## SPEECH JUDGE TRAINING

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## WHAT IS SPEECH AND DEBATE

- Speech is a single-person event (Most of the Time)
- Split up into Interpretation, Public Address, and Limited Prep
- An outlet for students to express themselves in a multitude of ways



## THE BASICS



Why are you judging?

Structure of tournaments/

Commitment

What to bring with you Time signals G

Grace Periods

Ballots

Scoring

Subjects/Personal opinions

### A BIT MORE

3 preliminary rounds in each event with 1 judge

Competitors ranked 1-X (bigger number is the WORST)

6 competitors with the best scores in each event "break," or advance to finals

1 final round of 6 competitors and 3 judges for finals

Usually run 9am-7pm

## **INTERPRETATION - BASICS**

- Ten-minute speech with a thirty-second grace period
- Timed by judge(you)
- Requires memorized introduction
- A memorized script where students give their *interpretation* of the script
- Judge based on speaking skills and consistency
- NOT THE CONTENT OF THE SCRIPTJUST BASED OF HOW ENGAGING IT WAS







## THE EVENTS THEMSELVES

- Humorous Interpretations(HI), Dramatic Interpretation(DI)
  - Memorized skit meant to convey either humor or a tragedy, respectively.
  - Uses voices and poses to convey characters
- Duo Interpretation(DUO)
  - Same rules as HI and DI
  - two people instead of one
  - Both members can't look at or touch each other except during the intro
  - What's an intro?

# NOW AN EXAMPLE

#### PROGRAM ORAL INTERPRETATION (POI)

- Using other published works and the contestant's ability to portray a wide range of characters and literature all held together under a common theme(POI)
  - Poetry
  - Prose
  - Books
  - Songs
  - etc
- You can move around and use your binder to provide emotion and points
- Technical skills (page flips, binder opening/closing, hand gestures)
- Binder can be used as a prop if it fits the scene
- The ultimate goal of blocking, programming, and characterization is to create a fullyrealized performance that moves the audience. The performer who combines these three factors the best should receive the one ranking.

## BOTH

- 10 minutes
- Using a binder
- Requires memorized introduction (explains thesis)
- Aspects to consider (in order of importance):
  - Strong thesis —> makes an argument and does the poetry connect to it?
  - Speaking techniques (use of volume, inflection, pace)
    - Strong characters and character distinction
  - Use of binder (75% memorized, 25% read)
  - Acting skills (emotion, humor, delivery)
  - Any content can be used as long as its accessible to the public

#### ORAL INTERPRETATION (OI)

- Flips between prose and poetry each round
- Cannot move lower body
- Using a selection or selections of literature, students provide an interpretation of Poetry/Prose with a time limit of 10 minutes, including introduction.
- Cannot use prose in poetry round and vice versa
- Can only use binder slams for emotional effect. Not as a prop
- The goal of blocking, programming, and characterization is to create a fully realized performance that moves the audience. The performer who combines these three factors the best should receive the one ranking.

## WHAT TO LOOK FOR?



## Consistent pops (poses) and voices



complete memorization, cohesive ideas (POI and OI)



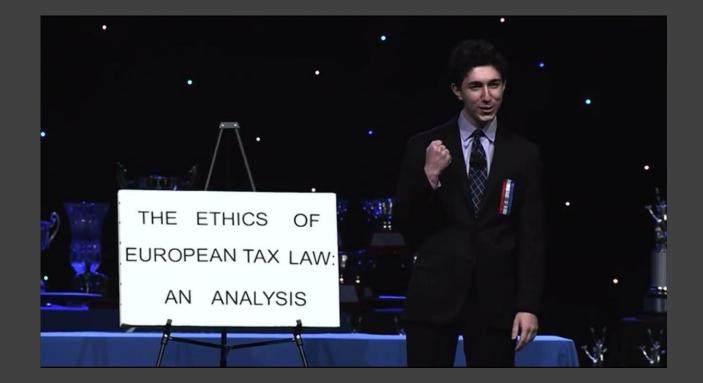
consistent blocking (objects)



seamless transitions.

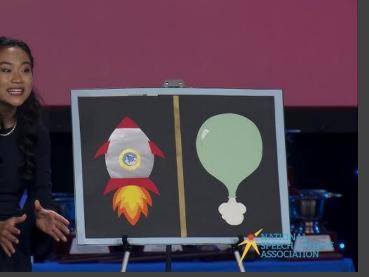
## PUBLIC ADDRESS - BASICS

- 10 minutes long
  - 30 second grace period
- Timed by judge (you)
- Closest to politics
  - Toastmasters
- Judge on CONTENT and PERFORMANCE
- Do your best to remove personal bias



## PUBLIC ADDRESS – TYPES OF EVENTS

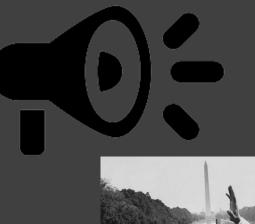
- Original Oratory
  - Written by competitor
  - Tackles a current issue
- Informative Speaking
  - Written by competitor
  - Strictly informational
  - Visual aids



#### Declamation

- Requires memorized introduction
- Needs to be memorized
- Any published script works(ted talks, speeches, etc)







## WHAT TO LOOK FOR



# NOW AN EXAMPLE

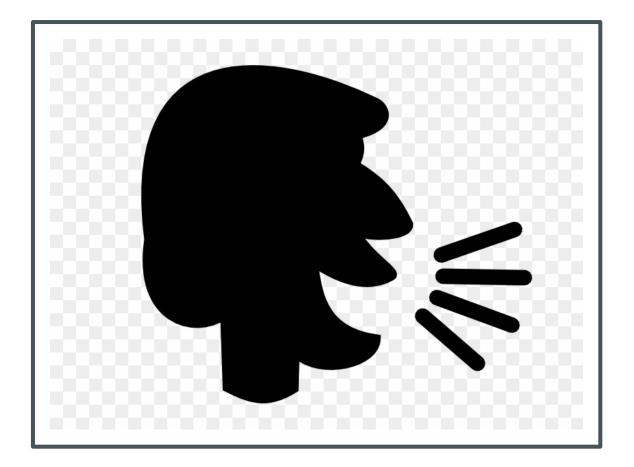
## LIMITED PREP

- Three Events: Extemp, Improv, Impromptu
- SHARED RULES: All events have 7-minute-long rounds for each competitor
- The competitor is given 3 random prompts, then must choose one to present. If the prompts are given out via envelope, they pick 3 slips at random, then tell you which one they are doing and their time split
- For Improv & Impromptu: Competitors get to split their 7 minutes between preparing their speech and performing it. For example, they could ask for 3 minutes preparation and 4 minutes performance (not including the extra 30 second grace period). When preparing, they cannot use technology and when performing they receive no props
- Improv is a comedy skit while Impromptu is a five-paragraph-essay

## EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING

- Students will be in an "extemp prep" room where they will get their "topics" (question to answer)
- They will have 30 minutes to research, write, and memorize a speech
- They will come to your 30 minutes <u>after</u> their prep begins don't panic if there are no kids in the room yet!
- Then, students will perform one at a time answering their "questions"
- This should be structured like a 5 paragraph argumentative essay
- Students are expected to use quotes and statistics from sources, and give you the source name or title
  - They should have between 1 2 sources per "paragraph" or reason; most will have 3 reasons supporting their thesis
- Speech should be **7 minutes** with a 30 second grace period afterwards

## WHAT TO LOOK FOR (IMPROMPTU SPEAKING)



- Look for strong speaking skills
- Little stuttering, confidence in voice
- Voice Variation and complex diction is encouraged
- Projection is huge; volume is important
- Run-ons are not encouraged



## WHAT TO LOOK FOR: IMPROMPTU POSTURE

- Straight back, strong posture
- Eye contact, eyes don't wander
- Don't pace, stay in one spot
- BE CONCIOUS OF UNCONCIOUS ACTIONS
- Hands: Box Rule
- Movement: Diamond Rule

## WHAT TO LOOK FOR: (GENERAL IMPROMPTU)

- You already know the basics
- Make sure their points tie back to the main theme that connects to the quote's message
- Make sure each point is clear and concise, and that you can tell when a new point starts
- They shouldn't be dawdling
- Competitors can use almost ANYTHING as a source, don't discriminate if the source is a TV show, movie, or does not have specific evidence.
- They can even use personal anecdotes, but only 1 per piece

## WHAT TO LOOK FOR: IMPROV

- Pops (This is the part where I show you an example of a pop)
- The Three C's:
- Correlation relates to the prompt, is not some random piece not relating to the prompt
- Continuity Has a clear beginning, middle, and end. There will need to be some sort of story
- Creativity People should be creative, their jokes should be unique. It's comedy, and competitors should be encouraged for trying new things
- Outside of that, Improv is a lot more free than impromptu and is mostly factored in by comedy and depth of quality
- Speaking skills are important
- Minimized stuttering should be encouraged
- Diction is huge; if a character is rambling without a clear message then they will look off

# NOW AN EXAMPLE

## CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE

- Congressional debate is what it sounds like Speakers literally act as if they were a congress and try to pass legislation
- There will be someone who acts as the presiding officer who will have been elected before the congress begins. Their role is to facilitate the congressional debate and make sure it runs in a timely manner

## CONGRESS LINGO AND BASICS



Legislation: A specific, written proposal ("bill" or "resolution") made by a member or committee for assembly to debate.



Bill: A type of legislation that describes the details of how a policy would be enacted, if voted into law by the assembly. Resolution: An expression of conviction, or value belief of an assembly, which may urge, request or suggest further action by another decisionmaking authority.

2



Constitutional Amendment: A resolution to add a specific provision to the United States Constitution, requiring 2/3 vote of the chamber to pass.

## **BASIC FORMAT:**

The event has a simple format, with a time limit that

#### depends on the tournament

Time Limits – applies to each new legislation			
Sponsor Speech	3 Minutes		
Questioning of Sponsor	2 Minutes		
First Negative Speech	3 Minutes		
Questioning of First Negative	2 Minutes		
All subsequent speeches	3 Minutes/each		
Questioning of all subsequent speakers	1 Minute/each		

- The event starts out by having the rules of the agenda be set. This determines a method by which bills will be debated and for which order, which is referred to as the docket. These are ideas such as economics
- That commonly happens with a nominated docket at the tournament (decided by the students)
- The sponsor speech FOR a proposed bill will start, and will be 3 minutes with a 2 minute questioning after
- Then, the negative will do the same with the same cross questioning
- After this, there will be a pattern of continued 3 minute speeches with 1 minute cross questioning for each legislation until a verdict is decided, when presiding officer will ask for "Yays" and "Nays"
- Presiding officers have special privilege. They often do not speak, but rather keep the conversation flowing and have the ability to call recesses. REMEMBER, YOU MUST RANK THE P.O. IN YOUR ROUND!

## RANKING THIS EVENT

- When each session is over, rank legislators based on how well you think they did
- Make sure to rank them not based on whether or not you agree with their points, but rather their general speaking skills
- However, that is not all. You also must give them points based on how well you think they have done
- Points are ranked on a scale from 1-6, but most often you will only give 1s and 2s if someone is being unproper
- Remember, these people should be RESPECTFUL. You can rank them lower if they are being disrespectful

## LEGISLATOR RUBRIC:

#### **Congressional Debate Rubric: Speaking**

This table of evaluation standards may be used by any judge who would like assistance in determining scores for speeches. Each scorer independently (without collaborating) awards 1 to 6 points for each speech. Each speaker has up to three minutes to present arguments followed by a questioning period (the time length for which will vary, depending on specific league rules). Remember, you **do not base your score on agreement or disagreement with the positions they debaters offer; rather, evaluate based upon how well the debaters argue their positions**.

Points	3	4	5	6
	Mediocre	Proficient	Excellent	Superior
Content: Organization, Evidence & Language	The speech lacked a clear thesis and organizational structure. Claims are only asserted with generalizations and no real evidence. Language use is unclear or ineffective.	While the speaker's purpose is present, the speech lacks logical organization and/or developed ideas. Analysis of evidence, if present, fails to connect its relevance to the speaker's claims. Use of language is weak.	While a clear purpose is apparent, organization may be somewhat loose (weak introduction/conclusion; no transitions between points). Diction represents a grasp of language. Much evidence is presented, but not in a persuasive or effective manner; or the speaker relies on one piece of evidence, but does so effectively.	Content is clearly and logically organized, and characterized by depth of thought and development of ideas, supported by a variety of credible quantitative (statistical) and qualitative (testimony) evidence analyzed effectively to draw conclusions. Compelling language, a poignant introduction and conclusion and lucid transitions clearly establish the speaker's purpose and frame the perspective of the issue's significance.
Argument & Refutation	The speaker offers mostly unwarranted assertions, which often simply repeat/rehash previous arguments.	The speaker fails to either introduce new arguments (simply repeating previous arguments) or the speaker fails to refute previous opposing arguments; in other words, no real clash is present.	New ideas and response to previous arguments are offered, but in an unbalanced manner (too much refutation or too many new arguments). Questions are answered adequately.	The speaker contributes to the spontaneity of debate, effectively synthesizing response and refutation of previous ideas with new arguments. If the speaker fields questions, he/she responds with confidence and clarity.
Delivery	Little eye contact, gestures and/or movement are present. Vocal presentation is inarticulate due to soft volume or lack of enunciation.	Presentation is satisfactory, yet unimpressively read (perhaps monotonously) from prepared notes, with errors in pronunciation and/or minimal eye contact. Awkward gestures/movement may be distracting.	The presentation is strong, but contains a few mistakes, including problems with pronunciation and enunciation. The speech may be partially read with satisfactory fluency. Physical presence may be awkward at times.	The speaker's vocal control and physical poise are polished, deliberate, crisp and confident. Delivery should be extemporaneous, with few errors in pronunciation. Eye contact is effective and consistent.

#### **Congressional Debate Rubric: Presiding**

## PO RUBRIC

This table of evaluation standards may be used by any judge who would like assistance in determining scores for a presiding officer (PO). Each scorer independently (without collaborating) awards 1 to 6 points for each hour of presiding.

Points	1-2	3-4	5-6
	Weak – Mediocre	Proficient	Excellent – Superior
Speaker Recognition	The PO needs to improve his/her communication with fellow delegates to gain their trust and respect relating to the rationale for rulings made. Frequent errors are made in speaker recognition, which lacks consistent method or impartiality.	While the PO does not adequately explain his/her preferences for running the chamber in advance, he/she does clearly explain rulings, when necessary. Speaker recognition may be somewhat inconsistent or biased.	Presiding preferences are clearly explained at the beginning of the session and executed consistently. The PO is universally respected and trusted by his/her peers, and is consistent in recognition (very few errors) and rulings, distributing speeches throughout the room, equally between schools of the same size, and among individuals.
Parliamentary Procedure	The PO's knowledge of parliamentary procedure is lacking, and he/she shows negligible effort to correct errors and/or consult written rules.	The PO demonstrates competency in procedure, but makes mistakes in determining the results of motions and votes, etc. S/he does not hesitate to consult rules when necessary to ensure fairness.	The PO has command of parliamentary procedure (motions) and uses this almost transparently to run a fair and efficient chamber, seldom consulting written rules and ruling immediately on whether motions pass or fail.
Delivery/ Presence	The PO needs to improve his/her vocal and physical presence and professional demeanor.	The PO displays a satisfactory command of the chamber in his/her vocal and physical presence. Word choice is usually concise. The PO generally has command over the chamber.	The PO dynamically displays a command and relates well to the chamber through his/her vocal and physical presence. Word choice is economical and eloquent. The PO does not hesitate to rule abusive or inappropriate motions out of order.

## THE DIVISIONS

- NJSDL New Jersey Speech and Debate League
  - Dramatic Interpretation (DI)
  - Humorous Interpretation (HI)
  - Duo Interpretation (DUO)
  - Oral Interpretation (OI)
  - Program Oral Interpretation (POI)
  - Original Oratory (OO)
  - Declamation (DEC)
  - Informative (INF)
  - Improvisational Speaking (IMPROV)
  - Impromptu (IMP)
  - Extemporaneous Speaking (EXT)
- \*Students may enter into more than one event at a NJFL tournament. This is called double -entering.

CFL- Catholic Forensics League

- Dramatic Performance (DP) a combination of DI and HI
- Oral Interpretation (OI) alternating prose and poetry rounds
- Original Oratory
- Declamation
- Duo Interpretation
- Extemporaneous Speaking

\*No double-entering

# BALLOTS

The good, the bad, the ugly (And some extra!)

## GOOD BALLOTS

**Rank**: 1

Time: N/A

Comments: What worked well?

Very funny piece. Your portrayal of different characters was very effective. Different body postures worked, also the use of position on the stage (wives facing away from the audience) worked very well and made it easy to follow. Timing was good. You used movement effectively making the performance lively. Story was easy to follow.

#### Where to focus?

Ensure you feel that the entire audience is your audience. You made a lot of eye contact with me as the judget - particularly early on in the piece. If you make eye contact with the audience, consider not exclusively focusing on the judge - makes it more involving for everyone.

It also looked to me from my angle that you were touching each other in the fighting scene in the very beginning. But I cannot be sure given my viewing angle - so I did not hold that against you. But it is something you should watch for - perhaps other judges would.

## **BAD BALLOTS**

**Rank**: 3

Time:

**Comments:** You did well and the difference between 1, and 2,3 is very narrow. You did your duo well and I felt one or two places you could have been better. Your expressions are good with the timing.

With little more practice you could be number one. Wish you both all the best for this tournament and upcoming tournaments.

Did this entry violate the time limit by more than 30 seconds? No

Was this competitor disqualified? No

Varsity Duo Interpretation Round 4 Section A - Judge E9 Shaifali Patel (Ridge High School)

## THE UGLY (THE CFL 3 ROUND 4 INCIDENT)

**Rank**: 3

Time:

Comments:

Did this entry violate the time limit by more than 30 seconds? No

Was this competitor disqualified? No

## RANK IT YOURSELF!

RANK THESE BALLOTS FROM 1-10



## GUESS MY RANK THEN RANK THE BALLOTS!

#### B103 Ryan Schorr (Impromptu Speaking)

Varsity Impromptu Speaking Round 1 Section A - Judge



Time: 7:03

**Comments:** Ryan Presidents Day 3 prep, 4 speak 7:03 Opened with a lot of energy Talked about speech formats Modulation of volume Made eye contact with all of the audience members, not just the judge Not always clear how your anecdotes tied into the prompt of President's Day

Varsity Impromptu Speaking Round 2 Section B - Judge

### ROUND TWO...

#### Impromptu Speaking Round 2 Section E -

Rank:

Time: 7:20

Comments: Teal

Bravo competing in such a challenging event. I couldn't wait to hear what you'd say about a "Teal" (a new term to me – besides, of course the color!). You were enthusiastic and personable and delivered your speech with energy and heart. You seemed to have a good structure in mind – intro, a few points with ready references, and closing. You have the key ingredients to go far.

A few ideas as food for thought to improve:

• Strengthen your key message. You showed experience and poise in addressing a theme BEYOND the exact word & definition. However, make that as clear and over-arching as possible and state it upfront and again at the end. I think yours was to take a chance or at least take a clear stand (vs. compromise but I'd like to see it come through more clearly.

• Practice, practice, practice. You seem to have stock references at the ready – personal, historical, pop-cultural – so just keep practicing turning random prompts into something you feel confident about. Again, you showed that perhaps you're doing this already – e.g., referencing the American Revolution and One Piece (!!) but practice will give you the composition and memory muscles to compose tighter messages and compose faster to prep less and speak longer as you step up your game.

Thanks again for competing today and keep up the good work! Good luck in 2023!

## THIRD ROUND!

#### H109 Ryan Schorr (Impromptu Speaking)

Impromptu Speaking Round 1 Section D -



Time:

**Comments:** Nice job! I thought you made excellent points. I liked the specific references you used to get your point across. It seemed like you were fidgeting with your jacket button. It might be something you want to pay attention to. However, I really liked your energy.

## JUDGE ETIQUETTE

- DO turn your phone off; silence it if you need to use it to keep time
- DO laugh if it's funny or cry if it's sad!
- DO give reasons for your decision on your ballot
- DO be nice and give compliments on the ballot! Point out the small things they did right
- DO give constructive feedback...we WANT to learn how to get better!
- DO consider "literary merit," but not as the sole basis for your decision
- DO act like a confident, experienced judge!
- DO trust your instincts!
- Learn by DOING —> get out there and judge!

• DON'T be afraid to make the "wrong" decision. There's no "right" decision...it's how you feel!

• DON'T miss your rounds!

- DON'T try to intimidate the competitors! Be friendly and relaxed...it reduces the stress of competition when there's a chill judge
- DON'T freak out if you mess up the time signals...just correct your mistake and move on to the next piece!
- DON'T write a nice ballot but give a low rank! If you're going to give someone the 6, they want to know why!

## SOME THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND ... YOU'RE ONLY HUMAN

- Personal Bias will ALWAYS exist. Just make sure that you judge a piece by it's merit, not always by its content
- Be aware of YOURSELF! Judging a tournament can take a while, so make sure that you are not letting judging fatigue impact your choices.
- The same sentiment applies to competitors. If a speaker seems out of it, it might be because they are just tired from a long day. You are NOT obligated to rank them higher, keep in mind that energy in a piece might only be a temporary issue
- Have fun!

# ANY QUESTIONS?

## SPEECH EVENT ARCHIVES

- Congress: <u>https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=OSGp403cMZI&pp=ygUaQ29uZ3Jlc3Mgc3BIZWNoIGFuZCBkZWJhdGU%3D</u>
- Humorous Interpretation: <u>https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=WuxjKYP5k3A&pp=ygUUaGkgc3BIZWNoIGFuZCBkZWJhdGU%3D</u>
- Dramatic Interpretation: <u>https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=h4P-tgilvUE&pp=ygUXZHJhbWF0aWMgaW50ZXJwcmV0YXRpb24%3D</u>
- Informational Speaking: <u>https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=v8vbD656ZZs&pp=ygUnaW5mb3JtYXRpdmUgc3BIYWtpbmcgc3BIZWNoIGFuZCBkZWJhdGUg</u>
- Original Oratory: <u>https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=OPaQ7sJYXmo&pp=ygUUT08gc3BIZWNoIGFuZCBkZWJhdGU%3D</u>
- POI: <u>https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=PffXf39wmrM&pp=ygUWcG9pIHNwZWVjaCBhbmQgZGViYXRIA%3D%3D</u>
- OI: <u>https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=XI3lhaESWfY&pp=ygUUb2kgc3BIZWNoIGFuZCBkZWJhdGU%3D</u>
- Extemp: <u>https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=lzoUu1fDmWE&pp=ygUVZXh0ZW1wb3JhbmVvdXMgc3BIZWNo</u>
- Impromptu: <u>https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=Wrb6c5gyRlw&pp=ygUYSW1wcm92IHNwZWVjaCBhbmQgZGViYXRl</u>