New Jersey Speech & Debate League

Fall Meeting Minutes - September 13, 2017

Chimney Rock Inn, Bridgewater, NJ

1. Greeting
   1. Renee Drummond called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.
   2. Present – representatives from Oak Knoll, Montville, University, Verona, Morris Knolls, Noor-ul-Iman, Ridge, Freehold Township, Delbarton, Westfield, Elizabeth, Randolph, Union Catholic, Hunterdon Central, Manville, Phillipsburg
2. Program of Events
   1. Mimi Rosenbaum nominated Scott Hood for Exec. Board Alternate
      1. **Elected by voice vote.**
   2. Peter Quinn explained the Program of Events, with additions of two potential new tournaments at Millburn (10/26) and Delbarton (around Harvard).
3. States – Side Locking
   1. Refer to minutes from previous meeting – just a reminder.
4. District Judge Strikes (Debate)
   1. Refer to minutes from previous meeting – just a reminder.
5. Electronic Balloting
   1. John Cierpial - Ben Stewart asked us to pilot e-balloting for debate, in order to test-run the program for states
6. Hall of Fame Committee
   1. Chip Leher, Jonathan Alston, and Renee Drummond were tasked with this committee – called for more members of this committee now that the school year has started.
7. Judge Training & Gender
   1. Martin Page – we should start a conversation about sensitivity to issues of race, gender, identity, etc. in regard to judge training. It is important that it not be heavy-handed or make judges uncomfortable, but it’s important to not forget about this issue. The possibility was raised of working on some language for use in judge meetings and trainings. Amisha Mehta, Martin Page, and Chip Leher volunteer to work on this project.
   2. Dave Yastremski – just a reminder that we really need more members to attend
8. Questions & Errata
   1. Amisha Mehta – wondering about the status of students who compete in middle school – are they novices, JV, or Varsity?
   2. Dave Yastremski – current rules in the league have middle school as a separate entity, so a freshman with middle school experience would still be a novice.
   3. Renee Drummond – we are still trying to move forward with some kind of Congress/Parliamentarian training – Jordy Barry, now moved to NV, is still interested in helping out remotely.
9. NSDA Connect
   1. Martin Page – wanted to make coaches aware of a sort of social network for coaches across the country. Not quite ready yet – NSDA will launch soon, but keep an eye out for it – ideal for collaboration and materials.
10. Website
    1. Renee Drummond – the website is still under construction, but as it is, is there anything we could use or change?
    2. Dave Yastremski – separate judge training materials
    3. Mike Forte – the league constitution should be prominently displayed
11. Construction Ratification
    1. As this meeting constitutes the second reading of the revised league constitution and bylaws, **Renee Drummond motions to ratify the constitution.** Amisha Mehta seconds.
    2. Vote 17-0; **motion carries**.
12. For the Good of the Order
    1. Amisha Mehta – any interest in doing sparring/mock rounds over Skype, please get in touch.
    2. Laurie Schmid – any particular date to set for the Phillipsburg judge training?
    3. Renee Drummond - Additional judge training date: Thursday, Oct 12 at Freehold
    4. **Renee Drummond motions to adjourn at 5:25pm; motion carries.**