

Bylaw 5.64

Proposed change: All amendments to the GFCA By-Laws may be made with the affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds (2/3) of voting members of its association. To ensure all members have opportunity to vote, ballots will be sent to all members via email. Votes must be submitted to at least two members of the Executive Committee within a period of no more than five (5) days of the original date email was sent or the vote will not be counted.

Original: All amendments to the GFCA By-Laws may be made with the affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds (2/3) of the voting members of its association.

Bylaw 4.39

(c) Sweepstakes shall be awarded in the following categories:

Speech, Debate, and Overall. (1) Speech Sweepstakes include Dramatic Interpretation, Humorous Interpretation, Extemporaneous Speaking, Program Oral Interpretation, Impromptu and Duo Interpretation; Debate Sweepstakes include all divisions in Policy Debate, Public Forum Debate, Lincoln-Douglas Debate and all Congressional Debate divisions; Overall Sweepstakes includes all events sanctioned by the GFCA. (2) Sweepstakes shall also be awarded for the school with the most sweepstakes points in the following divisions, based upon number of entries actually competing at the Varsity State Championships: Division A: 1-10 entries; Division AA: 11-18 entries; Division AAA: 19-25 entries. Schools with more than 25 entries competing at the Varsity State Championships are not eligible for Division Sweepstakes awards. Additionally, any school who wins a Speech, Debate and/or Overall Sweepstakes award is not eligible for the Division Sweepstakes awards. Sweepstakes formula is determined as follows:

(a) Debate

(1) Policy/Public Forum/Lincoln Douglas: 25 points for Championship entry; 20 points for runner-up entry; 15 points for semi-finals (nonadvancing); 10 points for quarter-finals (non-advancing); 5 points for octo-finals (non-advancing) 2 points for double octo-finals (nonadvancing).

(2) House/Senate Chambers: 10 points for Championship entry; 8 points for runner-up entry; 5 for 3rd place; 3 points for finalists; 1 point for semi-finalists (non-advancing).

(3) Winner is determined by the summation of the total points, the school with the highest point named Champion, the school with the second highest points named Runner-up, etc.

(b) Speech:

(1) 15 points for 1st Place, 10 points for 2nd place, 5 points for 3rd place, 3 points for finalists; 2 points for semi-finals (non-advancing) and 1 point for quarter-finals (non-advancing).

(2) (3) Winner is determined by the summation of the total points, the school with the highest point named Champion, the school with the second highest points named Runner-up, etc.

(NOTE: There is currently not a "(2)" in this substructure. The change is to correct the numbering error).

This is an addition to the Bylaws and has been given a new identification number to make placement of the event in-line with other speech events.

3.26. Informative Speaking

1. Purpose: An informative speech is an original speech designed to explain, define, describe, or illustrate a particular subject. The general purpose of the speech is for the audience to gain understanding and/or knowledge of a topic. Any other purpose such as to entertain or to convince shall be secondary. The use of audio/visual aids is optional. (See # 4 on Aids.)

2. Contest: This contest comprises only memorized speeches composed by the contestants and not used by them during a previous contest season.

3. Subject: Effective speeches provide new information or perspectives on a topic, including those that are widely known. The responsibility for choosing a worthwhile topic rests with the contestant. A fabricated topic may not be used. Any non-factual reference, including a personal reference, must be so identified.

4. Aids: Audio/visual aids may or may not be used to supplement and reinforce the message. If used, the audio/visual aids should enhance or support the message rather than distract from the overall effectiveness of the presentation. During the presentation, no electronic equipment is permitted. Electronic equipment is defined as any object requiring an electrical cord, battery, or solar power to operate it (projectors, cell phones, radios, iPads, computers, etc.). The use of live animals or any additional people as visual aids is not allowed during the speech. Items of dress put on and/or removed for illustration during the course of the presentation are considered costumes and may not be part of the contestant's presentation. Visual aids may not violate policies as dictated by local and state law (weapons, drugs, etc.) The host school is not responsible for providing any facilities, equipment, including tables, chairs, or easels, or assistance in a contestant's use of visual aids. Expedient set up and take down of aids is expected. If a visual aid displays published pictorial material, the source must be included in the work-cited page but does not need to be cited orally.

5. Length: The time limit is 10 minutes with a 30-second "grace period." If there are multiple judges in the round, all must agree that the student has gone beyond the grace period. Should a student go beyond the grace period, the student may not be ranked 1st. There is no other prescribed penalty for going over the grace period. The ranking is up to each individual judge's discretion. Judges who choose to time are to use accurate (stopwatch function) timing devices. No minimum time is mandated.

6. Quotation: Not more than 150 words of the speech may be direct quotation and such quotations must be identified orally and in a printed copy of the speech supplied prior to registration.

7. Script: Manuscripts must be available at all district tournament contests in the event of a protest. However, it shall be the choice of each individual District Committee whether or not to require these materials be submitted prior to the district contest. The script must identify the quoted materials, state the number of quoted words, include a work-cited page in APA or MLA format, and both the speaker and the coach must attest by signature that the speech is the original work of the contestant.

8. Re-Use: A student may not use an informative speech the student used in district or national competition in any previous contest year.

NOTE: IF APPROVED, INFORMATIVE SPEAKING WILL BE ADDED TO THE VARSITY STATE TOURNAMENT. QUALIFICATION FOR THE VARSITY STATE TOURNAMENT AS WELL AS ADDING THE EVENT AS A PART OF THE VARSITY STATE CHAMPIONSHIP SWEEPSTAKE FORULA FOR SPEECH EVENTS.

From the National Speech and Debate Association District Tournament Manual, Spring 2017