

An Amendment to Replace MJP with a Strike System in LD, PF, and CX

Strike all text on page 81.

Replace with:

“The TFA State Tournament will use a strike system for assigning judges in Lincoln-Douglas, Public Forum, and Policy Debate. On the Monday prior to the State Tournament, the Vice-President or designated representative, will make available to coaches of LD, PF, and Policy entries the list of judges scheduled to judge at the state tournament. The coaches will then have an opportunity to strike a pre-determined number of judges set by the TFA EC for that particular State Tournament. The number of strikes would be no greater than 15% and no less than 10% of the total judge pool in any particular event.

Example:. If there are 60 judges in the Public Forum pool, the EC can set the number of strikes between 6 and 9. If there are 40 judges, the range would be 4-6.

Coaches would be required to return the strike sheet to the Vice-President or designated representative no later than the Wednesday prior to the beginning of the tournament. If returned by that time, the strike system would be in place prior to Round 1 of the tournament. Coaches would also have the opportunity to complete and return the strike sheet at the tournament registration. Those preferences would go into effect at the time that the tabulation room had the opportunity to input them. It will be the responsibility of individual coaches to complete the strike sheet. Tabulation room staff will verify the correctness of the strike sheet with individual coaches at registration. Coaches who may have completed the sheet incorrectly will have the opportunity to complete the sheet correctly at that time. For those coaches who fail to complete the sheet correctly, the tabulation staff will reserve the right to randomly assign judges to competitors from those schools.”

Rationale - This amendment removes the existing Mutual Judge Preference system for Debate events and replaces it with a strike system for the following reasons:

- 1) A strike system requires students to better develop their adaptation skills over a mutual judge preference system because debaters will be required to debate in front of a greater variety of judges.**
- 2) A strike system is consistent with the individual event strike system. Speech judges cannot be ranked and it seems unfair to allow for ranking in debate events.**
- 3) A strike system would allow for easier placement of coaches in the judge pool, necessitating fewer hired judges and lowering the overall cost of the state tournament.**

Respectfully Submitted,

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