

## **Approved MFEA Handbook Changes** **2023-2024**

### **Change Language for B-C State Tournament Procedures B/C 4. Fill to State**

➤ Page 39 , X. A. 1. 1. Addition to Current Language: Add to #1

4. Add to 1. If all slots aren't filled by their own division, students will be taken from the other 2 divisions in placing order from their divisional tournament using the following order, alternating back and forth between the other two divisions until all open spots are filled: Open spots from the North Divisional will be filled from the East first, then the South; Spots from the East Divisional will be filled from the South first, then the North; Open spots in the South Divisional will be filled from the North first, then the East.

### **Change language for B-C State Tournament Procedures – R2 Tournament Admin Section**

➤ Page. 9, III. 4 4. Change to Read

At divisional and state tournaments, no coach who has a student competing **shall spectate any event until finals; however, they are eligible to judge rounds that do not have competitors from their school.**

Page 30, VII. Tournament Procedures – Class AA,A,B-C  
**E. Tournament Administration to pg. 30 VII. (Add sub-section)**

**1) Tournament hosts are responsible for assigning tabbing duties for their tournament or designating a party to do so. Suggested roles include event/category tabbers, judges' table assistants, judge tech troubleshooters. Roles are not limited to suggestions, however.**

**2) Tabbing duties are expected to be completed by the assigned coaches. If a change to tabbing duties needs to take place, the tournament director must be notified and approve the change.**

**3) Tournament hosts may choose to create a tabbing duty known as the judge pool. If used by the tournament host, any coaches not assigned to any other tabbing duty at the tournament are assigned to the judge pool and may be assigned to ballots throughout the tournament. Coaches shall not judge students from their school in any round.**

**a. Coaches utilized in the judge pool are encouraged to maintain rigorous standards of professionalism, and MFEA requests they not share any information from rounds that may give their own team a competitive advantage.**

**b. Tournament hosts are encouraged not to utilize a specific coach in more than 2/3 of the rounds in a tournament.**

4. At divisional and state tournaments no coach who has a student competing in an event shall watch any rounds in that event until finals. A coach may not judge his or her own team member.

### **Tournament Operations Procedures – R5 Stop Round Procedure**

#### **E. Procedures for Interrupting a Round**

- 1. Students shall not be penalized last in the round for competing in the incorrect room during prelims. In out rounds, students that compete in the wrong room shall receive last in round, unless the error is on the part of the tournament. If debates were conducted in the wrong section, sections will be adjusted to reflect debates actually taking place.**
- 2. Once an IE event (Speech/Drama) has started it may not be stopped. However, if a student was mistakenly not included in an out round due to an error, then the tournament will do the following.**
  - a. Add the student to a section by random draw,( following all prescribed rules for school protect etc...)**
  - b. Inform the judges at the next break in competition there is an extra competitor in their section.**
  - c. Ensure no student receives a higher score than the smallest section in that round.**
- 3. For debate events in out rounds, if the tournament staff makes error:**
  - a. The round will be stopped.**
  - b. Participants found and rounds adjusted.**
  - c. Clean judges will be added if debate has proceeded into the 2nd competitor and same side in the debate as stopped round.**

#### **Ethics – R7. No Open Flame**

7. Competitors are required to follow the policy of no guns in schools. This includes fake or “toy” guns. Dangerous items of any type--real weapons, open flames, etc.--are not allowed.

#### **Rules for Speech Events – Debate Preliminary Paring Procedures De2. Bye in Debate**

**h. The bye shall be assigned randomly for rounds 1 & 2. For subsequent rounds, the bye shall be issued to the lowest ranked contestant for that round that has not already received a bye.** 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.

#### **Rules for Debate Events – De.3.Evidence Fabrication Change**

Change point 2 to: **Challenges should be supported by appropriate documentation (e.g. a copy of the original source) when possible and submitted to the tournament director for a ruling. 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) to disqualification. If disqualification is the consequence, the following procedure will be used:**

- 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 will be eliminated from further competition in the tournament.**
- b. The offending team will receive no sweepstakes points or awards.**

- c. The team winning the round based on a ruling by the Rules Committee will be awarded points as an average of all preliminary rounds as in the case of byes.
- d. The change in any debate decision based on the violation of this rule will not be retroactive for the purposes of power matching but will apply to all subsequent pairings.

Change point 5 to: In instances of proven evidence distortion, fabrication, or any violation of provision IV.G.9.a or b, will be subject to penalty by the Rules Committee according to IV.H.2

Strike point 7.

### **Rules for Debate Events – De.5. POL Topic Change**

➤ Page. 13. IV. A.1.b                      b. Language Change

b. The debate topic for **2023-2024 is Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially increase fiscal redistribution in the United States by adopting a federal jobs guarantee, expanding Social Security, and/or providing a basic income.**

### **Rules for Debate Events - De.6LD and LEGI Topic Change**

➤ Page. 13. IV. A.2.d                      d. Language Change

d. The LD and Legi topics shall switch from September/October topic to November/December topic on November 21 and to the January/February topic on January 1.

### **Rules for Debate Events - De. Housekeeping PF**

➤ Page. 14. IV. D.2.d.                      d. Language Change

d. Following the four constructive speech and two crossfire segments, the first speakers for each team will give a three-minute summary continuing established alternation. The summary speeches should include the arguments his or her team is winning and refuting arguments it is losing.

### **Divisional Tournament B/C De.8 Quarter Final in B/C**

➤ Page. 40. IX. B.4.                      4. Proposed Change

Add At B/C Quarter finals will not be held in any debate event with 7 or fewer competitors. Sweepstakes points will still be awarded if quarterfinals are not held.

### **Interpretation of Literature – INT1.NSDA Interp**

➤ Page. 25. V. G. 1                      1. Language Change

G.1 Eliminate Lyrics from website list replace a-d

Any source material is permitted as long as it meets the standards outlined below:

- a. Original source material must not be written by the competitor who is performing it.
  - b. Original source material must be publicly accessible throughout the duration of the tournament. Digital printed publications such as web pages and PDFs retrieved or purchased from web pages are permitted as long as the web page is publicly accessible throughout the duration of the tournament. Digital unprinted publications such as videos, audio files, and films are permitted as long as the original source is publicly accessible throughout the duration of the tournament and the competitor can obtain an official transcript of the original source.
    1. For print publications such as novels, short stories, plays, or poetry, the original source is the physical book or e-book. Photocopies of original literature are not acceptable. Presenting a physical book or e-book is sufficient to prove that a printed publication is publicly accessible.
    2. For digital printed publications such as web pages, original source material is no longer required to come from online publishing sources listed on the NSDA Approved Websites List. The original source must be publicly accessible for viewing or purchase by a simple internet search or by a URL not requiring passwords or access codes. Competitors must also present a printed manuscript to be used in the case of a protest, but presenting a printed copy of a website is not alone sufficient to prove that a digital printed publication is publicly accessible.
    3. PDFs are permitted as long as the website from which the PDF is retrieved or purchased is publicly accessible for viewing or purchase by a simple internet search or by a URL not requiring passwords or access codes. Competitors must also present a printed copy of the PDF to be used in the case of a protest, but presenting a printed copy of the PDF is not alone sufficient to prove that a PDF is publicly accessible.
    4. For non-English print material that a competitor will perform in English, the original source material in its original language must be publicly accessible. Competitors must present an official English translation to be used in the case of a protest. An official translation must be obtained in one of two ways: a. An official translation is obtained through the original source's producer, licensing agent, or copyright holder. b. Or, an official translation is obtained through a translation service which uses non-automated, manual translation. Then, the competitor receives approval to perform the translation by the original source's producer, licensing agent, or copyright holder.
    5. For digital unprinted publications such as videos, audio files, and films, the original source must be publicly accessible for viewing or purchase by a simple internet search or by a URL not requiring passwords or access codes. Competitors must also present a printed official transcript of the original source to be used in the case of a protest, but presenting an official transcript is not alone sufficient to prove that the original source is publicly accessible. An official transcript must be obtained in one of two ways: a. An official transcript is obtained through the original source's producer, licensing agent, or copyright holder. b. Or, an official transcript is obtained through an official transcription service such as Transcribe Me, Scribie, or iScribed, which use non-automated, manual transcription. Then, the competitor receives approval to perform the transcription by the original source's producer, licensing agent, or copyright holder. If the digital unprinted source is not in English and the competitor wishes to perform it in English, an official transcription and an official translation of the transcription (see #4 above) are required.

2. Source Verification: It is the affirmative duty of each coach and each student entering in Interpretation contests to determine absolutely that the cutting being performed meets all rules for material. Interp source material must be available at division and state tournament contests in the event of a protest. Any contestant failing to produce the following items to the tournament director by the deadline will be subject to penalty by the rules committee.

- a. The original published source of any selection used must be immediately available at the tournament. When requested by tournament officials, access to the source material upon demand, either in electronic or print form, must be presented.
  - a. For print publications, the original source is the physical book. Photocopies of original literature are not acceptable.
  - b. For PDFs, an original, unaltered PDF via flash drive, email, or on an electronic device (e.g., laptop) must be presented. Manipulation of a PDF script outside the scope of the rules will be subject to disqualification.
  - c. PDF publications from an online source that meets the above standards and e-books are permitted. Competitors may turn in an e-book via flash drive, email, or e-reader. For e-books, an original, unaltered e-pub or other recognized e-book format via flash drive or email must be presented; however, as some e-book formats are exclusive to their specific apps or electronic readers, students must provide the required technology and/or internet access to verify the material performed for tournament officials.
  - d. For non-English publications that are being performed in English, both the original non-English source and the official English transcript must be provided.
  - e. For a digital publication, a printed manuscript will be turned

in as the original source. Only the printed manuscript shall be considered adequate proof of authenticity.

1. The material the competitor performs must presently appear on the website if questions arise in competition. The website and online version of the digital publication need to be available for comparison if challenged. Online access is the fundamental responsibility of tournament officials and/or individuals filing the protest. NOTE: If tournament officials cannot gain online access and the above requirements have been met, the piece is considered legal for use.
- 2.
3. Manuscript items to be printed directly from the screen for digital printed materials: a. The first page in the website (the home page) b. All other linked pages needed to navigate to the literary text selected for competition shall be printed out and the link must be highlighted in manuscript c. All web pages upon which the cutting appears iii. Each page must have printed in the header and/or footer including a. Date the page was printed b. Web address.

A photocopy or printed screenshot of every page of the original source from which any line of the cutting was taken. The photocopy will be kept for evaluation during the semifinal round. a. Pages are to be placed in the order in which they are performed (e.g., if text from one page is used more than once within the cutting, that page should be copied again with those words highlighted and reinserted where it is used in the cutting). Students are not required to photocopy or print pages that are not used in their cutting. b. All words used from the script should be highlighted (any words/lines not used should be left unmarked). c. Any word changes (to eliminate profane language) and/or additions (for transition) must be indicated clearly in ink. Failure to clearly indicate the addition of words will be subject to disqualification.

3.Changes to the script may only be used for the purpose of transition or to eliminate profane language. Transitions may be used to clarify the logical sequence of ideas. They are not to be used for the purpose of embellishing the humorous or dramatic effect of literature.

## **Interpretation of Literature – INT2. POI Change**



Page. 26. V.H.3.

3. Language Change

3. The use of a manuscript during the performance is required. Common practices include the use of binder or folder. Reading from a book or magazine is not permitted. **Pictures, graphics, and/or illustrations are considered a visual aid, even if included in the original manuscript, and may not be displayed.** The contestant must address the script; however, introduction and transitional material may be memorized.

Page. 26. V.H.3.

3. Language Change

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## **Rules for Speech Events – Impromptu Speaking SP1.IMP Topics**



Page. 21.V.E.3.f-g.

g. Language Change/Add

**Add new f.** Reorganize f and g to be g and h. **f. Source materials selected for rounds impromptu may not repeat during a tournament. Source material is defined as the same author, speaker, comic, etc. but not publications.**

## **Ethics – Dra1.Plagiarism**



Page. 10. III.A.2.

2. Language Add

2. Artistic Plagiarism: Videos of previous final round performances and/or other video media are intended to provide educational examples for coaches and students. They are not intended to serve as a model to directly imitate or duplicate in performance. Although universal human emotions may lead to similarities in portrayal of characters, wholesale impersonation, including cutting, blocking, and/or interpretation (verbal and/or nonverbal portrayal of characters and text) of material of previous semifinal round, final round, and other video media performances is prohibited and grounds for penalty. Given the extent of the artistic plagiarism, the performance penalty may range from lowering the ranking in the round to disqualification. It is the burden of proof of the individual filing the protest to provide documented evidence of the artistic plagiarism demonstrated in the performance. This includes providing access to the plagiarized video material and written verification of examples to substantiate the complaint.

## **Rules for Drama - DRA.4 Wigs**



Page. 27.A.3.

3. Language Change

3. No use may be made of lighting effects (with the exception of battery-operated props excluding those with seizure-inducing triggers, for example strobe lighting) or stage makeup. Stage makeup is makeup put on the face or body to enhance the character. a. Masks and Wigs are allowed.

## **Rules for Speech Events– Mem3. Manuscripts**



Page. 19.A.4

4. Language Change

19- A- 4. . Coaches must bring manuscripts to divisional and state and **upload them to Tabroom or other MHSA approved software being used**. Contestants must use the same material from the beginning to the end of the tournament. Cutting is allowed.



Page. 20.B.4

4. Language Change

20-B-4 4. If the original uncut transcript is not in print, the original address will be transcribed and presented along with the contestant's manuscript. **Coaches must bring manuscripts to divisional and state and must upload manuscripts to Tabroom or other MHSA approved software being used.**



Page. 20.C.4

4. Language Change

20-C-4 4. **Coaches must bring manuscripts to divisional and state and must upload manuscripts to Tabroom or other MHSA approved software being used.**

Page. 19.A.4.

4. Current Language

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Page. 20.C.4

4. Current Language

20-C-4 4. Coaches must bring manuscripts to divisional and state.

**Rationale** With moving to Tabroom, it is easier to have digital access to scripts. We will be better able to review speeches ahead of time or easily check a protest.

## **Rules for Debate Events De.3 Evidence Fabrication Change**



Page. 18. IV.H. 2,5.

5.Language Change

Change point 2 to: **Challenges should be supported by appropriate documentation (e.g. a copy of the original source) when possible and submitted to the tournament director for a ruling. 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) to disqualification. If disqualification is the consequence, the following procedure will be used:**

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## **Tournament Operations and Procedures De.1PFD Timing**



Page. 15.IV.D.6

5.Language Change

Replace IV.D.6 with **Each team will time each portion of the debate, timing down using a timer with minutes and seconds and an audible alarm. Prep time for each team is three minutes.**

**Rationale:** Bring consistency in timing procedure to PF. Cleans up the prep time thing too.

## **N1 Officers**



Change to the MFEA Committee include:

Dan Porisch will be President effective after the current meeting was adjourned. Sara Mueller will be Vice President. They will keep these offices for 2 years.

## **N2 Honorariums**



Proposed Change

The President will receive an honorarium of \$300. The Treasurer will be paid \$450. The Secretary will be paid \$450. All executive positions will have their MFEA dues waived.

**Rationale:** We should pay people for the work they do.

## **HOUSEKEEPING - R0**

- Page 1. Change MFEA to MHSA
- Page 2. Fix 2525, error, error
- Page 3. Strike error
- Page 4. Update ex board info
- Page 8. II.D.13 Change #2 to #1 in the parenthetical
- Page 12. III.C.5 Change to Section IV.H
- Page 12. III.C.6 Change to Amy Bartels
- Page 15 IV.D.6 Change to 3 minutes.
- Page 16 IV.E.4.d Strike repetitive line of Presiding officer order will.
- Page 30 VIII Change to Tournament Tabbng Procedure to match TOC
- Page 40. X.B.5 change 12 to 14