

NCCFI Business Meeting
March 13, 2004

I Opened by President Renea Gernant -
Welcome and opening prayer.

II. Agenda Approval:

Additions - discussion of schedule requested by John Brown University
introductions suggested by Point Loma Later addition - discussion of drop/add fees
requested Introductions:

The following schools were represented - Evangel, Malone, Belmont, Point Loma Nazarene, Cedarville, John Brown, Southwest Baptist, Northwest Nazarene, Vanguard, Southwestern University, Cumberland, Asbury, Abilene Christian, Concordia Nebraska, Wheaton, Biola, Bethel, Cal Baptist, Azusa Pacific.

III. REPORTS

A. Presidents Report: Renea Gernant

Tournament is happening as we speak.
Constitution is being worked on. It has been made available online and will be discussed at this meeting.
Having a fairly smooth year.
Thank you to Matt and host school.
Later addition - Logo was redone.

B. Host Report: Matt Moore

All is going well so far.
Glad you are all here.
Chapel will be tomorrow morning with a competitor from last year delivering the message.
Awards will be in the same area as we are eating lunch.
Any questions?

C. Tournament Director's Report: Michael Dreher

Thank you all for your help.
Novice Parli will break to quarters now that we have 15 teams.
Postings will be put up tomorrow after chapel in the ENS lobby.
Parli pairings will be announced orally. The Parli coin flips and announcements will be made 15 min. prior to round.
Please make sure everyone is there on time.

D. Secretary/Treasurer's Report: Renea Gernant in place of Rick Travis

Rick Travis has stepped down from this position as he has left Vanguard University.
In the works -

- Checking account, possibly in Nevada in order to keep a low balance
 - Tax ID #
 - need a constitution in order file proper paperwork to become an organization and get tax status
 - The next secretary treasurer will need to continue these things.
- Work here is important for book keeping reasons. Right now checks are fielded through members of the executive council.
- Balance coming into the tournament was \$800.

E. District Representative Reports:

Dan Schabot - has been contacting other area schools, had a meeting at Ball State tournament, schools in the area concerned that this tournament was in conflict with the NPTE tournament, Carson Newman had to cancel because of lack of funding but had hoped to attend, keep Struther Smith in your prayers as he is suffering from illness and so was unable to attend.
John Pate/ Skip Rutledge - West coast schools can now feel sympathy for the travel concerns that mid west schools have.

F. Information Technology Report: Michael Dreher

Sorry for the fact that entries were not updated as much.
More content will be added to the website including a history and other materials.
Thank you to Kevin Jones his contributions to the web site materials.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

Al. Tournament site 2005 - Cal Baptist

Tournament weekend would conflict with NPDA and PKD at normal weekend
Proposed that tournament be held Saturday, Sunday and Monday to accommodate a better weekend. Saturday and Sunday would be held on campus, with the banquet Sunday night to make use of school caterers, and on Monday could be held at the church across the street.

Concerns about the close proximity of NCCFI and Novice Nats. Also, AFA, NFA, NPTE, and other tournaments.

Discussion on possible dates and conflicts -

- o Can be any Saturday through Monday for Cal Baptist
- o Possible for Monday to happen at the hotel and a deal to be brokered for cheaper rooms that way.
- o Most of the weekends in March are found to be busy.
- o Easter is also in March
- o Options are to back up to February, clash with another large tournament, or use the one available weekend
- o April 2-4 is possible. It is before AFA (at Kansas State) and two weeks after NPDA
- o Tentatively plan for April 2-4 - Move, 2nd, **passed**

Please note: After the meeting, it was discovered that AFA would be April 2-4. So, NCCFI has moved to: March 12-14, 2005 at California Baptist University.

Concerns about banquet on Sunday night not being as cumulative and celebrative of an event.

- o Breaks can be celebrated that evening as was the practice in the past

A2. Tournament Site proposals for 2006:

King College was rumored to be interested

- o Concerns about Smith's health
- o Rooms would be an issue, we would be very spread out in order to accommodate all rounds
- o Banquet room is quite nice
- o Iffy situation with Smith's health, hadn't even made it to state

Carson-Newman is nominated as a good site, suggested especially since they are not present ☺

John Brown University would be willing to host

- o Would need to be on their spring break
- o Current projected dates are not over spring break so they would have to be changed.
- o Monday would not be feasible for competition because there is no hotel with enough space.
- o Very nice facilities
- o John Brown would like to write up a proper proposal and submit it to the committee
- o John Brown will be considered the tentative site for now
- o Concordia Nebraska and Malone will considered if a back up site is needed.

B. Constitution Ratification: Michael Dreher

Much of the constitution has been pulled from AFA, NFA, and NPDA constitution

Overview

- o NCCFI's official name
- o Goals, as were originally developed by Kevin Jones
- o Expectations of Christian tournament
 - D point covers us in case we need to implement a membership fee, though none is currently needed.
- o Creedal issue: How do we define Christianity without getting creedal and alienating those who are not creedal?
 - Many faith statements say the same thing as the creeds but with different words
 - Can agree to the ideas with out the creed
 - Our faith statement is important as it helps determine who can and cannot participate in our tournament
 - Also helps encourage administrations to support us with extra funding

Officers and duties - same as now

Standing committees

- o These will formalize current practices with an appeals committee, impromptu and extemp topic committees
- o D point - does anyone want to amend this in order to create a committee for Parli topics
 - Possible amendments could be to do it the same as this year, posting all possible topics for all to see so committee members can still coach their teams, or create a committee of those who have agreed not to coach their students at all in Parli
 - Problem with this year's topics is that the ideas were good but the writing wasn't always so good. A committee would help brainstorm topics and refine them before they are used
 - It is nice to be able to slightly adjust the topics that are submitted.
 - Someone should make a proposal to adjust this part of the constitution
 - Straight topics - does knowing these ahead of time lead to prepped out cases? Not really at NCCFI
 - How much notice will be given for topics?
 - Taken in with registrations and distributed as soon as ready
 - Move to empower constitutional committee to make appropriate changes to continue the system of topics used at this tournament - 2nd - **Passed**

Business Meetings - one per year at the tournament

- o Is there a set up for proxy votes and who is eligible to vote?
- o Currently any CCCU school that is in attendance
- o Could have a \$1 membership fee so that it was official
- o Participation at the tournament should count.
- o Change to CCCU with a forensics program
- o Change to anyone who has competed in the current year or in the previous three years

AFA text for events done

- o An allowance can be made for experimental events in the future

Definitions of open and novice

- o Follow AFA guidelines
- o Only allows for 4 national tournaments
- o D point clarifies that a person can be novice in one while open in the other for debate and IEs, but once they have been novice in any debate they will have to be open from then on in all other forms of debate

Individual Sweeps - 4 events for open, 3 for novice, no debate or Readers Theater counts Judge expectations. Sweeps, Awards, and IE definitions as are listed in the invite Motion and 2nd to Ratify

Discussion on Constitution

- o Awards
 - Overall should go five deep - Konrad's suggestion
 - Accepted as a friendly amendment
- o Novice inclusion into overall sweeps
 - Should be put back into overall sweeps
 - Did anyone pull students into open for sweeps points? Yes
 - Those that did events in high school are really at the open level

- High school events vs. college events - they are different enough that a college students needs retraining to do same events they did in high school
 - Most compete in open all year and look at sweepstakes as a team effort. The fact that novice points don't count takes away from the team effort
 - Many people put students who could compete well in open in novice for sweeps points only when the points count for overall trophy
 - Novice needs to be defined better.
 - Some of these students are truly novice and deserve that chance for success
 - No matter the definition of novice, if they aren't include in sweeps, the field will remain small
 - If we want to improve, educate, and excite our students, then have a novice division to allow for success
 - We don't want schools getting the majority of their points from novice and we don't want schools short changing their students by shifting them to and from novice only for the sake of points
 - Other possible options: points could be weighted - more for open and less for novice, could have separate awards for novice sweeps
 - Possible to have a separate novice final round but have the prelims be all together
 - The weighted points seem like we are telling novices that they are not real competitors.
 - The possibility of having a small two round novice tournament and then let them compete in open as well.
 - Possible to have a separate novice final round but have the prelims be all together
 - The previous suggestion isn't fair depending on who the novices have in their prelims
 - Can honor the top three novices in each event
 - If we have novice, they we should go all the way and not mitigate it. It gives them something to look forward to and to aim for. The points should be part of the overall sweeps
 - Currently, the novice points go towards debate only and IE only sweeps, but not to overall sweeps.
 - Division has shrunk this year, perhaps it should be dropped.
 - Students recognize that novice is less than open awards.
 - There can be great educational value in having an out round experience. It can help them learn and inspire them for next year.
 - Include guidelines and encouragements in the invite that would ask coaches to enter students appropriately as to their ability level.
 - It would even help to put the novice sweeps and overall sweeps on a spread sheet in the packet, even if there was no tangible award. This would help to present to administration for encouraging funding.
 - o Renea proposes that we vote on the constitution and then form a committee to look at how novice definitions and sweeps should be handled.
 - The proposal of the committee would be voted on next year
 - The change couldn't take place until after next years nationals and so that year would still be hurt
 - We could allow for a mail ballot to change it before the next business meeting
 - Communication does not take place well over email for NCCFI
 - o Motion to add novice back into overall sweeps for next year, 2nd , **passed**
- Now we need to ratify the constitution and appoint a committee
- o We can't get trophies for everyone
- Constitution is **ratified and passed**
- Motion to create a committee on novice sweeps moved, 2nd , **passed**
- o Committee will bring proposals for next year
 - o This was a good decision
 - o Talk to Renea after the meeting if you want to be on the committee
 - Committee will look into definitions and implications of novice and sweepstakes

C. Elections

- o Two ballots in case a run off vote is needed
 - o NCCFI is divided into two districts separated by the Rocky Mountains - Division 1 is west and Division 2 is east
 - o Presidential nominations
 - * Renea Gernant runs uncontested
- Note: new terms will take effect at the close of the tournament
- o Secretary/Treasurer
 - Responsibilities - very important, keep notes at meetings, work on tax status, organize meetings, keep track of money, 2 year term
 - Konrad Hack and Erick Roebuck are nominated
 - o District 1 Representative
 - Skip Rutledge has a year remaining on his term
 - Responsibilities - help officers, extra voice, work in region to encourage participation, recruit new schools to attend, tab room, decision making
 - Brooke Adamson runs uncontested
 - o District 2 Representative
 - Mary Vaughn and Jason Hough are nominated
 - o Ballots are to be filled out and left on center table at the end of the meeting for the executive council to count

D. Schedule

- a. AFA format is desired
- b. Desire for IEs and Debate to be separate so that debate is run all together
- c. Others want IE and Debate separate so schools that only want to do one can come early or leave early and save on expenses
- d. It is possible to make the tournament 2 and a half days with either 3 patterns with 2 rounds or 2 patterns with 3 rounds and both would have to have a few debates on the half day.

- e. Only 2 patterns means more rooms would be needed
 - f. Current schedule is better for people's mental health
 - g. Current schedule allows for more fellowship opportunities
 - h. Propose a committee is formed to discuss possibilities
 - i. Minor tweaks could be made for next years schedule and a proposal could be submitted at that meeting for more major changes
 - ii. Motion, 2nd, **passed**
- E. Drop Fees
- a. These are needed
 - b. Would include change fee
 - c. Moved. 2nd, **passed**
 - d. Have committee to discuss the actual numeric cost
- F. Meeting disbanded.

POST MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Election Results:

President: Nominated and Elected-Renea Gernant, Concordia U

Secretary/Treasurer: Nominated-Konrad Hack, Nominated and Elected-Erick Roebuck, Biola U

District One: Nominated and Elected-Brooke Adamson, Northwest Nazarene U. Skip Rutledge enters year two of his term.

District Two: Nominated-Jason Hough, John Brown U, Nominated and Elected, Mary Vaughn, Belmont U.

Tournament Director: Michael Dreher (who has abdicated his throne, but Renea won't let him)

Ad Hoc Committee Appointments:

Novice Issues: Jason Hough (Chair), Shannon Dyer, Dan Schabot, Matt Moore, Erick Roebuck, Michael Dreher (ex-officio)

Scheduling and Fees Issues: Konrad Hack (Chair), Skip Rutledge, Mary Vaughn, Jay Bourne, Ann Larson, Michael Dreher (ex-officio)