



HOW TO JUDGE SPEECH



Speech and interpretation events focus on the delivery of the speech and the connection with the audience. As a judge, you will be evaluating these performances and providing feedback on how students can improve.

WHEN YOU GET THE BALLOT

- As soon as you get the ballot, click **START**.
 - This lets the tournament staff know you are available to judge that round.
 - Missing rounds may incur fees and penalties for the team.
- If you are ever lost in Tabroom, click your email at the top right corner to take you back to your dashboard.
- Clicking *Current Ballots & Panels* under the heading *Judging* in the right column will also redirect back to your ballot.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

- Memorization & Fluency
 - Original Oratory, Informative Speaking, and all Interpretation events should be fully memorized
- Solid Logic and Argumentation
- Characterization
- Passion and Energy
- Confidence
- Timing
 - Competitors receive a 30 sec grace period. Speeches beyond the grace period cannot be ranked 1st.
 - Competitors may ask for time signals

SCORING

- Provide comments to each student regarding what they did well and what they should improve on.
- Rank the competitors from 1-7 (best to worst).
- Provide speaker points for each competitor from a range of 20-50 (below average-outstanding)
 - Speaker points should correlate with your overall ranking.
- Submit and confirm your ballot.

RECOGNIZE IMPLICIT BIAS

- We are all influenced by implicit bias.
- Please take a moment to reflect on any biases that may impact your decision-making process.
- Feedback provided to students should be productive and educational.
- Comments provided on the ballots should center around the content of the presentation.
- Avoid any comments related to dress, appearance, pitch of voice, etc.

INFORMATION TABLE

- The table is available to help answer any questions.
- Pick up Impromptu topics here.



SPEECH/INTERP EVENTS



LIMITED PREP

- **Extemporaneous Speaking - 7min.**
 - Speakers enter the round after 30 minutes of preparation.
 - Speakers perform an analysis of current events involving proper citations of sources.
 - Reward creativity and organization used with superior citations delivered well.
- **Impromptu Speaking - 7 min.**
 - A speech about a random topic was provided by the tournament.
 - The speech must be prepared and delivered in 7 minutes.
 - Most use 2 for prep, 5 for the speech, but there is no rule.
 - Reward creativity and relevance to the topic provided.

PLATFORM SPEAKING

- **Informative Speaking - 10min.**
 - This event is an informative speech that may use visual aids.
 - The speech should be specific in what it informs you about.
 - If used, the visuals should amplify the ideas presented without being overwhelming.
- **Original Oratory - 10min.**
 - This event is a persuasive speech that the speaker has written.
 - Organization is the key here.
 - Topics should be specific problems and offer specific solutions, and the speech should be to convince you of the solution.

INTERPRETATION

- **Dramatic Interp - 10min.**
 - This event is generally a cutting from a play and is serious in nature.
 - Performances should have believable, distinct characters.
 - Are body responses appropriate?
 - Is there sufficient use of gestures appropriate to the character?
- **Humorous Interp - 10min.**
 - This event is usually a cutting from a play, or other literature and is humorous in nature.
 - The rubric is the same as above.
- **Duo Interp - 10min.**
 - This event is usually a cutting from a play for two actors.
 - The focus must be offstage – the actors neither touch nor look at each other.
 - The blocking and timing are very important in this event.
- **Program Oral Interpretation - 10min.**
 - A performance of thematically-linked selections chosen from two or three genres: prose, poetry, drama, etc.
 - Characters should be distinct.
- **Poetry Interpretation - 10min.**
 - A performance of thematically-linked selections of published poetry.
 - Characters should be distinct.
- **Prose Interpretation - 10min.**
 - This event is usually a short story or a cutting from a larger story.
 - Unlike Dramatic and Humorous, there may be a good deal of narration.
- **Original Spoken Word Poetry - 3min.**
 - A performance of poetry written by the student.
 - Final rounds require students to perform 3 poems.