



Texas Forensic Association

Constitutional Amendment Form

The following must be provided before your proposal will be accepted by the Executive Committee.

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Region: 2

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Rationale for Amendment: To allow for more equitable competition standards in individual events at the TFA State Tournament by making ranks cumulative from round 1 through to finals.

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: 86 TFA Const. updated 9/9/19)

Select One of the Following: Add Language Delete Language **Amend Language**

Implementation Time Frame: **Immediately upon passage**

Proposed Change(s) *(List the change/add here. Changes should include any language you are replacing from the existing constitution along with the proposed new language.)*

Instead of a "sudden death" approach in out rounds for individual events, where only the ranks from that round determine who will move onto the next round, I propose the following scoring procedures:

Main Event Pairing & Tabulation Rules

TIEBREAKING PROCEDURES — MAIN EVENTS

PRELIMS — In the three preliminary rounds there will be two judges, whose ranks will not be combined. Individual ranks of 6 or 7 will be modified to a 5.

Advancing to an Quarterfinal round is based on the following:

1. Lowest preliminary cumulative rank total, using all six modified ranks
2. Highest preliminary cumulative reciprocal total, using all eight modified reciprocals
3. Lowest preliminary rank total using all six ranks, reverting to original/unmodified ranks

4. Head-to-head in prelims (two-way ties only) using unmodified ranks
5. Lowest Opponent's Average Rank
6. Greatest number of 1s, then greatest number of 2s, all the way down to the worst rank using unmodified ranks
7. Drop the worst unmodified rank (leaving seven unmodified ranks)
8. Drop the best unmodified rank (leaving seven unmodified ranks)

QUARTERFINALS — The quarterfinal round will be power balanced with three judges in each section. All individual ranks will remain unmodified. The 18 students with the lowest overall cumulative rankings (from the quarterfinal and prelim rounds) will advance to the semifinal round based on the following:

1. Lowest cumulative rank total in all rounds (modified prelims + quarters)
2. Highest cumulative reciprocal total in all rounds (modified prelims + quarters)
3. Lowest rank total in the quarterfinal round only
4. Highest reciprocal total in the quarterfinal round only
5. Lowest Panel Rank in Quarterfinals. Panel Rank will be computed in the following way:
 - A. Students in the section will be ordered according to their quarterfinal rank total
 - B. In case of a tie, judges' preference will be employed*
 - C. If judges' preference is unable to break the tie, use quarterfinal round reciprocals to break the panel rank tie.
6. Judges' preference* in quarterfinal round only (if tied contestants are in the same quarterfinal panel)
7. Lowest Opponent's Average Rank
8. Greatest number of 1s, then greatest number of 2s, all the way down to the worst rank in all rounds (modified prelims + quarterfinals)
9. Preliminary rank total using modified ranks

SEMIFINALS — The semifinal rounds will be power balanced with three judges in each section. All individual ranks will remain unmodified. The six students with the best cumulative rankings (from the semifinal, quarterfinal and preliminary rounds) will advance to the final round based on the following:

1. Lowest cumulative rank total in all rounds (modified prelims + quarters + semis)
2. Highest cumulative reciprocal total in all rounds (modified prelims + quarters + semis)
3. Lowest rank total in the semifinal round only
4. Highest reciprocal total in the semifinal round only
5. Lowest Panel Rank in Semifinals. Panel Rank will be computed in the following way:
 - A. Students in the section will be ordered according to their semifinal rank total
 - B. In case of a tie, judges' preference will be employed*

C. If judges' preference is unable to break the tie, use semifinal round reciprocals to break the panel rank tie.

6. Judges' preference* in semifinal round only (if tied contestants are in the same semifinal panel)

7. Lowest Opponent's Average Rank

8. Greatest number of 1s, then greatest number of 2s, all the way down to the worst rank in all rounds (modified prelims + quarterfinals + semifinals)

FINALS — The final round will have five judges. The six finalists will speak in a random order. All individual ranks earned in the final round will remain unmodified. Tournament placing will be determined on the following:

1. Lowest cumulative rank total in all rounds (modified prelims + quarters + semis + finals)

2. Highest cumulative reciprocal total in all rounds (modified prelims + quarters + semis + finals)

3. Lowest rank total in the final round only

4. Highest reciprocal total in the final round only

5. Judges' preference* in final round only

6. Lowest Opponent's Average Rank

9. Greatest number of 1s, then greatest number of 2s, all the way down to the worst rank in all rounds (modified prelims + quarters + semis + finals)

* – Judges' preference: If a student received the top rank among the tied students from a majority of the judges in the section containing the tie, that student will come out of the tie in first via judges' preference. If a three-or-more-way tie is broken in this fashion, a tie may still remain – if so, judges' preference will then be used on it, as well.