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WDCA STANDING RULES

100 DUES AND ARREARS

100.10 DUES

- (1) Annual dues shall be \$50.00

100.20 ARREARS

- (1) Those members failing to pay dues for two consecutive years shall have no voice or vote at meetings.
- (2) The Treasurer shall provide a list of those schools three weeks prior to each regular meeting and the WSDT.
- (3) The WDCA requests that dues for the following year be paid by the spring business meeting of the preceding year.

200 TOURNAMENT PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES

200.10 SANCTIONING OF TOURNAMENTS

- (1) Criteria for Establishing Tournament Dates:
 - A. The tentative schedule will be set at the WSDT. A school may keep their “traditional” weekend. “Traditional” weekend is defined as a weekend in which tournament was hosted in the immediately preceding year. This does not refer to previous or past years.
 - B. Schools should get contracts for their building(s) by April 15.
 - C. The schedule is set at the spring meeting and posted on the website.
 - D. “First come-first served” shall be the policy for filling open dates in the sched
 - E. Schools wishing to host a sanctioned tournament on an occupied weekend should send their written request to the WDCA President for consideration. The President will consult with the tournament directors whose tournaments are already on the calendar to determine if another tournament may be added.
 - F. No school should be allowed a second date on the original schedule until the Spring Meeting. Schools should request one date with alternative suggestions.

200.20 MAVERICK DEBATERS

- (1) While mavericks are disallowed at the WSDT, directors of invitational tournaments may allow mavericks to compete. However, such debaters are not eligible to win any rounds debated as a maverick.

200.30 TOURNAMENT RESULTS

- (1) Tournament Directors are required to send the Tournament Director’s Form and a copy of the results to the WSDT Tournament Director within one week following his or her tournament.
- (2) Returning these forms is required to retain sanctioned status for the following year

200.50 TOPICS

- (1) The topic for policy debate shall be the current national high school policy debate topic. The topic for Public Forum and LincolnDouglas debate shall be the current National Speech and Debate Association topics.

200.51 NOVICE POLICY DEBATE ARGUMENT LIMITS

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- (1) Plan texts in the novice division are restricted to those in the official packet. Until a date determined by the Executive Committee, the counterplan may not be run.
- (2) The use of kritiks is not permitted. In the event that a negative counterplan text is presented from outside the novice packet, the judge should not consider that argument in their decision, regardless of whether the issue is raised in the debate. If the affirmative team presents a plan that is not found in the novice evidence packet, or if the negative team presents a kritik, they should receive a loss. It is not required for the opposing team to make this claim to the judge. Judges must know what the approved texts are and should give a loss and notify the tabroom of any infraction.
- (3) Tournament directors should enforce these novice evidence packet restrictions.

200.60 DELINQUENT TOURNAMENT FEES

- (1) Tournament directors not receiving payment of entry fees in due time should write the principal of the nonpaying school requesting payment. If this yields no response, then they should write the superintendent of the school district.
- (2) If tournament fees have not been paid by the date of the WSDT in that academic year for tournament held through December, the host school will have the option of reporting the delinquent payment to the WDCA Executive Committee. This could result in the delinquent school being ineligible for that year's WSDT.

210.10 EVIDENCE STANDARDS

(1) Definitions:

A. Evidence is any statistic, idea, example, conclusion, etc., that is attributable to another person or persons.

B. Source Citation. Debaters must, at a minimum, orally provide the author's last name and date when introducing evidence in a round. After introducing the evidence, students may reference the evidence by using the author's name and year, or argument position within the contention (or a combination thereof) to specifically indicate which arguments are attributed to which author. Full written citations must be available and presented if requested by the opponent and/or judge.

C. Written source citation. A written source citation must contain all information provided in the original source material, including but not limited to:

Full name of the primary author(s) and qualifications

Publication Date

Source

Title

Date accessed (if digital evidence)

Full URL if applicable

Page number(s)

D. Paraphrasing. If a debater chooses a parenthetical reference for evidence, the same evidence standards apply to quoted evidence.

(2) Types of Violations

A. Distortion occurs when the evidence contains added and/or deleted words that substantially alters the original conclusions of the author(s).

B. Nonexistent evidence is one or more of the following:

a. The debater citing the evidence is unable to produce it when requested by the opposing team, judge or tournament official. In Public Forum debate, teams have a reasonable time, to produce the evidence in accordance with 210.10 (1) E. The time required to find the evidence is not counted as prep time and should not be excessive.

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- b. The source provided does not contain the evidence cited.
- c. The evidence is referenced parenthetically but lacks an original source to verify the information.
- d. The debater has the original source but refuses to provide it to their opponent, the judge or a tournament official, in a timely fashion as outlined in these rules.
- e. The debater fails to present a full citation when requested.
- C. Clipping. When a debater claims to have read more of a piece of evidence than was actually read in the round.
- D. Straw Argument. Intentionally reading evidence that argues a position that the primary author(s) presents for the purpose of refuting it, while, in fact, advocating for a different position.
- E. Original source(s) defined. Understanding that teams/individuals obtain their evidence in multiple ways, the original source for evidence may include, but is not limited solely to, one of the following:
 - a. Accessing the live or displaying a copy of a web page (teams/individuals may access the Internet to provide this information if requested).
 - b. A copy of the pages preceding, including, and following or the actual printed (book, periodical, pamphlet, etc.) source.
 - c. Copies or electronic versions of published handbooks (i.e., Baylor Briefs; Planet Debate, etc.).
 - d. Electronic or printed versions or the webpage for a debate institute or the NDCA sponsored Open Evidence Project or similar sites.
 - e. Regardless of the form of material used to satisfy the original source requirement, debaters are responsible for the content and accuracy of all evidence they present and/or read.

(3). Penalties

- A. The penalty for an evidence violation is loss of the round. In the case of a violation of rule (2), B (nonexistent evidence), the violating team has 10 minutes to produce the evidence for the WSDT Director or their designee upon notification of the violation. If the team does not produce the evidence in that time period, that team will be disqualified from the tournament.
 - a. In the case of an inadvertent violation of (D) (Straw Argument) above, the judge must disregard the evidence presented, however the offending team does not forfeit the round.
- B. Results from previous rounds will not be reversed if an evidence violation results in a loss/disqualification to a team.
- C. A second evidence violation in a subsequent round during the WSDT will result in an automatic disqualification for that team.

(4) Formal Allegation

- A. A team may make a formal allegation of an evidence violation during any of their speeches by indicating to the judge(s) that they are making an allegation and state the specific violation(s) they believe the other team to be guilty of. The following procedures must be used by the judge.
 - a. Once a team has made a specific allegation the judge must stop the round. Novice judges that those making a formal allegation understand the possible results of doing so.
 - b. After verifying that a formal allegation is being made, the judge must examine the evidence in question and render a decision regarding the allegation.
 - c. If the judge determines that the allegation is legitimate and a violation has occurred, the team committing the violation receives a loss by forfeit.
 - d. If the judge determines that the allegation is not legitimate and no violation has occurred, the team making the allegation receives a loss by forfeit.

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e. After rendering a decision on the ballot, the judge must inform both teams of the decision as well as the WSDT Director.

B. A team may question the credibility or value of a piece of evidence without making a formal allegation. These informal allegations do not require the judge to end the round and are evaluated the same way as any other argument presented.

C. A team or coach may make a formal allegation following the round if one was not raised during the round only for nonexistent evidence. This allegation must be made to the WSDT Director within 10 minutes of the collection of the last ballot of the round in that division. The judge(s) will be required to evaluate the formal allegation if at all possible. If the judge(s) are not available, the appeals committee (WDCA President, Past President, and President Elect) is authorized to decide if the allegation is legitimate by majority vote. The team losing the challenges receives a loss by forfeit.

(5). Appeals

A. Coaches may only appeal a decision on the grounds that the judge has ignored, misapplied and/or misinterpreted a rule in deciding an evidence violation raised in the round.

B. Coaches may not make an allegation of a violation that was not made by the debaters in the round.

C. Upon notification of a violation from the WSDT Director, coaches have 10 minutes to submit an appeal in writing.

D. An appeals committee comprised of the WDCA President, Past President, and President Elect will read the appeal and interview all related parties (coaches, judge(s) and teams) as soon as possible and render a decision before the conclusion of the next round. The appeals committee's sole responsibility is to decide if the judge ignored, misapplied and/or misinterpreted the evidence violation rules.

a. If a judge's decision is overturned and a formal allegation upheld, the challenged team receives a forfeit loss. If a judge's decision is overturned and a formal allegation is not upheld, the challenging team receives a forfeit loss.

E. If the evidence violation and appeal happen during elimination rounds, a final decision must be made before the next elimination round may begin.

F. If the evidence violation occurs in the final round, all debaters, coaches and judges are asked to remain for 10 minutes following the announcement of the decision in case an appeal is filed.

G. The decision of the appeal committee is final and binding.

H. If any member of the appeals committee has a conflict of interest (coach of one of the teams, hiring coach of the judge, etc.), members of the Executive Committee will be substituted in this order: Secretary, Treasurer, New Coaches Committee Chair, Novice Packet Committee Chair, Media and Communications Committee Chair, WSDT Operations Director.

220.10 ADJUDICATOR GUIDELINES

(1) At all WDCA sanctioned events including the Wisconsin State Debate Tournament, the following expectations will be met in addition to those detailed within the Bylaws and Standing Rules of the WDCA.

A. Any judge who finds him/herself in a conflict of interest including, but not limited to, judging a student from a school with which the judge is affiliated, shall notify the tournament director immediately.

B. A judge shall neither shorten rounds nor render a decision on the ballot until the completion of the round. The judge shall listen to the entire round in a fair and impartial manner before making a decision.

- C. The judge should decide the round based upon the arguments presented in the round and not upon his or her personal beliefs or biases.
- D. The review of evidence by a judge is not allowed unless there is a dispute by the opposition regarding the meaning, context, or validity of the evidence, or suspicion by the judge of falsification.
- E. A judge is expected to adapt expectations and award speaker points appropriate to the level of debate being judged. A judge should not give speaker points lower than 20 in policy debate and below the respective minimums for Lincoln Douglas and Public Forum.
- F. A judge shall fill out the ballot completely. Comments for individual speakers and a written justification for the decision shall be provided. Comments on ballots are to be instructive and constructive. The school of any judge that does not provide a written justification for decisions, as prescribed by the Tournament Director, will be required to pay \$15 to the WDCA Scholarship Fund for each round where no written justification was provided. The first notice would be sent by the tournament host to the coach of said school. Failure to respond and remit payment within one month will result in a letter being sent to the school's principal by the WDCA President. Repeated violations could result in disqualification from WDCA sponsored tournaments by Executive Committee decision.
- G. While oral critiques may be of educational value, lengthy oral critiques are unacceptable. A judge should, therefore, fully communicate his or her decision on the ballot and allow the tournament to proceed as close to the scheduled time as possible.
- H. The WDCA does not recognize "Games Playing" as a legitimate and educational paradigm by which a debate round may or should be judged. A judge may not, therefore, employ a "games player" paradigm to render his or her decision.
- I. Observers are allowed unless one of the teams objects. A coach of one of the teams may always observe. Active participants cannot observe a round in their division.
- J. No high school student may be used to judge any round at the Wisconsin State Debate Tournament nor at any WDCA sanctioned tournament.
- K. If while judging a round, the judge leaves to go and confer with his or her team, the team conferred with takes a loss. Any judge who leaves a round for any other, non-emergency reason shall be fined \$20 per round.
- L. Debaters shall not leave a debate round for any non-emergency reason or else they shall forfeit the round.
- M. Novice limited topics and a no kritik rule are in effect for all WDCA sanctioned events throughout the entire season including the Wisconsin State Debate Tournament.

230.10 ETHICS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE

- (1) The concerned parties shall discuss the problem fully and settle the issue with the aid of the Tournament Director, if necessary. Judges who are in violation of the Adjudicator Guidelines may be removed from the judge pool by the tournament director. Judges who are removed from the tournament are responsible for compensating the tournament for judging fees, providing a replacement judge, or removal of an appropriate number of their teams.
- (2) If the issue cannot be settled in accordance with the above, then the concerned parties and the Tournament Director shall file written statements with the committee. The committee shall judge the issue, contact the concerned parties, and mediate a settlement. The committee shall then draft written documentation of the mediated settlement and issue copies to the concerned parties involved and the WDCA Executive Committee.
- (3) If a satisfactory settlement still cannot be reached, then the chair shall inform the principals of the parties involved of the issue and call a hearing before the combined Judging Standards and Ethics Committee and the WDCA Executive Committee. The joint committee shall make a final

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determination on the issue and send written notification to the principals, coaches, and judges involved as well as all other WDCA member coaches.

- (4) If any of the concerned parties or the tournament director is a member of the Judging Standards and Ethics Committee or the WDCA Executive Committee, that individual shall not participate in committee duties in direct regard to his or her issue involved.

240.10 TECHNOLOGY USE

- (1) Computers and similar digital technology may be used in all rounds by both judges and debaters with the following:
 - A. Once the debate has begun, a team may not receive assistance, suggestions, or coaching from anyone while the round is in progress. This does not prevent debate partners from helping one another, but does prevent outside persons from helping a team during the course of a debate. Debaters may not receive electronic assistance from outside sources or perform electronic research during the course of a debate. If the judge is able to determine that a violation has occurred, the judge should complete the ballot immediately and notify the tournament director. Following notification, the Tournament Director will convene a committee of not fewer than three other coaches. This committee will then determine whether or not the team using the digital communication technology shall follow the ballot decision or be disqualified from the tournament.
 - B. Tournament hosts are not responsible for, or required to, provide electronic resources during the tournament.

240.20. EVIDENCE VIEWING

- (1) Paperless teams must have at least one working USB flash drive that is compatible with both mac and PC computers. This drive should be located before the first speech or time to look for it will be considered prep time. The paperless team has an obligation to provide a copy of the evidence read in the round to their opponents. The paperless team can provide this copy on a viewing computer, a hard copy if available, or a jumped electronic file, provided the jumped file is acceptable to the opposing team and they have a computer from which to access it. A viewing computer is defined as an extra device with at least a 7" screen that the document can be viewed on or the speaker giving their opponents the computer used during the speech. If the latter is executed, the laptop must be handed to their opponents at the conclusion of each of their speeches.
- (2) In policy debate, if all planned pieces of evidence are not be jumped before the speech/provided on a viewing computer, then the time to facilitate this transfer after the speech will be deducted from the speaking team's prep time. The additional evidence must be jumped immediately after the conclusion of the speech.
- (3) A USB drive is the only approved method of file sharing permitted by the WDCA. Wireless communication between teams and/or judges is not an approved practice.
- (4) Only pieces of evidence that the debater reasonably plans to read in the speech should be jumped (no jumping of entire aff or neg files). This evidence should be jumped in the order the debater intends to read it. Egregious violations of this rule may be grounds for the judge to decrease the weight given to that team's arguments. It is also grounds for the opposing team to make a formal allegation of nonexistent evidence. Failure to share read evidence is also grounds for a formal allegation of nonexistent evidence.
- (5) Evidence flashed to the opposing team must contain full citations, in MLA format. Any evidence that does not conform to this expectation is subject to a claim of falsification as outlined in the standing rules.
- (6) It is not required that paperless teams share the text of their case with the other team.

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However, any evidence utilized, whether by quotation or parenthetical reference must have proper citations available. It is strongly suggested that each narrative case includes a works cited page.

(7) In policy debate, time to jump speeches is a part of the prep time allotted to each time. The WDCA does not recognize “off time prep” as a valid, appropriate, acceptable, or actual practice. Prep time ends when the USB drive is given to the other team.

(8) At the end of the debate, debaters may not save anything jumped to them by their opponents without explicit permission. Violation of this rule may result in disqualification from the tournament upon an allegation made to the WSDT Director by the coach of either team.

(9) If the viewing computer malfunctions in some way, both teams have the responsibility of using reasonable steps to rectify the situation without prep time being utilized. If necessary, the paperless team must supply a different viewing computer.

(10) If a paperless debater has a technical failure during their speech, the debater may request the speech be paused and prep time be used to rectify the situation. The speech time will resume from the paused time when the speech resumes.

(11) When evidence is requested by the opposing team, the full article and/or complete URL must be made immediately available per rule 210.0

(12) A violation of these rules follows the procedures laid out in the evidence guidelines.

300 WISCONSIN STATE DEBATE TOURNAMENT

300.10 SITE AND DATE

The site and date of the Wisconsin State Debate Tournament will be chosen by the Executive Committee.

300.20 ELIGIBILITY

- (1) Schools whose dues are up to date in the WDCA as of December 1 and have met the qualification procures for any of the WDCA sanctioned divisions of competition (Policy Debate: Varsity and Novice; Lincoln Douglas Debate; and Public Forum Debate) are eligible to compete in the Wisconsin State Debate Tournament.
- (2) Teams may use local league or conference competitions to satisfy one qualification leg, provided teams satisfy the remaining qualification requirements. Local league or conference competitions must submit their results to the Tournament Director, in order for schools to claim a leg from these competitions.

300.21 PARTICIPATION

- (1) The Tournament Director shall post registration information and forms on the Web site by November 1.
- (2) In order for a school to compete, all appropriate forms and tournament entry fees or a school voucher must be submitted by the date established by the Tournament Director.

300.22 STUDENT PARTICIPATION

- (1) Any debaters who qualifies for the Wisconsin State Debate Tournament in the varsity policy division and has competed in the varsity policy division at three or more tournaments during the season is not eligible to compete at any other policy division of the Wisconsin State Debate Tournament.
- (2) Debaters may enter into a division higher than the division they earned a qualifying record in.
- (3) In team events, one substitution or additional debater per division is allowed provided the

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debater attended two or more sanctioned tournaments in any division and the student fits the criteria for the division (e.g. a novice substitute meets the novice definition).

310.10 TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR AND ORGANIZATION

(1) Organization and Responsibilities

- A. The Wisconsin State Debate Tournament will be run by a three-person committee consisting of a Tournament Director, who is the chair of the Tournament Practices and Procedures Committee, the Host, and the Operations Director, who is appointed by the Tournament Director with consultation from the Executive Board.
- B. 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.
- C. Individuals named to the state Tournament Committee should be published two weeks prior to the tournament and will be approved by the Executive Board.

(2) Tournament Director

- A. The responsibilities of the Tournament Director shall include: recording and verifying all qualifiers and entrants; coordinating and distributing all tournament information, including judge preference statements; making tab room assignments; covering tab room workers' judging assignments; coordinating and conducting the awards ceremony; publishing results; obtaining and organizing a qualified and adequate judge pool for preliminary and elimination rounds; screening judge qualifications (experience, years out, number of rounds, etc) and making adjustments to individual assignments where necessary;

(3) Host

- A. 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.

(4) Operations Director

- A. The responsibilities of the Operations Director include ordering awards, running the computer operations (securing a program to schedule rounds and judges), coordinating and centralizing all postings; maintaining a round-by-round paper trail and back up of pairings and results; etc.

310.20 TAB ROOM

- (1) The Tournament Director shall operate an efficient tab room.
- (2) The Executive Committee will serve in the tab room in a capacity determined by the Tournament Director, as well as others chosen by the Tournament Director with the consent of the President.
- (3) The Executive Committee shall determine whether or not the tab room will be closed to all individuals not associated in running the tournament.
- (4) Coaches will not be able to request changes in the teams or judges assigned to the rounds involving their students.

310.30 FEES

- (1) Fees for the Wisconsin State Debate Tournament should be adequate to cover the cost of the

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tournament.

- (2) If the WDCA annual membership dues are not paid prior to December 1, before the Wisconsin State Debate Tournament, a fine equal to the amount of the annual dues will be assessed in addition to a school's annual dues.
- (3) The school of a judge missing a preliminary round assignment may be fined \$35. The school of a judge missing an elimination round may be fined \$50. A school whose judge is late for a round may be fined \$15. All fines are at the discretion of the WSDT Director.

310.40 BAD WEATHER POLICY

- (1) In the event of inclement weather, the following policy will apply:
 - A. Any decision affecting the Wisconsin State Debate Tournament will be made three hours prior to the scheduled start of rounds for each division.
 - B. The following are some, but not all, of the options affecting the Wisconsin State Debate Tournament.
 1. Simple cancellation
 2. Postponement of the first round in a/all division(s).
 - a. In the varsity division, the number of preliminary rounds may be reduced.
 - b. Make-up rounds may be scheduled in all divisions for the evening of the last scheduled day of the tournament.
 3. For a one-day tournament, reduce the varsity policy preliminary competition to four rounds, then break to semi-finals. Also reduce the number of preliminary rounds in Public Forum and Lincoln Douglas.
 - C. Final determination shall be by mutual agreement between the Tournament Director and the WDCA President.

320.10 FIFTEEN-MINUTE FORFEIT RULE

- (1) Any team which is 15 minutes or more late for the posted start time for a round shall forfeit that round.
- (2) Any team which receives a win as a result of a forfeit will be treated as if it had received a bye.
- (3) Both a start and forfeit time will be posted for each round. "Start" is defined as the first affirmative delivering the first constructive speech.

330.10 VARSITY DIVISIONS

- (1) Varsity divisions are offered in Policy, Lincoln-Douglas, and Public Forum.

330.20 VARSITY POLICY DEBATE

- (1) Qualification Procedures
 - A. Debaters shall qualify for Varsity Policy Debate at the WSDT by obtaining a better than .500 record in the preliminary rounds at two or more sanctioned tournaments in the policy debate division. Schools must compete at three or more sanctioned tournaments, only one of which may be a local tournament [as provided in 300.20(2)]. Qualification runs with the debater, not the pair.
 - B. Schools may qualify an unlimited number of debaters in the varsity division.
 - C. Schools who have not qualified at least two varsity teams for the Wisconsin State Debate Tournament, may qualify two teams (each comprised of the same two students) by each student of those teams obtaining an even (.500) win/loss record or better at any two WDCA sanctioned tournaments in the varsity division at WDCA sanctioned tournaments.

- (2) WSDT Operations Procedure Varsity Division

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- A. During a time announced by the WSDT Director, all coaches must telephone or register in person to verify their entries, judges and preferences/strikes. Those who fail to comply may be given a loss in round 1 as a penalty.
- B. The following criteria will be used to run the varsity division.
 - i. Judge preferences should be entered and verified for all teams with 50% of the field designated as “A” judges, 30% as “B” judges, and 20% as “C” judges.
 - ii. No judge should see a team previously seen during the preliminary rounds.
 - iii. Rounds 3, 4, 5, and 6 should be power-paired high-low (based on speaker points) in brackets by the computer program, and judges should be randomly assigned by the computer using only the established judge preferencing system. An incomplete bracket is filled by drawing from the middle of the bracket below.
 - iv. Judge selections for all preliminary rounds should be solely determined by the computer program. If the computer leaves a judge slot blank, the next possible judge on the list should be selected and placed in that round (following the AA, BB, CC, AB-BA, BC-CB, AC-CA order). The only exception would be in a top bracketed round, where as a mutual preference may be selected that may force a non-mutual preference in a lower bracket.
 - v. Team tie-breakers used by the computer program should be used in the following order: wins, total points, ranks, high-low points, high-low ranks, double high-low points, double high-low ranks, opposition wins, a random variable.
 - vi. Speaker tie-breakers used by the computer program should be used in the following order: Highlow points, total points, double highlow points, ranks, highlow ranks, and double highlow ranks. If a tie still exists, duplicate awards will be given.
 - vii. In elimination rounds, the following guidelines should apply to judge placements: judge preferencing ought to be maintained; clean judges should be assigned as much as possible; judges can then be used to see teams that they issued wins to on the opposite side; judges can then be used to see teams that they issued losses to on opposite sides.
 - viii. In the event that computer technology is unavailable to schedule and tabulate the varsity division, every effort shall be made to adhere to the above criteria using team and judge cards.
 - ix. Electronic tabulation software as determined by the tournament director will be used.
 - xii. No rounds may begin after 9:30 p.m.
- C. In the elimination rounds, a coin toss by the two teams will determine the sides to be debated. The winner of the coin toss will decide on which side they will debate.
- D. In the elimination rounds, teams who have met previously or teams from the same school will be allowed to debate each other. If teams meet a second time, they must reverse sides.
- E. In the elimination rounds, panels of not fewer than three judges will be used in each round. A judging panel at least five judges is required for the final round.
- F. Team and individual trophies will be presented to all teams who participated in the elimination rounds. In addition, trophies will be presented to the top ten speakers.
- G. All teams with a winning record are eligible to compete in elimination rounds. If the bracket is incomplete as a result, higher seed teams are advanced without debating in order to preserve the integrity of the competition.

(3) Judging Obligations

- A. The WSDT Invitation will list judging obligations. Schools not fulfilling their judging obligations may be forced to reduce their entries until judging obligations are met.
- B. Paradigm definition: A paradigm statement’s purpose is to provide debaters with information regarding a judge’s preferences for style, argumentation, speed, etc., their

debating/judging background and other pertinent information. As such, it must be specific to the division and style of debate a judge is entered in.

- C. In a manner and by a deadline prescribed by the WSDT director, judges in preferenced divisions (LD and VCX) must submit a paradigm for the division in which they will be judging. Failure to submit a paradigm by the deadline may result in the hiring school's inability to preference judges in that division, at the discretion of the WSDT director. The WSDT director may require a judge/coach to edit a paradigm which does not meet the definition in (B) above.
- D. Within two hours of the posted start time for preliminary rounds, or two hours and fifteen minutes for elimination rounds, the judge must submit his/her ballot and conclude any comments given to the debaters pursuant to the Adjudicator Guidelines. Schools whose judges do not abide by this rule are subject to a fine of \$15. A judge may be removed from the judging pool for repeated violations, following the procedures in the adjudicator guidelines.

330.30 LINCOLN-DOUGLAS DEBATE

(1) Qualification Procedures

- A. Debaters shall qualify for Lincoln Douglas Debate at the WSDT by obtaining a better than .500 record in the preliminary rounds at two or more sanctioned tournaments in Lincoln-Douglas Debate. Schools must compete at three or more sanctioned tournaments, only one of which may be a local tournament [as provided in 300.20(2)].
- B. Schools who have not qualified two Lincoln-Douglas debaters to WSDT may qualify two debaters by those debaters obtaining a .500 or better record at two WDCA sanctioned tournaments.

(2) WSDT Operation Procedures

- A. Preliminary rounds will be flighted and power-paired based on the following:
 - i. 2 Random Rounds – 3 Power-paired Rounds if up to 14 entries.
 - ii. 2 Random Rounds – 4 Power-paired Rounds if 15 and over.
 - iii. An incomplete bracket is filled by drawing from the middle of the bracket below.
- B. All teams with a winning record are eligible to compete in elimination rounds. If the bracket is incomplete as a result, higher seed teams are advanced without debating in order to preserve the integrity of the competition.
- C. Judge preferencing equivalent to policy debate will be utilized.
- D. Individual trophies will be presented to all those who participated in the elimination rounds.
- E. The following criteria will be used to run the Lincoln-Douglas division
 - i. Rounds 1 and 2 shall be randomly assigned by the computer program.
 - ii. Judge preferences should be entered and verified for all debaters with 50% of the field designated as "A" judges, 30% as "B" judges, and 20% as "C" judges.
 - iv. Rounds 3, 4, 5, and 6 should be power-paired high-low (based on speaker points) in brackets by the computer program, and judges should be randomly assigned by the computer using only the established judge preferencing system. The only exception would be in a top bracketed round, where as a mutual preference may be selected that may force a non-mutual preference in a lower bracket. An incomplete bracket is filled by drawing from the middle of the bracket below.
 - v. Judge selections for all rounds should be solely determined by the computer program. If the computer leaves a judge slot blank, the next possible judge on the list should be selected and placed in that round (following the AA, BB, CC, AB-BA, BC-CB, AC-CA order).
 - vi. Tiebreakers for seeding used by the computer program should be used in the following

order: wins, total points, highlow points, double highlow points, opposition wins, and a random variable.

- vii. In elimination rounds, the following guidelines should apply to judge placements: judge preferencing ought to be maintained; clean judges should be assigned as much as possible; judges can then be used to see debaters that they issued wins to on the opposite side; judges can then be used to see debaters that they issued losses to on opposite sides.
- viii. In the event that computer technology is unavailable to schedule and tabulate the Lincoln-Douglas division, every effort shall be made to adhere to the above criteria using team and judge cards.
- ix. Electronic tabulation software as determined by the tournament director will be used.
- x. No rounds may begin after 9:30 p.m.

(3) Judging Obligations

- A. The WSDT Invitation will list judging obligations. Schools not fulfilling their judging obligations may be forced to reduce their entries until judging obligations are met.
- B. Paradigm definition: A paradigm statement's purpose is to provide debaters with information regarding a judge's preferences for style, argumentation, speed, etc., their debating/judging background and other pertinent information. As such, it must be specific to the division and style of debate a judge is entered in.
- C. In a manner and by a deadline prescribed by the WSDT director, judges must submit a paradigm for the division in which they are judging. Failure to submit a paradigm by the deadline may result in the hiring school's inability to preference judges in that division at the discretion of the WSDT director. The WSDT director may require a judge/coach to edit a paradigm when it does not meet the definition of a paradigm.

330.40 PUBLIC FORUM DEBATE

(1) Qualification Procedures

- a. Debaters shall qualify for Public Forum Debate at the WSDT by obtaining a better than .500 record in the preliminary rounds at two or more sanctioned tournaments in Public Forum Debate. Schools must compete at three or more sanctioned tournaments, only one of which may be a local tournament [as provided in 300.20(2)].
- b. Schools who have not qualified a public forum debate team to WSDT may qualify a team by obtaining a .500 or better record at two WDCA sanctioned tournaments.

(2) WSDT Operation Procedures

- a. Preliminary rounds will be flighted and power-paired based on the following:
 - i. 2 Random Rounds – 3 Power-paired Rounds if up to 14 entries.
 - ii. 2 Random Rounds – 4 Power-paired Rounds if 15 and over.
- b. All teams with a winning record are eligible to compete in elimination rounds. If the bracket is incomplete as a result, higher seed teams are advanced without debating in order to preserve the integrity of the competition.
- c. Individual trophies will be presented to all those who participated in the elimination rounds. In addition, trophies will be presented to the top ten speakers.
- d. The following criteria will be used to run the Public Forum division.
 - i. Each team will be allowed four judge strikes. The words "first year" will appear behind the name of each first year judge on the strike sheet.
 - ii. Rounds 1 and 2 shall be randomly assigned by the computer program.
 - iii. Rounds 3, 4, 5, and 6 should be power-paired high-low (based on speaker points) in brackets by the computer program, and judges should be randomly assigned by the computer. An incomplete bracket is filled by drawing from the middle of the bracket below.

- iv. Tiebreakers for seeding used by the computer program should be used in the following order: wins, total points, highlow points, double highlow points, opposition wins, and a random variable.
- v. Speaker tie-breakers used by the computer program should be used in the following order: Highlow points, total points, and double highlow points. If a tie still exists, duplicate awards will be given.
- vi. In elimination rounds, the following guidelines should apply to judge placements: clean judges should be assigned as much as possible; judges can then be used to see debaters that they issued wins to on the opposite side; judges can then be used to see debaters that they issued losses to on opposite sides.
- vii. In the event that computer technology is unavailable to schedule and tabulate the Public Forum division, every effort shall be made to adhere to the above criteria using team and judge cards.
- viii. Electronic tabulation software as determined by the tournament director will be used.
- ix..No round may begin after 9:30 p.m.

(3) Judging Obligations

The WSDT Invitation will list judging obligations. Schools not fulfilling their judging obligations may be forced to reduce their entries until judging obligations are met.

330.50 JUDGE PREFERENCING CONTINGENCY

- (1) When a school compromises 40% of the teams in any division and the tournament director determines that judge preferencing for that division to be unworkable, the tournament director, with the approval of the executive board, may replace judge preferencing with a judge strike system for that division at the Wisconsin State Debate Tournament.

340.10 NOVICE POLICY DIVISION

(1) Qualification Procedure

- A. Teams shall qualify for the novice policy division by obtaining a better than .500 record in the preliminary rounds at two or more sanctioned tournaments in the novice division. Qualification runs with the debater, not the pair.
- B. Schools may qualify an unlimited number of debaters in the novice division.
- C. Schools who have not qualified at least two teams for the Wisconsin State Debate Tournament, may qualify four students by obtaining an even (.500) win/loss record or better at any two WDCA sanction tournaments in the entered division.
- D. Novice is defined as a high school student debating his or her first resolution.

(2) WSDT Operations

- A. The novice division will be a two day, six round tournament. Teams will compete as individual teams and not as a school. Teams from a school, however, may not meet another team from that school. The novice tournament shall consist of two randomly paired rounds, followed by v-r powerpaired rounds. An incomplete bracket is filled by drawing from the middle of the bracket below.
- B. Teams will be made up of two students who will defend both sides of the resolution.
- C. All teams with a winning record are eligible to participate in elimination rounds.
- D. If the Novice tournament would run substantially longer than the Varsity tournament, the WSDT Committee is empowered to modify the length of the tournament by curtailing preliminary rounds or elimination rounds.
- D. Team tie-breakers will be consistent with the Varsity Division
- E. Speaker tie-breakers will be consistent with the Varsity Division

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F. No strikes or judge preferencing will be used for this division.

(3) Judging Obligations

- A. The WSDT Invitation will list judging obligations. Schools not fulfilling their judging obligations may be forced to reduce their entries until judging obligations are met.
- B. Within two hours of the posted start time for preliminary rounds, or two hours and fifteen minutes for elimination rounds, the judge must submit his/her ballot and conclude any comments given to the debaters pursuant to the Adjudicator Guidelines. Schools whose judges do not abide by this rule are subject to a fine of \$15. A judge may be removed from the judging pool for repeated violations, following the procedures in the adjudicator guidelines.

400 AWARDS

400.10 AWARDS AND NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

(1) The Awards and Nominations Committee shall solicit and receive officer, scholarship, and Hall of Fame nominations. The committee shall then determine Scholarship winners and Hall of Fame inductees following procedures outlined in the by-laws. The chair shall have the discretion to appoint a substitute when a conflict of interest involving an applicant or nominee exists.

410.10 HALL OF FAME AWARD

(1) Definition

The WDCA shall bestow upon a worthy recipient membership in the Coaches Hall of Fame on an annual basis.

(2) Selection Process

- A. The selection process will begin with each coach copying and submitting the nomination form from the Forms section of the WDCA Handbook.
- B. After receiving the nominations no later than April 1, the Chair Person of the Awards and Nominations Committee will ask for a resume from each nominee.
- C. The Awards and Nominations Committee shall make the final determination of the recipient.

(3) Selection Criteria

The selection criteria shall include, but not be limited to:

- 1. Consistent program
- 2. Consistent ethical standards
- 3. Professionalism: cares for students and upholds educational standards.
- 4. Promotion of debate as an educational and communicative tool.
- 5. Commitment and dedication to the cause of interscholastic debate in the State of Wisconsin

(4) Presentation

The WDCA shall award the recipient with a plaque of recognition at the Spring Meeting. In the event that the recipient is unable to attend the Spring Meeting, the plaque may be presented at the Fall Meeting.

420.10 COACH OF THE YEAR

(1) Definition

Each year, the WDCA shall bestow upon a worth recipient, a Coach of the Year Award.

(2) Selection Process

- A. The selection process begins with a nomination form for the award being sent out with the

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Wisconsin State Debate Tournament invitation.

- B. Nominations for the award shall be returned to the Chairperson of the Awards and Nominations Committee by November 15.
 - C. The Awards and Nominations Committee shall select three worthy candidates to be placed on a ballot for general membership voting at the Wisconsin State Debate Tournament.
 - D. At the WSDT tournament registration desk, coaches shall receive a ballot containing the top three nominees.
 - E. Coaches (one per school) shall cast their ballots on the Saturday of the WSDT with the Chairperson of the Awards and Nominations Committee.
 - F. The Awards and Nominations Committee shall be responsible for tallying the votes.
 - G. The Coach of the Year Award shall be presented at the WSDT Awards Ceremony.
 - H. The award shall be a plaque in the shape of the State of Wisconsin (or equivalent) and shall not exceed \$20.00 in cost.
 - I. The Media Communications Committee shall issue a press release to the coach's hometown, principal, and superintendent.
 - J. No coach shall be eligible to receive the award more than once in a five year period of time.
- (3) Selection Criteria
- The Awards and Nominations Committee will select the three candidates according to the following weighted criteria:
- 1. The coach must be a member in good standing of the WDCA (i.e. dues paid, no other outstanding issues, etc.)
 - 2. The coach exhibits a strong commitment to the educational value of debate. (20%)
 - 3. The coach exhibits a strong commitment to students of all levels and backgrounds. (20%)
 - 4. The coach exhibits a strong commitment to the WDCA organization and the ideals that it serves to promote. (20%)
 - 5. The coach demonstrates a willingness to lend assistance to other debaters, coaches, and tournament hosts and directors. (20%)
 - 6. The coaches team had demonstrated reasonable success in WDCA sanctioned tournaments. (10%)
 - 7. The coaches team members distinguish themselves in debate, attitude, and conduct. (10%)
 - 8. The nomination letter should outline the reasons for honoring the outstanding efforts of this coach.

430.10 STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

(1) Definition

Each year, the WDCA shall bestow upon three worthy recipients, a post-secondary scholarship award.

(2) Selection Process

- A. The process begins with each coach copying the application form from the forms section of the WDCA Handbook.
- B. Completed applications must be received by the Awards and Nominations Committee Chairperson by November 15.
- C. The Awards and Nominations Committee shall make the final determination of the recipients.

(3) Selection Criteria

The Awards and Nominations Committee will select the recipients according the following weighted criteria:

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1. Three year involvement in Policy, Lincoln-Douglas, or Public Forum debate (requirement).
2. Overall grade-point average of 2.75 or better (requirement)
3. Quality performance in debate (50%)
4. Involvement in other school and community activities (25%)
5. Statements from recommendations including leadership, character, and integrity (20%)
6. Neatness, completeness, and accuracy of the submitted application (5%)
7. Each member of the committee shall rate all of the applicants from first place to last place. The applicants with best ratings shall receive the scholarships.

(4) Presentation

The WDCA shall present the scholarship awards to the student recipients at the Wisconsin State Debate Tournament.

440.10 HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

(1) Any individual elected to the WDCA Hall of Fame or selected by the Executive Committee shall be an honorary member. Once that individual has retired from coaching, they shall be allowed voice but no vote in the legislative body.