ARTICLE I – GENERAL GUIDELINES

SECTION I: Each tournament should consist of four rounds each (three if time constraints warrant) of Senior and Novice debate; and semi’s and finals in each division. Individual events should consist of three preliminary rounds, with the exception of United States and Foreign Extemp, which will consist of two preliminary rounds, of senior and novice individual events and finals in each division. Individual events shall consist of two panels, to be alternated each tournament. Panel A: Dramatic Interpretation, Duo Interpretation, United States Extemporaneous Speaking, Expository Speaking, Storytelling. Panel B: Original Oratory, Impromptu Speaking, Humorous Interpretation, Prose/Poetry Interpretation, Foreign Extemporaneous Speaking.

SECTION II-DIVISIONS: When a novice speaker places first, second or third twice in any individual event she/he shall proceed to senior division in all individual events during further NNFL competition. When a novice debater places first, second, or third twice in any debate event he/she shall proceed to senior division for all further NNFL debate competitions. If a student has been competing in any combination of debate or IE events, at any time during two school years, that student will be moved to the senior division regardless of placement record. A debate team standing is based upon the senior member standing. Once having debated or presented in the senior division, a competitor must stay at the senior level. A coach may move a competitor up at his/her discretion prior to this requirement. *Placement for students with specific modification needs will be considered on an individual basis by the Executive Committee prior to their participation in further NNFL competitions.

SECTION III-TRAVEL: The decision to delay or alter a tournament in consideration of travel problems for a squad shall be left to the executive committee. Tournaments proceed when three-quarters of the competing schools are present.

SECTION IV—JUDGES:
1. First year out students may only judge novice division competition.
2. Judges may be removed from the pool under certain circumstances at the discretion of the executive committee; however, the NNFL practices a non-strike policy, which means that no judge will be removed from judging certain teams based upon philosophical differences or preferences.
3. The NNFL practices the following non-disclosure policy: judges & coaches are prohibited from sharing the results of any round with competitors or spectators until after the awards ceremonies.

SECTION V—FEES: Annual fees are $40 per school. Tournament fees are $25 per school and $5 for individual entries and $10 per team entries. Tournament fees are determined at the close of Registration on Joy of Tournaments. Teams are responsible for paying for entries that are dropped after registration closes.
ARTICLE II – DEBATE GUIDELINES

SECTION I:
- Rounds one and two should be randomly matched, rounds three and up to semi-finals should be power matched (all 2-0 teams against each other, all 1-1 teams against each other, and all 0-2 teams against each other) In semi’s the highest team (determined first by a won/lost record, then team speaker points totals, then by team point rankings, then opponent’s records) is matched against the lowest team. NSDA District Tournament Manuel rules apply in breaking brackets.
- If debaters have met before, they change sides. If they haven’t met before, they will flip for sides.
- When a school comprises more than half of the competing teams, inter-squad competition is plausible. Teams or debaters from the same school shall be given no special bracketing considerations. That is, teams or debaters from the same school may compete against each other in semi-final and final rounds, or be advanced at the discretion of the coach.
- When seven or fewer teams compete, there will only be a final round in which the top two teams advance.

SECTION II - NO FLOW AND RETRIEVAL RULE:
- No one is allowed to flow any preliminary or semi-final debate round except the teams competing in the round and assigned judges. Spectators may flow final debate rounds. The judge(s) is/are responsible for enforcing this rule in the round.
- Judges may use a computer to take notes while judging during competition.
- All electronic recording (photos, video, tape recording, etc.) shall be barred except those having obtained prior consent from coaches and competitors in the round.
- The use by contestants of electronic retrieval systems are allowed in Policy, Public Forum, Lincoln Douglas, Congress, and Extemporaneous Speaking in accordance with Appendix I: Computer Use in Debate Rounds & Appendix II: Extemporaneous Speaking Computer Use and Rules [Electronic retrieval devices are defined as laptop computers, netbooks, iPads, or other portable electronic retrieval equipment including devices such as flash drives or external hard drives.]
- Cell phones or smart phones are prohibited from being used for preparing or while in rounds at tournaments, except for the use of keeping time.
- Use of the internet during tournaments is strictly prohibited.
- Penalties are at the discretion of the executive committee and may result in disqualification.

SECTION III – NO SHOW RULE Failure to compete in one round will result in a loss; failure to compete in more than one round will result in disqualification. (See Article V, Sec. 8)
SECTION IV – DEBATE RULES

A. Policy Debate

1. Question: The question shall be the national high school debate topic.
2. Teams: Each team shall be made up of two members from the same school, and shall be prepared to uphold both sides of the question.
3. Method: The following cross-examination method shall be used:
   a. Length and order of speeches
      1. First affirmative constructive, 8 minutes
      2. Cross-examination of first affirmative by one of the negative speakers, 3 minutes
      3. First negative constructive, 8 minutes
      4. Cross-examination of second affirmative by the other negative speaker, 3 minutes
      5. Second affirmative constructive 8 minutes
      6. Cross-examination of second affirmative by the other negative speaker, 3 minutes
      7. Second negative Constructive, 8 minutes.
      8. Cross examination of the second negative by the other affirmative speaker, 3 minutes.
      9. First negative rebuttal, 5 minutes
     10. First affirmative rebuttal, 5 minutes.
     11. Second negative rebuttal, 5 minutes.
     12. Second affirmative rebuttal, 5 minutes.
   b. Special Cross-Examination Rules:
      1. The questions must be directed to the speaker who has just completed a constructive speech and must be answered by that speaker.
      2. The questioner controls the times and may interrupt a lengthy reply. Any form of time wasting is unethical, though the questioner may waive any or all of his/her cross-examination time.
      3. The respondent may decline to answer only if he/she gives valid reason for doing so.
      4. Five minutes of prep time is given for both senior and novice divisions.
      5. Members of the same team may not speak to each other during their constructive speeches, cross-examinations, or rebuttals. They may speak to each other during their prep time. Any infraction of this rule may be grounds for disqualification. See article V.

4. NOVICE DIVISION: In order to build confidence in novice competition and ensure and encourage the growth of the event:
   a. If there are five or fewer Novice teams, the divisions will be collapsed. Novice teams that earn their second break in a collapsed division situation will be moved to the Senior division. Novice teams that do not break, or experience their first break in a collapsed division circumstance will return to the Novice division.
B. Lincoln-Douglas Debate
   1. Question: Topics will be taken from the Rostrum.
   2. Method:
      a. Length and Order of Speeches
         1. Affirmative constructive, 6 minutes.
         2. Negative cross-examination, 3 minutes.
         3. Negative constructive, 7 minutes.
         4. Affirmative cross-examination, 3 minutes.
         5. Affirmative rebuttal, 4 minutes.
         6. Negative rebuttal, 6 minutes.
         7. Affirmative rebuttal, 3 minutes.
   3. Three minutes of preparation time is given to both senior and novice divisions.

C. Public Forum Debate
   1. Question: Topics will be taken from the Rostrum.
   2. Teams: Each team shall be made up of two members from the same school, and shall be prepared to uphold both sides of the question.
   3. Method:
      a. Coin Toss: Prior to each round, teams will flip a coin. The team winning the coin toss may choose either: side of topic: pro or con or order of speaking: first or last. Once the coin toss winner selects either a side or a speaker position, the coin toss loser then has a choice. If the winner selects a side, the loser selects a speaker position. If the winner selects a speaker position, then the losing team selects the side of the topic.
      b. Length and Order of Speeches:
         1. First Speaker—Team A=4 minutes
         2. First Speaker—Team B=4 minutes
         3. Crossfire=3 minutes
         4. Second Speaker—Team A=4 minutes
         5. Second Speaker—Team B=4 minutes
         6. Crossfire=3 minutes
         7. Summary-First Speaker—Team A=2 minutes
         8. Summary-First Speaker—Team B=2 minutes
         9. Grand Crossfire=3 minutes [teammates may speak to one another during Grand Crossfire]
        10. Final Focus—Second Speaker—Team A= 2 minute
        11. Final Focus—Second Speaker—Team B= 2 minute
        12. There will be two minutes of preparation time per team given to both senior and novice divisions.

D. Congressional Debate
   See SECTION IV for information regarding this event.

FOR A COMPLETE EXAMINATION OF DEBATE, SEE THE NSDA COMPETITION EVENTS GUIDE OR ANY MATERIAL GENERATED SOLELY BY THE NSDA.
ARTICLE III – INDIVIDUAL EVENT GUIDELINES

SECTION I –
- All rounds of Individual Events should be randomly matched. Attention should be given to having speakers not meet each other twice. Six speakers shall advance to finals except in the event of a tie, in which case seven is preferable, and five is acceptable. Speaker order in finals will be determined by random draw.
- If there are three or fewer students/teams entered into an IE division, the event will be collapsed. Novice students/teams that earn their second break in a collapsed division situation will be moved to the Senior division. Novice students/teams that do not break, or experience their first break in a collapsed division circumstance will return to the Novice division.

SECTION II – INDIVIDUAL EVENTS PANEL A

A. Expository Speaking
   1. The expository speech is to be delivered by the student who composes it. Any appropriate subject may be used, but the intent of the expository speech is to inform. Visual and or/audio aids supporting the overall goal of the speech are important and comprise one quarter of the ballot ranking system. Programs such as PowerPoint are not allowed. However, the emphasis should be placed on the student’s own oral presentation.

   NOTE: NNFL Expository rules are different from NSDA rules. Do not refer to the NSDA manual for clarification.

   2. All speeches must have been prepared during the current school year. They must not have been performed in any previous school year.

   3. Costumes are not allowed. Visual aids are acceptable. (Protective wear if necessary, is not considered costume.)

   4. The expository speech shall require not more than ten minutes to deliver. The timing shall begin at the start of presentation. There is no minimum time requirement.

   5. One four inch by six inch note card is permitted in novice division.

B. Dramatic Interpretation
   1. Selections used in these contests shall be cuttings from published, printed, novels, short stories, plays or poetry. Recorded material that is not printed and published is prohibited. Adaptations may be for purpose of continuity only. Monologues are acceptable. During the presentation the contestant must name the author and the book or magazine from which the cutting was made.

   2. The contestant may not use a cutting from the same novel, short story, play, or poetic work, which he/she used in any contest previous to this school year. A cutting must be from a single source.

   3. Presentations shall be from memory and without the use of physical objects or costumes.
4. Interpretations shall be no more than ten minutes including introduction: there is no minimum time limit.

C. United States Extemporaneous Speaking

1. Students shall draw from topics discussed in U.S News and World Report, Time, Newsweek, New York Times, Washington Post and, The Economist for eight weeks preceding the tournament. In addition, each topic will be cross referenced in at least two of the sources.

2. Each contestant will draw three topics for each round. The contestant shall immediately choose one topic for the speech and the topic shall be promptly recorded. He/she shall not speak twice on the same subject area. Each contestant shall draw thirty minutes before the contest.

3. Preparation must be made without consultation with coaches or other persons and without reference to prepared notes. Permission to use and share books, magazines, library aids, etc., is given. Students may consult published books, magazines, newspapers, and journals or articles provided:
   a. They are originals or Xeroxed copies of the originals.
   b. That original article or copy is intact and uncut.
   c. There is no written material on that original or copy.
   d. Topical index without annotation may be present.

   No other material shall be allowed in the extemp prep room. Extemp speeches, handbooks, briefs, and outlines shall be barred from the extemp prep room. Underlining or highlighting in extemp will be allowed if done in one color on each article or copy. No electronic retrieval device may be used. (See Article II. Sec. II)

4. No notes are allowed to senior division speakers in the presentation of this speech. One note card (not to exceed four by six inches) shall be allowed to the novice division in the presentation of this speech.

5. Contestants shall not speak more than seven minutes. There is no minimum time limit.

6. There will be a three-minute cross-examination in all final rounds of senior level competition.

D. Duo Interpretation

1. Selections used in these contests shall be cuttings from published, printed, novels, short stories, plays or poetry. Recorded material that is not printed and published is prohibited. Adaptations may be for purpose of continuity only. Monologues are acceptable. During the presentation the contestant must name the author and the book or magazine from which the cutting was made.
2. No scripts, props, or costumes may be used. There shall be no physical contact between Duo Interpretation participants. Focus may be direct during the introduction (the performers may look at each other) but must be indirect (off-stage) during the performance itself.

3. The contestant may not use the same cutting nor a cutting from the same novel, short story, play, or poetic work, which he/she used in any contest previous to this school year. A cutting must be from a single source.

4. Duo interpretations shall be no longer than ten minutes; there is no minimum time limit.

E. Storytelling Rules
1. A single published, printed story, anecdote, tale, myth, or legend must be retold without notes or props.

2. The maximum time is 5 minutes, but the story may be briefer without penalty. Any introduction must be included within the 5 minute time limit.

3. The student may not tell a story s/he used in any contest previous to this school year.

4. The delivery must be extempore, not read. No book or script may be used. The story may be delivered standing or seated.

5. Gestures, pantomime and characterization, may be used with restraint but the focus must be on the narrative.

6. The retelling must be true to the original tale. The contestant may not add original material or materially change the content of the story.
SECTION III – INDIVIDUAL EVENTS PANEL B

B. Original Oratory
   1. All orations entered must be persuasive in nature and the work of the contestants. Orations, which have been used in tournaments or service club contests in previous years, shall be disqualified. Any non-factual reference, especially a personal one, must be so identified.

   2. Orations shall be no longer than ten minutes; there is no minimum time limit.

   3. Not more than 150 words of an oration may be direct quotations from another speech or writing. A written copy of the oration must be available for the tournament director upon request. Failure to produce such a copy before the next round of competition shall result in disqualification.

   4. No notes, manuscripts or visual aids shall be permitted.

C. Prose or Poetry Interpretation
   1. Prose: Prose expresses thought through language recorded in sentences and paragraphs: fiction (short stories, novels) and nonfiction (articles, essays, journals, biographies).

   2. Poetry: Poetry is writing which expresses ideas, experience, or emotion through the creative arrangement of words according to their sound, their rhythm, their meaning. Poetry may rely on verse and stanza form.

   3. Selections: Only published, printed works may be used. No plays or other dramatic materials may be used. In Prose and Poetry a student may not use the same source s/he used in Duo, Dramatic or Humorous Interpretation at any previous tournament.

   4. The contestant may not use the same cutting nor a cutting from the same novel, short story, play, or poetic work, which he/she used in any contest previous to this school year.

   5. Time: Presentations shall not last more than five minutes. Other than brief overtime may be penalized.

   6. Presentation: Performances must be from a manuscript (which may be in a folder). Reading from a book or magazine is not permitted.

D. Humorous interpretation
   1. Selections used in these contests shall be cuttings from published, printed, novels, short stories, plays or poetry. Recorded material that is not printed and published is prohibited. Adaptations may be for purpose of continuity only. Monologues are acceptable. During the presentation the contestant must name the author and the book or magazine from which the cutting was made.

   2. The contestant may not use the same cutting nor a cutting from the same novel, short story, play, or poetic work, which he/she used in any contest previous to this school year. A cutting must be from a single source.
3. Presentations shall be from memory and without the use of physical objects or costumes.

4. Interpretations shall be no more than ten minutes including introduction: there is no minimum time limit.

E. Impromptu Speaking

1. Three types of topics shall be used. Round I (abstracts) – one word abstract topics such as “thrift” or “charity.” Round II (quotations) – brief, thought-provoking quotations such as “Adversity introduces a man to himself.” Round III (current events) – a general topic of current importance and interest. Finals – the topic will be at the tournament host’s discretion.

2. Each contestant shall draw three topics each round and shall be given thirty seconds to choose one.

3. No more than two minutes of preparation shall be allowed the speaker. Timing shall begin at the conclusion of the two minutes, or when the speaker begins his/her presentation, whichever comes first. Silence shall be enforced during the speaker’s preparation time.

4. No notes shall be allowed any speaker in the presentation of the speech, either senior or novice.

5. Contestants shall not speak for more than five minutes; there is no minimum time limit.

F. Foreign Extemporaneous speaking

1. Students shall draw from topics discussed in U.S News and World Report, Time, and Newsweek, New York Times, Washington Post and, The Economist for eight weeks preceding the tournament. In addition, each topic will be cross referenced in at least two of the sources.

2. Each contestant will draw three topics for each round. The contestant shall immediately choose one topic for the speech and the topic shall be promptly recorded. He/she shall not speak twice on the same subject area. Each contestant shall draw thirty minutes before the contest.

3. Preparation must be made without consultation with coaches or other persons and without reference to prepared notes. Permission to use and share books, magazines, library aids, etc., is given. Students may consult published books, magazines, newspapers, and journals or articles provided:

   a. They are originals or Xeroxed copies of the originals.
   b. That original article or copy is intact and uncut.
   c. There is no written material on that original or copy.
   d. Topical index without annotation may be present.
No other material shall be allowed in the extemp prep room. Extemp speeches, handbooks, briefs, and outlines shall be barred from the extemp prep room. Underlining or highlighting in extemp will be allowed if done in one color on each article or copy. No electronic retrieval device may be used. (See Article II. Sec. II)

4. No notes are allowed to senior division speakers in the presentation of this speech. One note card (not to exceed four by six inches) shall be allowed to the novice division in the presentation of this speech.

5. Contestants shall not speak more than seven minutes. There is no minimum time limit.

6. There will be a three-minute cross-examination in all final rounds of senior level competition.
SECTION IV – CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE

A. Organization
The congress shall be arranged as a group of houses and a senate. Every effort will be made to create houses and a senate chamber of 20-25 students. A maximum of 20 students from each school will be allowed to enter House/Novice chambers and a maximum of 10 students from each school will be allowed to enter Senate/Senior chambers. In the event that there are not enough Senior/Senate entries, chambers will be collapsed.

B. Legislation
1. Maximum legislation guidelines:
   Each school, using the format established in the NSDA District Guidelines, will present a maximum of three pieces of legislation. If more legislation is needed, it may be submitted by schools “at large.”

2. Legislation submission deadlines:
   a. Schools will submit legislation to the NNFL Chairperson in accordance with the schedule determined at the beginning of the season.
   b. Legislation submitted after the deadline is subject to refusal at the discretion of the NNFL Chairperson.

C. Parliamentarian
1. Qualifications: the Parliamentarian for each house chamber shall be a NNFL Coach, Assistant Coach, or qualified person approved by the NNFL Chairperson.

2. Responsibilities: He/she shall be responsible for ensuring that all parliamentary procedures as delineated in the current edition of Robert’s Rules of Order as well as NNFL instructions and bylaws are followed. He/she will be responsible for the Following.

   a. That the proceedings are conducted in a businesslike and dignified manner, specifically ensuring that all profane, obscene, abusive, ethnic or gender offensive language is not allowed.
   b. That questions and/or speeches, with the sole intent of eliciting laughter, are not allowed as this distracts from the quality and seriousness of the intellectual discourse.

If any Congressperson violates any of the foregoing during debate, the Parliamentarian shall take the following action(s):

1. On the first occasion the student will be told to stop speaking and return to his/her seat.

2. On the second occasion the student will be expelled from the chamber and disqualified from congressional competition for the remainder of the tournament and the coach will be notified at the earliest opportunity.
D. Presiding Officer

1. Establishing minimum qualifications: While both houses are in Committee sessions, candidates who wish to compete for nominations for P.O. will take a ten question quiz relating to Parliamentary and NNFL Congressional procedures. Those who fail the quiz (missing 3 or more questions) will be eliminated from further consideration for P.O.

2. Nominating Procedure: following roll call in both houses, a maximum of four students (no more than one per school, and only those who passed the P.O. quiz) will put themselves into nomination for presiding officer from each house. If more than four students wish to place their names into nomination for presiding officer, four will be selected by the following process as monitored by the Parliamentarian.

   1. The Parliamentarian will secretly write down a number between 1 and 100.
   2. Each nominee will tell the Parliamentarian what his or her number selection is.
   3. The four nominees closest to the number selected by the parliamentarian will be the nominees for P.O. from that house.

3. Selection Procedure: after each of the nominees have had the opportunity to preside over their respective houses of congress for a period of 15 minutes, the Judge will decide who will be the permanent presiding officer for the remainder of the day. In making his decision he will take into consideration:

   a. Knowledge of NNFL rules (including Orders of the Day) and Robert’s Rules of order
   b. Ability to maintain order and conduct congress in an orderly manner, which bespeaks the intent to maintain the seriousness and elevated intellectual atmosphere of this debate event.

4. Speaker Cards for PO: The Presiding Officer will surrender his/her #5 speaker card upon the judges selection of him/her for the position. The #5 speaker card will be used to judge the elected students job as PO for the first session. Upon the beginning of session 2, the PO will surrender his/her #4 speaker card for the same purpose. The #4 card will be scored based on the job the student did as PO during the second session.

E. Sessions: Congress shall meet for a total of four hours (first session being 2 ½ hours and the second session being 1 ½ hours) with a break between the two sessions.

F. Selection of Outstanding Speaker (Boarders)

1. Judge’s role: The Judge from each chamber will determine the top two speakers from each of the two sessions based on the quality of speaking, questioning, overall contribution to the chamber, or job as PO, regardless of total points awarded.

2. The Congress Chairperson will use the base system of calculation to determine the top two point scorers from each chamber, each session. In the case of point total ties, all candidates will be submitted for consideration. [Overlap may occur between judges’ selections and total point scorers, however, each candidate will only be awarded one spot on the Outstanding Speaker Ballot.] The name of each student who boards will be announced to his/her chamber.
3. Congressperson’s role: Congresspersons and senators form each chamber will use the supplied preferential balloting forms to rank each candidate from highest to lowest.

4. The Congress Chairperson will collect the preferential ballots from each chamber and tally them to determine which students from each chamber place for awards.

G. Congress Chair: A Coach or Assistant Coach will be selected by the NNFL to serve as congressional chair. The chair will see to distribution of materials, and voting for outstanding speakers. The chair, along with the Parliamentarian, will help to solve parliamentary concerns during congressional sessions. The chair will see to the supervision of the chambers.
ARTICLE IV – SWEEPSTAKES CALCULATIONS

SECTION I - FINALIST CALCULATIONS: Sweepstakes points shall be awarded as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Congress</th>
<th>Debate Speaker Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; Place</td>
<td>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; place – 10 points</td>
<td>1–10 receive 1 point</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt; Place</td>
<td>2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt; place – 7 points</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt; Place</td>
<td>3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt; place – 4 points</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Finalists</td>
<td>Presiding Officer – 4 points</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

SECTION II – INDIVIDUAL EVENTS’ SWEEPSTAKES CALCULATIONS
A. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place bowls shall be awarded in each NNFL individual event.
B. Cumulative finalist points from each NNFL tournament in both novice and senior divisions shall determine awards.
C. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place Grand I.E. Sweepstakes bowls shall be awarded to the top three cumulative totals for all I.E.’s

SECTION III – DEBATE SWEEPSTAKES CALCULATIONS
A. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place bowls shall be awarded in Policy, Lincoln-Douglas, Public Forum Debate and Congressional Debate.
B. Cumulative finalist points from each NNFL tournament in both novice and senior divisions (house and senate) shall determine awards (speaker points are not included in debate totals).
C. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place Grand Debate Sweepstakes bowls shall be awarded to the top three cumulative totals for all Debate Events.

SECTION IV – SPEAKER POINTS SWEEPSTAKES CALCULATIONS
A. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place bowls shall be awarded.
   a. Cumulative points for the top ten speakers in both divisions of Policy, Lincoln Douglas, and Public Forum shall determine the awards.

SECTION V- TABULATION ERRORS
Tabulation errors resulting in a student’s failure to advance to out rounds shall result in an honorary finalist trophy, and five sweepstakes points shall be awarded to the team.

SECTION VI – GRAND SWEEPSTAKES CALCULATIONS
A. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place bowls shall be awarded based upon the cumulative finalist points in all I.E.’s, debate, congress and speaker points.
B. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place bowls shall be awarded to the top three small schools based upon the cumulative finalist points in all I.E.’s, debate, congress, and speaker points.
C. Member schools with less than an average of 15 entries (a double entered student counts as two entries) per tournament over the current season may designate themselves as eligible for the small schools grand sweepstakes bowl.
D. Designation as a small school renders the designee ineligible for the large school grand sweepstakes awards.
E. In the event that a bowl is lost, it is the responsibility of the school that lost the trophy to purchase a new one prior to the last tournament of the year.
ARTICLE V – VIOLATIONS, INFRACTIONS, and PROTESTS.

1. Violations of any rules may be grounds for disqualification at the discretion of the executive committee of the NNFL.
2. An infraction on time restraints for any event, of less than thirty seconds, shall not result in the lowering of more than one rank. Penalties for larger infractions will be discretionary.
3. Failure to produce a complete manuscript or script of any prepared I.E. upon request during the tournament shall result in disqualification for that event.
4. Plagiarism shall result in disqualification.
5. A student failing to speak on the extemporaneous topic chosen shall be disqualified.
6. All claims that may result in disqualification must first be presented to the claimant’s coach, who is responsible for presenting the issue in writing to the executive committee.
7. During the tournament, protests should be lodged in writing in the following order:
   i. Coaches much present the protest in writing to the president.
   ii. The president informs any other coaches involved in the protest.
   iii. The president calls a meeting of the coaches involved in the dispute and the executive committee. In case the protesting coach is an executive committee member, a coach of that person’s choosing will act in his/her stead.
   iv. Each coach involved in the dispute will present his/her side.
   v. The secretary will take minutes of the meeting.
   vi. A secret written vote may be taken.
   vii. The tournament director will function as the arbiter at executive committee meetings.
8. Disqualification means elimination from competition, forfeiture of award and forfeiture of sweepstakes points.
9. The executive committee will determine disqualifications and the vote of the committee will be final.
10. A debate team not present within 15 minutes of the judge’s and opponents’ arrival shall forfeit the round.
11. Any interpersonal conflicts between coaches that cannot be resolved and might interfere with tournament competition and efficiency should be brought to the executive committee for arbitration after the tournament.
ARTICLE VI

AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS

SECTION I – Proposed amendments to these bylaws may be initiated by any member school of the NNFL or initiated by a committee.

SECTION II – Amendments must be ratified by a simple majority vote of the eligible voting members.

NORTHERN NEVADA FORENSIC LEAGUE CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I – NAME

SECTION I – The name of this organization will be the Northern Nevada Forensic League.

ARTICLE II – PURPOSES

SECTION I – To encourage and promote a broader, more extensive speech program at the high school level, to aid the development of curricular as well as extracurricular public speaking activities.

SECTION II – To assist in the organization of the Forensic Tournaments by performing the following functions: (1) Establishing lines of communication between the member schools, (2) Providing a master calendar of Forensic Tournaments to avoid scheduling conflicts, (3) Aiding host schools in matters of providing judges, establishing rules, and extending invitations, (4) To run efficient and equitable tournaments.

SECTION III – To maintain contact with the National Speech and Debate Association and other organizations dedicated to the furthering of effective public speaking.

SECTION IV – To aid in the preparation of students who participate in the Nevada State Forensic Tournament.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

SECTION I – Membership in the Northern Nevada Forensic League will be open to schools of all 9-12 grade students upon payment of their school’s dues.

SECTION II – All member schools will have equal voting privileges. Each member school will have one vote. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the member schools present at officially designated meetings.

SECTION III – Membership will be maintained as long as member schools display an interest in the organization and are not more than six months behind in the payment of dues.

SECTION IV – A member school may assign its proxy to any other voting member of the NNFL upon notification of the president of the NNFL.
ARTICLE IV – EXECUTIVE POWERS

SECTION I – The executive powers of the organization will be vested in a president, vice-president, tournament director, secretary, treasurer and congress chairperson.

SECTION II – The president, vice-president, tournament director, secretary, treasurer, and congress chairperson will be elected from and by the membership of the Northern Nevada Forensic League.

SECTION III – The president will perform the following functions: (1) Preside at all meetings for the Northern Nevada Forensic League, (2) Represent this organization in all professional relationships, (3) Distribute awards at league tournaments in conjunction with the tournament host.

SECTION IV – The vice-president will maintain sweepstakes points for each tournament and assume the president’s powers in the absence of the president.

SECTION V – The secretary will maintain such records as are deemed necessary and conduct correspondence.

SECTION VI – The treasurer is responsible for the following functions: (1) will receive and disburse the funds of the organization as directed by the president and voting members, (2) report the balance of accounts at each league meeting, (3) order and pick up all trophies paid for out of the league account, (4) in the event a school has three unpaid tournaments, write letters to school administrations requesting outstanding fees be send to the league.

SECTION VII – Elections will be held in the spring of the school year and executive officers will hold their positions for a period of one year.

SECTION VIII – ELECTIONS:
A. VACANCIES
   1. In the event a vacancy occurs in any executive position, prior to the annual election meeting, the secretary shall notify the voting membership of said vacancy.
   2. Voting members shall have 3 weeks to nominate a replacement.
   3. As soon as the 3-week nominating period is closed, or after all member schools have responded to the call for nominations, whichever occurs first, the secretary shall send email ballots to all member schools. Each school shall have one vote.
   4. The voting period shall remain open for a period of one week from the date the ballots were sent to the member schools.
   5. The secretary shall notify the Board and the membership of the results of the vote.
   6. The newly elected executive member shall hold the position until the next designated election meeting.
B. REGULAR ELECTIONS: Regular elections will be held in the spring of the school year and executive officers will hold their positions until the following year’s election meeting.
ARTICLE V – LEGISLATIVE POWERS

SECTION I – The legislative powers of this organization shall be vested in the voting membership who may perform the following functions: (1) Establish an initiation fee, dues, and/or assessments when necessary, (2) Admit new members into the organization, (3) Establish a master calendar of forensic activities, (4) Determine the financial needs of the organization and provide for the expenditure of funds, (5) By a two-thirds vote instruct the president to call a special meeting, (6) Elect a tournament director.

ARTICLE VI – MEETINGS

SECTION I – At least two meetings will be held every year one in the spring and one in the fall.

SECTION II – Special meetings may be called at the discretion of the president or as provided in Article V, Section I, part 5.

SECTION III – The last league tournament is designated as the election meeting; the new executive officers will assume their responsibilities at this time.

SECTION IV – The membership will establish a tournament calendar for the following year at the last league tournament.

ARTICLE VII – AMENDMENTS

SECTION I – Proposed amendments to this constitution may be initiated by any member school or committee of the Northern Nevada Forensic League.

SECTION II – Amendments must be ratified by a two-thirds majority of the eligible voting members.

ARTICLE VIII – TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR

SECTION I – Using the Joy of Tournaments program, the tournament director shall receive all entries from member schools.

SECTION II – Using said program, the tournament director shall compile preliminary and out-round panels in I.E.’s and rounds I and II of debate.

SECTION III – All rounds will be recorded and tabulated using the Joy of Tournaments program.

SECTION IV – The tournament director will provide tournament results to the NNFL Vice-President for sweepstakes accounting.

SECTION V – The tournament director shall assume ultimate responsibility for administering congress and debate events, subject to the appointment by the membership of chairs for those events.
ARTICLE IX – Student Code of Conduct

It is never the intent nor the desire to interfere with or circumvent the authority or any coach. Yet, because a tournament is an event that requires coaches and other supervising adults to be occupied with tournament duties for varying periods of time, it may happen that coaches become aware of inappropriate behaviors involving competitors from other teams. Inasmuch misconduct rarely affects only one team, it is incumbent upon the body of coaches to develop a Code of Conduct for competitors as well as a continuum of consequences as a guideline for insuring appropriate conduct.

Therefore a uniform Competitors Code of Conduct is included in the Northern Nevada Forensics League constitution and is binding as such.

A copy of this Code of Conduct will be provided to all competitors and must be signed by themselves and their parents prior to competition. The signed agreements will be kept by the coach for each competition season.

Amendment to the NNFL Constitution
For all purposes “coach” includes traveling coaches and chaperones.

1. Competitors will treat all adult supervisors with respect.
2. Competitors will treat venue and community hosting the tournament with respect.
3. Competitors will follow rules and guidelines set forth by their respective districts and schools.
4. Competitors will follow all rules and guidelines outlined in both the NNFL and NSDA constitutions.

Inappropriate behaviors will be reported to the coach for resolution. That resolution is determined by the team’s head coach(es). In the event inappropriate behaviors continue or escalate, further action is warranted:

a. coach will conference with student
b. executive council will conference with student
c. remove student from tournament with forfeiture of standing and awards for that tournament
d. exclude student from competition for the remainder of the year
e. permanently exclude student from any and all NNFL events
f. notify law enforcement

Competitor Name: ____________________ Competitor Signature: _______________________

Parent Signature: _______________________________________________________________
ARTICLE X – Hosting a Tournament

SECTION I – Judges
Provide 30 judges per round
Have judges plan to arrive according to the schedule (page 2). They should be there and signed in at least 15 min before their scheduled round

SECTION II – Extemporaneous topics – written by the Vice President

SECTION III – Impromptu topics (ONLY on Panel B tournaments) written by host school with topics as follows:
Round 1 – abstract words such as “thrift” or “charity”
Round 2 – short thought provoking quotations
Round 3 – current events
Final round – host school’s choice (Be Creative)

SECTION IV – Copy facilities & Paper
need to be available throughout the tournament

SECTION V – Map of school – copies need to be available for the Tab room, Judges and competitors; labeled with room numbers

SECTION VI – Classrooms
1. 40 for rounds
   a. a room list must be provided to the Tournament Director by the Tuesday preceding the Tournament
2. 1 room with large tables and chairs for the tab room
3. 1 room with tables for judges/coaches’ lounge
   a. Judge and Tab rooms need to be within close proximity of each other
4. 1 room with tables and chairs for extemporaneous prep
5. 1 common area for students to wait in between rounds

SECTION VII – Signs
1. Classroom doors – Do not enter until a judge is present, No food or drink
2. Tab room – Coaches only!
3. Judges’ Lounge – Judges and coaches only
4. Signs for each team attending the tournament to be hung in the common area

SECTION VIII – Food for judges/coaches
1. You will be provided up to $800 by the league to feed the judges and coaches. Receipts must be presented to the Executive Committee before a check for reimbursement is written
   a. Plan to feed 60 people 4 times.
      i. Friday: Dinner & snacks on the tables in judges/coaches’ lounge and Tab
      ii. Saturday: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner, & snacks on the tables in judges/coaches’ lounge and Tab

SECTION IX – Concessions for students are the responsibility of the host school to provide. No league money will be allotted to the purchase of concessions items.
Northern Nevada Forensic League  
Tournament Schedule

Friday – Individual Events

3:00 Extemp Prep Begins
3:30 I.E. Round I
4:30 Extemp Prep Begins
5:00 I.E. Round II
6:15 I.E. Round III
7:30 I.E. Finals

Saturday – Debate Events

8:30 Debate Round I
10:00 Student Congress Begins (roll call / discussion)
10:30 Debate Round II / Congress
12:30 Debate Round III
2:30 Debate Round IV
4:30 Debate Semi Finals
6:30 Debate Finals
8:30 Debate / Congress Awards
APPENDIX I – Guidelines for Laptop Use in Debate Events

Laptop use:
1. Computers equipped with removable wireless cards must have the cards removed before the beginning of any round of competition. It is the responsibility of the contestant to disengage the equipment.
2. Computers with built-in wireless capability may be used only if the wireless capability is disabled. It is the responsibility of the contestant to disable the equipment.
3. Wired connections (Ethernet or phone) during rounds of competition are not permitted.
4. Computers or other electronic devices may not be used to receive information from any source (coaches or assistants included) inside or outside of the room in which the competition occurs. Internet access, use of e-mail, instant messaging, or other means of receiving information from sources inside or outside of the competition room are prohibited. (This does not prohibit non-electronic communication between debate partners during prep time if applicable.)
5. **Penalty**: Contestants found to have violated provisions A through C above will forfeit the round of competition and receive zero NSDA points. Contestants found to have violated provision D (above) will be disqualified from the tournament and will forfeit all rounds and NSDA points. At NSDA district tournaments, the district committee will make the final decision concerning disqualification. In case of a serious dispute or critical question, the acting tournament referee (representing the national office) can be contacted for a ruling.
6. **Availability of Evidence**: Contestants electing to use computers have the responsibility to provide promptly a copy of any evidence read in a speech for inspection by the judge or opponent. Printers may be used. Evidence may be printed in the round or produced electronically, but must be provided in a format readable by the opposing team and the judge.
7. Contestants electing to use computers are responsible for providing their own computers, batteries, extension cords, and all other necessary accessories. Tournament hosts will not be responsible for providing computers, printers, software, paper, or extension cords for contestants.
8. Because public speaking decorum remains an important element of debate, all debaters are expected to stand at the front of the room and face the judge while speaking.
9. Contestants choosing to use laptop computers and related equipment accept the risk of equipment failure. Judges and/ or contest directors will give no special consideration or accommodation, including no additional speech time or prep time, should equipment failure occur.
10. By choosing to use laptop computers in the round, debaters are consenting to give tournament officials the right to search their files. Debaters who do not wish to consent should not use computers in the round.
APPENDIX II – Guidelines for Laptop Use in Extemporaneous Speaking

Statement of Purpose: The National Speech and Debate Association, in its continuing efforts to promote educational opportunities for its student members, will allow Extemporaneous Speaking contestants to make use of electronic retrieval devices as storage for their files.

1. Use of Electronic Retrieval Devices: Extemporaneous Speaking contestants may make use of electronic retrieval devices to store and to retrieve their subject files at all NSDA tournaments. Students can retrieve extemporaneous files to read, but cannot write speeches or organize their thoughts on the computers.
   a. This rule in no way prevents students from still utilizing traditional paper copy files to enable the competitor to successfully compete in Extemporaneous Speaking.

2. Electronic retrieval devices: are defined as laptop computers, netbooks, iPads, or other portable electronic retrieval equipment. Secondary devices such as flash drives or external hard drives are allowed as well.
   a. Cell phones or smart phones are prohibited from being used while preparing or before speaking at NSDA tournaments.

3. Source Materials: Students may consult published books, periodical articles, newspaper articles, think tank articles, government reports or journal articles saved on their electronic retrieval device or present in hard copy form provided:
   a. There are no notations made within or on the saved article other than citation information.
   b. Any highlighting or underlining of the articles is done in only one color within each article. Bolding, italicizing, or any other manipulation of the original text of sources (other than highlighting or underlining as previously stipulated) is prohibited.

4. Other Materials: No other source materials will be allowed in the Extemporaneous prep room other than stated above. Prewritten Extemporaneous speeches, handbooks, briefs or outlines are prohibited from the prep room, whether stored electronically or present in hard copy form.

5. Internet: Extemporaneous Speaking contestants shall not access the Internet or communicate electronically with any other individual while in the prep room at any NSDA tournament (district or national). All computers must comply with the following provisions:
   a. Computers equipped with removable wireless cards must have the cards removed before the beginning of any round of competition. It is the responsibility of the contestant to disengage the equipment.
   b. Computers with built-in wireless capability may be used only if the wireless capability is disabled. It is the responsibility of the contestant to disable the equipment.
   c. Wired connections (Ethernet or phone) during rounds of competition are not permitted.
   d. Computers or other electronic devices may not be used to receive information from any source (coaches or assistants included) inside or outside of the room in which the competition occurs. Internet access, use of e-mail, instant messaging, or other means of receiving information from sources inside or outside of the competition room are prohibited.
   e. Penalty: Contestants found to have violated provisions A through C above will be ranked last in the round and receive zero NSDA points. Contestants found to have violated provision D (above) will be disqualified from the tournament and will forfeit all round credits and NSDA points. At NSDA district tournaments, the district committee will make the final decision concerning disqualification. In case of a
serious dispute or critical question, the acting tournament referee (representing the national office) may be contacted for a ruling.

6. **Liability:** Extemporaneous Speaking competitors accept full responsibility for the safety and security of their electronic retrieval devices throughout the entire course of any NSDA tournament (district or national).

   *The NNFL does not assume any liability for the computers. Students are welcome to use Kensington locks or other such devices to secure their computers in the prep room. Students, parents, and coaches should be aware that the students are bringing and using the computers at their own risk. The NNFL is not responsible for lost, stolen, or broken computers.*

7. **File Monitoring:** The NNFL retains the right to view and search any electronic retrieval devices to ensure compliance with any and all rules at any NNFL tournament.

8. **Sound:** Devices should be muted in the prep room. Contestants should not play games or engage in other distracting activities on their electronic devices in the prep room. Tournament officials may ask a student to power-off the device if it becomes distracting.

9. **Sharing Computers:** Students from the same school may share computers during preparation. However, communication among contestants during preparation time is strictly prohibited.