

Wisconsin State Tournament Qualification Procedures Change

Eliminate in the Standing Rules:

Article C, Section VII, Paragraph C (the Reddy Rule)

Article C, Section XII, Paragraph A, Sub-paragraph 1, items a, b, and c (Policy Qualification)

Article C, Section XII, Paragraph B, Sub-paragraph 1, items a and b (LD Qualification)

Article C, Section XII, Paragraph C, Sub-paragraph 1, items a and b (PF Qualification)

Add the following to Article C, Section XII, where appropriate:

Debaters shall qualify for the WSDT by obtaining a better than .500 record (as an individual, pair, or foursome – depending on the nature of the event) in the preliminary rounds at two or more sanctioned tournaments in the division they wish to attend. In the varsity divisions the school must compete in the varsity division at three sanctioned tournaments. Teams earning qualifying records in either a two-person or four-person division may compete in either division at the state tournament. Qualification runs with the debater, not the pair or foursome.

Add the following items to Article C, Section VII:

Debaters may enter in a division higher (JV or V) than the division they earned a qualifying record in.

AND

In team events, one substitution or additional debater per division is allowed provided the debater attended two or more sanctioned tournaments in any division.

Benefits:

- Makes verifying entries for the WSDT easier. (Just need to list the two tournaments and the record).
- Makes qualifying easier – no longer do coaches have to figure out to what break round they need to make.
- Introduces parity between V4 and VSS in terms of how they qualify.
- Qualifying competitions don't depend on numbers – all tournaments on the WDCA calendar count.
- Allows tournament directors to operate a division with limited school or debater numbers (such as a head to head style event or a round robin)
- We could consider allowing schools to count an inter-conference or UDL tournament as one (but not both) of events to qualify to encourage regional or non-Saturday competition.
- Would increase the size of the state tournament
- Moves the tournament from a "Tournament of Champions model" to a more inclusive "State Tournament model"
- Encourages more participation in WDCA tournaments.