Texas Forensic Association

Constitutional Amendment Form

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

Name: _____EC_____

School: _____

Region: _____

Email address: _____

Rationale for Amendment: _____To address breaks in Speech and Interpretation events at TFA state that would take into account the number of entries in an event when determining breaks from prelims by providing three break categories.

Section of the Constitution where Change occurs:

_____ Constuon
_____ ByLaws
_____ Code of Professional Standards
_____ Standing Rules: Compeon Event Guide
_____ Standing Rules: IQT Operaons Manual
___X__ Standing Rules: State Tournament Operaons Manual

Page number of change: __117_____

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

Implementation Time Frame: ___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.)*

PG. 117, General Rules, Number 2 would now read:

2. Number of Rounds: At the State Tournament, Speech and Interpretation events shall have three preliminary rounds and break to the following based on total number of entries per event:

Category 1 – 0-36 – break to an ideal of 18 (3 sections of 6), with a max of 24 based on ties (3 sections of 8) [in this scenario, at least 50% break from prelims]

Category 2 – 37-56 – break to an ideal quarters of 24 (4 sections of 6), with a max of 32 based on ties (4 sections of 8) [in this scenario, at least 43% break from prelims]

Category 3 – 57-infinity – break to an ideal quarters of 36 (6 sections of 6), with a max break of 48 based on ties (6 sections of 8). [In this scenario, infinity makes it impossible to calculate. But it starts at 63%]

The following changes would need to occur to pages 118 - 120

Speech and Interpretation Rounds

General Rules

1. **Postings:** Codes of competitors and schematics shall be posted and made available for coaches during preliminary and elimination rounds.

2. **Number of Rounds:** At the State Tournament, Speech and Interpretation events shall have three preliminary rounds and break to the following based on total number of entries per event:
    a. Category 1 – 0-36 – break to an ideal of 18 (3 sections of 6), with a max of 24 based on ties (3 sections of 8) [in this scenario, at least 50% break from prelims]
    b. Category 2 – 37-56 – break to an ideal quarters of 24 (4 sections of 6), with a max of 32 based on ties (4 sections of 8) [in this scenario, at least 43% break from prelims]
    c. Category 3 – 57-infinity – break to an ideal quarters of 36 (6 sections of 6), with a max break of 48 based on ties (6 sections of 8). [In this scenario, infinity makes it impossible to calculate. But it starts at 63%]

3. **Extemporaneous Speaking Cross-Examination:** The final round will include a cross-examination period, as described below. (Though not mandatory, Invitational Qualifying Tournaments are urged to use the cross-examination format in the final round.)
    a. Cross-Examination Procedure: Each speaker shall be assigned a position in the speaking order. Drawing will take place at 12-minute intervals. Thirty minutes after Speaker 1 has drawn, the last Speaker shall enter the contest room. Speaker 1 shall give his/her speech and the last Speaker shall take notes and/or listen. At the conclusion of Speaker 1's speech, the last Speaker shall cross-examine Speaker 1 for a time period not to exceed three minutes. The cross-examination will be an open format, similar to the cross-examination period employed in the final round of the NSDA National Tournament. The last Speaker shall return to the prep room and Speaker 1 shall stay to listen to and question Speaker 2. Speaker 2 will question Speaker 3, etc.

Composite Rerank system for advancement to Semis and Finals

1. Definitions of Terms

a. Composite re-rank: Sum the individual judge ranks for each entry and list the entry in order of their respective totals. The entry with the lowest cumulative score would be re-ranked first, second-most as second, and so on.

b. Adjusted rank: In sections of six or seven, each judge will rank entries through the sixth and seventh placing. The tabulation staff will adjust each rank of six or seven to a five for the purpose of creating the composite re-rank. This is the only instance when the adjusted rank is used.

c. Actual rank: Rank the judge gave the entry, counting sixes and sevens.

2. Preliminary Rounds
   a. 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.

   b. Advancing to a Quarterfinal round is based on the following:
      i. Lowest preliminary cumulative rank total, using all six modified ranks
      ii. Highest preliminary cumulative reciprocal total, using all six modified reciprocals
      iii. Lowest preliminary rank total using all six ranks, reverting to original/unmodified ranks
      iv. Head-to-head in prelims (two-way ties only) using unmodified ranks
      v. Lowest Opponent's Average Rank
      vi. Greatest number of 1s, then greatest number of 2s, all the way down to the worst rank using unmodified ranks
      vii. Drop the worst unmodified rank (leaving seven unmodified ranks)
      viii. Drop the best unmodified rank (leaving seven unmodified ranks)

3. Quarterfinals
   a. 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:
      i. Lowest cumulative rank total in all rounds (modified prelims +quarters)
      ii. Highest cumulative reciprocal total in all rounds (modified prelims + quarters)
      iii. Lowest rank total in the quarterfinal round only
      iv. Highest reciprocal total in the quarterfinal round only
      v. 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.
      vi. Judges' preference* in quarterfinal round only (if tied contestants are in the same quarterfinal panel)
      vii. Lowest Opponent's Average Rank
      viii. Greatest number of 1s, then greatest number of 2s, all the way down to the worst rank in all rounds (modified prelims + quarterfinals)
      ix. Preliminary rank total using modified ranks

4. Semifinals

a. 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:
  i. Lowest cumulative rank total in all rounds (modified prelims + quarters + semis)
  ii. Highest cumulative reciprocal total in all rounds (modified prelims + quarters + semis)
  iii. Lowest rank total in the semifinal round only
  iv. Highest reciprocal total in the semifinal round only
  v. 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.
  vi. Judges' preference* in semifinal round only (if tied contestants are in the same semifinal panel)
  vii. Lowest Opponent's Average Rank
  viii. Greatest number of 1s, then greatest number of 2s, all the way down to the worst rank in all rounds (modified prelims + quarterfinals + semifinals)

5. Finals
   a. 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:
     i. Lowest cumulative rank total in all rounds (modified prelims + quarters + semis + finals)
     ii. Highest cumulative reciprocal total in all rounds (modified prelims + quarters + semis + finals)
     iii. Lowest rank total in the final round only
     iv. Highest reciprocal total in the final round only
     v. Judges' preference* in final round only
     vi. 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

Individual Events, Duo, and Duet Acting Elimination Round Eligibility

Events with 0-29 Entries:
Individual events with a total of 0-29 entries will break to semis based on adjusted cumulative ranks in the first three rounds with an ideal break of 18 with 3 sections of 6 with no more than 24 advancing to semis based on ties with 3 sections of 8. Ranks above 5 will be converted to 5 for the purposes of determining adjusted cumulative rank. There will be a clean break as close to 18 as possible using adjusted cumulative ranks. If there is a tie that includes contestant 18 and exceeds contestant 24 (i.e. all of contestants have an identical adjusted

cumulative rank), that tie would be broken based first on converting scores to reciprocal fractions: 1st = 1.00, 2nd = .50, 3rd = .33, 4th = .25, 5th = .20. Ranks above 5 will be treated as 5s (.20) in determining the reciprocal. Contestants with the highest reciprocal total that are tied with 18th place will advance unless, because of the tie, more than 24 would break. The ties among those pushing the number over 24 would be broken by reverting to original ranks in the round – a rank of 7 would be counted as a 7, a 6 as a 6, etc., taking as few as possible over 18 based on the unadjusted cumulative ranks. If there is still a tie that exceeds 24, the unadjusted ranks will be converted to reciprocals and the highest reciprocal and the highest total that are tied for 18th will advance.

AB11 1 4 5(5) = 10 1.00 .25 .20 =1.45
SD14 1 5(6) 4 =10 1.00 .20 .25 =1.45
GH8 2 5(7) 3 =10 .50 .20 .33 =1.03

If contestants AB11, SD14, GH8 were ties for 18th place, AB11 and SD14 would all break. The total breaking would be 20.

If AB11 and SD14 were tied for the 18th spot and that tie extended to the 24th spot, the AB11 would advance, because originally SD14 had a rank of 6 that was converted to a 5 in round two (GH8 would already be out of consideration.)

In the semis round of events with 0-29 entries, there would be 3 sections with up to a maximum of 8 in each section.

Events with 30-48 entries:
Individual events with a total of 30-48 entries will break to quarters based on adjusted cumulative ranks in the first three rounds with an ideal break of 24 with 4 sections of 6 and no more than 30 advancing based on ties with 2 sections of 7 or 2 sections of 8. Ranks above 5 will be converted to 5 for the purposes of determining adjusted cumulative rank. There will be a clean break as close to 24 as possible using adjusted cumulative ranks. If there is a tie that includes contestant 34 and exceeds contest 30 (i.e. all of contestants have an identical adjusted cumulative rank), that tie would be broken based first on converting scores to reciprocal fractions: 1st = 1.00, 2nd = .50, 3rd = .33, 4th = .25, 5th = .20. Ranks above 5 will be treated as 5s (.20) in determining the reciprocal. Contestants with the highest reciprocal total that are tied with 24th place will advance unless, because of the tie, more than 30 would break. The ties among those pushing the number over 24 would be broken by reverting to original ranks in the round – a rank of 7 would be counted as a 7, a 6 as a 6, etc., taking as few as possible over 24 based on the unadjusted cumulative ranks. If there is still a tie that exceeds 30, the unadjusted ranks will be converted to reciprocals and the highest reciprocal and the highest total that are tied for 24th will advance.

AB11 1 4 5(5) = 10 1.00 .25 .20 =1.45
SD14 1 5(6) 4 =10 1.00 .20 .25 =1.45
GH8 2 5(7) 3 =10 .50 .20 .33 =1.03

If contestants AB11, SD14, GH8 were ties for 24th place, AB11 and SD14 would all break. The total breaking would be 26.

If AB11 and SD14 were tied for the 24th spot and that tie extended to the 30th spot, the AB11 would advance, because originally SD14 had a rank of 6 that was converted to a 5 in round two (GH8 would already be out of consideration.)

In the quarterfinal round of events with 30-48 entries, there would be 4 sections with up to a maximum of 8 in 2 of the sections.

<mark>Events with 49+ entries:</mark>

Individual events with a total of 49 or more entries will break the top 36 contestants to quarterfinals based on adjusted cumulative ranks in the first three rounds with no more than 42 advancing (should there be a tie for the 36th rank). Ranks above 5 will be converted to 5 for the purposes of determining adjusted cumulative rank. There will be a clean break as close to 36 as possible using adjusted cumulative ranks. If there is a tie that includes contestant 36 and exceeds contest 42 (i.e. all of contestants have an identical adjusted cumulative rank), that tie would be broken based first on converting scores to reciprocal fractions: 1st = 1.00, 2nd = .50, 3rd = .33, 4th = .25, 5th = .20. Ranks above 5 will be treated as 5s (.20) in determining the reciprocal. Contestants with the highest reciprocal total that are tied with 36th place will advance unless, because of the tie, more than 42 would break. The ties among those pushing the number over 36 would be broken by reverting to original ranks in the round – a rank of 7 would be counted as a 7, a 6 as a 6, etc., taking as few as possible over 36 based on the unadjusted cumulative ranks. If there is still a tie that exceeds 42, the unadjusted ranks will be converted to reciprocals and the highest reciprocal and the highest total that are tied for 36th will advance.

AB11 1 4 5(5) = 10 1.00 .25 .20 =1.45
SD14 1 5(6) 4 =10 1.00 .20 .25 =1.45
GH8 2 5(7) 3 =10 .50 .20 .33 =1.03

If contestants AB11, SD14, GH8 were ties for 42nd place, AB11 and SD14 would all break. The total breaking would be 38.

If AB11 and SD14 were tied for the 36th spot and that tie extended to the 42nd spot, the AB11 would advance, because originally SD14 had a rank of 6 that was converted to a 5 in round two (GH8 would already be out of consideration.)

In the quarterfinal round there would be 6 sections with up to a maximum of 7 in each section.