

Business Meeting
National Christian College Forensics Association
Biola University
Saturday, March 14, 2009
Minutes

Skip opened the meeting at 1:17 PM.
Joey Mavity opened with prayer.

*Tournament welcomes Bethany Lutheran and Pepperdine to NCCFA

I. Reports

A. Tournament Director

He is just following the rules of the organization. Konrad mentioned that NPDA rules say that we post results for debate. If there are questions, please talk to Konrad Hack.

B. Tournament Host

Nothing much to report according to Erick Roebuck. Erick was worried about having a banquet because there was not a big enough space, but three groups on campus joined to rent a tent to have the banquet and to gather. Dorothy has put in a lot of time to get food and other things set up for us. So, thank you, Dorothy!

2009 National Tournament Cumes will be posted online by the end of the tournament instead of handing out hard copies.

Webmaster's note: They're available at both forensicstournament.net and the NCCFA website (<http://www.nccfa.org>)

C. Secretary

Minutes from the Business meeting 2008 were posted on the website last spring and have been available to read and review.

Motion made to bring 2008 Business Meeting minutes to a vote. It was seconded. Meeting minutes from 2008 were accepted.

The changes to the Constitution were also made and changed in the Constitution document on the website as well.

D. Treasurer- Jason had his expenditure report ready for NCA in November and it has not changed since then. You all have copies of the report.

There was mention of the donations from Bethel, Trinity, and Regent University as tournament sponsors.

Hired judges all need to report to Konrad Hack to sign forms and so we can keep one consistent list.

Looking for ideas on what bank to use for our tax exempt number and for us to be able to physically deposit money no matter where we are or who is NCCFI Treasurer. Some ideas given: ING- online bank and Wells Fargo.

Please contact Jason Hough with more ideas or questions at JHough@JBU.edu.

E. President

We appreciate Gary Rybold from Irvine Valley and Danny Cantrell from Cerritos College in California for giving their time to run debate tab here. We appreciate you! Gary made an announcement about a debate [possibly IEs too] trip that he is heading up to China, starting around May 20, 2010. Please e-mail him if you have questions about the trip at Grybold@IVC.edu

Skip Rutledge's goal as President of NCCFI is to communicate as much as possible. Make sure to give us your e-mail if you have not been receiving e-mails. That means you are not on our list.

Figuring out goals for this organization: Sometimes we run into problems by trying to accommodate everyone. We worked on a schedule that is more humane. Shortened time periods meant that students had to make choices and couldn't do every event that they wanted to do. Another big goal was to have enough judges to come together for a meeting. This was met. Third goal was to be a healthy organization with money in the bank and not in the red. We feel good about where we are now with a small surplus in the bank.

II. Old Business

There was no Old Business on the agenda.

III. Upcoming Elections

Western District Representative elections went as follows.

Nominations for the first representative include Shannon Scott from Seattle Pacific University and Mike Marse from Cal Baptist. The Western District voted Shannon Scott from SPU as the representative serving a two-year term.

Next, nominations for the second Western representative include Mike Marse from Cal Baptist and Dorothy Alston Calley from Biola. The Western District voted Mike Marse from Cal Baptist as the representative serving a one-year term.

Eastern District Representative elections went as follows.

Nominations for the representative serving a two-year term included Ann Lawson. The Eastern District voted Ann Lawson from Malone as the representative serving a two-year term.

Tournament Director election had one nomination, Konrad Hack from Concordia-Irvine was elected with one objection (from Konrad).

IV. Bids Consideration for Upcoming National Championships:

- A. 2010 National Championship Presentations
 - a. Cedarville University – Ohio
 - i. Hosted in 2004 first time out of CA
 - ii. Administration backing to have the tournament
 - iii. First week in March 5 –7
 - iv. Ample room space
 - v. Airports: Dayton [about 30 min.] or Columbus [about an hour]
 - vi. Museums available
 - b. Kansas Wesleyan – Kansas
 - i. March 12 – 15, 19 – 21
 - ii. Meals at \$6
 - iii. Chamber of Commerce on board and willing to negotiate airfares
 - iv. Kansas City-major airport [3 hours] or Wichita [1 hour]
 - v. Weather fairly mild
 - vi. Administration fully supporting
 - c. Paper ballot voted Cedarville University in Ohio to host 2010 NCCFI nats.
- B. 2011 – Azusa Pacific University – California
All voted Azusa Pacific to host in Mid-March in 2011.
- C. 2012 – National tournament interests
 - a. Wheaton College – Illinois
 - b. Kansas Wesleyan – Kansas
- D. Interest expressed by Regent University in Virginia to Host Nationals in the future

V. New Business/Discussion Items:

A. Secretary/Treasurer

Change Constitution and By Laws to reflect that there are two distinct offices, one for Secretary and one for Treasurer rather than a unified Secretary/Treasurer as part of the Constitution and By Laws currently reflects. They should be elected in alternating years ideally.

Rationale: These offices both exist and apparently the document did not get changed to reflect that. Alternating year elections is consistent with At Large Representatives election process to better insure experienced members continue rather than losing all officers at one time. (Submitted by Skip Rutledge)

*Motion passes unanimously.

*Motion made for the Executive body to look into staggering this overlap, so we do not have a new secretary and treasurer in the same year. This passes unanimously.

B. Allowing Parliamentary Debate to count for Platform

Change Constitution and By Laws (Article V) to allow Parliamentary Debate to count as a platform event for participating members in the Individual Sweepstakes Award, much as Readers Theatre counts towards Interpretation and LD counts toward platform currently.

Rationale – the Award is designed to recognize outstanding contributions of well rounded speakers who excel in multiple events. Additionally just as RT and Duo Interpretation are not truly “individual” events with only one person participating, parliamentary debaters should not be denied recognition for their efforts in an event that takes as much time and effort and commitment as it does just because there is a partner involved. (Submitted by Skip Rutledge)

Discussion Points

- This year’s invite counts Parli as an individual event, so this needs to be decided on whether that should change or become part of our Constitution.
- One suggestion is for Parli to count as 2 points per prelim round
- If LD counts for platform event then Parli should
- There is not an all IE award, so there should be.
- **Here is a main question:**

Are we fundamentally in favor of counting Parli as a platform event and should be counted towards a top IE student award?

- Could have a top competitor award which would count all events
- IE students have more opportunity with all there different events
- Currently we have ten awards for students. Shouldn’t we have less awards then. Do we need to have so many or could we just award the top five? Historically we give the top ten speaker awards for debate. We should be equal in the amount awards we give to both sides.

Conclusion with unanimous vote

In the end, we are creating an IE only award and revising the overall award which includes the following:

1. Created IE only individual sweepstakes awards which include points from all events EXCEPT Lincoln-Douglas, Reader’s Theatre, and Parliamentary Debate points.
2. Overall individual sweepstakes awards was revised to say that in order to be eligible for this overall award, students must do one of A and one of B
 - A. Individual events or RT
 - B. LD or Parliamentary Debate

*Motion was made for the point determination will be left up to executive council.
Motion passed.

C. Changing Duo Dramatic Interpretation to Duo Interpretation in content to meet the actual title.

Change Bylaw 1: Tournament Events description of “11. Duo Interpretation” to substitute the term “literature” for “play or plays” in describing from where the interpretation material can be drawn. This would then allow for prose or poetry to be included in Duo Interpretation in addition to or instead of just plays.

Rationale: This change would free up much more quality literature to be utilized in the event, and there might be the added benefit of fewer quality performances being rejected simply because judges are already familiar with the material. Phi Rho Pi has made this change and other national organizations are considering it. (Submitted by Skip Rutledge)

Discussion

- Objections were made in that we already have RT, which allows students to do POI with more than one person
- It would change the feel of what DI Duo currently has
- Positively it would match up to what other organizations seem to already be doing

Conclusion

- **Proposal withdrawn to wait for AFA and NFA to make decision**

The following three items were submitted by Michael Marse:

D. Encouraged Practice Change: Allow Double Entry in both LD and RT

To the extent that the tournament host and director find the following possible given their year-to-year constraints, the NCCFI should endeavor to allow students to enter in both Reader's Theater and Lincoln/Douglas debate, if possible.

Reasoning: This, while not a normal double-entry for many programs through the season, would serve two purposes. First, these two events have very different educational outcomes for students and would encourage competitors to attempt both of these events at the national tournament. Second, it would increase the ability of NCCFI to serve as a culminating tournament for smaller programs who can only commit to one national tournament per year. This change would make NCCFI the only tournament in the country with this particular combination for four-year institutions. (Submitted by Michael Marse)

Discussion

- Likely impact: This would make planning the NCCFI a bit tougher schedule-wise, since an hour and a half would now likely be needed for the RT/LD rounds.
- Konrad is happy to try this but students will still have to make choices

Conclusion

Michael Marse withdrew the motion because he felt like he was heard

E. Allow for Longer Days of Competition

The restriction for the NCCFI to 12 hours per day should be changed to a requirement that the average hours per full competition-day at the tournament should be fixed at a maximum of 12. This would allow (for example) a 13 hour day, followed by an 11 hour day.

Reasoning: There are two reasons for this proposal. First, a more flexible model would allow more schools to host according to their specific needs. We have had problems in the past forcing schools to host on their spring break in order to match our other needs. For example, a host school would be able to make Saturday a 13 hour day and Sunday an 11 hour day to allow for prelim rounds to be scheduled according to need, not a rigid legislative mandate. Second, many smaller programs who commit to NCCFI as their only or their only significant presence at a national tournament would rather spend a longer weekend getting the season done with more competitive precision. Larger programs who commit to 3-4 national tournaments would admittedly be penalized by this proposal, since their students might have longer weekend commitments on (sometimes) consecutive weekends.

Likely impact: This would hopefully make the NCCFI more flexible for various hosts, and would increase competitive precision as it allows for more prelim rounds and more time for double-entry and tabulation. It may also lead to more exhaustion and less competitive excellence from tired competitors on specific days. (Submitted by Michael Marse)

Discussion

- In favor of
 - Gives the tournament director flexibility if given a little more time
 - Can have more opportunities for students
- Against
 - The director could try to please people and do too long of a schedule
 - Schedules may go long and that detrimental to everyone

Conclusion

Motion voted on and fails.

F. Allow some schools to not buy meal plans

[THIS WAS NOT DISCUSSED AT THE MEETING FOR LACK OF TIME]

Schools attending NCCFI who are located within 100 miles of the host school should have the option to opt-out of the meal plan requirements of NCCFI on a student-by-student basis. Those schools should be required to pay a separate banquet fee for those who opt-out of the meal plan, but should be given the ability to report to the host school the number of students attending the banquet, in order for the host school to properly plan for the banquet. Those reports should be due to the host school no later than the last day of allowed drops according to the invitation for that year.

Reasoning: Schools within this range may have students who drive themselves and/or arrive and leave for their rounds only. Since those students will not be using the meals in any case, this

becomes a question of stewardship of Christian resources. Since the banquet funding should not be affected by the location of NCCFI, the banquet fee should remain for all competitors/judges.

Likely impact: When the NCCFI is hosted in Southern California, this will lead to less students utilizing the meal plan. This should also increase the funding for the banquet, and an increase in overall entries in those same instances, hopefully leading to greater competitive excellence. This would also occur in other areas of the country if a large NCCFA school is located close to another. The downside would be less inter-school bonding during meals, and a possible increase in lower-quality entries. (Submitted by Michael Marse)

Conclusion

Moved to send to a committee in the interest of time

G. Change in Constitution about Parliamentary debate resolutions

Change existing bylaw:

D. Parliamentary Debate Topics Committee

1. This committee is charged with making decisions about which parliamentary debate topics will be used at the national tournament. The topics are intended to be generated by the membership as part of the tournament entry; however, the committee shall have the right to create topics if necessary.
2. The committee chair shall be appointed by the president, and should include the tournament director and at least one member of the executive council.
3. The topic committee shall [~~post (prepare)~~ the list of topics ~~submitted~~] before the beginning of the first round. Members of the topic committee shall be free to coach their students only on judge-related concerns, but not about the resolutions.

OR JUST MOVE TO STRIKE THE WHOLE FIRST SENTENCE IN V. D. 3.

Discussion

“and the round selected”

“and the actual topics selected”

Conclusion

The following statement was an approved Constitutional change that passed unanimously: Strike “post” and “submitted” and add “prepare” and “actual” to the first line in V. letter D. #3. So, then it will read:

The topic committee shall prepare the list actual of topics before the beginning of the first round.

* MEETING ADJOURNED AT 3:43 PM.