

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

**I. Reports**

- A. Tournament Director
- B. Tournament Host
- C. Secretary
- D. Treasurer
- E. President

**II. Old Business**

There is no Old Business on the agenda at this time

**III. Upcoming Elections**

Western District Representatives

Karen Nishie of Vanguard – 2 year term expiring

Erick Roebuck of Biola – 1 year term remaining, office vacated

Eastern District Representative

Gary Harmon of Kansas Wesleyan – 2 year term expiring.

Tournament Director – year to year

**III. Bids Consideration for Upcoming National Championships:**

- A. 2009-10 - Cedarville University – Ohio
  - Possibly Kansas Wesleyan - Kansas
- B. 2010-11 – Azusa Pacific University - California
- C. 2011-12 - Wheaton College – Illinois
- D. Interest expressed by Regent University in Virginia to Host Nationals in the future

**IV. New Business/Discussion Items:**

**A. Secretary/Treasurer By Law Change**

**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)

## **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)

## **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)

*The following three items are 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.

**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. (Submitted by Michael Marse)

### **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)

### **F. Allow some schools to not buy meal plans**

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)

**V. Adjournment**