

# NEBRASKA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

## SPEECH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of June 5, 2018 Meeting

The Speech Advisory Committee met on Tuesday, June 5, 2018, at 8:00 a.m. at the NSAA Office. Debra Velder, Associate Director of the NSAA, chaired the meeting. The mission of the committee was to develop the 2018-19 Speech judge's exam, and review the Speech Judge's Manual. Committee members present were Tommy Bender, Lincoln Southeast; Becky Stahr, York; Becca Hier, Bellevue West; Heather Heimes, Wynot; Tonya McCroden, Holdrege; and Esther Wilson, Gordon-Rushville. Kelly Smith, Tri County was unable to attend. Ex-officio members included NSAA staff members Debra Velder and Cindy Callaway.

The committee formulated questions for the 2018-19 Speech judge's exam.

The committee discussed the following issues:

1. Updating the speech ballots to include a Reason for Decision and eliminating the areas for judge's to specify "Areas of Strength" and "Areas for Improvement". Much discussion centered on the format utilized this past season and the consensus felt the change made was not being utilized by the judges as intended.
2. NSAA policy on comments and negative actions against officials and judges to be implemented.
3. Legislative changes for the upcoming school year.
4. Requiring schools hosting regular-season varsity interscholastic speech tournaments to hire NSAA registered judges.
5. Create a second tier for judge registration at a reduced rate for judges that only wish to judge regular season and are not interested in judging district and state competition.
6. Re-configure the rating scale to reflect Superior, Excellent and Good, eliminating Fair.
7. Placing the rating points associated with each category on the respective ballots or removing rating points completely from the ballot.
8. Utilizing SpeechWire at all district speech contests as well at the state championship. Re-evaluating the tie-breaker steps so that rating points take a lower priority in the process.
9. The Speech Workshop scheduled for Wednesday, July 25.
10. Accommodations for students with special needs.
11. Service Animals
12. The verbiage in events in which a manuscript is required will now state "in possession of" rather than physically holding to reflect stylistic choice.
13. Flexibility in extemporaneous draw when a student is double-entered.
14. The option to use a manuscript or a notecard in platform events with the exception of extemporaneous speaking.
15. Schools will be surveyed and asked for their input in regard to placing rating points back on the ballot; elimination of rating points on the ballot; eliminating disqualification; overtime, in that when a student goes overtime, they shall not be ranked first; making manuscripts optional in the events in which they are now required (Persuasive would still be required to provide a manuscript, paper or electronically, to the judge at the conclusion of their speech if requested); applying the costuming rules to all events; and, establishing event time limits as follows: OID, 12 minutes; Duet, 10 minutes; all other events except extemp, 10 minutes. (Extemp would remain at 5-7 minutes).

With no further business, the committee adjourned at 2:45 p.m.