

John,

Amendment to the Constitution

Strike

C. Debate Topic Selection Committee. Members shall be appointed by the President and it shall be their duty to research topic areas for the National Federation of State High School Associations and to make recommendations as to the national debate topic. It should be noted that the Texas Forensic Association is not, however, a voting participant in the NFSHSA.

Addition

C. Standing Committee for Equity

This committee shall meet to discuss ways to encourage and meet the needs of disadvantaged groups within the TFA community to capture coaches, students, judges. They will advise the Executive Council ways to reduce obstacles for disadvantaged groups of students and enhancing representation at all levels within TFA IQT's and the State meet. In addition, they will create and maintain a list of judges by region for high schools that have marginalized groups to call upon for volunteering at meets including the TFA state meet. The committee will also help create and maintain a list of names of individuals by region who are qualified and/or willing to fulfil the role of equity officers at local invitational qualifying meets and at the TFA state meet. The committee shall be regionally balanced and members shall be appointed by the President and the region reps.

Rational: The Debate topic selection committee has not written a paper since 2001. It meets at convention without much discussion about proposing Policy Topic Papers. It has outlived its usefulness. The Ad Hoc committee on equity sees the opportunity to add themselves as a standing committee as we see the need to continue to advance the diversity and inclusion within the association and eliminate roadblocks to participation in our activity among marginalized groups.