

CATEGORY COMMITTEE REPORT
JULY 10, 2006
FRATELLO'S ITALIAN CAFE – OSHKOSH

Members Attending: David Loos, Sue Luterbach, Bev Kingma, Lynda Luce, Mary Wacker, Doris Sexton, Paul Seymour, WFCB WEB Master Mike Traas, and WFCB President Steve Sexton. The Executive Secretary of the WHSFA, Chuck Malone, was in attendance.

Members Not Attending: Ron Steinhorst, Deb Weiher-Traas, Adam Jacobi

Business Conducted:

A. Report on the WHSFA Speech Advisory Committee meeting held on June 9, 2006 at U.W. Oshkosh attended by David Loos and Mary Wacker.

1. Date of the WHSFA State Festival April 13 and 14, 2007

2. Concerns and statements expressed by Chuck Malone and WHSFA members to the WHSFA Speech Advisory Committee:

a.. There was a rise in the number of students participating in Special Occasion which the committee felt was a reflection of the change in the category not imposing an exact scenario on the students but suggesting types of occasions.

b. Due to the fact that a student at the State Festival was deducted points for using a text book which the evaluator felt did not fit with the criteria in the definition of the category the committee voted to drop the list of suggested genres from the definition of the category.

c. After discussion about a problem in Play Acting regarding what constitutes a prop the committee decided to leave the rule as it is.

d. Some coaches in Section II would like to change the rule in Poetry and not allow original poetry. The committee voted to maintain the present rule.

e. Some coaches in Section II wanted to change the rule regarding walking in Farrago, Poetry, and Prose and return to the previous rule which allowed walking. The committee voted to maintain the rule for another year since this was only the first year for the rule.

f. A request that the WHSFA reinstate the category of Group Discussion was given to a sub-committee for study and this sub-committee will report to the Advisory Committee at the meeting in June of 2007.

g. There will be a continued emphasis on improving the speech adjudication program.

2. Action taken in connection with WFCFA comments

- a. Since the WFCFA will be discussing the addition of a rule about visual aids in Special Occasion the WHSFA will recommend the following rule for the 2006-2007 school year. **“Visual supporting materials may be used but not worn.”**
- b. The WHSFA will recommend changing the time limit from eight minutes to ten minutes in Oratory for the 2006-2007 school year.
- c. When informed that the WFCFA will be considering changes in the time limit for Group Interpretation, Solo Acting, and Special Occasion the committee decided to wait and see what happens in the WFCFA.
- d. The WFCFA requested that the WHSFA not allow the use of a chair in Solo Acting. For lack of a second the motion to do so failed.

3. New topics in Moments in History, Public Address, Special Occasion, and Storytelling were selected with input from WFCFA.

a. Moments in History

1770 – 1800 The Age of Revolution

b. Public Address

The Right to Die: Under what circumstances should a person have the right to terminate his or her own life?

Tuition: What effect, if any, is the rising cost of tuition having on access to higher education?

Cell Phone Use: To what extent, if any, should cell phone use be regulated?

Global Warming: What impact, if any, does global warming have on the environment?

c. Special Occasion

Speech of Welcome

Acceptance of Nomination or Office

Sales/Fundraising presentation

Patriotic Speech

d. Storytelling

American South

How or Why Story

Story of Rumor, Gossip, Exaggeration

Brother Grimm Story

A Story Involving Gold

B. Reviewed Speech Events

1. Demonstration Speech: No changes
2. Extemporaneous Speaking: No changes
3. Four Minute Speech: No changes
4. Group Discussion: Paul Seymour will prepare a list of questions for the 2007 season. He will have these completed in three weeks and submit them to the committee chair. The committee chair will send the questions to Lyn Luce, Mary Wacker, and Bev Kingma for input and possible changes. A final set of questions will be presented at the fall meeting.
5. Impromptu Speech: No changes.
6. Lincoln-Douglas Debate: A motion was made and seconded to eliminate Lincoln-Douglas Debate as a category at the State Tournament. The motion passed by a vote of 4 in favor, 2 against, and 1 abstention.
7. Moments in History: No changes.
8. Oratory: No changes
9. Public Address: No changes
10. Radio Announcing: No changes
11. Special Occasion Speech: A motion was made and seconded to add to rule 3 the following statement, **“Visual supporting materials may be used but not worn.”** The motion passed by a vote of 6 in favor and 1 against. After further discussion a motion was made and seconded that we clarify the use of costumes for all categories before June of 2007. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Reviewed Interpretive Events

1. Farrago: A motion was made and seconded to remove the list of suggested genres from the definition of the category. The motion passed unanimously.
2. Group Interpretive Reading: A motion was made and seconded to change the maximum time from 12 minutes to 10 minutes effective for the 2007-2008 season. This would give the WHSFA time to consider a change as well. The motion passed unanimously. A motion was made to reinstate the following wording in rule 4. **“Onstage focus (direct eye contact) and physical contact (touching) between participants is prohibited, except for the introduction.”** The motion passed unanimously.

3. Interpretation of Poetry: No changes
4. Interpretation of Prose: No changes
5. Oral Interpretation of Literature: No changes
6. Play Acting: A motion was made and seconded to change the maximum time from 12 minutes to 10 minutes effective for the 2007-2008 season. This would give the WHSFA time to consider a change as well. The motion passed unanimously.
7. Solo-Acting: A motion was made and seconded to change the maximum time from 8 minutes to 10 minutes effective for the 2006-2007 season. This change would not have a major impact upon the WHSFA this year. The motion passed unanimously. A motion was made and seconded to create a separate rule sheet for Serious and Humorous Solo Acting. The motion passed by a vote of 5 in favor and 1 against. Mary Wacker will create a critique and submit it to the committee chair so that it may be given to the membership for a vote in the fall.
8. Storytelling: No changes
9. Duo Interpretation: No changes
- D .Reviewed Student Congress: It was recommended that the State Student Congress Director create a check list for the critique sheet. The list would consist of items that are often repeated so that the judges don't have to constantly write the same item on each critique thus saving time. There was a discussion about moving the Congress to a separate date due to the fact that the final session lasted too late into the evening and the Super Congress on Saturday put too much stress on the participants who also were participating in the Saturday tournament. No action was taken, but it was recommended that the State Student Congress Director look into the length of time and make changes to end the final session on Friday earlier, if at all possible.

E. Other Considerations:

After a heated discussion about allowing double entries at the State Tournament the committee chair asked for a vote to allow double entries. The vote was 1 in favor, 5 against, and 1 abstention. The Tournament Practices and Procedures Committee will also discuss this issue.

A motion was made and seconded to change the grace period from 30 seconds to 15 seconds for those categories that the 30 second rule applied. The change would take place effective with the 2007-2008 season. The motion passed with a vote of 5 in favor and 1 against. A discussion followed about changing the grace period language. The present language states, "not ranked first." The suggested change would state, "reduced by one rank." It was decided to refer the issue to the Tournament Practices and Procedures Committee without a recommendation.

After a discussion about the WHSFA judge certification program a motion was made and seconded to create a sub-committee which would establish criteria for a "Master Judge Program" for the WFCA. The motion passed unanimously. Lyn Luce volunteered to chair the committee which will be composed of Sue Luterbach, and Bev Kingma. It was also suggested to ask Chris Schoggen of Hartford to this sub-committee. Another suggestion regarding judging was to encourage tournament hosts to attempt to utilize more head coaches judging rounds and fewer of them in the tab room.

The Chair submitted a document containing rules for all categories which would be more uniform for the judges. Since the material was lengthy the committee members agreed to study it, submit suggested changes and comments to the Chair. The proposed revisions will also be posted on the WEB Site for input from the membership.