

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT FORM

Name: Greg McGee

School: James Taylor High School

Rationale for Amendment: To allow internet access in extemporaneous speaking. This passed last year 71-50-5, and then was reversed over the summer 81-64-8. I do not believe online voting represented a good debate on the subject and it should be reconsidered by the body. This amendment attempts to correct some of the contradiction with evidence rules that sparked the summer vote. I believe there are several reasons to support: 1) Money - Internet access permits schools more flexibility in storing and accessing their extemp files on tablets, chrome books, and other devices and could save money; 2) Education – students today are challenged by finding quality relevant sources out of a sea of bad and irrelevant information. Mastering that skill is educationally relevant; 3) Equity - The current system favors schools with large teams who can build extensive files by students who come into the activity with extensive background knowledge. The internet can be an equalizer when a topic is particularly difficult or obscure; 4) Ethics – One of the biggest ethical problems in extemporaneous speaking is students who make up fake sources. Judges who rank based on the number of sources are encouraging this. Internet Access will allow students to cite legitimate sources.

Section of the Constitution where Change occurs:

- Constitution
- ByLaws
- Code of Professional Standards
- Standing Rules: Competition Event Guide
- Standing Rules: IQT Operations Manual
- Standing Rules: State Tournament Operations Manual

Page number of change: 44, 54

Proposed Change(s):

5. After the contestant has chosen a topic, s/he shall withdraw to the preparation area and plan his/her speech without conferring or exchanging information with anyone. No **pre-prepared notes, or outlines, or speeches will be allowed in the preparation room may be used by the competitor.** Contestants may refer to files containing books, book excerpts, periodicals, online retrievals from mass media publications, and/or photocopies or **digital copies** of any of the above. Information retrieved from internet websites must include the URL citation. **Competitors may not cut or paste** Cutting and pasting of multiple articles into a single document is not permitted. Once a contestant has chosen a topic, s/he may neither change from nor alter that topic. No visual aids may be used in the delivery of the speech. Contestants must present their topic slip to the judge(s) prior to speaking. Violation shall result in being disqualified from the event.

10. The use of ~~laptop computers~~ **electronic devices (i.e. laptops, tablets or phones)** by the competitors may be used during draw to retrieve information **online or** saved onto a storage device with the following provisions:
- ~~a. If the computer requires an insertable card in order to access a wireless connection, that card must be removed from the computer during the entirety of the round.~~
 - ~~b. If the computer has built in wireless capability, the wireless component must be inactive during the entirety of the round.~~
 - ~~c. If a tournament official or competitor observes a competitor in the round using a computer which has the wireless card inserted or the built in component left active, the student who has possession of the computer shall automatically be disqualified from that event for that tournament.~~
 - ~~d. Laptops and any storage devices being used must be made available for review upon request of the tournament official.~~
 - ~~e. Articles must be saved with the URL intact on the saved document.~~
 - ~~f. All laptops and storage devices must be in compliance with the rules governing acceptable prep room materials.~~
 - ~~g. Laptop computers may be used only for information retrieval.~~
 - ~~h. Violation of any of the above conditions for the use of laptop computers in the extemp draw may result in the disqualification of any student(s) utilizing the laptop.~~
- a. Competitors found engaging in online communication with other individuals not directly participating in the round will be disqualified.
 - b. Tournament hosts are under no obligation to provide internet access to competitors.