

**ARTICLE IX: The State Tournament—Individual Event Rules****Section 1. Spontaneous Events: National Extemporaneous, International Extemporaneous, Impromptu****A. General Rules for all Spontaneous Events**

1. Preparation: As soon as a topic is chosen and through the time that the speech is given, the speaker will prepare a speech without consulting any person and without reference to notes prepared prior to the draw. The speaker may ask clarifying procedural questions of tournament officials.
2. Time: Each contestant shall be given time signals for at least the final two minutes, one minute, and half a minute of the contestant's speech. If these minimal times signals are not provided, then the contestant may not be penalized for going over the time limit. If these minimal time signals have been provided and the contestant exceeds the time limit by more than 15 seconds, the speaker will be penalized by a lowering of one rank by tab room officials.
3. Delivery: No notes are allowed during the presentation of the speech.
4. The performance must begin and end from the center stage area. Contestants must remain in the staging area throughout the performance.
5. Violations of general and/or specific rules, except as noted, shall result in the contestant being ranked no higher than seventh (7th) place in the round(s) in which the violation occurs or being disqualified.

**B. Specific Rules for each Spontaneous Event****1. Extemporaneous**

- a. Broadly newsworthy topics shall be drawn from publications dated January 1 through one week prior to the State Tournament. A minimum of eleven topics will be written for each round of each extemporaneous speaking event. The topics for each round will be in a distinct topic area not to be used in any other round for the duration of the tournament. The topic areas by round will be determined by the Individual Events Committee and announced at the January meeting.
- b. Drawing: Each contestant shall draw three topics for each round. Each shall be called to draw by speaking order and panel. The contestant must promptly choose one topic of the three drawn and return the other two topics. Each contestant shall draw topics thirty minutes prior to his/her scheduled speaking time.
- c. Preparation: Students may consult published or electronic sources, books, magazines, newspapers and journals or articles therefrom, provided that:
  - 1) they must be originals, printouts, or copies of the originals;
  - 2) the original article, print, or copy is intact and uncut;
  - 3) there is no added written material or that original print or copy other than citation information.
  - 4) topical index, if present, is not annotated.

No other material shall be allowed in the Extemp prep room other than stated above. Extemp speeches, handbooks, briefs and outlines shall be barred from the Extemp prep room. Underlining or highlighting in materials shall be allowed, but must be done in only one color on each article or copy. Bolding, italicizing, or any other manipulation of the original text of sources (other than highlighting or underlining as stipulated) is prohibited. The preparation room shall be proctored at all times to enforce these rules. Extemp materials shall not be searched at any time, including prep time, unless directed by the Tournament Director or designee. If a contestant leaves the prep room prior to the

appointed time when s/he shall have been dismissed by the proctor, s/he shall receive a rank of 7th, and other contestants in the panel shall move up one rank, if previously ranked below the contestant who violated this rule.

- d. Use of computers: Extemporaneous Speaking contestant may make use of electronic retrieval devices to store and retrieve their subject files. Students can retrieve extemporaneous files to read, but cannot write speeches or organize their thoughts on the computers. Electronic retrieval devices are defined as laptop computers, netbooks, iPads, or other portable electronic retrieval equipment. Secondary devices such as flash drives or external hard drives are allowed as well. Cell phones or smart phones are prohibited. (Students may not share electronic devices with one another.)
  - 1) Extemporaneous Speaking contestants shall not access the Internet. All wireless capability must be disabled.
  - 2) Power plugs or outlets may not be used in the prep room at any time. All computers used in the prep room must be battery operated at all times.
- e. The State Tournament Director will designate a time and place for all Extemp competitors and their coaches to check in Extemp materials. At the time of check-in, coaches and students will sign a certification that their Extemp materials are in accordance with the above criteria. Students who are found after check-in to be in violation will risk disqualification.
- f. Contestants shall not speak more than seven minutes. There is no minimum time.
- g. Cross Examination in Finals: For the final round, each speaker shall be assigned a position in the speaking order. Drawing shall take place at twelve-minute intervals. Thirty minutes after speaker one has drawn, the last speaker shall enter the contest room. First speaker shall deliver a speech and the last speaker will listen and take notes. At the conclusion of the first speaker's speech, the last speaker will cross-examine the first speaker for two minutes. The questioner controls the time and may interrupt a lengthy reply. Upon the conclusion of the cross-examination of the first speaker, last speaker shall return to the prep room and the first speaker shall stay to listen to and question the first speaker. Second speaker shall question speaker three, etc. Questioners may take notes during the speaker's speech, but may not use them in questioning.

## **2. Impromptu**

- a. Topics: Four types of topics shall be used.
  - Round 1 = concrete nouns
  - Round 2 = brief, thought-provoking quotations
  - Round 3 = general topics of current interest
  - Semi-final = single word abstracts
  - Final=brief, thought-provoking quotations
- b. Drawing: Each contestant shall draw three topics from a judge in the round and immediately select one topic.
- c. Preparation: No more than two minutes shall be allowed the speaker prior to the speech. Timing begins the moment the selection of the topic has been made. No sources may be consulted during the preparation time.
- d. Notes: The speaker may make notes during the two-minute preparation, however as stipulated, note are not allowed during the presentation of the speech.
- e. Time: Contestants shall not speak more than five minutes. There is no minimum time.
- f. The contestant must remain in the room until all speakers in the panel have spoken.

**Section 2. Original Competition Events: Expository, Original Advocacy, Original Oratory, Original Prose Poetry**

**A. General Rules for all Original Composition Events**

1. Topics: All speeches entered must be the original work of the contestant.
  - a. Speakers using subjects that they used in competition in previous years shall be disqualified.
  - b. Contestants are prohibited from using the same subject in other original events in the same or subsequent years.
2. Time: Speeches shall be no longer than ten minutes; there is no minimum time. If this time limit is exceeded by more than 30 seconds, the speaker will be penalized by a lowering of one rank by tab room officials. Judges should use discretion if the speaker is forced to exceed this time limit due to audience reaction.
3. Delivery: With the exception of Expository, no notes, visual or audio aids, or manuscripts shall be permitted during delivery. Speeches must be delivered from memory.
4. Quoted Words: No more than 150 words of the speech may be direct quotations from another source. In addition to the submitted manuscript citation requirement, quoted words exceeding a threshold of 50 from a single source must be identified and cited in the delivery of the speech. This requirement for spoken attribution of substantially quoted sources applies to all of the original events including Original Prose and Poetry.
5. Manuscript Requirements: A double-spaced typewritten copy of the speech with all quotations underlined must be submitted to the League President prior to the State Qualifying Tournament. The manuscript must follow the MLA style guidelines for internal citations and must include a "works-cited" page. If no outside sources are used, the student will sign the disclaimer on the CHSSA cover sheet. The number of quoted words (including a, an, the) must be specified on the CHSSA cover sheet.
6. Verification of Manuscripts: League Presidents shall forward to the Area Chairperson all qualified manuscripts with appropriate signatures on the attached cover sheets. The coach, contestant, parent/guardian, and a school administrator must sign the CHSSA cover sheet and attach it to all manuscripts submitted for qualification for the State Tournament.
7. The performance must begin and end from the center stage area. Contestants must remain in the staging area throughout the performance.
8. Violations of general and/or specific rules, except as noted, shall result in the contestant being ranked no higher than seventh (7th) place in the round(s) in which the violation occurs, or being disqualified.

**B. Specific Rules for each Original Composition Event:**

**1. Expository:**

- a. Topics: Any appropriate subject may be used, but the primary purpose of the speech shall be to describe, clarify, explain, and/or define and object, idea, concept, or process. Topics/subjects fabricated by the speaker may not be used. This is a speech to inform. Not a performance, and the emphasis should be placed on the oral presentation rather than on audio or visual aids used in support of the informative goal of the speech.
- b. Aids: The speech may be delivered from memory, notes, or manuscript. Visual and audio aids may be used during the presentation of the speech. No live animals or other persons may be used as visual aids or to help set up and/or present the speech. No costumes shall be worn by the contestant. Items of dress necessary to the presentation of the speech may be put on during the speech. These must be considered aids and may not be part of the speaker's beginning and ending attire. Any alteration to the student's physical appearance must be substantially restored to its original state by the end of the performance. Students

- may not use any prop that would be considered contraband.
- c. Time: The ten-minute time limit shall include time to set up and remove aids. Speakers are allowed to pre-set aids/easels along room perimeter prior to the beginning of the round. Time spent pre-setting aids is not timed. If the first speaker chooses to pre-set aids, that pre-set must also be along the room perimeter. Set-up for first speaker may NOT be in the central staging area. Time begins once the aids are set down in the central staging area. Time ends when the last aid or easel is removed from the central staging area. This includes the last speaker in the panel.

## 2. Original Advocacy:

- a. Topics: any appropriate subject may be used, but topics shall be limited to subjects concerning public policy issues of a tangible nature for which the contestant must advocate a specific legislative and/or regulatory governmental action or remedy. All legislative solutions must identify the specific agent of action. Any non-factual reference, including a personal one must be so identified.
- b. Manuscript: The specific legislative and/or regulatory governmental action or remedy must be highlighted.

## 3. Original Oratory:

- a. Topics: Any appropriate subject may be used, but the primary purpose of an oration is to persuade, motivate, and/or inspire. Any non-factual reference, including a personal one, must be so identified.

## 4. Original Prose/Poetry:

- a. Topics: Any appropriate subject may be used, but the primary purpose of the event is to demonstrate the creativity of the contestant. The presentation may consist of prose or poetry or a combination. The tone may dramatic, humorous, or a combination. More than one written selection may be presented within the allotted time. The entire presentation may or may not be based on a thematic concept.

## Section 3. Interpretation of Literature Events: Dramatic and Humorous, Duo, Oratorical, and Thematic.

### A. General Rules for all Interpretation of Literature Events:

#### 1. Selections

- a. A selection is any quotation from a work of no less than 150 words or a complete work of fewer than 150 words.
- b. No contestant may use the same literary work that s/he used in previous competitive years. Contestants are further prohibited from using the same literary works in other interpretation events in the same or subsequent years.
- c. Violation of this rule [Sec. 3. A(b)] shall result in disqualification from the tournament.
- d. No selection shall be the contestant's original work; the contestant shall suggest the thoughts, emotions, the ideas and purposes of the author.
- e. Every contestant must use published materials. "Published" as used in these rules means materials commercially printed, published, readily available, and nationally distributed by December 31 of that competitive school year. The only exception to this rule shall be Oratorical Interpretation (OI). Speeches used as scripts in OI may be delivered and published after December 31 of the competitive year, but must meet all other publication guidelines. Selections available only on nationally distributed phonograph, compact disc, audio or video tape recordings, shall be permitted only if the material used is printed on the jacket or box of the recording or on a printed insert with the recording. Only the original printed source or a photocopy of the original printed source shall be considered

adequate proof of publication.

f. Electronically-sourced literary works, such as text published in online literary journals and magazines\*, PDFs and e-reader content, are permitted as long as

- 1) they are commercially and readily available;
- 2) they are nationally distributed and accessible;
- 3) the text has not been electronically altered or manipulated;
- 4) the submitted manuscript follows the preparation requirements for all interpretation events, including highlighting, legibility, added-words restrictions, etc.
- 5) the submitter is deemed to have assured, through the act of submission, that the reproduction and use of the piece in a High School Speech and Debate Competition has not been done in violation of any applicable copyright laws, any laws relating to Digital Rights Management, including, but not limited to the Digital Rights Millennium Copyright Act, or any other law that might raise a question as to the legality of reproducing a work or reciting that work in competition.

Each submitter of a script further acknowledges as a condition to submission of the script that s/he will assume sole responsibility for any violation of law that may occur by reason of the reproduction, submission, or recitation of any piece and will hold CHSSA harmless regarding same. CHSSA is not in a position to determine the legality of reproduction and recitation of any script, does not condone any violation of law in reproduction, submission, or recitation of scripts, and relies on the deemed assurances of the submitter as set forth herein in approving any script relative to CHSSA script format rules and allowing such a script to be used in any competition. In the event any third party claims the reproduction, performance, or recitation of the script to be in violation of any law, the submitter must either resolve the issue with the third party to its satisfaction, with written proof of same to CHSSA, or must withdraw the script and replace it with another. Proof of rules compliance should accompany the electronically-sourced script in one or more of the following forms:

- a) Title, Author, Table of Contents, Copyright page(s) and ISBN # if available (preferred)
- b) A receipt of purchase (if a copyright page does not exist, identical to the allowances made for texts from Script City, Book City, Hollywood Collectibles, etc.)
- c) A paper print-out of the website page from which the text was obtained, i.e. the company order page showing the option to purchase the text electronically
- d) A photograph or screenshot of any of the above

6) Restrictions on e-sources: Online-sourced text must originate from a verifiable website that can be accessed universally by any user. The website and/or the electronic version of the digital text must be available for comparison with the printed script if challenged.

\*An example of an acceptable online literary magazine is *The Adirondack Review* ([www.theadirondackreview.com](http://www.theadirondackreview.com)) which describes itself as “an independent online quarterly magazine of literature and the arts dedicated to publishing poetry, fiction, artwork and photography.” While it does encourage submissions, it posts its editorial guidelines for publication which makes this website an Acceptable source.

Unacceptable online sources include, but are not limited to:

- Personal websites (social network profiles, blogs, etc.)
- Publish It websites (those with one-click uploads or those which accept and post submissions without an editorial selection process)
- Unmarked or casual websites where individuals can easily post compositions

g. With the exception of Thematic Interpretation, contestants may not combine two or more pieces of literature. A piece of literature shall be defined as one piece of writing which was

written with the intent to be published as one work. This will not include pieces such as “collected works” of an author or group of authors; collections of newspaper articles or cartoons published as one book, but will include pieces such as *A Light in the Attic* which was written with the intent of being published as one work.

- h. A maximum of 150 words may be added to the selection to provide introductory and transitional materials insofar as those added materials do not change the author’s intent.
  - i. If material from other published works is specifically referenced within the literature selected for interpretation, the words must be counted as part of the 150 added word limit and be inserted where spoken, underlined and properly cited according to MLA guidelines.
2. Delivery:
- a. Costumes or props (the use of something extraneous to the body) are prohibited. Although gestures or pantomime may be used, they should be used with restraint.
  - b. With the exception of Thematic Interpretation, the interpretation must be delivered from memory; no notes, prompting, or scripts shall be permitted.
  - c. Contestants must adhere to the material as submitted when performing during all contest rounds. **LINES INTENTIONALLY OMITTED FROM THE SCRIPT BUT ADDED TO THE PERFORMANCE WILL LEAD TO DISQUALIFICATION.**
  - d. The performance must begin and end from the center stage area. Contestants must remain in the staging area throughout the performance.
3. Time:
- a. Presentations shall be no longer than ten minutes; there is no minimum time. If this time limit is exceeded by more than 30 seconds, the speaker will be penalized by a lowering of one rank by tab room officials.
  - b. For each final round, a tournament official or designee shall serve as the official timer, and will have the discretion of waiving time violations for contestants exceeding the time limit due to audience reactions. This may be extended to the semi-final round at the discretion of the Tournament Director or designee.
4. Identification of the Selection: The title of the selection and name of the author must be given by the contestant when the selection is introduced. (For Oratorical Interpretation, see specific rules). Failure of a contestant to introduce the selection as prescribed shall result in being penalized not more than one rank by tab room officials.
5. Manuscript Requirements:
- a. Photocopies of the interpretation selections including title pages (and table of contents if from an anthology) and the publisher page must be submitted with each contestant’s entry to the State Qualifying Tournament (for Oratorical Interpretations sourced from the internet, see event specific rules). Scripts provided by Script City, Book City of Burbank, and Hollywood Collectibles or similar script publisher need not have a publisher page, but must provide proof of being commercially printed, published, readily available, and nationally distributed. An example of such proof may be in the form of a receipt for purchase which shows above criteria have been met.
  - b. For all interpretive events, the pages used and ONLY the pages used in the interpretation must be copied in their entirety. The portion(s) of the author’s work being used in the interpretation must be highlighted. Words not used in the cutting should NOT be highlighted but must not be obscured so as to be illegible.
  - c. All added words including introductory, transitional, and updating material shall be typewritten or printed neatly and inserted into the selection and underlined. The placement of added words must be clearly indicated. Unpublished material used for introductions and transitions of interpretations must be the original work of the

contestant. Published and/or quoted material used for introductions and transitions of interpretations must be properly cited according to MLA guidelines. Transitions and other added material must not change the author's intent.

- d. League Presidents shall forward to the Area Chairperson proper photocopies of all contestant interpretations that have qualified for the State Tournament. The coach, contestant, parent/guardian, and a school administrator must sign the CHSSA cover sheet and attach it to all scripts submitted for qualification for the State Tournament.
- 6. Violations of general and/or specific rules, except as noted, shall result in the contestant being ranked no higher than seventh (7th) place in the round(s) in which the violation occurs, or being disqualified.

## **B. Specific Rules for Interpretation of Literature Events:**

### **1. Dramatic/Humorous Interpretation:**

- a. Single or multiple character selections may be used.

### **2. Duo Interpretation:**

- a. Duo partners may not make eye contact with one another during the interpretation. In the event of eye contact, the duo will be penalized by no more than one rank by tab room officials. Eye contact during the introduction is optional, but allowed.
- b. The partners may react to each other's verbal and/or non-verbal expressions, but they may not touch each other. If physical contact is noted as a violation, the duo will be dropped one rank. If the physical contact is determined to be intentional, the duo will be given last place in the round. These penalties will be assessed by tournament officials. Physical contact between the partners during the introduction is optional.
- c. Each of the two performers may play one or more characters so long as performance responsibility in the cutting remains as balanced as possible. If the selection is prose or poetry and contains narration, either or both of the performers may present the narration. Introductory and/or transitional material may be presented by either or both contestants.
- d. The material may be humorous or dramatic, or combine both tones depending on the selected work.

### **3. Oratorical Interpretation:**

- a. The selection must be from a published speech which shall have been delivered as a public address by a real person; however, speeches given by high school or college students in competition shall not be permitted. Public address is defined as a formal spoken communication, a formal speech, a formal oral communication to an audience. Synonyms include "declamation," "lecture," "oration," and "speech." While orations take many forms, a public address is distinct from a stand-up comedy performance, a poetry "slam", or storytelling.
- b. Source of the selection: in addition to print sources, the Internet may be used.
- c. Manuscript Requirements: The Internet may be used with the following stipulations: that the manuscript be printed directly from the screen; the first page in the website is preferred; however, if that page no longer links to the transcript, a copy of the search engine page is permissible and all other pages which indicate table of contents and/or other information from the website shall be included in the manuscript; (downloaded manuscripts will not be accepted). The material may not be sourced from a social networking website, personal website, or similar website.

- d. Identification of the Selection: The author, title (if given), occasion, place and date of the

original delivery of the speech shall be given by the contestant when the selection is introduced. Failure of a contestant to introduce the selection as prescribed shall result in being penalized by the lowering of not more than one rank by tab room officials.

#### 4. Thematic Interpretation:

- a. Delivery: Using a handheld manuscript, the contestant is to present a program of interpretation that combines original composition with oral interpretation using a minimum of three literary selections illustrating a theme/thematic statement of his/her choice. A selection is an excerpt of no fewer than 150 words from a published work, or a complete work of fewer than 150 words. No contestant may use the same theme that s/he used in previous competitive years. Speakers using a theme that they used in competition in previous years shall be disqualified.
  - 1) Each program is to contain three or more separate selections or cuttings from different works. All selections must be verbally identified by title and author. Anthologies may be considered multiple sources.
  - 2) A selection is any quotation from a work in excess of 150 words, or complete work of less than 150 words.
  - 3) The contestant may deliver the program solely from memory or by referencing the manuscript, but must hold the manuscript in his/her own hand or hands at all times.
  - 4) The intact manuscript may be used by the contestant as a prop so long as it remains in the contestant's hand(s) at all times. Other than the manuscript, no costumes or props are permitted. The contestant's handheld manuscript **must** contain only text from the selections and original materials and shall contain nothing else, including, but not limited to, any materials that would be intended for use as a visual aid.
- b. The original material may comprise up to one-third of the total presentation. Quoted material must be identified by title and author and cited in the manuscript according to MLA guidelines. No more of 150 of these added words may be embedded within the contestant's selections.
- c. Manuscript Requirements: Thematic Interpretation manuscripts must meet the requirements for both original compositions and literary interpretations (see General Rules), with the following stipulations:
  - 1) Each literary selection must be highlighted in a different color, including the identification materials (copyright, title page, table of contents.)

#### Section 4. Certification of Materials

- A. All material used in original composition or oral interpretation of literature and submitted for state qualification tournaments and the State Tournament must have a CHSSA coversheet attached to each manuscript.
- B. CHSSA coversheets for each contest event in original composition or oral interpretation on literature must be used and must include all required information for each manuscript and all required signatures. Scripts that do not comply with the rules in these by-laws shall be returned for correction. Failure to have properly prepared materials may result in disqualification from state qualification tournaments and/or the State Tournament. Cover sheets must be dated.
- C. If a student competes at the State Tournament with an illegal script (an illegal script is one which does not substantially meet the CHSSA State Tournament manuscript requirements), the League that student represents shall lose a qualifier in that event for the following competitive



year. Discovery must take place prior to the semi-final round of the tournament. Established protest procedures must be followed. Access to the scripts shall be at the discretion of the Area Chairs. The VP of Activities shall retain all scripts at the end of the tournament.

**Section 5: Approved/Unapproved Source List for Interpretation Events**

- A. At the conclusion of the state tournament, the Vice-President of activities will submit to the President and four Area Chairs the publication information from all scripts that qualified for that tournament in interpretation events.  
These pages shall include only the web lead-in pages or photocopies of the publication information, but shall not include any coversheets or cutting information. After a committee of the president and four area chairs have determined that the pieces meet the publication guidelines stated in the CHSSA bylaws, the sources will be approved as legal and will be added to an "Approved Script List" which will be published on the CHSSA website. No information on student/school will be included on the list.
- B. If an area chair determines that a source is illegal, that source information will be added to a "NOT approved CHSSA list" which will be published on the CHSSA website with the cause for the determination. No information on student/school will be included on the list.
- C. The Approved and NOT Approved Script Lists will be locked each competitive year from the conclusion of the September Meeting until the end of the CHSSA state tournament.
- D. Students that perform selections from the Approved Script List are required to submit a printed copy of the page of the script list with their selection highlighted, a signed coversheet and cutting in accordance with CHSSA by-laws, but are not required to submit copies of the proof of publication pages.

For example, if a student in DI chooses to perform a selection from the "Approved Script List," the student would submit a manuscript with the following:

1. Completed and signed coversheet
  2. Copy of the appropriate page from the Approved Script List with source information of the chosen selection highlighted.
  3. The typed double-spaced, underlined intro.
  4. A photocopy of each page that they used with cutting highlighted and added words underlined per CHSSA by-laws.
- E. Any school objecting to a source on the Approved Script List or the NOT Approved List may appeal to the Executive Council for its removal. The appeal must be filed only by the coach of record. The appeal must be filed on the proper form with the CHSSA president who will set the parameters for how the appeal is heard and voted upon. Appeals filed during the time the list is locked will be heard, but the decision will go into effect the following competitive year.