

SPEECH, DEBATE & DRAMA RULES CHANGES

Addendum to Executive Board Action Memo April 2014

The following items were approved by the MHS A Executive Board for implementation in 2014-15. All recommendations from the MFEA meeting were approved except one. Refer to the last page for the item that was denied by the Executive Board.

- Page 264 (Page 16), E. Impromptu, Rule 3. Replace current f. and g. and add new h.:

*f. Topics for divisional and state tournaments will be mailed to the divisional and state hosts at least **7 days** prior to the tournaments and a backup copy will be provided to the MHS A speech, debate, and drama liaison via email.*

*g. Class AA members of the short prep committee shall submit a maximum of four quotes and four cartoons for consideration for the Class A/BC divisional and state tournaments. These topics will be sent out to be voted on by AA committee members. The topics selected by the majority vote will be copied and cut and placed in envelopes and sealed and labeled by round by a AA committee member and then placed in the mail to the Class A and BC divisional and state tournament directors no less than **7 days** prior to the tournaments.*

*h. Class A/BC members of the short prep committee shall submit a maximum of three quotes and three cartoons for consideration for the Class AA state tournament. These topics will be sent out to be voted on by A/BC committee members. The topics selected by the majority vote will be copied and cut and placed in envelopes and sealed and labeled by round by a A/BC committee member and then placed in the mail to the Class AA state tournament director no less than **7 days** prior to the tournament.*

- Page 268 (Page 19), G. Interp A and BC, Rule 3 for both serious and humorous literature. Change to read:

3. ~~Manuscripts must be held in hand and appear to be read. The original material may be read, memorized and/or extemporized. The contestant must keep his/her feet stationary during delivery of the literature. The speakers may take steps between selections of literature. Hand gestures are not permitted. Binder may not be used as a prop.~~

Manuscripts must be held in the hand. The original material may be read, memorized and/or extemporized. Hand and foot movements may not enhance the literature. Binders may not be used as a prop. Singing is permitted in A & B/C tournaments.

- Page 282 (Page 30), VIII STATE A and BC Tournaments, A, 3. Change to read:

At the state tournament, an entry fee of ~~\$5.00~~ **\$8.00** for each...

[Note: The last increase took effect for the 2001-2002 season.]

- Page 285 (Page 32), D, Pairing Procedures, 1.a (2) Change the first sentence to:

~~The pairing procedures are as follows.~~ ***The 5 preliminary rounds will be paired randomly by computer pairing program. Schools will be protected from competing against each other, when possible, in the preliminary rounds. The use of computer pairing program by the tournament director is optional. If the computer pairing program is not used, the current matrix will be used for pairing the State Tournament.***

[The existing matrix remains in place.]

- Page 7, G. Ethics, 2. Add this second sentence:

In elimination rounds spectators, excluding paid or volunteer coaches, will be allowed to take notes.

- Page 8, III, A Topic, 1 Team Debate b. Change the resolution to:

The debate topic for 2014-2015 is Resolved: **The United States federal government should substantially increase its non-military exploration and/or development of the Earth's oceans.**

- Page 8, III, A Topic, 2 d. Change to read:

The LD and Legi topics shall switch from Sept/Oct topic to Nov/Dec topic on **November 23 and to the Jan/Feb topic on January 1.**

- Page 8, III, A Topic, 2 e. Change to read:

The Public Forum resolution will use the November topic starting November 1, the December topic starting on December 1, the January topic starting January 1, and the February topic starting on February 1.

Page 9, 3. Legislative Debate, a (4). Change to read:

Each round will... and last no longer than **75** minutes, to be timed by the judge. At the end of **75** minutes...

- Page 13, D. Evidence Presentation, Rule 3. add:

Any item ... for inspection **in the round** when requested ...

- Page 13, D. Evidence Presentation, new rule #4 to read:

4. In all debate events, debaters are expected to have and be able to provide all information required by full MLA or APA citations, in addition to the qualifications of the author, for any evidence they introduce into the debate round. Internet-based sources must also include the title of the website, database, or access point; the date accessed; and the web address. The additional citation required for online sources must appear on all evidence, but need not be read.

Renumber current 4, 5, 6 to 5, 6, 7

- Page 13, D. Evidence Presentation, Rule 6. Add this sentence:

A visual aid is defined as: an item of illustrative matter, such as a film, slide, or model, designed to supplement written or spoken information so that it can be understood more easily.

- Page 13, F. Challenges, Rule 2. Change to read:

Typical consequences will be loss of round, **or in legislative debate receive a ranking of last in the round, no higher than a 5** (no additional penalty, i.e. no loss of speaker points).

- Page 14, F. Challenges, Rule 5.a. Change to read:

a. The tournament director will give a loss to the team or debater committing the infraction and zero points, **or in legislative debate receive a ranking of last in the round, no higher than a 5.** That team or debater will be eliminated from further competition in the tournament.

- Page 16, E. Impromptu, Rule 5. Add the following after the first sentence:

A time remaining of 2 minutes and 02 seconds (2:02) or more shall be considered under time.

- Page 17, F. Extemp, Rule 3. Add the following after the second sentence:

A time remaining of 2 minutes and 02 seconds (2:02) or more shall be considered under time.

- Page 17, F. Extemp, Rule 2 b, Change to read:

b. Each short prep committee member will submit a minimum of 10 national and 10 international questions with source information to be used for divisionals and state. One A/BC committee member and one AA committee member will work together to compile the questions for the divisional and state tournaments. The short prep committee will provide 72 questions (consisting of 36 national and 36 international questions) to the MHSA speech, debate, and drama liaison at least three days before the divisional tournaments and then will provide 96 questions (consisting of 48 national and 48 international questions) to the MHSA speech, debate, and drama liaison at least three days before the state tournament. Twelve questions will be used in each round. No question may be repeated in any other round.

- Page 18/19, G. Serious Interp/Humorous Interp A and BC, Rule 1, a. strike the words:

“Singing is not permitted in A and BC tournaments.”

- Page 21, V. A and B, Rule 3. After the second sentence, add this sentence:

Students may not wear anything that simulates hair; if the item is intended to represent hair, including facial hair, it would be considered a wig and therefore not allowed

- Page 21, V. A and B, Combine sections into one section as follows:

V. RULES FOR DRAMA EVENTS (Classes A and B-C)

A. Humorous and Serious Duo and Solo Acting

1. The combined introduction and actual acting shall not exceed ten minutes.
2. Costumes and props may be used.
3. No use may be made of lighting effects or stage makeup. Wigs and temporary hair coloring are to be considered makeup and therefore, are not acceptable. **Students may not wear anything that simulates hair; if the item is intended to represent hair, including facial hair, it would be considered a wig and therefore not allowed.** Stage makeup is makeup put on the face or body to enhance the character.
4. Sound to be used in scenes shall be inherent to the scene and actuated by the actors. Singing, playing musical instruments and use of recorded audio are allowed.
5. Personal authorship of original work may not be claimed. Contestant may not announce that the piece is original or self-written or may not claim the piece is autobiographical.
6. Contestants shall not distribute any materials to the judge or audience.
7. Contestants must use the same material from the beginning to the end of the tournament. Cutting for time is allowed.
8. In HUM SOLO: The competitor must create a character; stand-up comedy is not allowed.
9. If one member of a qualifying duo cannot attend the state meet, the school may substitute for this member. If neither can attend, no substitutions will be permitted.

ALSO, Mime should be relabeled “B”

- Page 21, C. Pantomime, Rule 5. After the second sentence, add this sentence:

The intent of the rule is that touching of costume or hair is considered a prop and therefore not allowed.

- Page 25, E. A and BC Sweepstakes, 1 a. (1) Fourth sentence, strike the words:

“Class B-C only” so the sentence starts with “Each...”

- Page 27, E. Pairing Procedures 1. a (1) Round I (b) Change to read:

In the event of an odd number of entries the first round bye shall be assigned to the top seeded entry. In the event of a tie for the top seed the bye will be randomly assigned between the top seeded entries by the tournament director.

- Page 28, under debate pairing 1. (3) Round III (c) Change to read as follows:

Winner’s bracket will consist of all teams with a **2 – 0 record.** Loser’s bracket will consist of all teams with a **1 – 1 or 0 – 2 record.**

- Page 28, E 1. (a) New number (6) to read:

(6) In breaking ties for the advancement to out rounds and for the purpose of final placement at a tournament: 1) cumulative record; 2) head to head competition; 3) speaker points; 4) opponent’s record; 5) coin flip
Renumber current 6 and 7 to 7 and 8

- Page 32, C. Pairing Procedures, 3. Debate Rounds, d Round 3, Change to read as follows:

Winner’s bracket will consist of all teams/LD contestants with a **2 – 0 record.** Loser’s bracket will consist of all teams/LD contestants with a **1 – 1 or 0 – 2 record.**

- Page 32, C. Pairing Procedures, 3. Debate Rounds, f Round 5, Change the second paragraph to read:

In breaking ties for the advancement to out rounds and for the purpose of final placement at a tournament: 1) cumulative record; 2) head to head competition; 3) speaker points; 4) opponent’s record; 5) coin flip

Housekeeping:

- Page 13, D. 3 – Strike the words: “by the affirmative team.”
- Page 18 – Extemp rules. Top sentence reads “gas” – should it be “as”?
- Page 24, 2, g. Ties – the line “except at BC state...” seems out of place.
- Page 24 – matrix B is out of alignment
- Page 25, E. A and B-C Sweepstakes Points, 1. A. c. – Replace the line that reads: “No points shall be awarded in the case of a bye with the exception of a first round bye” with “**Byes are counted as wins**” (that was changed with the new bye rules).
- Page 27, E. Pairing Procedures 1. a. 1. a. – Strike the line “Byes shall not be counted as wins” for the same reason as above.
- Page 27, E. Pairing Procedures 2. (c) – Reword the line that reads: “The team/LD that draws a bye will be placed in the winners’ bracket in the next round by random draw.” With: The team/LD that draws a bye will be placed in the winners’ bracket **based on averaged speaker points.**
- Page 28, E. Pairing Procedures for Round 3 – same correction as above.

- Page 31, 3. C – Same correction as above.
- Page 29, under Option 2, Round Robin, strike rule (5) that reads:
If all speakers receive a bye then no point for a bye will be awarded.

E. Debate Pairing Procedures

a. Debate Rounds

(1) Round I – Randomly paired by tournament director.

(2) Round II - Priorities for pairing are in descending importance. Complete step (a), then move to (b) etc.

(a) Win/loss has top priority.

(b) If there are an uneven number of debaters, draw the bye randomly from the winners' bracket. The team/LD that draws a bye will be placed in the winners' bracket in the next round by random draw. Teams/LD contestants receiving byes in preliminary rounds shall be awarded speaker points based on the average of all preliminary rounds debated. The bye points must be averaged every round.

(c) The winner's bracket will include all 1-0 teams and the loser's bracket will consist of all 0-1 teams. Place teams in their respective bracket by ranking them from highest to lowest according to ~~team and~~ speaker points. If the winner's bracket is uneven, draw the top team from the loser's bracket up to even the bracket. Pair teams from highest to lowest within their brackets. (Note: If a team/LDer receives below fifteen speaker points, record debate speaker points as fifteen points in the tabulation process.)

(d) Teams/LD contestants from the same school will not meet until finals. When pairing, if the teams/LD contestants have met before, the person doing the pairing will move the team/LD contestants directly above in the bracket and will continue with procedure until a valid pairing can be made. No team/LD contestants shall debate the same team/LD contestants a second time until semifinals. In the event that teams/LD contestants that have met before must meet in semifinals or finals, the team/LD contestant will switch sides.

(e) Protect sides, but only if this can be done within each win/loss bracket.

(3) Round III - Winner's bracket will consist of all teams with a 2-0 record. Loser's bracket will include all teams with a 1-1 or 0-2 record. Teams will be paired in like fashion to Round II, (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e).

(4) After Round III, the tournament director may opt for semis. Select the top four teams based on win/loss record and speaker points. Teams should be paired 1 versus 4 and 2 versus 3. If only three rounds are held, the tournament director must have semis.

(5) If Round IV is held, winner's bracket will include all 3-0's and 2-1's. All other teams will be included in a loser's bracket. Teams will be paired in like fashion to Round III, (a), (b), (c), (d), and (e).

(6) Finals - Winners from the semifinal round or if no semi is held, the top two teams at the end of preliminaries based on win/loss record and speaker points shall meet to determine 1st and 2nd place. Semifinal losers will be awarded 3rd and 4th places by win/loss records and speaker points. All other places shall be awarded based on win/loss record and speaker points. If there is no semifinal round, all places below 2nd will be awarded in this manner.

(7) A team/LDer who forfeits a round in preliminary rounds, either by no-show or acquiescence, shall receive a loss with 0 speaker points; the opposing team/LDer shall receive a win and an average of their points.

(8) In breaking ties for the advancement to out rounds and for the purpose of final placement at a tournament: 1) cumulative record; 2) speaker points; 3) head to head competition 4) opponent's record.

Renumber E. to F. and F. to G.

The following items that were presented following the MFEA meeting were denied by the MHSA Executive Board.

Entry Increase for STATE B-C - Denied

- Page 282 (Page 30), VIII STATE A and BC Tournaments, A, 1. Change the first sentence to:

The top six places (**CLASS A ONLY**) and the top eight places (**CLASS BC ONLY**) in each event...

[This increases the number of qualifiers to the State B-C Tournament from each division.]