event. The preferred number of contestants in these sections is six, but there may be no fewer than five, nor more than eight contestants in a section. There will be a different mix of contestants in each of the rounds. Students from the same school shall not compete in the same section and, whenever possible, students from the same region shall not compete in the same section.
9. **Judge certification.** All judges at the State Championship are required to be certified by KHSSL before the first preliminary round of competition. For each judge not having been certified, unless otherwise excused by the Tournament Director, the associated school must pay a \$25.00 fee, due before postings for final rounds; otherwise no contestant representing that school may proceed to the final round of competition in any event. The Executive Director shall indicate, early in the academic year, the method of certification for the upcoming season. **An on-line judge training course will be available by December 2015; this course will serve to certify judges for State.**
10. **Oratory submission.** In Oratory and **Original Oratory**, the coach of each contestant must submit, no less than seven days prior to the start of the State Tournament, an electronic copy of the Oratory/Speech to the Executive Director. The copy should include a statement indicating that the Oratory/Speech is the original work of the student. **Cite all quotations per MLA format.**
11. **Piece Legality.** At the Regional or State Tournaments, each contestant must be prepared, in the event of challenge, to demonstrate that their interpretation or reading piece is legal within the KHSSL rules.
12. **Preliminary judges and tabulation.** There will be one judge in each section of each preliminary round, and no judge shall evaluate the same event twice. Each contestant in each section receives a rank (the most effective contestant being ranked first or "1," the next most effective second or "2," etc.) and a rating (from a low rating of 70 to a high rating of 100). The contestant ranked first must receive a rating of 100, but a low rating of 70 does not have to be given. At the conclusion of the preliminary rounds, contestants shall be placed in order as follows:
  - a. Contestants are first ordered by composite rank. Students with the lowest composite ranks are preferred. *For example, if one contestant has ranks of 1, 2, and 3, his/her composite rank would be  $1 + 2 + 3 = 6$ , and he/she would be preferred over a contestant having ranks of 2, 2, and 4 for a composite rank of  $2 + 2 + 4 = 8$ .*
  - b. Contestants having identical composite ranks are then ordered by composite reciprocal. Students with the highest composite reciprocal are preferred. The reciprocal of 1 is  $1/1$  or 1, the reciprocal of 2 is  $1/2$  or .5, the reciprocal of 3 is  $1/3$  or .333, etc. *For example,*

*contestants having ranks of 1, 1, 3 and 1, 2, 2 both have a composite rank of 5; however, the first contestant has a composite reciprocal of  $1/1 + 1/1 + 1/3 = 1 + 1 + .333 = 2.333$  and is preferred over the second contestant who has a composite reciprocal of  $1/1 + 1/2 + 1/2 = 1 + .5 + .5 = 2$ .*

- c. Contestants having identical composite ranks and composite reciprocals are then ordered by composite rating. Students with the highest composite rating are preferred. For example, suppose a first contestant has ranks/ratings of 1/100, 2/95, and 3/94 while a second contestant has ranks/ratings of 1/100, 2/92, and 3/90. Both contestants have a composite rank of 6 and a composite reciprocal of  $1/1 + 1/2 + 1/3 = 1 + .5 + .333 = 1.833$ , but contestant one has a composite rating of  $100 + 95 + 94 = 289$  and is preferred over contestant two with a composite rating of  $100 + 92 + 90 = 282$ .
- d. If two or more contestants have identical composite ranks, reciprocals, and ratings, they shall be considered tied in order.
- e. When tabulating preliminary rounds at State, scores in each event will be truncated. Truncation means that the highest (worst) rank possible in a given round is the size of the small section in the round. For example, if an event has ten sections of six and one section of five, all ranks of 'six' in the first ten sections will be reduced to 'five'. The actual rank will be used as a tie-breaker for purposes of advancement. Truncation is prohibited at the Regional tournament.

10. **Semifinalists.** The top eighteen contestants in order shall advance to the semi-final round. There will be three sections of six contestants each, and students from the same school shall not be sectioned against one another. The sections shall be seeded as follows:

1. Section A -- Contestants ranked 1<sup>st</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, and 18<sup>th</sup>
2. Section B -- Contestants ranked 2<sup>nd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, and 17<sup>th</sup>
3. Section C -- Contestants ranked 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>

Adjustments in placement of contestants may be necessary in order to prevent two students from the same school from being sectioned against one another. Only in the event of an absolute tie as outlined in items 11a-d shall an additional contestant be advanced to the semi-final round, and such contestant would be placed in a random section.

11. **Judges in Semifinals.** There will be three judges in each semi-final section, and they shall rank and rate contestants as in the preliminary rounds. At the conclusion of the semi-final round, contestants shall be placed in order as follows:

- a. Contestants are first ordered by composite rank as outlined in item 11a.
- b. Contestants having identical composite ranks are then ordered by judges' preference.

*Consider the following example which gives the ranks of two contestants from judges A, B, and C:*

	A	B	C
Contestant One	1	4	2
Contestant Two	2	1	4

*Judge A indicated that he/she preferred contestant one by giving him/her the lowest rank. Likewise, judge B indicated that he/she preferred contestant two and judge C indicated that he/she preferred contestant one. Contestant one is therefore preferred two judges to one.*

- c. Contestants having identical composite ranks and on whom the judging preference method would not yield a majority decision are then ordered by utilizing composite reciprocals as outlined in item 11b and then reapplying judges' preference.

*Consider the following example which gives the ranks of three contestants from judges A, B, and C:*

	A	B	C
Contestant One	1	3	6
Contestant Two	6	1	3
Contestant Three	4	4	2

*Each contestant has a composite rank of ten, so judges' preference is used next. As in the previous example, judge A indicated that he/she preferred contestant one, judge B indicated that he/she preferred contestant two, and judge C indicated that he/she preferred contestant three. Since no contestant was preferred by a majority of the judges, composite reciprocals are then used. Contestants one and two have identical composite reciprocals ( $1/1 + 1/3 + 1/6 = 1 + .333 + .167 = 2$ ) and are preferred over contestant three whose composite reciprocal is  $1/4 + 1/4 + 1/2 = .25 + .25 + .5 = 1$ . Looking only at the judges' preferences for contestants one and two, judge A preferred contestant one, judge B preferred contestant two, and judge C also preferred contestant two. Therefore, the order of contestants in this example is two, one, and three.*

- d. Contestants who cannot be ordered by composite ranks, judges' preference, or composite reciprocal are then ordered by composite rating as outlined in item 11c.

*Consider the following example which gives the ranks/ratings of three contestants from judges A, B, and C:*

	A	B	C
Contestant One	1/100	2/97	3/94
Contestant Two	2/96	3/93	1/100
Contestant Three	3/92	1/100	2/96

*Each contestant has a composite rank of 6, each judge prefers a different contestant (A prefers one, B prefers three, and C prefers two) and each contestant has a composite reciprocal of  $1/1 + 1/2 + 1/3 = 1 + .5 + .333 = 1.833$ . Composite ratings are then used to place the contestants in the order one ( $100 + 97 + 94 = 291$ ), two ( $96 + 93 + 100 = 289$ ), and three ( $92 + 100 + 96 = 288$ ).*

- e. **Ties.** Only when all of the above methods fail shall two or more contestants be considered tied in order in the semi-finals.
12. **Top Two Advance.** The top two contestants in order from each of the three semi-final sections advance to the final round. Only in the event of an absolute tie as outlined in items 11a-c shall an additional contestant be advanced to the final round.
13. **Final Round.** In the final round, five judges will rate and rank students as in the preliminary and semi-final rounds. The highest and lowest ranks will be eliminated from each contestant's scores

and the remaining three ranks/ratings used to determine final placement by applying steps 12a-c in order. If a tie still exists, the scores of all five judges shall be used to break the tie by applying steps 12a, c, and d in order.

14. **Individual Awards:** All out-round contestants will receive awards appropriate to their achievement. Coaches of State Champions will be recognized at the State Championship awards ceremony and will be presented with an award.
15. **Sweepstakes Awards:** The top 10 schools will be awarded trophies for team sweepstakes.
  - a. Schools accumulate sweepstakes points based upon the success of their entries. Each entry having a composite rank of 3, 4, or 5 is worth five points while a composite rank of 6, 7, or 8 is worth three points and a composite rank of 9, 10, or 11 is worth one point. All semi-finalists receive two additional points, and finalists receive points as follows: ten points for first place, seven points for second place, five points for third place, three points for fourth place, two points for fifth place and one point for sixth place.
  - b. Break ties in Sweepstakes placement in the following order, by the greatest number of
    - (1) Finalists, then
    - (2) Semi-finalists, then
    - (3) Ranks of one in the preliminary rounds.
16. **Sustained Excellence Award:** A "traveling trophy" is awarded to the school which has accumulated the most sweepstakes points over the years. When a school is awarded the trophy, the total resets to zero and the school begins accumulating again. The trophy remains with the school for one year and then is returned to the State Championship the following year to be presented to the new winner.
17. **Awards of Distinction.** Five awards of Distinction will be given to schools as recognition of excellence based on squad efficiency. No top 10 school will be eligible. Schools must have at least 6 entries.
18. **Coach of the Year.** KHSSL Coach of the Year – Each division shall name a coach of the year. Each region shall, at its respective regional tournament, nominate one of its members to be KHSSL Coach of the Year by a method of the choosing of the regional manager. The regional manager will be responsible for providing a short profile of the supported coach to the director of KHSSL a minimum of two days prior to registration at the State Championship. At the Registration of the KHSSL State Championship, the coaches within each division shall vote for the coach they feel best represents the KHSSL Coach of the Year. The Coach of the Year for each division shall be awarded a plaque at the respective award ceremony of the KHSSL State championship.
19. **Grievances.** A committee shall be formed to address grievances at the State Championship. The committee shall be comprised of the board members present and the Executive Director.
  - a. The process will begin with a discussion with the director about grievance from the school filing the grievance.
  - b. If needed, a submission of written grievance to grievance committee comprised of

- director and board members present. If this does not satisfy the school filing the grievance.
- c. The person may submit the written grievance to the entire board as a whole, possibly, taking place after the conclusion of the state tournament.
  - d. If a script's meeting the definition of published is called into question, it is the responsibility of the coach to provide evidence of publication before the next round. Lack of proper evidence will result in disqualification.
  - e. If the legitimacy of the script's content is sufficiently and responsibly called into question, then the grievance procedure will be followed prior to the next round.

## STATE TOURNAMENT LOGISTICS

The State Speech and Debate Tournaments involve hundreds of students, judges, and chaperones from schools all over the state converging on a single location for several days of competition. Much planning goes into each of these tournaments, and while some of the logistics change from year to year, some areas are the source of constant questions and reminders, and thus bear mentioning here:

1. **Lodging.** Because these are multiple-day tournaments, many schools have the need to stay one or even two nights in the city hosting the tournament. While the League office communicates the dates and needs to local hotels, schools must reserve early in order to obtain the accommodations they desire.
2. **Travel.** The tournament schedule will be published as far in advance as possible, with due regard for changing conditions. The Executive Director will, as early as possible, indicate the time for on-site Registration, to allow submission of travel plans.
3. **Parking.** While every effort is made to provide information and assistance in parking busses and other vehicles, schools are responsible for seeing that their vehicles are properly parked. The League cannot be responsible for vehicles parked in violation of posted regulations.
4. **Promptness.** Schedules for these tournaments are distributed well in advance and are included in the program which each individual receives at registration. Attendance at assemblies and meetings is required, and students, coaches, and judges must be on time to all events as published in the schedule. No competitor shall be penalized for late arrival without consultation with the Tournament Director or another designated person.
5. **Safety.** The mere size of these tournaments dictates that competition be held in a number of buildings. This requires students, judges, and coaches to move from one location to another several times, and often to cross streets. All individuals (especially younger students) should take the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the surroundings before the tournament begins and should exercise care in traveling from one place to another.
6. **Conduct and Respect of Property.** Coaches are expected to accept responsibility for the conduct of the students and individuals who represent their schools, and should insure that their behavior follows the same guidelines that are generally accepted in the schools. This includes respect for the buildings, grounds, property, and overall environment of the host school. Contestants entering the classrooms without judges may be ranked last in the round at the tournament manager's discretion.

## JUDGE OBLIGATION

All schools attending the State Tournament must supply at least  $\frac{1}{2}$  of their judging quota (fractions round up). Each school is asked to supply its entire quota, but if this is not possible a school may pay \$100 for each judge not supplied from their quota; teams competing in Regionals may only hire ONE judge from the tournament. The worksheet below will help each school determine its quota as well as the number of judges that must be supplied. The Executive Director will actively seek to obtain as many hired judges as possible, and hired judge requests will be allocated as evenly as possible among schools requesting hired judges. They will not be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

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Number of Entries	Judging Quota	Regional Judge Requirement	State Judge Requirement
1-6	1	1	1
7-12	2	1	1
13-18	3	2	2
19-24	4	3	2
25-30	5	4	3
31-36	6	5	3

## DEBATE

KHSSL offers, to Senior Division schools only, competition in Lincoln-Douglas, Public Forum and Policy Debate. Varsity and Novice Divisions are both available as often as possible in these events.

The League annually sponsors an open State Championship for all schools registering in debate the previous fall. This tournament is separate from the State Speech Tournament; students may, therefore, enter both tournaments.

A description of each event and procedures for the State Debate Tournament, follow.

### RULES OF DEBATE EVIDENCE

1. Except as noted in this section, the rules for evidence applicable during the current school year's NSDA District Tournament apply to the KHSSL State Championship.
2. Debate judges must notify tab when turning in ballots of any decision made in whole or in part because of evidence violations.
3. No violation of the evidentiary rules requires an automatic disqualification at the State Championship. The penalties otherwise set out in the NSDA rules should be used as guidance for sanctions.
  - a. Appeals to judge decision are to be made by a coach.
  - b. The decision of the Director may be appealed within 20 minutes to all members of the Board of Directors present at the tournament. The Board's decision is final.
  - c. If the violation is "non-existent" evidence and the debater can produce the evidence within 20 minutes of the decision, the loss entered by the judge may be reversed.

## LINCOLN DOUGLAS DEBATE

### Senior Division Only

Lincoln Douglas Debate centers on a proposition of value, which concerns itself with what ought to be instead of what is. A value is an ideal held by individuals, societies, governments, etc. Debaters are encouraged to develop argumentation based upon a values perspective. To that end, no plan (or counterplan) will be offered by the debaters. In Lincoln Douglas Debate, a plan is defined by the NFL as a formalized, comprehensive proposal for implementation. The debate should focus on reasoning to support a general principle instead of particular plans and counterplans. Debaters may offer generalized, practical examples or solutions to illustrate how the general principle could guide decisions.

The hallmarks of Lincoln Douglas Debate include:

1. **Parallel Burdens:** No question of values can be determined entirely true or false. This is why the resolution is debatable. Therefore neither debater should be held to a standard of absolute proof. No debater can realistically be expected to prove complete validity or invalidity of the resolution. The better debater is the one who, on the whole, proves his/her side of the resolution more valid as a general principle.

- **Burden of proof:** Each debater has the equal burden to prove the validity of his/her side of the resolution as a general principle. As an LD resolution is a statement of value, there is no presumption for either side.
- **Burden of clash:** Each debater has an equal burden to clash with his/her opponent's position. After a case is presented, neither debater should be rewarded for presenting a speech completely unrelated to the arguments of his/her opponent.
- **Resolutional burden:** The debaters are equally obligated to focus the debate on the central questions of the resolution, not whether the resolution itself is worthy of debate. Because the affirmative must uphold the resolution, the negative must also argue the resolution as presented.

2. **Value Structure:** The value structure (or framework) is established by the debater to serve two functions: a) to provide an interpretation of the central focus of the resolution, and b) to provide a method for the judge to evaluate the central questions of the resolution. The value structure often consists of a statement of the resolution (if affirming), definitions (dictionary or contextual), the value premise (or core value), and the value criterion (or standard). This structure is commonly but not always employed.

- **Definitions:** The affirmative should offer definitions, be they dictionary or contextual, that provides a reasonable ground for debate. The negative has the option to challenge these definitions and to offer counter-definitions.
- **Value Premise/Core Value:** A value is an ideal held by individuals, societies, governments, etc. that serves as the highest goal to be protected, respected, maximized, advanced, or achieved. In general, the debater will establish a value which focuses the central questions of the resolution and will serve as a foundation for argumentation.
- **Value Criterion/Standard:** In general, each debater will present a value criterion (a standard) which the debater will use to:
  - explain how the value should be protected, respected, maximized, advanced, or achieved.
  - measure whether a given side or argument protects, respects, maximizes, advances, or achieves the value.
  - evaluate the relevance and importance of an argument in the context of the round.

The relationship between the value premise and the criterion should be clearly articulated. During the debate, the debaters may argue the validity or priority of the two value structures. They may accept their opponent's value structure, prove the superiority of their own value structure, or synthesize the two.

3. **Argumentation:** Because Lincoln Douglas Debate is an educational debate activity, debaters are obligated to construct logical chains of reasoning which lead to the conclusion of the affirmative or negative position. The nature of proof may take a variety of forms (e.g., a student's original analysis, application of philosophy, examples, analogies, statistics, expert opinion, etc.). Arguments should be presented in a cohesive manner that shows a clear relationship to the value structure. Any research should be conducted and presented ethically from academically sound and appropriately cited sources.

4. **Cross-Examination:** Cross-examination should be used by the debater to clarify, challenge, and/or advance arguments in the round.

5. **Effective delivery:** Lincoln Douglas Debate is an oral communication activity that requires clarity of thought and expression. Arguments should be worded and delivered in a manner accessible to an educated non-specialist audience. This encompasses:

- **Written communication:** Cases and arguments should be constructed in a manner that is organized, accessible, and informative to the listener. The debater should employ clear logic and analysis supported by topical research.
- **Verbal communication:** The debater has the obligation to be clear, audible and comprehensible, and to speak persuasively to the listeners. Additionally, debaters should strive for fluency, expressiveness, effective word choice, and eloquence.
- **Non-verbal communication:** The debater should demonstrate an effective use of gestures, eye-contact, and posture.

Throughout the debate, the debaters should demonstrate civility as well as a professional demeanor and style of delivery.

## Rules

1. **Resolution:** The resolution will be one requiring a value judgment.

2. **Order of speeches:**

Affirmative Constructive	6 Minutes
Negative Cross Examination	3 Minutes
Negative Constructive	7 Minutes
Affirmative Cross Examination	3 Minutes
Affirmative Rebuttal	4 Minutes
Negative Rebuttal	6 Minutes
Affirmative Rebuttal	3 Minutes
Prep Time	4 Minutes per debater

3. **Timing:** A timekeeper is an option but isn't required. If no timekeeper is used, debaters may time for their opponent or the judge may keep time. Prep time for each debater is 4 minutes.

4. **Reading case:** A team may decide, when asked by the opponent team for a copy of their case, whether or not to provide it; if the team refuses they will not be penalized in any way.
5. **Oral critiques:** No debate ballot may be returned in without a reason for decision. Oral commentary is not considered a substitute for the written ballot. Critiques are discouraged but not forbidden; timeliness of the tournament is a paramount value. Comments made by a judge (orally or written) should be constructive and professional.

Lightly adapted from the NFL's *Competition Events Guide*, ver. 2.0.1,  
[http://nflonline.org/uploads/AboutNFL/Competition\\_Events\\_Guide.pdf](http://nflonline.org/uploads/AboutNFL/Competition_Events_Guide.pdf)

**MODEST NOVICE TOPIC**

Each fall, Novice LD debaters will debate the same topic. This topic lasts from year-to-year, ultimately allowing veteran debaters to train novices on a topic they themselves learned on. The League will collect some resources for this project; individual research will still be required.

1. The Novice Topic is: Civil Disobedience in a democracy is morally justified.
2. Invitational tournaments offering Novice Lincoln Douglas debate before December 31 of each school year will use this topic for Novice LD Divisions.
3. If possible, the League will sponsor a Novice Tournament during the fall of each year, and the Novices will debate the Novice topic.
4. After January 1, Novice LD debaters will debate the same topic Varsity debaters use.

## POLICY DEBATE

### Senior Division Only

Debaters work in pairs (teams) to address the school year's topic, either from the affirmative side (to propose a plan to solve a problem with the topic), or the negative side (to prove how the affirmative's plan is flawed). Argumentation includes a constructive case, cross-examination, and refutation. Skills learned include research, policy analysis, case building, refutation, questioning, organization and communication.

1. **Resolution:** The resolution will be one requiring a policy judgment. It is determined annually by the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS), and is published in *Rostrum* and at [www.NFLonline.org](http://www.NFLonline.org).

2. **Order of Speeches:** Each debater must give one and only one constructive speech, one period of questioning, one period of answering, and one rebuttal speech, in the following order:

Affirmative Constructive Speech	8 minutes
Negative Cross Examines Affirmative	3 minutes
Negative Constructive Speech	8 minutes
Affirmative Cross Examines Negative	3 minutes
Affirmative Constructive Speech	8 minutes
Negative Cross Examines Affirmative	3 minutes
Negative Constructive Speech	8 minutes
Affirmative Cross Examines Negative	3 minutes
Negative Rebuttal	5 minutes
Affirmative Rebuttal	5 minutes
Negative Rebuttal	5 minutes
Affirmative Rebuttal	5 minutes
<i>Prep time</i>	5 minutes per team

3. **Prompting Philosophy:** Oral prompting, except time signals, either by the speaker's colleague or by any other person while the debater has the floor, is discouraged though not prohibited and may be penalized by some judges. Debaters may, however, refer to their notes and materials and may consult with their teammate while they do not have the floor.

4. **Reading case and/or plan:** A team may decide, when asked by the opponent team for a copy of their case and/or plan, whether or not to provide it; if the team refuses they will not be penalized in any way.

5. **Timing:** Timekeepers are an option but not required. If no timekeeper is used, debaters may time for their partners or the judge may keep time. Prep time for each team is five minutes.

6. **Oral Critiques:** No debate ballot may be returned without a reason for decision. Oral commentary is not considered a substitute for the written ballot. The NFL strongly discourages judges from disclosing decisions in the preliminary round of NFL competition. Comments made by a judge (orally or written) should be constructive and professional.

Lightly adapted from the NFL's *Competition Events Guide*, ver. 2.0.1,  
[http://nflonline.org/uploads/AboutNFL/Competition\\_Events\\_Guide.pdf](http://nflonline.org/uploads/AboutNFL/Competition_Events_Guide.pdf)

## STUDENT CONGRESS

**Note:** All National Forensic League (NFL) rules and guidelines apply to the KHSSL State Congress Championship and the NFL rulebook will be followed. To reference rules and procedures, coaches and students should reference the NFL Congress handbook and District Tournament Operations Manual, currently found at <http://www.nflonline.org/AboutNFL/LeagueManuals>, and also at [khssl.org](http://khssl.org).

The following exceptions shall be applied to Student Congress at the KHSSL State Championship, and these exceptions supersede any rules in the NFL guidelines:

1. No school may enter more than ten entries.
2. If there are enough entries to have two or more houses, the entries from each school shall be equally divided between the houses via blind draw. No Congress chamber will exceed 24 students, including the final chamber.
3. There will be three preliminary sessions and one final session (Super Congress).
4. **Judges and parliamentarians may be affiliated with students in a chamber, provided that no one school is represented more than once in the judge panel.**
5. Each school may submit a maximum of four pieces of legislation to the tournament director. For final session legislation, the tournament director will select from bills/resolutions submitted by different schools. These pieces of legislation will be set aside for use in the final session only, and the rest will be used in preliminary sessions.
6. All legislation must be submitted at least two weeks prior to the state championship. The tournament director will distribute legislation to participating schools at least one week prior to the state championship.
7. The top three entries for each school in Congress will count towards the debate sweepstakes award. Three sweepstakes points will be awarded to each finalist. The first-place person will be awarded 12 points, second place 9 points, third place 7 points, fourth place 5 points, fifth place 4 points, and sixth place 3 points.

## PUBLIC FORUM DEBATE

1. **Resolution:** Specific resolutions for district tournaments held during certain months and the National Tournament topic will be published in *Rostrum* and at [www.NFLonline.org](http://www.NFLonline.org). Public Forum Debate focuses on advocacy of a position derived from the issues presented in the resolution, not a prescribed set of burdens.
2. **Procedure and order of speeches:** Prior to EVERY round and in the presence of the judge(s), a coin is tossed by one team and called by the other team. The team that wins the flip may choose one of two options: EITHER the SIDE of the topic they wish to defend (pro or con) OR the SPEAKING POSITION they wish to have (begin the debate or end the debate). The remaining option (SIDE OR SPEAKING POSITION) is the choice of the team that loses the flip. Once speaking positions and sides has been determined, the debate begins (the con team may lead, depending on the coin flip results).

First Speaker	Team A	4 Minutes
First Speaker	Team B	4 Minutes
Crossfire (first question by speaker A1)		3 Minutes
Second Speaker	Team A	4 Minutes
Second Speaker	Team B	4 Minutes
Crossfire (first question by A2)		3 Minutes
Summary First Speaker	Team A	2 Minutes
Summary First Speaker	Team B	2 Minutes
Grand Crossfire		3 Minutes
Final Focus Second Speaker	Team A	2 Minutes
Final Focus Second Speaker	Team B	2 Minutes
Prep Time		2 Minutes per team

3. **Timing:** Timekeepers are an option but not required. If no timekeeper is used, debaters may time for their partners or the judge may keep time. Prep time for each team is two minutes.
4. **Plans/Counterplans:** In Public Forum Debate, a plan or counterplan is a formalized, comprehensive proposal for implementation. Neither the pro or con side is permitted to offer a plan or counterplan; rather, they should offer reasoning to support a position of advocacy. Debaters may offer generalized, practical solutions.
5. **Prompting Philosophy:** Oral prompting, except time signals, either by the speaker's colleague or by any other person while the debater has the floor, is discouraged though not prohibited and may be penalized by some judges. Debaters may, however, refer to their notes and materials and may consult with their teammate while they do not have the floor and during the Grand Crossfire.
6. **Reading case:** A team may decide, when asked by the opponent team for a copy of their case, whether or not to provide it; if the team refuses they will not be penalized in any way.
7. **Oral Critiques:** No debate ballot may be returned in without a reason for decision. Oral commentary is not considered a substitute for the written ballot. Critiques are discouraged but not forbidden; timeliness of the tournament is a paramount value. Comments made by a judge (orally or written) should be constructive and professional.
8. **Judges:** The use of community judges is strongly encouraged.

Adapted from: [http://nflonline.org/uploads/AboutNFL/Competition\\_Events\\_Guide.pdf](http://nflonline.org/uploads/AboutNFL/Competition_Events_Guide.pdf)

## STATE DEBATE TOURNAMENT

During the month of March, a two-day State Championship for high school students will be conducted with competition four to seven Debate events. The administrative details and actual conduct of the State Championship are entrusted to a tournament manager who shall be either the Director or his/her appointed representative. The following rules and regulations apply to the State Championship:

1. The dates and site of the State Championship will be set by the Director. He/she will forward this and other general information to all registered schools at the first of the school year. The State Championship is open to all schools having registered in debate the previous fall. There are no qualifying tournaments at the regional level.
2. Detailed instructions for the State Championship will be sent by the League office as tournament time nears. The tournament manager is solely responsible for setting the schedule for the State Championship (time of rounds, etc.), and will make such decisions as may be necessary when weather threatens postponement of the tournament.
3. A novice debater shall be defined as any student in his/her first year of debate. A varsity debater shall be defined as any student with at least one year's experience in debate. Competition in a State Championship shall be considered the equivalent of one year's experience.
4. The State Tournament will offer the following divisions:

Open Student Congress  
Varsity Lincoln Douglas, Public Forum, and Policy Debate,  
Novice Lincoln Douglas; and  
Novice Policy and Public Forum Debate when feasible and indicated by interest from the membership.

The Director will announce by December 31 of each year which Novice divisions will be offered.

5. Each member school is eligible for three entries in each Debate division, and up to ten in Student Congress. An entry is one Lincoln Douglas debater or one Public Forum/Policy Debate Team; 'maverick' entries are not allowed in the latter two. All debaters must be prepared to debate both the affirmative and negative sides (pro or con for Public Forum) at the State Championship. Schools may enter up to ten students in Student Congress. No student may enter more than one event at the State Debate Tournament.
6. Registration for the State Championship Debate Tournament follows the procedures in the State Tournament Registration section. Entry fees for the State Championship are \$12.00 per Student Congress entry, \$16.00 per Lincoln- Douglas entry and \$32.00 per Policy or Public Forum entry; these entry fees shall apply in 2014 and 2015. The Final Deadline for all debate events is 5 pm on the penultimate day before the start of the State Debate tournament. Drop fees may be assessed as follows:
  - a. Substitutions after the registration deadline but before the Final Deadline—free.
  - b. Adds/Drops before the Final Deadline--\$10.
  - c. Drops after the final deadline but before on-site Registration—entry fee plus \$10.
  - d. Drops at on-site Registration—entry fee plus \$50

- e. Judge drops after registration—hired judge fee of \$65 per day dropped. If hired judges are not available, the entry may be reduced.

### Judging

7. A school must supply one qualified judge for every two Lincoln-Douglas, Policy Debate, or Public Forum entries or fraction thereof, and one judge for every 5 Congress competitors or fraction thereof. Uncovered judges must be hired at \$65 per day. (For example, if a school has three Lincoln-Douglas entries and two Policy entries, the school is obligated to provide three judges -- two for Lincoln-Douglas and one for Policy. The Director may limit the number of hired judges available to each school, depending upon the number of hired judges available.
8. A qualified Debate judge is a judge who meets two of the following criteria:
- Judged at a minimum of one tournament during this season or during previous, recent seasons, and was trained either through the League’s Judge Training Program and/or by the coach of the School;
  - Debated in High School and/or College;
  - Currently or formerly coached.

### Tabulation for LD, Policy, and Public Forum

9. The tabulation room at the State Championship will be open to all coaches, but not to debaters, hired judges, or parents. A coach shall be privy only to information pertaining to his/her individuals or teams as written on the tournament cards.
10. If the schedule allows, each debate division will have five preliminary rounds, and all competitors with a winning record will advance to the elimination rounds. A ‘run-off round’ to determine the lowest seeds for the full elimination bracket may be conducted as needed. The director may adopt a Round-Robin format for Divisions with six or fewer entries. The number of full elimination rounds is determined by the following chart:

Entries	Break to
7-8	Finals (2)
9-16	Semifinals (4)
17-32	Quarterfinals (8)
33 – 64	Octofinals (16)
65 +	Sextodecimofinals (32)

11. In the event of an uneven number of entries in a category, one individual or team per preliminary round will receive a bye which shall be recorded as a win with rank and speaker points equal to the rounded average of those in the other preliminary rounds. In the first two preliminary rounds, byes shall be randomly assigned, but unless the size of the division prevents it, no school may receive more than one bye during these two rounds. Byes in subsequent rounds shall go to a randomly selected debate entry which has yet to win a round. No debate entry may receive more than one bye.

12. The following constraints apply whenever a round-robin format is not used:
  - a. Entries from the same school shall not meet in the preliminary rounds or in the first elimination round, unless unavoidable owing to the size of the division.
  - b. The same entries shall not meet more than once before the elimination rounds, unless unavoidable owing to the size of the division.
  - c. The first two preliminary rounds are randomly paired. Except in Public Forum Debate, each debater will debate the Affirmative once and the Negative once.
  - d. All subsequent preliminary rounds will be high-low power paired within brackets, according to the following procedure:
    - i. Draw the bye if necessary
    - ii. Pair debaters within each bracket against each other, with the high speaker-point debater with the low speaker point debater, the second-highest point debater against the next-lowest, and so on into the center of the bracket. A debater may be pulled up from the next lower bracket; debaters so pulled up will be pulled up based on weakest opposition record
    - iii. Same school-hits are adjusted within bracket as much as possible, and then only with pull-ups.
13. All teams with winning records will advance to the elimination rounds. If the number of teams advancing does not fill out a complete elimination bracket, then the remainder teams will compete against the lowest teams within the bracket for the slot in the bracket. Thus, if eighteen teams have winning records and the division is to break to Octofinals, then the 15<sup>th</sup> seed will compete against the 18<sup>th</sup> seed for the 15<sup>th</sup> seed slot in the bracket, and the 16<sup>th</sup> seed will compete against the 17<sup>th</sup> seed for the 16<sup>th</sup> seed slot in the bracket. This partial round may be called the ‘run-off round’ or a ‘partial’ round in the bracket; the example illustrates a partial double-octofinal or partial sextodecimofinal round.
14. The pairings for the debates during a run-off round will be adjusted, if at all possible, to avoid students from the same school from debating each other. The bracket will not be adjusted at any other time to prevent debaters from the same school hitting each other. The head coach of record for the school will determine which debater advances in a ‘coach-over’; the head coach may elect to have the students debate.
15. In Policy and Lincoln Douglas Debate, debaters hitting during elimination rounds who have competed previously in the tournament will switch sides for the elimination round debate. Otherwise, the winner of a coin toss will choose sides. In PFD, the coin-toss procedure is ALWAYS followed.
16. KHSSL will present appropriate awards to all debaters who advance to the elimination rounds, and will recognize the top speakers in each division. The number of Speakers recognized is determined by the Director and is based on the size of the division, but no fewer than two or more than ten will be awarded. Speaker awards are based first on points dropping the high and low score, then on total points, then ranks (in Policy Debate only), then opposition points. If speakers are still tied, then each shall receive recognition at the higher speaker level.
17. Coaches of State Champions will be recognized at the State Championship awards ceremony and will be presented with an award.
18. Trophies will be presented to the top six schools accumulating the most total points in Varsity Lincoln- Douglas, Policy, Public Forum, and Congress during preliminary and elimination rounds.

Each Varsity Lincoln- Douglas, Policy Debate, and Public Forum win will be worth two points. One point shall be awarded for each win in Novice debate categories. In Congress, the top three entries for each school will count towards the debate sweepstakes award.

- a. Three sweepstakes points will be awarded to each finalist. The first-place person will be awarded 12 points, second place 9 points, third place 7 points, fourth place 5 points, fifth place 4 points, and sixth place 3 points.
- b. Ties in Debate Sweepstakes will be broken by the following priorities:
  - i. The School with the most entries in elimination rounds and Super Congress combined; then
  - ii. The School with the highest finisher; then
  - iii. The School with the next-highest finisher; then
  - iv. Continuing on with subsequent highest-finishers until the tie is broken.

## DRAMA

KHSSL offers, to Senior Division schools only, competition in drama through the State Drama Festival. This festival is open to all schools registering in drama during the fall registration period. Competition in the festival is separate from both the speech and debate tournaments; consequently, students may participate in as many of these activities as they wish. A description of this event, as well as the procedures for the State Drama Festival, follows.

### Rules

1. The maximum time for the play itself is 45 minutes, including time for setting the stage, performing, and striking the set. There is a one minute grace period, after which the play must be disqualified; however, individual cast members remain eligible for awards. Each play will begin on the hour, and each school gains access to the host make-up/dressing room facilities at the beginning of the play immediately preceding theirs in the program.
2. Any one-act play, or cutting from a longer play, may be selected. Schools are encouraged to select plays which are suited to the emotional development of the performers. The plays may be original or published.
3. A cast of a play may enter that play in the State Drama Festival once. If the same play is entered in another year, an entirely new cast is required. A production which has been in another theater organization's competition is acceptable, so long as it has not been previously entered in the State Drama Festival.
4. An individual may play more than one part in the play.
5. Schools must provide their own technical materials, including but not limited to make-up, costumes, props, set pieces, and sound effects. Schools will receive technical information from the host school as early in the year as practicable.
6. All participating schools must use the host schools technicians to run technical equipment.
7. Schools should hold stage settings, lighting effects, and properties to a minimum. These factors will receive secondary attention with primary emphasis given to the directing, acting, and total dramatic effect. The play will be judged on the following questions; consequently, preparation should also focus on them:
  - a. Was there development and execution of a production concept?
  - b. Was the play well-cast?
  - c. Did the director make good use of stage space and blocking?
  - d. Did the actors evidence teamwork? Were movement, gestures, and business appropriate to the characters?
  - e. Was the pacing and tempo of the play theatrically effective?

## Drama Festival

1. A one-day State Drama Festival for high school students will be conducted on a date to be determined by the KHSSL Director and then ratified by the Board of Directors. The administrative details and actual conduct of the festival are entrusted to a festival manager who shall be either the Director or his/her appointed representative. The following rules and regulations apply to the festival:
2. The dates and site of the festival will be set by the Director. He/she will forward this and other general information to all registered schools at the first of the school year.
3. Detailed instructions for the festival will be sent by the League office as the festival time nears. The festival manager is solely responsible for setting the schedule for the festival (day, time, and order of performance, etc.), and will make such decisions as may be necessary when weather threatens postponement of the tournament or an emergency situation occurs. If at all possible, schools will be able to check-in scenery, properties, and other items at the Festival venue the afternoon/evening before the Festival.
4. The state tournament is open to all schools having registered in drama during the fall registration period. There are no qualifying festivals at the regional level. Each eligible school may enter one and only one play. The entry fee is \$100.00, which is in addition to the registration fee for drama at the beginning of the year.
5. Registration for the Drama Festival will open approximately six weeks, and will close approximately two weeks, before the Festival. The Festival Manager will designate the method by which registration will take place. The entry fee for the festival is \$100 per school, payable on check-in for the Festival. Registration will include the name of the play, playwright, cast members, a list of lighting and sound needs, an inventory of scenery and properties. All scenery and properties must be provided by the entering school.
6. On check-in, the school must provide the Stage Manager a script clear marked to specifications and showing all light, sound, scenery and curtain cues.
7. Four judges will be utilized. The lowest rank of each play will be dropped and the remaining three ranks used to determine the play's composite score. Ties will be broken by inclusion of the dropped score.
8. Trophies will be presented to the schools placing first, second, and third. In addition, the top ten performers will be recognized. The top two performers will be designated as first and second place performers and receive trophies while the remaining eight will be listed alphabetically and receive plaques.

## DR. GIFFORD BLYTON

Since 1948, the year Dr. Gifford Blyton was employed to start an intercollegiate debating team at the University of Kentucky, his name has become synonymous with forensics in Kentucky. Hired to bring top scholars to U.K., Dr. Blyton did just that. In the twenty years that he coached the debating team, his students won over 700 championship trophies, including several national championships. Dr. Blyton taught and coached some of the most outstanding legal scholars in our nation, including former Washington D.C. Bar Association president George Shadoan and former Clemson University president Dr. C.W. "Deno" Curris. One of his former students, Rodney Page, still holds the record for the highest score ever earned on the LSAT (Law School Admission Test).

Some of Dr. Blyton's proudest accomplishments include co-authoring the 1954 Tau Kappa Alpha best-selling debate text *Principles of Argumentation and Debate*, being named president of the American Forensic Association, and organizing the first integrated debate in the nation between the University of Kentucky and Kentucky State University. This historic debate made headlines nationwide and came two years before the Supreme Court's decision in *Brown vs. Board of Education*.

Well known for his ability to generate support and enthusiasm for forensics, Dr. Blyton retired from U.K. in 1975 to become the director of the Kentucky High School Speech League, Inc. As director, he was instrumental in rebuilding high school debate. Under his leadership, the League flourished. Dr. Blyton's integrity, love for forensics, and keen business sense helped to make KHSSL one of the strongest forensic organizations in the United States.

Dr. Blyton's love for KHSSL has not diminished since his retirement. In addition to the Blyton Book Awards which are presented annually to an outstanding Junior and Senior Division student, the Blyton Scholarship Fund which he initiated enables outstanding seniors at KHSSL schools to attend college. Dr. Blyton's many years of service to forensics in Kentucky, as well as the nation, are immeasurable. For over five decades, Dr. Gifford Blyton has been a beacon of leadership for thousands of forensic students and teachers.

## **BLYTON BOOK AWARDS**

Blyton Book Awards are presented annually to two outstanding KHSSL students -- one from the Junior Division and one from the Senior Division. The awards are named for Dr. Gifford Blyton, former director of KHSSL.

For a student to be eligible for this award, he/she must have (1) competed in KHSSL for at least two years, (2) proved to be superior in more than one KHSSL event (which, in the Senior Division, includes drama and debate), and (3) promoted speech, drama, and/or debate activities within his/her school, community, and state.

To be considered for the award, a student must be nominated by his/her coach. The coach must complete a nomination form (found on the League website) and forward it, along with a personal letter of reference, to the League office. If necessary, additional pages may be used to detail only those activities mentioned on the nomination form. No pictures, transcripts, or grades may be included, nor should they be made reference to. The nomination form and letter must be emailed to the Executive Director on or before 1 March of each year.

The recipient of this award in each division will be chosen by an impartial panel selected by the Director with the award presented at the State Championship Tournament. The coaches of the winners will be notified prior to the tournaments.

## **BLYTON SCHOLARSHIPS**

The Blyton Scholarships, initiated by former KHSSL Director Gifford Blyton, are \$1000.00 cash awards presented to KHSSL seniors on the basis of financial need and potential for success at a college or university of their choice. The awards will be made following the student's first semester at the college or university of the student's choice.

The recipients must have participated in KHSSL activities for at least two years and must be seniors in high school. The scholarships will be awarded to at least two students -- one male and one female -- without regard to race, religion, political affiliation, or physical handicaps. The awards must be used solely for helping students begin their advanced educational careers.

To be considered for a scholarship, a student must complete an application form (found on the League website) and forward it, along with two letters of recommendation, to the League office. The application and letters must be emailed to the Executive Director on or before 15 February.

The recipients of these scholarships will be chosen by an impartial panel, and the scholarships will be presented at the State Speech and Debate Tournament. Coaches should encourage those students who meet the qualifications to apply.

One of KHSSL's goals in the next few years is to establish an endowment which would fund at least two Blyton Scholarships per year, regardless of other sources of funds.

## **KHSSL HALL OF FAME**

The KHSSL has recognized forensic colleagues who have demonstrated a long-term commitment to Kentucky forensics since 1993. The following individuals have excelled in the study, preparation, and/or performance of speech, debate, and dramatic arts in the Commonwealth.

Any KHSSL member may nominate a current or retired individual for this award, which is voted upon by the Board of Directors, and then presented to the recipient during the next State Championship Tournament.

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the KHSSL Hall of Fame is to honor forensic colleagues who have had a long term commitment to Kentucky forensics through their promotion of excellence in the study, preparation, and/or performance of speech and dramatic arts in the state of Kentucky.

### **QUALIFICATIONS**

- a) At least ten years of forensic service in the state of Kentucky;
- b) Significant contributions to KHSSL;**
- c) A high degree of integrity;
- d) Outstanding service above and beyond the call of duty;
- e) Willingness to help colleagues;
- f) Commitment to speech and dramatic arts education;
- g) Dedication to caring for the individual students and their futures; and
- h) Retired coaches who meet criteria (a) – (g) may be nominated.

### **SELECTION PROCESS**

At the Annual Board meeting, the KHSSL Board Members may select not more than three members from a list of nominees supplied by member schools to be inducted into the KHSSL Forensic Hall of Fame at the next State Championship Tournament. Letter of support for candidates are welcome. All nomination letters and supporting information must be submitted to the League office no later than two weeks before the Summer Board meeting date.

## THE MEMBERS OF THE KHSSL HALL OF FAME

**Class of 1993-1994***Inaugural Class*

Gifford Blyton  
Thelma Beeler  
Barbara Elliott  
Randall Capps  
Virginia Massey  
Ruby Krider  
Harlen Hamm

**Class of 1994-1995**

Ollie Morgan  
David Pike  
Denver Sloan

**Class of 1995-1996**

Margaret G. Reynolds

**Class of 1996-1997**

Durrell "Butch" Hamm  
Gladys Demarcus  
Bess Williams

**Class of 1997-1998**

Larry England

**Class of 1998-1999**

Cora Dee Hooks  
Fannie Herman Miller

**Class of 1999-2000**

Ginny Kohl  
Linda Webb

**Class of 2000-2001**

Jim Curry  
Garland and Ruth Blair

**Class of 2001-2002**

Betsy Kidwell  
Susan Moore

**Class of 2002-2003**

Julia Blyton Roberts  
Judy Woodring

**Class of 2003-2004**

Carter Lasure  
Gretchen Young

**Class of 2004-2005**

Stephanie Smith  
Jim Combs

**Class of 2005-2006**

Carol A. Combs  
Carol D. Combs

**Class of 2006-2007**

James J. Fore

**Class of 2007-2008**

Beth Randolph  
Debbi Dean

**Class of 2008-2009**

Tommy Thompson

**Class of 2009-2010**

Dustin Combs  
Mark Etherton

**Class of 2010-2011**

Steve Meadows  
Sharon Roberts

**Class of 2011-2012**

Virginia Etherton  
Robin Glascock  
Margaret Maggard

**Class of 2012-2013**

Mrs. Bruce Florence  
Jill Shoulta

**Class of 2013-2014**

Terri Branson

**Class of 2014-2015**

Katy Blair Cecil  
Daniel Hamm

**Class of 2015-2016**

**Rosemary Cundiff-Brown**

## CONSTITUTION OF KHSSL, Inc.

(Approved by the Board of Directors July 1989; readopted on re-incorporation, 30 June 2011)

### ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of the organization shall be The Kentucky High School Speech League, Inc.

### ARTICLE II: PURPOSES

**Section 1: General Purposes:** The League is organized and operated exclusively for educational purposes with no part of its net earnings inuring to the benefit of any individual; no part of its structure is to carry on propaganda for personal gain, and the League is not to participate in, nor intervene in any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

**Section 2: Specific Purposes:** To promote various kinds of speech and drama activities in the schools of Kentucky, to foster via educational competition and understanding and appreciation of worthwhile speech and drama, to encourage all students rather than a select few to participate, to assist Kentucky schools in their efforts to establish and develop curricular and extra-curricular speech and drama programs, to maintain high levels of speech and drama achievement, to award suitable recognition for excellence in speech and drama performance, and to foster a respect for and appreciation of freedom of speech as a vital force of democracy.

### ARTICLE III: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: Any public, private, or parochial school in Kentucky may become a member of the League upon completing proper application forms supplied by the League office and by paying such membership dues as required. Home schooled students are also eligible for membership with the home school instructor or parent listed as the adult contact for the students.

Section 2: Student participants must be bonafide undergraduates of the school they represent in League activities. Students from public schools without established teams can compete as individuals with a parent or school representative as the adult contact. Students may compete only for the school in which they are enrolled full time. Home schooled students may compete only with other home schooled students in their member-association, as defined in the Handbook. Combinations of students from different schools or home-school associations in events that are composed of teams are expressly forbidden.

Section 3: Schools shall register either in the Junior Division or the Senior Division.

- a. **Junior Division:** Students in grades 5-9 may enter the Junior Division. This includes schools having K-8, 1-8, 5-9, 7-9, 6-8, 6-9, and K-9. Those students in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade of a 9-12 high school must compete in the Senior Division.
- b. **Senior Division:** Students in grades 9-12 must enter the Senior Division. This includes 9-12 and

10-12 schools. Schools that house K-12 or 1-12 must enter all 9<sup>th</sup> grade students in the Senior Division

- c. A given student may enter but one division in a given school year.

#### **ARTICLE IV: ADMINISTRATION**

The administration of the Kentucky High School Speech League shall consist of a Board of Directors, and the Regional Managers, and a Director if the Board chooses to assign, appoint or hire a person to fill that role. In the absence of an appointed Director, the duties of the Director will be apportioned among the members of the Board.

Section 1: The Director of the League: The Director shall be directly responsible for the enforcement of all League operations as stipulated by the Board and shall preside over all meetings of the Board of Directors if present. If the Director is unable or chooses not to attend a regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors, the current highest ranking officer of the Board will preside over the meeting and inform the Director in a timely manner of any and all actions taken by the Board of Directors.

Section 2: Board of Directors: The Board shall consist of two members from each Region, with one representing the Junior Division and one representing the Senior Division. A member will serve a two-year term. Only coaches of record or full-time school faculty or staff are eligible to serve on the board.

The Board shall establish League regulations and contest rules exclusively. The policies of the League shall be determined by the Board of Directors as representatives of their constituents.

Each member school in each division shall have one vote in the selection of the Board of Directors (the ballot shall be sent to the first person listed on the registration form). Ballots for the election shall be prepared, distributed, and tabulated by the Director. The Board will elect its own officers: Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and Secretary. [Some verbiage deleted].

Any member of the Board of Directors who misses one meeting without notifying the Director with a valid excuse shall be replaced by the Director. Unexpired terms shall be filled by the Director with Board approval.

Elections for the Board of Directors shall be conducted between January and March of odd-numbered years. The term-of-office for a member of the Board shall be from the Spring Board meeting of the year of election until the convening of the Spring Board meeting during the next odd-numbered year. Officers will be elected at the Spring board meeting of odd-numbered years.

#### **ARTICLE V: MEETINGS**

Section 1: The Board of Directors shall meet in regular session once each fiscal year at a time and place determined by the Executive Director. The meetings shall be open to any bonafide representative of member schools, with voting privileges limited to Board members.

Section 2: Special meetings may be called by the Director, or by any five members of the Board.

Section 3: A quorum for a meeting of the Board shall consist of eight members of the Board gathered in

person, provided at least three members from each division are present. Absent Board members may always participate electronically. If a quorum is present, absent Board members may also vote by Skype or other electronic medium. The Executive Director shall preside. In the absence of the Executive Director, the highest-ranking officer will preside over the meeting.

## ARTICLE VI: FINANCES

**Section 1:** Registration fees: Registration fees shall be based upon membership as defined in Article iii, Section 3. Dollar amounts shall be fixed by the Board.

**Section 2:** Entry fees: In addition to the school registration fee, an entry fee shall be assessed for each individual student participant. If a given student participates in more than one event, appropriate fees shall be charged – one for each participation. Entry fees shall be determined by the Board and be kept at the minimum necessary to cover the expenses of the league including any salaries, stipends, festivals tournaments, awards, facilities or other such expenses as the Board of Directors shall deem appropriate or necessary.

**Section 3:** The League shall have available to member schools appropriate **electronic** ballots for all individual events, drama, and debate.

**Section 4:** All monies received by the League shall be deposited in a properly established checking account at an independent financial institution. Funds may be accessed by the League Director who will report all receipts and disbursements to the Board of Directors in monthly financial statements or by the Chairman of the Board following specific approval by the Board for approved expenses. At no time shall KHSSL funds be utilized for the purposes of another institution, organization or entity. Funds are to be utilized only for the approved expenses of the league as defined in Section 2.

**Section 5:** The fiscal year of the League shall be from 1 July to 30 June.

## ARTICLE VII: CONTESTS

**Section 1:** The number and type of contests shall be determined by the Board. Rules governing these contests shall be published yearly and shall be distributed to all member schools as early as possible in the school year. All contest rules shall be approved by the Board. If a change to contest rules *or events* is deemed to be of a significant nature by a majority of the Board of Directors, such a change **must be** tabled until the next meeting and the membership polled in order to receive input from the coaches of the League. However, given the previously described representative nature of the Board of Directors, only rule changes that are deemed significant by the majority of the Board are subject to this process.

**Section 2:** Regional contests shall be administered by the Regional Managers.

**Section 3:** State contests shall be administered by the Director.

**Section 4:** All contests shall be judged by qualified personnel selected by the contest administrator.

**Section 5:** The judge's decision in any contest may not be reversed by the Director; neither shall any contest be re-run.

**Section 6:** Any student repeating material from a previous year will be immediately disqualified.

**Section 7:** The Grievance Committee and the League Director will resolve any complaints in regard to contests on the regional or state level with appeals being handled by the Board of Directors.

#### **ARTICLE VIII: PUBLICATIONS**

**Section 1:** The League shall publish a yearly Handbook detailing contest rules and such other information as directed by the Board.

**Section 2:** A Membership Directory shall be published yearly.

**Section 3:** Regional Managers shall be responsible for printing suitable programs for Regional Speech Tournaments. The Director shall be responsible for printing programs for the State Drama Festival and Speech Tournament.

**Section 4:** The Director shall be responsible for printing samples of materials designed to aid students and teachers in contest preparations

#### **ARTICLE IX: AMENDMENTS**

This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the Board at any regular or special meeting provided notice of intent to amend has been distributed to all Board Members at least 30 days prior to the date amendments are to be considered.

#### **ARTICLE X: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

In all matters not covered by this Constitution, the Kentucky High School Speech League, Inc. shall be governed by the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order.