

Minutes of the Meeting of the Regional Directors of the New York State Forensic League

Sept. 28, 2016

On Teleconference: Bro. John McGrory, Lydia Esslinger, Charles Frodella, Joseph Vaughan, Eric DiMichele, Charles Sloat, Suzanne Culver, Kim Reilly, Catherine Luhr

The meeting began at 7:31

- 1) A request had been made to use codes instead of school names in debate. Because the use of school codes makes it more likely to catch any mistakes, it was agreed that using school names was more efficient.
- 2) The Regional Directors agreed to appoint Thomas Beck of Pelham HS as the judge coordinator for the State Tournament. In conjunction with Joe and Charlie, Tom would determine the necessity of hiring judges and then hire judges to fill our needs. All agreed. Kim Reilly also suggested that someone be trained by Tom so that there could be more than one person knowledgeable in this task. All agreed that next year (2018), Tom would work with and train someone as an assistant.
- 3) Joe Vaughan suggested the addition of POI to the State Tournament. He pointed out that it is growing in popularity and that by adding it to the State Tournament would bring it to greater use in tournaments. Lydia inquired about Informative. Those who saw Informative at Nationals agreed that it is lacking in a coherent set of rules. Everyone agreed that once Informative is more secure, we would revisit it. Eric suggested the addition of Parliamentary Debate. There were some questions about the logistics of it. It was agreed that it would be considered and revisited next year. Eric will look at Parliamentary debate this year and let us know in April.

After some discussion, it was decided that POI would be added in the following manner:

- A) Students may not double enter in POI and OI.
- B) Student who double enter in POI and another event may not use any of the same material in both POI and the other event.
- C) For the time being, entry into the State tournament will require a single qualification.

The addition of another speech event requires some discussion on sweepstakes in speech. This will be examined by a committee.

- 4) We examined last year's tournament to seek any suggestions. It was decided that it would be helpful to create a document with directions to the Extemp Prep room. It was also proposed that we purchase one set of walkie-talkies for Extemp Prep and Speech Tab. It was also decided that we would give schools directions as to where they would drop off students. Debaters could be brought directly to the Starr Center. We will separate the number of lunch tickets between speech and debate and have the debate lunch tickets available at the debate tab room.

5) Because Hofstra has been such an excellent site, people expressed the desire to remain there for the foreseeable future. In order to alleviate the burden on upstate schools, it was agreed that we could alleviate the judge burdens for upstate schools.

The meeting concluded at 8:52