

Constitution of the Oklahoma Intercollegiate Forensics Association

I. The Organization

- A. This organization shall be known as the Oklahoma Intercollegiate Forensics Association.
- B. This organization is the association of the intercollegiate forensics programs in the State of Oklahoma.

II. Purpose

- A. Provide opportunities for students to participate in intercollegiate forensics in the State of Oklahoma.
- B. Administer the annual state intercollegiate forensics tournament.
- C. Officiate the annual Interstate Oratorical Association qualifier.
- D. Provide tournament results to other forensics associations as needed.

III. Membership

- A. Membership in the Association is open to all institutions of higher education in the State of Oklahoma.
- B. Although encouraged, members of the Association are not required to participate in the Association's Tournament(s).
- C. The annual state tournament will be open to both members and non-members of the organization.
- D. Only schools in the State of Oklahoma may use the Oklahoma State Tournament to qualify for the Interstate Oratorical Association Championship Tournament.

IV. OFFICER ELECTIONS

- A. The Officers of the Association shall be a PRESIDENT, who shall serve as the STATE TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR and an EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, who shall also be TREASURER. These officers serve on the EXECUTIVE COUNCIL – with one representative from the host school of the forthcoming state tournament (unless already represented in one of the presiding officers).
- B. All officers shall be elected at the annual business meeting by majority vote of member schools present.
 - 1. The EXECUTIVE COUNCIL shall include no more than one member from any single member institution.
 - 2. Officers shall not serve more than two consecutive terms. This limitation does not preclude reelection at a later time.
 - 3. The EXECUTIVE SECRETARY shall be elected in odd years.
 - 4. The PRESIDENT shall be elected in even numbered years.
- C. Any officer shall be a faculty or staff member of an institution belonging to the Association and actively associated with the Forensics program at that institution.
- D. In the event of resignation, the remaining officers shall appoint a successor to be approved by a majority vote of the membership who will serve until the next business meeting at which time a successor will be elected.

V. OFFICERS-DUTIES

- A. The EXECUTIVE COUNCIL shall be responsible for conducting the day-to-day business of the Association between annual business meetings and shall uphold all articles of the By-Laws.
- B. The PRESIDENT will chair the EXECUTIVE COUNCIL and will consult with the Executive Council regarding all decisions involving the Association. The PRESIDENT shall also:
 - 1. chair all meetings of the Association and the awards sessions at the State Tournament.
 - 2. be responsible for upholding of the By-Laws and all other decisions of the Association.
 - 3. actively promote forensic activities in the State of Oklahoma.
 - 4. establish the agenda for all meetings of the Association.
 - 5. chair the STATE TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE.
- C. The EXECUTIVE SECRETARY shall:
 - 1. serve as TREASURER of the Association.
 - 2. coordinate all electronic and written correspondence to the membership.
 - 3. maintain all Association records, including financial.
 - 4. send Tournament results to appropriate national forensics organizations such as, but not necessarily limited to, NFA, AFA, NPDA, CEDA, NPTE, IOA, and IPDA.
- D. The HOST SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVE shall:
 - 1. make all site arrangements including providing on campus rooms and a designated tournament hotel.
 - 2. in conjunction with the EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, collect tournament fees and provides for tournament expenses.

VII. COMMITTEES

- A. The PRESIDENT, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, AND HOST SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVE, shall serve as the STATE TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE.
- B. All other non-tournament committees of the Association shall be appointed by the EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

By-Laws of the Oklahoma Intercollegiate Forensics Association

VIII. THE STATE TOURNAMENT

- A. The Association shall sponsor the State Tournament during the academic year.
- B. Location
 - 1. The location shall be determined by a majority vote of the organization at the annual business meeting at least one year in advance of the event.
 - 2. If, after that decision has been made, problems arise prohibiting the Tournament at that location, the EXECUTIVE COUNCIL by unanimous vote will have the power to determine the site.
- C. Entry Requirements
 - 1. Each school may enter as many entries as they would like per event but only five of their entries will count toward the school's sweepstakes total.

2. To be deemed viable an event must draw no fewer than three entries from three institutions.
 3. No institution may enter more than half the entries in any form of debate event offered at the tournament.
- D. Tournament fees shall be assessed to cover:
1. awards.
 2. supplies needed to operate the Tournament.
 3. refreshments (non-alcoholic) during the Tournament.
 4. compensation for hired judges.
 5. organizational dues.
- E. All monetary transactions will be conducted through the host school's accounting system.
- F. The State Tournament Committee:
1. The State Tournament shall be directed by the PRESIDENT.
 2. The State Tournament committee will consist of the PRESIDENT, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, and host school representative.
- G. Tournament Procedure
1. Rules for all events
 - a. The tournament will endeavor to offer all AFA-NIET events, Reader's Theater, NPDA Debate, IPDA Debate, and NFA-LD Debate. One non-national event may be added at the discretion of the tournament host.
 - b. No speech or program used by the contestant in competition shall have been used prior to August 1st preceding the tournament.
 - c. Speeches must be the original work of the student.
 - d. AFA-NIET rules shall be followed for all individual events.
 - e. Debate events shall follow the rules of the appropriate national association.
 2. Individual Events
 - a. I.E. schematics / pairings should:
 - i. have sections with no more than 7 and no fewer than 4 contestants.
 - ii. include two preliminary rounds and a final round.
 - iii. not allow contestants to compete against contestants from their own school when possible.
 - iv. not contestants shall compete against as many different contestants when possible.
 - b. Individual Events Tabulation
 - i. A rank and rate will be recorded for each competitor in every round.
 - ii. Preliminary totals will be recorded for each competitor totaling all ballots for each competitor
 - iii. The top six competitors in each event will compete in a final round using the following procedure: lowest total rank, highest total rate, highest reciprocal rank total, and coin flip.
 - iv. 1st thru 6th place will be determined by totaling scores from three judges for each contestant using the following procedure:

majority 1st place votes, lowest total rank, judges preference (when comparing scores of two competitors the one that is ranked higher on a majority of ballots will be ranked higher final tabulation results), highest total rate, and prelim ranking.

v. Sweepstakes points for individual events will be awarded using the following formula 1st=12, 2nd=10, 3rd=8, 4th=6, 5th=4, 6th=2.

3. Debate Events

a. Debate Tabulation

i. Five rounds of preliminary debates shall be scheduled.

ii. Round 1 and 2 will be preset randomly, round 3, 4 and 5 will be paired high-high in brackets (teams with the same record will debate; total speaker points determine the order of the teams; if possible the top two teams in each record bracket are paired together).

iii. The number of entries will determine elimination rounds during each year's tournament (3 to 6 Finals, 7 to 14 Semi-Finals, 15 to 30 Quarter-Finals, 31 or more Octo-Finals). Brackets will be broken in elimination rounds.

iv. Teams will advance using the following formula; wins, speaker points, drop hi-lo speaker points, most opposition wins, z-score, coin flip.

v. Sweepstakes points for two person debate events will be awarded using the following formula: 1st=24, 2nd=20, Semi-Finalist=16, Quarter-Finalist =8, Octo-Finalist=4.

vi. Sweepstakes points for one person debate events will be awarded using the following formul: 1st=12, 2nd=10, Semi-Finalist=8, Quarter-Finalist=4, Octo-Finalist=2.

b. Debate Topics

i. The current season's NFA-LD topic will be used.

ii. Parliamentary debate topics will be drafted by an individual that is not attending the tournament in debate events as designated by the STATE TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE chair.

iii. Public topics will be drafted by a qualified individual that is not attending the tournament or does not have students entered in debate events as designated by the STATE TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE chair.

iv. In the case topics are not received in time for tournament competition, the STATE TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE will write and vote on the use of a topic for a round.

v. No individual who participates in writing topics for parliamentary or public debate may coach that form of debate during the tournament.

4. Tournament Schedule:

a. The annual State Tournament shall be held on Friday and Saturday the last full weekend in February, or on an alternate date within one weekend of the standard date should scheduling conflicts warrant.

- b. The tournament schedule shall include a one-hour time span for a meeting of the State Assembly.
 - c. The Director of the host institution shall determine the Tournament schedule with the concurrence of the EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.
5. Assignment of Judges:
- a. No judge will judge any other students with whom the judge declares an association.
 - b. Judges should not judge the same contestant more than once in the same event.
 - c. One judge shall be assigned to preliminary rounds of debate and to each section in individual events when at all possible
 - d. A minimum of three judges will be utilized for the final/elimination rounds in debate and individual events.
 - e. A judge must have a college degree or equivalent work experience.
6. Ballots:
- a. They include event rules space for ranks, ratings, code, name and written critiques.
 - b. The organization will choose appropriate ballots for use during debate and individual events rounds.

H. Awards

1. First through Sixth place in each individual event.
2. First through Sixth Place in Pentathlon
 - a. To be eligible for Pentathlon a competitor must enter at least 5 events and enter one from each genre (interpretation, platform speech, limited preparation speech).
 - b. The competitor may enter more than one Duo Interpretation but only one will count toward their Pentathlon total.
 - c. An event from each genre must be counted in the competitor's total.
 - d. Pentathlon results will be tabulated using the following procedure; total points in best five events, most first place finishes, most second place finishes, most third place finishes, most final round appearances, coin flip.
3. Top six speakers in debate using the following formula, total points, drop hi/lo total points, Z-score.
4. Awards for all advancing debate competitors.
5. Sweepstakes
 - a. Top three schools in Individual Events.
 1. A school's total points earned from their top five competitors in each event.
 2. Tie-breaker procedure; most first place finishes, most second place finishes, most third place finishes, most student in finals.
 - b. Top three schools in Debate Events
 1. A school's total points earned from their top five competitors in each event.
 2. Tie-breaker procedure; farthest advancing team/competitor, most teams in elimination rounds.
 - c. Top three schools in Overall Sweepstakes

1. Teams must be entered in Individual Events and Debate to qualify.
 2. A school's percentage of total IE points will be added to their total percentage of debate points rounded to two decimals will be added together to obtain their total score.
 3. Example: a school has 160 of 1000 available IE points and 90 of 500 available debate points would result in score of 16.00 plus 18.00 for a total of 34.00 points.
 4. Tie-breaker procedure, highest finish in debate or IE sweepstakes, next highest finish in debate or IE sweepstakes.
- d. Top three Oklahoma schools.
 1. A school must be a member of the organization to qualify.
 2. Follow tabulation procedure for Overall Sweepstakes.
 - e. Top Oklahoma Individual Events School
 1. A school must be a member of the organization to qualify.
 2. Follow tabulation procedure for Top Schools in Individual Events.
 - f. Top Oklahoma Debate Events School
 1. A school must be a member of the organization to qualify.
 2. Follow tabulation procedure for Top Schools in Debate Events.
 - g. Quality Award
 1. A school's sweepstakes total divided by their number of entries will be used to determine this award.
 2. Example: A school has 200 points and has 6 IE entries and 4 Debate entries. That school would receive a quality score of 20.

IX. AMENDMENTS

- A. Amendments to the Constitution or By-Laws may be made by vote of a majority of the members present at the annual business meeting of the Association held during the State Tournament.
- B. Amendments for consideration must be presented in writing to the EXECUTIVE SECRETARY at least 36 hours prior to the business meeting so that they may be duplicated for distribution to the membership during the business meeting.