

**National Christian College Forensics  
Association Business Meeting**

March 19, 2017 at Grand Canyon University, Phoenix, AZ

**I. Opening:**

- A. Opened at 3:38pm with prayer from Mike Ingram, Whitworth University.
- B. Opening welcome from President Jay Bourne and School representative introductions

**II. Business**

Minutes from 2016 approved.

**III. Officer Reports**

- A. President Jay Bourne: thanks to Barry for hosting.
- B. Treasurer Julie Welker:
  - 1. Secured the assistance of recent graduate of Howard Payne to help with financials. Forms were not filed for the last few years so we need to get back into good standing and in order.
  - 2. \$13,702 current account balance. Expenses for the tournament are still being calculated.
  - 3. We should have extra funds in the account. Maybe create a couple of endowed scholarships for students with some of those funds. Need to finish up the forms and file.
- C. Tournament Director Michael Dreher: Being able to come out to do a site visit. Judges have been wonderful. One change that is coming up with persuasion is the 3<sup>rd</sup> round will have one 3-member panel.
- D. Tournament Host Barry Regan: Meal explanation. Please only take one meal per person. Please put rooms back to how they were before. Please clean up after ourselves.

**IV. New Business**

**A. Hosting the NCCFA tournament in 2018– Proposed bids**

- 1. Discussion on setting the host. Jay Bourne suggested that we don't make a decision today about who will be hosting. There is a desire to make a decision by June 30<sup>th</sup> or earlier so we can make plans and reservations for next year. We just need to try to set a more established time so we can get more consistent on weekends. Michael Marse suggests we don't try to lock something down because that could be too hard. That would lock out some schools. We should also think about schools who are not allowed to compete on Sundays. Again, more people are desiring a decision before the end of a traditional semester, maybe April. We need to accept the fact that we will run into one of these other national tournaments. We need to be as accommodating to the host as possible.

Here is the schedule for spring 2018 national tournaments:

NPTE Mar. 16 – 18

PKD Mar. 20 – 24

NPDA Mar. 22 – 25  
IPDA Mar. 24 – 27  
AFA Mar. 31 – Apr. 2  
NFA Apr. 13 – 16

2. No formal bid to date but possibilities are being discussed. Discussion about tournament dates options below.

- a. Azusa Pacific is offering to host. March 5 – 11, so they can host either weekend. There are a lot of schools to pull from for judges. Preferred to do March 9 – 11<sup>th</sup>. Fernanda is offering to host but will have a lot of help from those who have done it before. They are hoping to get one side of the campus to fit everyone.
- b. Motion to accept APU's bid to host 2017. There is a request to have it March 8 – 10. The body confirmed the 8 – 10<sup>th</sup> is the date for 2018.
- c. There was a strong desire from the body to get back out east. Please think about submitting or re-submitting bids from schools in the east. Derrick Green desires consideration for incentives for people to host; maybe giving a 50% discount on fees. Schools have been hurt and perceived a lack of desire for people to head east, but the body confirmed that there is that desire.

**B. Elections:** We will elect one representative from the west (district 1) and one from the east (district 2), and hold elections for Secretary and Treasurer, as their terms expire this year.

- a. Secretary, Current term ending: Brooke Adamson, Northwest Nazarene University. Brooke Adamson was on the ballot and it was voted to cast a unanimous ballot. Accepted.
- b. Treasurer, Current term ending: Julie Welker, Howard Payne University. Julie was on the ballot and it was voted to cast the unanimous ballot. Accepted.
- c. Western (District 1) Representative current term ending- Michael Marse, California Baptist. Michael Marse was on the ballot and it was voted to cast the unanimous ballot. Accepted.
- d. Eastern (District 2) Representative Current term ending- Michael Dreher, Bethel University. Derrick Green accepts the nomination and the east voted him in as their representative.

V. Proposals/ Discussion Items

- A. Tournament Preparation Recommendation: We need to have the tournament invitation out by January 1 at the latest. Discussion points fell on how January 1 is too late. The schedule is very similar each year, so we should do earlier. Suggestion is to do a preliminary invite sent with set dates, hotels, and a tentative schedule. Let's get it out as early as possible. We need the critical planning details early.

B. IE Ballot Point Change

Changing the point system from 1 – 25 to 70 – 100. This is used in other tournaments. Doing this is less likely to have ties; easier to explain to hired judges. Could we give a rubric to help them understand the point system? Could help to have a handout to educate judges on what our scale means. One concern could be a greater amount of variability. Increased number of lower scores will most likely be given.

C. Tournament date consistency:

We need to nail down two weekends in March where we can get on the schedule on an annual basis. It was discussed.

D. NCCFA...the next 20 years. Have a select committee or executive committee look into creating strategic plan for the organization. We need to make sure everything we do reflects our mission. There are organizations that may help fund us or give us grants to help the organization, but we need to create a strategic plan. We need to be able to communicate who we are to the outside world. There is a desire of the body to consider the following:

1. Outreach to new members and those who no longer come
2. Communication to the members who come to their administration
3. Communicate to members that we are here for them
4. Our relationship with the CCCU
5. Our strictly Christian requirements to join
6. Reaching out to Historically Black Colleges and University's
7. Integrate faith with forensics (experimental events: faith platform category, apologetics)
8. Discussion of how this is really a unique space
9. Our external marketing.
10. Social media presence
11. Ideological presence that can bypass state politics. We have ideological advantages. States are banning travel between some states (like California banned travel to Kansas based on ideologies). This group can bypass that.
12. Reaching non-Christian students on our teams
13. Defend programs that schools are getting rid of
14. Connect with Religious Communication Association
15. Link to high school programs
16. Mandatory judges/coaches the night before or morning of to talk about what it means to judge at a Christian tournament.
17. How do we treat each other with love and respect?
18. Equal focus on IEs and debate

Please continue this discussion on email or other means

Meeting dismissed.