New Jersey Speech & Debate League

Fall Meeting Minutes – 10/4/2016

Chimney Rock Inn

Meeting called to order by Dave Yastremski at 4:30pm

1. Review and Approval of Spring 2016 Minutes
   1. Jack Bathke of Princeton motions to approve, Andrew Monagle of Ridge seconds
      1. Motion carries unanimously
   2. Schools Present: Montville, Ridge, Manville, Princeton, Calvary Christian Old Bridge, Hunterdon Central, Westfield, Millburn, Oak Knoll, Phillipsburg, Trinity Hall, Bridgewater-Raritan, Delbarton, Union Catholic, Noor-Ul-Iman, Morris Knolls
2. Treasurer’s Report
3. Old Business
   1. Judges for States & Districts
      1. Judge Certification Discussion
         1. Martin Page - led ad hoc committee to think on the issue. Program of judge shadowing/judge certification program for inexperienced judges possible, especially at October/November tournaments.
         2. Dave Yastremski - target ineffective judges by looking at their early ballots at each early tournament. Issues at States/Districts remain – so do we want to install a certification process?
         3. Mary Gormley – parents are concerned with being good at what they do, and no one wants to disappoint a kid with an inadequate ballot or comments. Reminder of upcoming judge trainings at Delbarton, Ridge, and Randolph, and plenty of judge training materials available from free NSDA resources.
      2. Ballot Review Committee
         1. Set up committee for Oct-Dec tournaments to help review these ballots – anyone interested in organizing this committee?
            1. Amisha Mehta, Laurie Schmid, Ger McKnight, Martin Page
         2. Consensus – to target individual judges early in the year, and then ask schools at states/districts to certify 2 specific tournaments OR judge training – no “hard” certification system pending results from this plan
   2. Website
      1. Pictures, information, etc. for the website should be send to Matthew Weiss
         1. Martin Page will take pictures at local events for the website; coaches and tournament directors should send them in as well
      2. Upload “new” ballots to website with new logo and new events
   3. Middle School Events
      1. Now that middle school is bigger, we need some standardization of events, due to confusion
      2. Mary Gormley – we do still follow NSDA rules for the events
      3. Randolph & Montville offer PRO, POE, Dec, IMP, IMV, and PF
4. New Business
   1. NJ Voice of Character Award – Seton Hall University
      1. Attachment B
      2. Scholarship opportunity
   2. 2017 NSDA National Conference – Denver, CO
      1. Attachment C
      2. Coach subsidy? Let Peter or Dave know if you might be interested
      3. Mary Gormley – presenter slots are still open until the end of the month
   3. NSDA Updates
      1. Attendance at NSDA Leadership Conference
         1. Dave Yastremski
         2. Mary Gormley
         3. Martin Page
      2. New Interpretation “Electronic Publication” Rules
         1. Attachment D
         2. Allow ebooks, commercial pdfs, website content, etc. updated monthly, submit requests to them
      3. POI and INF are now Main Events
         1. Semifinalists from last year are likely auto-qualified
      4. We can send two teams in World Debate
      5. Big Questions Debate
         1. Attachment E
         2. Opportunity for funding if a tournament does a “Big Questions” debate
      6. Point Submission – Reminder and Auto-Post update
         1. Mary Gormley – I had to make sure that students were getting their points as well as signed off online on their accounts (“the star”). This is now easier – just sit all the new kids down and have them do it at once. Without the “star” their points don’t count and can’t compete at Districts. We have far fewer competitors than we had several years ago at Districts – this is due to the new point tallying system.
      7. CFL Updates
         1. Attachment F
         2. We use their rules for Dec and OI so it is worth noting rule changes (no kneeling in interp, books may be used as props in OI)
5. Calendar 2016-17
   1. Tournaments
      1. States @ Hunterdon-Central Regional High School
   2. Meetings
      1. Tentative Spring Meeting date: 5/4/17
   3. Judge Trainings
      1. Delbarton – Sunday 10/9 12-4pm
      2. Ridge – Wednesday 10/26 6-9pm
      3. Randolph – Monday 11/7 7-9pm
      4. Montville – Friday 11/4 4:30-8:30pm
      5. Montville – Firday 1/20 Time TBD

Motion to adjourn by Martin Page of Delbarton, seconded by Andrew Monagle of Ridge

Motion carries unanimously; meeting adjourned at 5:30pm