

Independent Tournament Director Constitutional Bylaw and Standing Rule Clean-up

Problem Description:

At the 2008 Spring Meeting the WDCA decided to appoint an independent Wisconsin State Debate Tournament director. It was assumed that this required no official language changes. During the summer of 2008, the WDCA Executive Committee realized that this change did require official language changes. Both the standing rules and the constitutional bylaws required that the chair of the tournament practices and procedure committee be the state tournament director. This created a problem between the goals of the organization and the organization's rules.

Instead of trying to change these rules in a rapid-fire style, the WDCA executive committee decided to present to the membership at the 2008 Fall Meeting our plan for running the 2008 WSDT outside of the Constitutional Bylaws and Standing Rules. That plan was to proceed with an independent state tournament director and make the chair of the tournament practices and procedures committee the operations director of the WSDT. This plan was temporarily approved by the membership at the 2008 fall meeting, provided that the board would come back in the 2009 Spring Meeting with specific language changes that would clean-up the inconsistencies between the practice and the adopted rules.

Described on the next two pages are the language changes:

Changes to make in the Constitutional Bylaws:

(Struck-through language is repealed. Underlined language is added.)

Article VI – Committees

Section VIII – Tournament Practices and Procedures

The Tournament Practices and Procedures Committee shall consist of a chairperson, appointed by the President, ~~and two members appointed by the chair, one of which~~ who serves as Operations Director of the Wisconsin State Debate Tournament. The committee also consists of the independent state tournament director and another member appointed by the President. A fourth member of the committee might be the Tournament Host, as selected by the Executive Board. The committee shall research tournament practices and procedures and be responsible for providing support to members on tournament operation. ~~The committee chair shall direct the WDCA State Tournament of Champions, with the assistance of the Executive Committee.~~ The committee shall assist the independent state tournament director in the administration of the Wisconsin State Debate Tournament.

Changes to the Standing Rules: (*changed language is underlined*)

Section II – Tournament Director and Organization

A. Organization and Responsibilities

The Wisconsin State Debate Tournament will be run by a three-person committee consisting of an independent Tournament Director to be approved by the Executive Committee with consultation from the Wisconsin High School Forensics Association; the Host; and the Operations Director who will be the chair of the Tournament Practices and Procedures Committee. The tournament director may name members of the executive committee, members of the Tournament Practices and Procedures Committee, or former WDCA/WHSFA coaches to assist in running the state tournament. Individuals named to the state tournament committee should be published two weeks prior to the tournament.

B. Tournament Director

The responsibilities of the Tournament Director shall include: making tab room assignments; covering tab room workers' judging assignments; coordinating and conducting the awards ceremony; publishing results; running the computer operations; securing a computer program to do adequate and independent scheduling of rounds and judges in the two and four speaker divisions; obtaining and organizing a qualified and adequate judge pool for preliminary and elimination rounds; coordinating and centralizing all postings; coordinating all results; maintaining a round by round "paper trail"; and disk backup of pairings and results; etc.

C. Host

The responsibilities of the Tournament Host include providing: the site, shuttles, food service, hospitality for coaches and judges at all sites (near the tab room), tab room, computer room, results consolidation room (stuffing envelopes), duplication services, computer set up, room availability with clear labeling, medical service, registration area, a list of local motels and tournament rates, a list of qualified judges from the local area, and hall monitors runners.

D. Operations Director

The responsibilities of the Operations Director shall include: ordering awards, recording and verifying all qualifiers and entrants; coordinating and mailing all tournament information, forms, judge qualification/strike forms; assisting with the judging pool; assembling a panel for elimination rounds; screening judge qualifications (experience, years out, etc.) for appropriate pools; etc.

Comments: switches the duties of Ops and director. The director essentially runs the schedule, but does not deal with getting the important information. The ops director gains the information.