



Tarheel Forensic League State Tournament Manual March 2013

The Tarheel Forensic League State Tournament Manual has been modified to incorporate adjustments for the **March 2013** State Tournament. All new changes for this year are highlighted in **YELLOW** throughout this manual.

I. Tournament Site and Date

The TFL Executive Committee shall determine the site, host school, and tournament date by January 1 of each school year.

The 201e State Tournament will be held on March 22-23, 2012 at North Mecklenburg High School in Huntersville, NC.

II. Events

The following events shall be held at the State Championship Tournament: Open Lincoln Douglas Debate, Novice Lincoln Douglas Debate, Open Public Forum, Novice Public Forum, Open Congressional Debate, Novice Congressional Debate, Dramatic Interpretation, Humorous Interpretation, Duo Interpretation, Original Oratory, Extemporaneous Speaking, Oral Interpretation, Impromptu Speaking, and Radio Announcing. Events will **ONLY** be counted towards sweepstakes if 12 or more students enter.

Sanctioned activities are defined as follows:

Open and Novice Lincoln Douglas Debate: A single debater or contestant shall be prepared to debate both the affirmative and the negative side of the announced Lincoln Douglas topic. Novice debaters must be in their first year of ANY debate/IE/forensic competition.

For purposes of the 2013 State Tournament, the topic to be debated in Lincoln-Douglas Debate will be the announced NFL topic for March-April.

Open and Novice Public Forum Debate: Two persons shall be prepared to debate both the affirmative and the negative side of the adopted resolution of the NFL for the month in which the TFL State Tournament occurs. Novice debaters must be in their first year of ANY debate/IE/forensic competition.

For purposes of the 2013 State Tournament, the topic to be debated in Public Forum Debate will be the announced NFL topic for March.

Open and Novice Congressional Debate: Contestants will consider some of the problems, which actually confront our lawmakers in a format patterned after our national legislative bodies. Novice debaters must be in their first year of ANY debate/IE/forensic competition.

Dramatic Interpretation: Contestants will present a cutting of serious nature from literature. The presentation must be delivered from memory.

Humorous Interpretation: Contestants will present a cutting of comic nature from literature. The presentation must be delivered from memory.

Extemporaneous Speaking: Contestants shall speak on a topic of current interest which will be chosen from three topics drawn thirty minutes before competition.

Original Oratory: Contestants will deliver an original oration from memory.

Duo Interpretation: Two contestants will present a cutting of serious or comic nature from literature. The presentation must be delivered from memory.

Oral Interpretation: Contestants will perform selections from prose and poetry with thematic purpose **in alternating rounds**. Presentations must be read from a manuscript. **A coin flip will be held prior to round one to determine whether the first round is poetry or prose and each round thereafter will rotate all the way through finals.**

Impromptu Speaking: Contestants will present speeches drawn from topics presented at the start of each round.

Radio Announcing: Contestants will perform newscasts and other programs just as they would be heard on the radio.

III. Conducting the State Championship Tournament

The TFL Executive Committee shall be responsible for conducting the State Championship Tournament. The TFL Chair shall serve as Tournament Director and may appoint, with the advisement of the Executive Committee, a Tournament Manager to coordinate tab room responsibilities and to assist with online registration and downloading and assigning names and codes to competitors. The Tournament Director for the 2013 TFL State Tournament is TFL Chair Keith Pittman and the Tournament Manager is Gail Nicholas.

ADULT SUPERVISION RULE

At minimum, the Head Coach of Record must be present with his or her school for the entire duration of the tournament. That coach is also required to be present for tournament registration on Friday afternoon. If anyone other than the official head coach will be supervising the team, the school must present the TFL Executive Committee a letter to that effect signed by both the head coach and school principal. If any team is found at any time without the coach of record or officially approved adult chaperone on campus during tournament hours, the entire school will be disqualified from the tournament and a letter will be written to the school principal. All teams must be supervised at all times while they are on the host campus.

Registration

Invitation and Online Registration: Invitations shall be posted online at SpeechWire (www.speechwire.com) by the TFL Chair, Tournament Registration Manager, or his/her designee approximately one month prior to the date of the State Championship Tournament. Registration for the 2013 tournament will open on or about February 19, 2013 and remain open until 5:00 pm, Wednesday, March 20, 2013.

Fees: The fees for the State Championship Tournament shall be determined each year by the TFL Executive Committee two months prior to the State Championship Tournament. Payment of fees shall be made either before the start of the tournament or at final registration. Fees will be posted on the SpeechWire registration site.

Judge Bond: Each school will submit a check separate from registration fees in the amount of \$100 to be held as a *JUDGE BOND*. This check will be returned to the school un-cashed at the end of the tournament if all judges from the school show up for all of their assigned rounds. See the section labeled *judge bond* later in this manual for specifics of how the judge bond will be implemented.

Late Adds, Drops and Associated Fees: NEW IN 2013: Unlimited add and drops are allowed until 5 PM Wednesday, March 20. The online registration will close to adds at 5 PM on Wednesday, March 20. At that time your fees will be **LOCKED** and no students may be added. Drops will still be accepted through Friday morning at 11 AM. Any drops as of that time will still owe the original registration fee. However, there will be no additional drop fee except for dropped judges. In other words, the amount listed on your invoice at 5 PM Wednesday will be what you owe , regardless of drops, unless you drop a judge.

Unreported Drops: Although there will be no additional drop fee beyond the original entry fee for reported drops, **ANY DROP THAT IS UNREPORTED AS OF ROUND ONE WILL BE CHAGED A \$100 PENALTY.**

Judge Drops: Any judge drops at any time will be charged the cost of an uncovered judge unless a replacement judge is provided. Unreported judge drops will be assessed an additional \$100 penalty over and above the uncovered judge fee.

Final Registration: Since SpeechWire will remain open until 11 AM Friday and since there will be no additional fees for reported drops, coaches do not have to come to the traditional formal final registration. Instead, **each coach is required to complete an “express registration” on Friday morning by 11 AM. This registration will be completed by phone to a designated tournament official. The special phone number will be provided to each coach.** Then, as long as all changes are made by the coach online through Speechwire, coaches may simply pay the treasurer and get materials from the TFL Chair in the tab room or other designated area upon arrival at the host school. **Please note: no team may participate in Round One before checking in and paying all fees that are due.**

Debate Topics (Lincoln Douglas Debate, and Public Forum Debate):

The Lincoln Douglas topic will be the NFL topic as announced for March-April (typically announced the first of February). The Public Forum topic will be the NFL topic as announced for March (typically announced the first of February). Specific topic wording can be found on the National Forensic League website.

Double Entries: Contestants entered in speech events falling into the “Individual Events (IE)” category may double enter another speech event. Double entry in an IE event and a debate event is not permitted.

Students entered in Lincoln Douglas or Public Forum may NOT double enter..

Students entered in any division of Congressional Debate may NOT double enter.

Substitutions: Name changes may be made up through the close of final registration at no charge to the school making such changes.

"Drops": No money shall be refunded for "dropped" entries. Once a contestant is listed on the confirmation of entry, registration fees be shall be assessed. This fee applies whether final registration fees are paid in advance, or on the day of the tournament.

"Cap": After the host school is selected, the TFL Executive Committee shall determine the largest number of entries that can be accommodated in Debate, Congress, and Speech Events. If the number of entries exceeds this maximum, a percentage of the total school's entry shall be dropped to reduce tournament size. If "drops" are necessitated because of the imposition of an event "cap," coaches shall be notified by e-mail as early the week of the state tournament as possible.

Students affected by an imposed "cap" will be allowed to enter other events if space is available at no additional charge to the school. Students "dropped" as a result of an imposed "cap" will **NOT** be charged fees for tournament imposed "drops" from original entries entered/posted on JOT.

Judges

Judges are NEVER under any circumstances to disclose the winner of the round or offer an oral critique to competitors. Judges should immediately return their ballots to the tab room without comment to competitors, spectators, or other judges who may be in the round. Judges should also not consult in any way with other judges serving on the same panel. Violations of this rule will result in TFL taking appropriate action against the school the judge represents or withholding of payment if the judge is hired. Violation of this rule is a serious infraction and will be handled as such by the TFL Executive Committee.

There shall be one judge assigned to each preliminary round and three judges assigned to semi-final and final rounds. Every attempt will be made to assign elimination round judges who have not previously heard a contestant appearing in assigned elimination section/round.

Should quarterfinal rounds take place, the number of judges used shall be at the discretion of the Tournament Director, based upon judge availability. **Every effort will be made by the TFL to place three judges in quarterfinal rounds. However, three judge panels are not guaranteed until semifinals.**

All schools are responsible for meeting judge requirements as follows:

1 Lincoln Douglas debate judge **for every 1- 3 LD debaters *or fraction thereof.***

1 Public Forum debate judge **for every 1- 3 Public Forum teams *or fraction thereof.***

1 Individual Events judge **for every 1- 5 entries *or fraction thereof.***

1 **designated Congressional Debate judge** if the school enters Congressional Debate. **Schools exceeding 10 Congress entries should provide TWO judges, one of whom must be qualified to be a Parliamentarian. Each school entering Congress must provide a minimum of one Congress judge. There are no Congress judges for hire. Schools entering Congress without judges will be asked to drop their Congress entries.**

NO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS OR STUDENTS WHO GRADUATED LAST YEAR MAY BE USED AS JUDGES DURING THE STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT.

The TFL Executive Committee shall aid a school in finding qualified judges if finding the necessary number of judges becomes impossible for a school. All requests for “hired” judge assistance will be assessed at the rate of \$80.00 each.

If a school anticipates the need to hire a judge, this request must be made of the TFL Chairperson (Keith Pittman) ***no later*** than Friday, March 1, 2013.

NOTE: The TFL cannot “hire” Lincoln-Douglas Debate or Congress judges. Each school entering Lincoln-Douglas Debate or Congressional Debate must supply the required number of judges based on the school entry. TFL Executive Committee members and/or other coaches asked to assist with the TFL State Tournament are not exempt from the requirement to provide LD judges to meet LD entries from their respective schools.

If the TFL Is unable to fulfill a school’s request for a hired judge, the school requesting such assistance will have to “drop” entries to bring entries registered and judge obligations in line with each other if it still cannot meet judge quotas.

JUDGE BOND: Each school will submit a check separate from registration fees in the amount of \$100 to be held as a *JUDGE BOND*. This check will be returned to the school un-cashed at the end of the tournament if all judges from the school show up for all of their assigned rounds. During the state tournament, if a school's judge fails to meet a judging assignment within fifteen (15) minutes of the designated time, the school he/she represents shall forfeit the \$100 judge bond. The team will then be assessed a fine of \$25 each and every time any of its judges fail to meet their assignment after the first offense in which the \$100 bond is forfeited. That amount will be billed to the school if the team does not pay prior to the awards ceremony. Results packets, trophies and

ballots shall be withheld for failure to pay said assessment. If the failure of a school's judge(s) to meet their assignment impairs the function to the tournament, students from that school may be removed from competition. [Should a judge hired by the TFL Executive Committee fail to meet the judging requirement, the hiring school shall not be assessed a penalty fee.]

PLEASE NOTE: All school judges are required to be available for the entire tournament, including elimination rounds as may be scheduled. When registering judges, each school should list judging preferences. Every attempt will be made to honor these requests. However, ANY judge may be asked to judge ANY event, should the need arise.

State Championship Tournament Tab Room

The TFL Executive Committee shall be responsible for the operation of the Tab Room during the State Championship Tournament. The TFL Executive Committee shall determine any other person(s) needed to assist in the Tab Room.

State Championship Tournament Participation and Eligibility to Participate in Elimination Rounds of speech or debate events and Super Congress

No student will be allowed to “break”/participate in an elimination round or scheduled Congressional Debate Super Congress at the TFL State Tournament unless he/she is present and participates in scheduled rounds or legislative sessions on **BOTH** days of the State Tournament.

Distribution of Ballots

The Tournament Director shall designate a place for judges to pick up and return ballots. Tab room personnel shall check all ballots for accuracy and completion (i.e. the judge has provided all information needed to properly record ballot) at the time the ballot is returned following the completion of assigned round.

Judge “Strikes”

During the 2013 State Tournament, the TFL will once again implement a strike system whereby all “strikes” must be submitted prior to the start of Round 1 of the tournament on Friday afternoon.

As soon as possible, or as late as the start of Final Registration, the State Tournament Registration Director shall make a list of all judges listed by schools and hired by the State Tournament.

Schools will be allowed up to a **maximum** of three (3) strikes which will be honored so long as the honoring of such strikes does not cripple the ability to run the State Tournament.

Strikes sheets must be completed by the adult responsible for students attending the State Tournament (i.e. the adult completing final registration) and must be submitted prior to the end of Final Registration. **Strike sheets received after the stated deadline will be honored ONLY at the start of Round 2.**

Protests and Disputes

The TFL Executive Committee shall have full authority to adjudicate disputes or interpretation of this manual, but may not change the rules of this manual during the State Championship Tournament. Violation of rules as stated in this manual met by any school may result in the disqualification of debaters or contestants. **The TFL manual may be updated by the committee up to the beginning of tournament competition, but not thereafter, as long as participating coaches are notified through email, website posting or announcement at the tournament that the manual has been revised from what was originally posted. However, absolutely no changes are allowed after the first round of competition has been posted.**

TFL VS. NFL AND/OR CFL GUIDELINES/RULES DISCLAIMER

When consulting the *TFL State Tournament Manual*, schools/coaches/contestants will see numerous references to NFL and/or CFL rules/guidelines being used with regards to the operation of various TFL State Tournament events. As is true throughout the year, NFL (and even CFL in some cases) provides a starting point for guidelines/rules used to govern the operation of various tournament events. Although the TFL honors and strives to abide by these rules during the operation of the TFL State Tournament, any infraction (or perception of infraction) during the TFL State Tournament is resolved solely by the interpretation/resolution reached by the TFL State Committee. **The National Forensic League and the Catholic Forensic League do NOT offer additional avenues of conflict resolution for TFL State Tournament events.** Additionally, the NFL District tournament rule that no round may begin after 9 PM does NOT apply at the TFL State Tournament. There is no cap on the time that Friday night rounds can begin.

Fact Checkers

The Tarheel Forensic League Executive Committee continues to reserve the right to place “fact checkers” in preliminary and elimination rounds of ALL events and during **ANY** session of Congressional Debate during the **2013** State Tournament.

Timekeepers

Unless the Tarheel Forensic League places designated timekeepers in the round, the judge shall be the official timekeeper of every round in both IE and Debate events. In rounds with multiple judges, one of the judges will serve as the timekeeper and that judge will be clearly announced to all competitors before the round begins. Judges **must** use a digital timing device and be able to show it upon request. Watches with only second hands or clocks with second hands in the room are not acceptable. In Congress, the elected presiding officer shall be the timekeeper, but shall be closely monitored by the adult Parliamentarian. The same digital timing device rule noted above applies to the student Presiding Officer. Students have the right to ask for visible and reasonable time signals from the judges and judges are expected to comply with requests for reasonable time signals. Although competitors in ALL events are allowed to keep their own time for their reference, the TFL Executive Committee recognizes whatever is recorded by the judge as the official time in the round. Different times recorded by anyone other than the official timekeeper (judge) will not constitute grounds for protest.

Cuttings

Contestants may use different cuttings or speeches from round to round. Copies of all cuttings or speeches must be brought to the State Championship Tournament. If a challenge is made **and** a copy of the cutting or speech is not present at the tournament, the contestant will be disqualified. Materials downloaded from the Internet are not allowed for use in competition.

Visitors

All **ELIMINATION** rounds at the TFL State Tournament are open to observers. Visitors (observers) will be allowed in **elimination** rounds of each event until the room reaches capacity, as long as the judges and contestants have an unobstructed area reserved in which no visitor can see the ballots being written by judges.

Preliminary rounds are CLOSED to observers except under the following conditions:

- 1) No **competitor** or **registered judge** at the tournament is allowed to observe before **elimination rounds**.
- 2) **Outside observers** (people who are NOT competitors, registered judges, or affiliated with any registered competitor school) will be allowed in any round if approved by the TFL Chair or Vice Chair. Schools or individuals wishing to observe rounds prior to finals shall submit a written request to the TFL Vice Chair (**currently Libby Carter**) for approval.
- 3) Observers will be identified by special numbered recorded observer badges. Observers may view rounds for educational purposes only.

- 4) Approved visitors as described above are allowed in the competition room until the room reaches capacity, as long as the judges and contestants have an unobstructed area reserved in which no visitor can see the ballots being written by judges.
- 5) No recordings, notes, or other records of any round (except those taken by an actual competitor in the round) will be allowed.
- 6) Any violation of this policy by any registered competitor/judge will result in the suspension of that competitor/judge from the tournament.
- 7) The TFL Vice Chair (currently Libby Carter) shall be in charge of the monitoring and enforcement of the visitor policy.

Visitors (observers) must not disrupt the round. Judges, official non-judging chairs, and the TFL Executive Committee have the authority to clear the room if necessary.

Final Round Non-Judging Chairpersons

Once again during the 2013 State Tournament, the TFL State Tournament Director reserves the right to assign **NON-JUDGING CHAIRS** to each final round.

Non-Judging chairs will introduce the round, ensure that all contestants and judges have seats, distribute ballots (judges will still return their own ballots to the ballot collection table/committee at the end of the round), and take responsibility for asking disruptive persons to leave the room if deemed necessary. These chairs will also officially end the round and clear visitors and competitors from the room quickly after the round is over so judges may privately complete their ballots in the room. To the extent possible, preference to the selecting of a Non-Judging Chair will be a person who is not affiliated with a contestant or team participating in the round.

Results Packets

The TFL will be using “speed ballots” at the 2013 State Tournament. This means judges will only be asked to provide a ranking in Individual Events, a ranking and speech scores in Congressional Debate, and a win or loss in Public forum and Lincoln Douglas Debate. No written critique ballots will be used. As a result, the traditional “results packet” will be fairly minimal in content.

A school shall be allowed to receive their results packet from the Tournament Director after the preliminary rounds have been completed, if:

1. No contestant from the school remains in competition.
2. The school has met all of its judging requirements. Keep in mind that all judges are required to stay through finals unless they are personally excused by the Tournament Director or Tournament Tab Room Manager. (Keith Pittman/Gail Nicholas).
3. The school understands that results packets may not be complete and must be accepted as is.
4. The school understands that additional ballots and results may or may not be mailed to schools that receive packets and depart early.
5. The results packet MAY NOT be opened or examined until the school's team leaves the tournament site.

Complete cume sheets and results will be posted online at the TFL Website (www.ncspeechanddebate.org) and Speechwire (www.SpeechWire.com) as soon as possible after the tournament's completion. The TFL Executive committee is not obligated to provide hard copies of cume sheets prior to their online release, but may choose to do so at its discretion.

IV. Operation of Events

ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY: The Tarheel Forensic League has voted to allow the use of electronic devices (except cell phones) in extemp prep, debate, and congress. These devices may not be shared between students like file boxes. **Each student using an electronic device must have his or her own device.** No internet access will be allowed. Cell Phone use will NOT be allowed. Students in congress and extemp will be asked to submit their phones at the beginning of each session.

A. Lincoln-Douglas Debate: In Lincoln-Douglas Debate, each debater shall be prepared to debate both sides of the announced resolution. Sides shall be alternated so that no person has more than three preliminary rounds upholding either side.

Ideally, no debater will meet the same debater a second time with the exception of elimination rounds in which case sides must be reversed.

1. *Number of Rounds:* There shall be five (5) preliminary rounds; followed by quarters, if necessary; semifinals and finals. It shall be up to the TFL Executive Committee to decide on the necessity of quarter- and semifinal rounds before finals. This information will be provided all schools prior to the start of the first round of competition.

2. *Format:*

6 minutes Affirmative constructive
3 minutes cross-examination
7 minutes Negative constructive
3 minutes cross-examination
4 minutes Affirmative rebuttal
6 minutes Negative rebuttal
3 minutes Affirmative rebuttal
Prep Time: 4 minutes per debater

3. *Definitions:*

- a. "Varsity" Debater: Any debater may participate in Varsity Lincoln Douglas debate.
- b. "Novice" Debater: Any debater in his/her first year of any debate/IE/forensic competition.

4. "*Byes*": *Byes* will be assigned randomly during preliminary rounds. However, the assignment of *byes* shall not be done in a manner that would force a debater to debate another debater from their own school in a prelim round, if avoidable. In any power-matched rounds, the bottom ranked debater that has not previously received a *bye* shall receive a *bye* for that round. In no case shall any debater receive more than one *bye* in the tournament.

5. *Method of Pairing*: Rounds 1-5 shall be paired following the scheme outlined in the following:

Rounds 1 and 2 shall be randomly paired (except in the case when a "bye" is mandated because of an odd number of debaters entered) in order to insure that each debater will debate one round on each side.

Rounds 3-5 shall be power-paired within side constraints. The method of power pairing shall power protect within brackets based on records from round 1 and 2 (and subsequently as necessary for rounds 3 through 5) rounds.

In the case of a tie in records, adjusted team points shall be considered, followed by total team points. It shall be up to the discretion of the Tournament Director how to even brackets if an odd number of teams share a bracket. The pulling up or down of a team into a different bracket must be done in a manner such that teams from the same school, or teams that have previously met, are not paired against each other, unless this is unavoidable.

These procedures will only be abdicated if tournament scheduling issues makes adhering to these guidelines infeasible per the discretion of the State Tournament Director (under advice and consent of the TFL Executive Committee).

Elimination rounds shall be power-paired based on win-loss records, such that the top seed debates the last seed. In the case of a tie in win-loss records, ties will be broken by consulting adjusted team speaker points (dropping the high and low scores), followed by total team speaker points, opposition strength, judge control variance, double high-low points, and by coin flip administered by the computer, if the tie cannot be broken otherwise. Brackets will not be broken to avoid teams from the same school debating during elimination rounds.

6. A “forfeit” loss or “no show” in Lincoln-Douglas Debate will be recorded as a “double” loss for determining wins and losses at the conclusion of preliminary rounds.

7. **NO** “low point” wins will be allowed in Lincoln Douglas Debate at the conclusion of any debate round.

8. **Official TFL position regarding Lincoln-Douglas debating styles and judge paradigms (revised March 2010):**

“In an effort to preserve the original spirit of Lincoln Douglas Debate, the TFL strongly discourages the practice of kritiks (arguing the wording of the resolution rather than the values in the round), spreading (creating long, drawn-out arguments with the expectation of an impossible line-by-line rebuttal), offering/expecting plans, counter-plans, or solvency, or any other policy debate techniques that are in conflict with the style originally intended for values debate. The TFL will support any judge who gives a loss to a competitor who employs these tactics in the round rather than debating the values inherent in the resolution.”

B. Public Forum Debate: Each team shall be prepared to debate both sides of the announced resolution. Speaking sides shall be determined by a “coin toss” to be completed by the participating debaters in front of assigned judge(s) before the round begins.

Ideally, no team will meet the same team a second time with the exception of elimination rounds. If two teams are scheduled to meet for a second time in an elimination round, a “coin toss” will be completed by the participating debaters to determine sides (in accordance with **NFL guidelines**).

1. *Number of Rounds:* There shall be five (5) preliminary rounds. It shall be up to the TFL Executive Committee to decide on the necessity of quarterfinal and semifinal rounds before finals. This information will be provided all schools prior to the start of the first round of competition.

2. *Format:*

First Speaker, Team A 4 minutes
First Speaker, Team B 4 minutes
Crossfire 3 minutes
Second Speaker, Team A 4 minutes
Second Speaker, Team B 4 minutes
Crossfire 3 minutes
Summary-First Speaker, Team A 2 minutes
Summary-First Speaker, Team B 2 minutes
Grand Crossfire 3 minutes
Final Focus-Second Speaker, Team A 2 minutes
Final Focus-Second Speaker, Team B 2 minutes
Prep Time: 2 minutes per team

3. *Procedural Guidelines:*

All constructive, summary, and final focus speeches shall be delivered from a standing position at a neutral location in the room (i.e. lectern placed between debate teams and facing the judge/audience). "Crossfires" following the first and second set of 4 minute speeches shall also be presented from a standing position. The "Grand Crossfire" will be presented with all debaters sitting at their respective desks.

4. *Definitions:*

- a. "Open" Team Public Forum: Any debater may participate in Open Team Public Forum.
- b. Novice Public Forum: Both team members must be in his/her first year of **any** debate/IE/forensic competition.
- c. Mixed Teams: Any mixed team (Varsity debater and JV debater by definition, must enter "Open" Team Public Forum debate.

5. "*Byes*": *Byes* will be assigned randomly during preliminary rounds. However, the assignment of *byes* shall not be done in a manner that would force a team to debate another team from their own school in a prelim round, if avoidable. In any power matched rounds, the bottom ranked team that has not previously received a *bye* shall receive a *bye* for that round. In no case shall any team receive more than one *bye* in the tournament.

6. *Method of Pairing:*

Rounds 1-5 shall be paired following the scheme outlined in the Lincoln-Douglas Debate Section, except that in that there are no side constraints, to the extent possible "power-powering" will begin with round 2.

ALL rounds will begin with a coin-toss in the presence of the assigned judge to determine sides and/or speaker position in the round consistent with **NFL Guidelines**.

Elimination rounds shall be power-bracketed based on win-loss records, such that the top seed debates the last seed. In the case of a tie in win-loss records, ties shall be broken by consulting adjusted team points (dropping the high-low scores), followed by total team points, and then win-loss records of opponents in that order. Brackets will not be broken to avoid debaters from the same school debating during elimination rounds.

Should the same two teams be paired for a second time in an elimination round, consistent with **NFL Guidelines**, a coin toss will once again be used to determine sides and speaker positions. [Note: In this situation it is possible that the two teams will debate the same sides as occurred when they debated in a preliminary round of the tournament.]

7. A “forfeit” or “no show” in Public Forum Debate will be recorded as a “double” loss for determining wins and losses at the conclusion of preliminary rounds.

8. **NO** “low point” wins will be allowed in Public Forum Debate at the conclusion of any debate round.

9. **Official TFL position regarding Public Forum debating styles and judge paradigms (revised March 2010):**

“In an effort to preserve the original spirit of Public Forum Debate, the TFL strongly discourages the practice of kritiks (arguing the wording of the resolution rather than the values in the round), spreading (creating long, drawn-out arguments with the expectation of an impossible line-by-line rebuttal), offering/expecting plans, counter-plans, or solvency, or any other policy debate techniques that are in conflict with the conversational lay style of debate originally intended for Public Forum. The TFL will support any judge who gives a loss to a competitor who employs these tactics in the round. Further, the TFL expressly prohibits all stylistic and argumentative practices in Public forum debate that run contrary to the rules set forth by the National Forensic league for Public Forum Debate.”

C. Congressional Debate: Schools choosing to enter Congressional Debate are strongly encouraged to submit appropriate legislation (bills or resolutions) for use all season long to the TFL Legislation Bank. Submissions are taken on or about the beginning of both the Fall and Spring semesters. The TFL Executive committee shall select legislation from this bank for use during the TFL State Tournament. All legislation submitted must be in accordance with the rules established by the NFL and the TFL Executive Committee or their designee's approval and shall be subject to committee approval. The TFL Executive Committee may elect to amend, revise, or replace legislation to allow for quality competition.

The first obligation of the TFL is to provide enough quality legislation for debate during preliminary sessions. If there is a perceived shortage of **high quality legislation available in the TFL legislation bank**, the TFL will arrange for a neutral person familiar with Congressional Debate to write additional legislation to be assigned to Super-Congress. This additional legislation will be made available by Tuesday before the scheduled start of the State Tournament and additional copies of Super-Congress legislation will be distributed at the end of Friday's preliminary session(s).

Definitions:

- a. "Open" Congressional Debate participant: Any Congressional Debate debater may participate in Open Congressional Debate.
- b. "Novice" Congressional Debate participant: Any Congressional Debate debater in his/her first year of ANY debate/IE/forensic competition.

1. *Congressional Debate Legislation:* Approximately 14 days before the official TFL Congress date, the TFL Chairperson or his designee shall post electronically via **JOT** a copy of the bills and resolutions, **or a list of reference numbers and a link to the TFL Legislation Bank**, which shall constitute the legislative docket for each legislative chamber. Neither the TFL Executive Committee nor any of the tournament staff will provide additional copies of legislation beyond the original packet posted online to be downloaded by participating schools. **The primary docket shall consist of 12 pieces of legislation with each school that submits legislation being guaranteed one piece of legislation on the primary docket. Should more than 12 schools submit legislation, the primary docket size shall be increased to a total allowing exactly one piece of legislation per school. Any legislation not selected by the Clerk of Congress and/or TFL Executive Committee for the primary docket will be placed on the secondary docket and can only be debated after the primary docket has had all of its legislation debated.**

2. *Apportionment of Congressional Debate Chambers:* Students will be randomly assigned to the various chambers to be apportioned. The goal is to split the entries up from each school in keeping with the ranking of congresspersons as entered.

3. *Number of Sessions and Time for Debate:* The number of legislative sessions and/or total time set for debate will be determined by the TFL Committee in accordance with **NFL guidelines**.

4. *Advancement to Super Congress:* At the end of the preliminary sessions, the top Congressional Debate competitors in Open and Novice Congressional Debate shall be advanced to their respective State Tournament Super Congress. The number advancing will be established once the number of participants has been finalized. The goal is to advance no more than one-third of a chamber's participants.

5. *Judges:* Each preliminary chamber shall be evaluated by two scorers and a parliamentarian, all of whom must be high school graduates. The finals chamber will have at minimum the same number of judges as the preliminary chamber, but the goal is to have a panel of a parliamentarian and four judges. Every effort shall be made to secure judges and parliamentarians who have been out of high school long enough to have never competed with or against members of the chamber. Job descriptions follow below:

- a. **Adult parliamentarians** shall be used in each chamber for the full duration of each session. These parliamentarians shall oversee the appropriate use of parliamentary procedure, ensuring that all student competitors are treated fairly by the presiding officer and by the chamber. Parliamentarians shall also keep precedence so the two judge scorers can focus on filling out student ballots. ***Although parliamentarians will not complete ballots for speakers, they will complete a preferential ballot at the end of each session***, as well as a ballot to evaluate the presiding officer. There will be one parliamentarian per chamber, including Super Congress. The parliamentarian will not switch chambers each session, but will be assigned to the same chamber until adjournment.
- b. **Adult Scorers** shall also be assigned to each chamber. Each preliminary chamber should have two scorers assigned in addition to the parliamentarian. At the discretion of the Clerk of Congress, the final Super Congress may have more than two scorers, but it must have at least two. Unlike the parliamentarians, the scorers will switch chambers after each preliminary session. The scorers will rotate ballots, thereby evaluating roughly every other speech, and assign scores to each speech they judge. However, scorers should keep a careful eye on all speakers because each scorer fills out a preferential ballot at the end of each session ranking the top eight contestants overall, regardless of whether the scorer filled out a ballot on them. A scorer may not score any student from his/her own team and should "pass" the ballot to his or her scoring partner. However, a judge may place a student from his/her own school on the final preferential ballot.

6. *Presiding Officers:* Each session will have TWO presiding officers who will serve exactly half of the session. There will be two elections per session. The winner of the first election gets to choose whether to serve in the first half of the session or the final half. At the end of each presiding officer's term of presiding, the parliamentarian and both scorers shall fill out ballots to evaluate the presiding officer. The ballots will award a score of 1-6 to be multiplied by the number of FULL hours presiding to arrive at the final score. This shall be the total number of NFL speaker points earned by the presiding officer for that session.

7. *Scoring Other Contestants:* Students speaking from the floor are assigned 1-6 speaker points per speech by the judge. All points scored shall count as NFL Speaker points. However, coaches should keep in mind the 24 point a day NFL maximum.

8. *Determining the Winners:* At the end of each session, each scorer and shall, without consultation, fill out a preferential ballot ranking in which the top eight contestants are listed in order. The Parliamentarian will rank EACH contestant in chamber from first to last ONCE at the very end of all preliminary sessions. The Clerk of Congress shall compile the results to determine a rank listing of preferred debaters. This shall constitute the order of finish. Any ties in rank will be broken by judge preference between those tied. After judge preference is considered, ties still remaining will be broken by the parliamentarian's ranking.

9. *Chamber Decorum:* Although parliamentary procedure does allow the rules to be suspended with a 2/3 vote, certain rules may never be suspended. In short, if suspending a rule causes any student competitor to be treated unfairly, that rule may not be suspended. This includes but is not limited to banning student competitors from the chamber ("closeting"), allowing the presiding officer to make a speech, adding new legislation to the docket, etc. In short, the purpose of parliamentary procedure is to ensure that all speakers are treated fairly and given equal opportunities to speak and to participate in debate. Thus, Parliamentarians should ensure that presiding officers are fair to all competitors.

There will be **NO** "open" chambers. Congresspersons must request and be granted a "personal privilege" to exit the chamber.

Agenda setting shall only be done by a Ways and Means committee consisting of **no more** than one member per school. Violations of this rule should be immediately reported to the tab room. The agenda chosen by Ways and Means must then be approved by a 2/3 vote of the chamber.

10. Consistent with ***NFL Congressional Debate Guidelines***, there will be a mandatory 1 minute set aside for cross-examination after every speech, except for authorship and first negative speeches will still have a 2 minute cross-examination period in place. This required cross-examination time shall begin at the conclusion of the speech [i.e. if a speaker speaks for 1:45, the 1 minute for cross-examination will begin at the conclusion of the speech. The extra 1:15 of speech time would not be added to the pre-set cross examination time.]

The TFL will use the ***Direct Questioning*** method of cross examination. This method works as follows:

- Total CX time is divided into 30 second increments. Person called on may ask as many questions as possible within 30 second period, then on to next questioner for 30 seconds.
- 2 minutes total time for first aff and 1st neg. One minute total for all other speeches
- PO keeps separate precedence chart for questioning. This chart has nothing to do with speeches. It ensures that everyone has a chance to

ask questions. Precedence for this goes by number of times a person is called on to question, NOT number of questions actually asked.

- The only exception to precedence on questioning is that the person who gave the speech immediately preceding the speaker being questioned has automatic right to the first 30 seconds if they want it. However, they may pass on that opportunity.
- If a person doesn't use their entire 30 seconds, it is surrendered to another questioner who will consume the remaining time. For example, first questioner uses only 15 seconds. Second questioner still gets 30 seconds, but a third questioner will be called on to use the 15 seconds that the first questioner left unconsumed.

D. Interpretation: Humorous, Dramatic, Duo

1. *Number of Rounds:* There shall be five (5) preliminary rounds; quarters, if needed; semi finals and finals. School constraints will be observed in as much as possible given the entries received. [Traditionally, a MINIMUM of 24 entries are required in an event to necessitate the running of semi-finals.]

2. *Sectioning:* In individual events, no more than eight (8) and no fewer than four (4) contestants shall be scheduled in each section.

3. *Speaking Order:* The speaking order of contestants in individual events shall be assigned randomly with every effort made to vary the order for each individual speaker as much as possible.

4. *Method of Advancing:* It is the goal in all individual events and Duo Interp to advance twelve (12) contestants into Semi-Final rounds. If a tie exists, TFL is prepared to advance *up to* fourteen (14) contestants before resorting to tie-breakers.

Results of ranks + decimal conversion will be computed for the five (5) preliminary rounds. The lowest prelim rank will be dropped. If a tie exists, the lowest dropped rank will be added back in to break the tie. These results shall be used to determine semi-final or final round participants.

5. *Pairings:* Rounds 1-5 shall be randomly scheduled. The number placed in each section of semis (if held) shall be equal or within one. In semis, every reasonable effort shall be made to minimize the number of contestants from the same school competing against each other.

6. *Divisions:* Humorous Interpretation shall use material from comic selections and Dramatic Interpretation shall use material from serious selections. Duo Interpretation may use material which is either comic or serious in nature.

7. *Presentation*: Interpretation shall be memorized with no use of physical objects or costumes. Duo Interpretation selections must be presented by the same two people throughout the tournament. Each duo contestant may present more than one character but even distribution of material must be maintained. In all interpretation events, movement should be purposeful. Full body gesturing is permitted.

8. *Selections*: Cuttings shall be from copyrighted and/or published novels, short stories, scripts, poetry, or other media. Adaptations may be made for the purpose of continuity only. A contestant must name the author and title of the work from which the cutting was made. No contestant may use a cutting from the same source, which he/she used in a contest prior to the current school year.

9. *Availability of Selections*: Each contestant shall have a copy of his/her selection at the State Championship Tournament. This copy shall include complete bibliographic information. The TFL committee reserves the right to ask for a copy of this at any time. Failure to produce this document when requested may result in disqualification.

10. *Time Limits*: All Dramatic, Humorous, and Duo interpretation performances shall be a maximum of 10 minutes in length. A 30 second grace period shall be allowed. Any student exceeding the 30 second grace period cannot receive a ranking of "1" in the round.

E. Oral Interpretation

NOTE: Contestants will perform selections of prose/poetry in alternating rounds. A coin flip will be held prior to round one to determine the order.

1. Number of Rounds: same as interpretation.
2. *Sectioning*: same as interpretation.
3. *Speaking Order*: same as interpretation.
4. *Method of Advancing*: same as interpretation.
5. *Pairings*: same as interpretation.
6. *Availability of Selections*: same as interpretation.
7. *Time Limits*: same as interpretation (a maximum of 10 minutes in length with a 30 second grace period; any student exceeding the 30 second grace period cannot receive a ranking of "1" in the round).

8. *Definitions:*

- a. *Prose:* Prose expresses thought through language recorded in sentences and paragraphs. Prose includes fiction (short stories, novels) and nonfiction (articles, essays, journals, biographies).
- b. *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 relies on verse and stanza form.

10. *Selections:* Each contestant must be prepared to present both a program of only prose, and a program of only poetry in alternating rounds. Only published printed works may be used. ***No play scripts may be used.***

11. *Presentation:* Performances must be from a manuscript (which may be in a folder). Reading from a book or magazine is not permitted. Contestants must name the author and title of the work(s) from which his/her cutting has been made. All contestants are expected to keep both feet on the floor during the entirety of the oral interpretation performance.

F. Original Oratory

1. *Number of Rounds:* same as interpretation.
2. *Sectioning:* same as interpretation.
3. *Speaking Order:* same as interpretation.
4. *Method of Advancing:* same as interpretation.
5. *Pairings:* same as interpretation.
6. *Presentation:* Original Oratory shall consist of only memorized orations actually composed by the contestant. No visual aids are permitted.
7. *Selections:* Any appropriate subject may be used for an Original Oration. No contestant may use an oratory he/she used in a contest prior to the current school year. No more than 150 words of the oration may be directly quoted from any other speech or writing; such quotations shall be identified in a typewritten copy of the oratory. Extensive paraphrasing of other sources is prohibited.

8. *Availability of Speech Text:* Each contestant must have a typewritten copy of his/her speech at the State Championship Tournament with appropriate MLA citations and complete Works Cited page. The TFL committee reserves the right to ask for a copy of this at any time. Failure to produce this document when requested may result in disqualification.
9. *Time Limits:* Original oratory presentations shall be a maximum of 10 minutes in length with a 30 second grace period; any student exceeding the 30 second grace period cannot receive a ranking of "1" in the round.

G. Extemporaneous Speaking

Guidelines concerning the use of computers and other forms of aid in the Extemp Prep Room in preparation for participation in the 2013 State Tournament

Extemporaneous speaking contest: TFL will allow the use of computers and electronic devices (except cell phones) in extemp prep, debate, and congress. Computers may not be shared between students like file boxes. **Each student using an electronic device must have his or her own device.** No internet access will be allowed. Students in congress and extemp will be asked to submit their phones at the beginning of each session. The TFL is not obligated to provide electrical outlets for student laptops in the prep room and assumes no liability for damage, loss or theft of any **electronic device** used by students in the prep room. **Cell phones shall be surrendered to the Extemp Prep Room Coordinator immediately upon entering the prep room and shall be returned to the competitor upon completion of the round.**

Any contestant in Extemporaneous Speaking found to have received unauthorized aid will upon the first offense forfeit the particular round in which the offense occurred receiving a rank of 9 for that round. Depending on the seriousness of the offense the student may be subject to instant disqualification from the tournament per the discretion of the tournament director and the TFL Protest Committee. (This option is most likely to be utilized in cases of students using pre prepared speeches or outlines.) Any subsequent violation after the original offense will result in automatic disqualification from the tournament. **Unauthorized aid is defined as any aid from a prohibited source which will include, but not necessarily be limited to, pre prepared speeches or outlines, sources that have been annotated in violation of TFL guidelines, discussions with others about the speech topic, discussion with students yet to draw about potential speech topics, assistance of any kind from other students at any time after the topic is drawn, and access to sources via the internet or other electronic devices that are prohibited by TFL rules.** Any student found to be using an **electronic device** with an active internet link, even without evidence of that link be used to access unauthorized sources, will be given a warning on the first offense; and upon the second offense will be deemed to have received unauthorized aid and will be subject to the penalties mentioned above.

1. Number of Rounds: same as interpretation.
2. Sectioning: same as interpretation.
3. Speaking Order: same as interpretation.
4. Topics: Topics shall be drawn from state, national, and international issues that have been in the news in the six (6) month period.
5. Pairings: same as interpretation.
6. Presentation: When giving the speech, no visual aids are permitted. No note cards are allowed to be used in rounds.
7. Preparation Time: 30 minutes before the contest is scheduled to begin, the first speaker in each section shall draw three topics, choose one, and return the other two to the envelope. The other contestants shall draw in like manner, in the order of speaking, at intervals of seven minutes. The entire list of topics shall be used for drawings each round. A contestant drawing a topic on which he/she has spoken previously in the tournament shall return it and draw a replacement topic. As soon as each speaker has chosen his/her topic, the contestant shall withdraw and prepare. Consultation between contestants shall not be permitted. Use of published printed material and intact, uncut photocopied (free of annotation) copies of original sources shall be permitted.
8. Preparation Time: Prep time begins the moment the three topics are drawn. Any time spent deciding which topic to choose counts as part of the contestant's prep time.
9. Time Limits: Speeches shall be from 4-7 minutes in length with a 30 second grace period; any student exceeding the 30 second grace period cannot receive a ranking of "1" in the round.

H. Impromptu Speaking

1. Number of Rounds: same as interpretation.
2. Sectioning: same as interpretation.
3. Speaking Order: same as interpretation.
4. Pairings: same as interpretation.
5. Topics: Topics shall be drawn from a variety of topic areas, including (but not limited to) proverbs, abstract words, events, quotations, famous people, popular culture, etc.

6. Drawing: Five minutes before the speech is to begin, the first speaker shall draw three topics, choose one, and return the other two. The other contestants shall draw in like manner at the conclusion of the previous speaker's speech. The same list of topics shall be used for the drawing by each section. A different subject/topic area will be used for each round.
7. Preparation: As soon as a topic is chosen, the contestant will be afforded to prepare a speech without consultation and without references to prepared notes.
8. Presentation: When giving the speech, no visual aids are permitted. No note cards are allowed to be used in rounds.
9. PrepTime: Prep time begins the moment the three topics are drawn. Any time spent deciding which topic to choose counts as part of the contestant's prep time.
10. Time Limits: There is NO minimum qualifying time, but the contestant must cover the subject adequately. Maximum time for speech is 5 minutes with a 30 second grace period; any student exceeding the 30 second grace period cannot receive a ranking of "1" in the round.

I. Radio Announcing

1. Number of Rounds: same as interpretation.
2. Sectioning: same as interpretation.
3. Speaking Order: same as interpretation.
4. Pairings: same as interpretation.
5. Topics: Competitors will prepare different radio 'sessions' for each round based on the guidelines established by the TFL Executive Committee .
6. Speech Description: Students shall perform a radio session exactly as it would be heard on a real radio session based on the topic area given.
7. Time Limit: Since there is no grace period for a "real world" radio broadcast, a strict three minute limit will be enforced. A five second grace period is allowed, but not encouraged. Any presentation under 2:55 or over 3:05 shall be ranked last by the judge, regardless of quality. The judge will give a 3-2-1 countdown at the beginning of the round, after which the official time begins.
8. Contestant aids: Competitors may use a stopwatch to keep track of their own time and they are allowed to bring in non-electric aids including but not limited to notes, articles, books, magazines and printouts.

9. Special presentation rules:
 - a.. Since this is a LISTENING event designed to be like "real" radio, judges should be SEATED with their BACK TO THE CONTESTANT.
 - b. Like Extemp, contestants are to enter the room to present their radio sessions to the judge ONE AT A TIME. Contestants should wait outside the room until the contestants prior to them are finished.

V. Protest Procedures

- A. Coaches believing a rules violation has occurred have a right to file a protest with the TFL Executive committee. The protest must be filed by one of the coaches of record for the school at the earliest possible point after the perceived infraction occurs. The TFL Executive Committee reserves the right to refuse to hear any protest in which an unnecessary delay has occurred before filing the protest. Absolutely no protests will be heard by students or adults who are not previously listed as a coach of record.
- B. When submitting a protest, the coach should give the exact details of the incident in question and the contestant(s)/team(s) involved (by CODE only, not by school or individual competitor name), along with a specific reference to the section of the TFL manual that addresses the concern. This must be submitted to the TFL Vice Chairperson in writing and signed by the coach of record. A protest committee consisting of the TFL Vice Chairperson and two other members of the Executive Committee whose contestants/teams are not involved in the protest shall hear the protest and deliberate on it before making a final decision. In the event that the TFL Vice Chairperson has a vested interest in the outcome of the protest, the TFL Chairperson or his designee will serve in place of the Vice Chairperson for that particular protest hearing. The Vice Chairperson or his designee shall personally contact the involved coach(es) with the decision immediately after a ruling has been made.
- C. Although it is the strong position of the TFL Executive committee that the protest committee rulings should be final, coaches wishing to appeal the protested decision may do so by finding two other members of the Executive committee who agree that the protest warrants being heard by the full seven member Executive Committee. This method of appeal is strongly discouraged and should be used only in the most extreme circumstances.
- D. Before filing a protest, coaches should remember that for purposes of the TFL State Championship Tournament, the rules contained in this manual supersede any contradictory NFL rules or "local" tournament rules unless otherwise stated in this manual. In short, there is no recourse for appeal to the National Forensic League or Catholic Forensic League following the final decision by the TFL Executive Committee.

VI. Recognition

- A. Awards shall be given to contestants in the final rounds of all individual events.
- B. In Congressional Debate, an appropriate award will be given to the “Best Presiding Officer” in each preliminary chamber. In addition, certificates will be presented to each congressperson advancing to the Super Congress and appropriate awards will be given to the top-six congresspersons at the conclusion of the Super Congress.
- C. In Debate events, Lincoln-Douglas Debaters and Public Forum Debate teams and advancing to elimination rounds will receive appropriate awards. [There will be **NO** recognition of individual “speakers” in the TFL State Tournament.]
- D. Purchasing Awards: The TFL Executive Committee, or designated representative, shall determine where the trophies are to be purchased and by whom.

VII. Sweepstakes Awards

A. *The Governor’s Cup (Overall Sweepstakes)*

Number of Awards: First through Fifth Place School Awards.

B. *Steven Davis Excellence in Debate/ Kurt Earnest Excellence in Speech*

Number of Awards: First, Second and Third place School Awards for both.

C. *The Randall Shaver Excellence in Forensics (demonstrated by the smallest one third of schools with at least five entries).*

This award has been created by the TFL Executive committee to recognize up to three schools at the State Tournament that are in the smallest one third of teams in attendance based on total entries (minimum of five entries to be eligible). The awards will be based upon sweepstakes points earned by the eligible schools during student performance/participation in the State Tournament.

VIII. Sweepstakes Formula

Please examine the table on the following page for specifics.

On Friday, prior to the start of the first preliminary round, the TFL Chair, with the advisement of the Tournament Manager and the TFL Executive Committee, shall determine what level of elimination round is necessary in each event, based upon final entry numbers. This information shall be clearly posted for students and coaches prior to the start of round one.

Premise: All events are “equal”, therefore there is no attempt to **balance** disciplines, etc., in the following formula. In addition, an effort will be made to reward the “best of the best” in all events/disciplines AND only “reward” **success** when competitive rounds are held.

In the event of an unbreakable tie in any event, duplicate points shall be awarded for that place, but the number of total places shall remain the same. For example, if the unbreakable tie is for fourth place, points would be awarded for first, second, third, fourth, fourth (again), and sixth place, but no fifth. This assures that the true sixth place finisher remains in sixth place. The exception would be if the unbreakable tie was for sixth place, in which case seven total contestants would be awarded points after the sixth place points are duplicated.

The latest revision to the sweepstakes formula appears on the next page.

**TFL State Championship Sweepstakes Formula
Last Revision February 2012**

INDIVIDUAL EVENTS POINTS

Champion: 20
Runner-up: 16
3rd Place: 12
4th Place: 8
5th Place: 6
6th Place: 4

- If semifinals are held, all non-advancing semifinalists receive two points.
- If quarterfinals are held, all non-advancing quarterfinalists receive one point.
- No semifinals or quarterfinals points awarded if the round is not held.

CONGRESS POINTS:

Champion: 20
Runner-up: 16
3rd Place: 12
4th Place: 8
5th Place: 6
6th Place: 4

- All finalists not in the top six receive two points.

DEBATE (LD & PFD) POINTS (only if rounds are held for each level):

Champion:	20
Runner-up:	16
Non-advancing semifinalists (2):	10
**Non-advancing quarterfinalists (4):	5
**Non-advancing octofinalists (8)	2

DEBATE (LD & PFD) POINTS (If quarterfinals or octofinals are NOT held):

**If quarters or octos are not held and no award is given, there will be no sweepstakes points awarded at that level and the formula begins at the next level up.

**If the round is not held, but a trophy is still awarded for quarters or octos, the “non-advancing” teams will receive only TWO points for quarters and ONE point for octos. Semis and finals points remain the same, regardless of whether the round is held.

**No team with a losing record will advance to an elimination round or receive sweepstakes points. Rather, a BYE will be issued to the higher seed, which will automatically advance to the next elimination round.

IX. Special Awards

- A. **Mildred Hussey Award:** This award shall be given to an active debate and speech coach and shall constitute the "Coach of Year" award for North Carolina. The nomination / election process will be same as for the selection of TFL Committee members. In the event of a tie, a second ballot shall be taken by the membership between the tied coaches in attendance at the State Championship Tournament.
- B. **Sam Ervin Free Speech Award:** This award shall be given to any national or world figure or organization that has contributed to free speech. This award constitutes the recognition by the Tarheel Forensic League of North Carolina of an individual who exemplifies the essence of the right of free speech. In order for a nominee's name to appear on the ballot, at least two schools must nominate the person or organization. In the event of a tie, a second ballot shall be taken by the membership between the tied persons at the State Championship Tournament. The award shall be delivered to the winner by the TFL Chairperson. This award will not be given if there are insufficient nominees. Additionally, nominees may be removed from the ballot if the TFL Executive determines that a nominee is not appropriate for this honor.
- C. **Virginia Sutherland Circle of Honor:** This award may be presented to an individual or group who is recognized by the TFL Executive Committee as having contributed substantially to the long-range benefit of the TFL (see Constitution). This action must be considered at a regular scheduled meeting of the TFL Executive Committee.
- D. **John Woollen/Tarheel Forensic League Student of the Year:**
The Tarheel Forensic League wishes to recognize the accomplishments of our student members who exemplify the National Forensic League Code of Honor, a dedication to the art of speech and debate, and a strong commitment to the values of the NFL. Each year, coaches will nominate deserving graduating seniors for the Tarheel Forensic League Student of the Year. Our hope is to annually recognize students who personify the codes of integrity, humility, respect, leadership, and service.
Each nominee must:
- Be a graduating senior from a Tarheel Forensic League member school.
 - Have competed for two or more years in speech and debate
 - Demonstrate good academic standing
 - Exhibit team leadership
 - Display a dedication to community service
 - Uphold the NFL Code of Honor
- The TFL Student of the Year will receive a \$200 cash award and a commemorative plaque. Each member school's coach may nominate ONE student for the award, and the TFL Executive Committee will convene during the State Tournament to review all applications and choose the recipient of the honor.

E. *The Jackie Foote Award of Excellence in Congressional Debate*

This award has been established by the Tarheel Forensic League to honor the congressional competitor who best exemplifies what Congressional Debate stands for. The winner should be a “good person speaking well.” Anyone who competes in Congressional Debate at the TFL State Championship Tournament is eligible to win that year, whether the person made it to Super Congress or not. The following are the qualities that must be exhibited in the recipient:

Above all else, the winner should demonstrate the highest ideals of character. He or she should not necessarily be the most popular competitor or the most successful, but must be held in the highest esteem of his or her fellow congresspersons. The award winner should be known for honesty in speech writing, procedural fairness, and ethical behavior both in debate and in his or her daily life. This honoree should be a suitable example for all students and coaches in North Carolina as a model citizen.

Congress is unique among all the events in that competitors can actively work to help or hurt their teammates through their actions in chamber. The winner should demonstrate leadership among his or her team. This individual should understand the dynamics of in-chamber strategy and be able to effectively keep team members voting as a single unit on procedural issues to maximize their effectiveness. An ability to negotiate conflicting interests among team members or various participants in a chamber is desirable in the honoree.

The winner should demonstrate a genuine desire to teach novices and a concern for the forensics community at-large. The student who embodies the qualities honored by this award freely shares their experiences and encouragement with any fellow competitor and behaves in a manner that welcomes new teams and students to competition.

As was the award’s namesake during her career, the student honored with this award should be exceptionally devoted to Congressional Debate. That is not to say that the award winner should be the student who has attended the most tournaments during his or her career, but rather that the award winner should be an individual who has made Congress his or her primary event and who has a substantial record demonstrating all of the above qualities.

This award is not a popularity contest. The winner should be carefully evaluated by each person casting a vote for each of the qualities named above. The Award of Excellence in Congressional Debate represents TFL’s highest honor for a student legislator and only those with the utmost integrity and ethics should be considered.

Selection Process:

1. ***The Jackie Foote Award of Excellence in Congressional Debate*** shall be chosen by students who compete in the TFL Super Congress, but nominees may be anyone who was entered in the preliminary or the super session of Congress. No student who competed in the preliminary session the TFL State Championship shall be excluded from consideration. All Congressional Debate entrants at each year's tournament who are seniors are eligible for nomination even if they did not "break" to finals. However, a student may NOT nominate himself or herself.
2. At the beginning of Super Congress, the TFL Chair and/or TFL Clerk of Congress will address the chamber briefly to explain the award, the seriousness of the award and the qualifications an honoree must possess. A handout with the criteria for selection shall be given to each competitor. **It needs to be strongly emphasized that this is NOT a popularity contest.** Students should think about who they wish to nominate during the Super Session and be prepared to give a nomination speech at the end of the session.
3. At the end of the session after the judges have cleared the room, students may nominate other students by giving a three minute nomination speech explaining to the chamber why their nominee deserves the honor. The TFL Chair and/or Clerk of Congress (or designated representative of the TFL) shall preside over the nominating session. The Parliamentarian and scorers from the Super Session should NOT be present. Speeches must be three minutes long. There is NO cross examination of these speeches and no scores will be awarded. These nomination speeches shall in no way count as part of the Super Congress competition.
4. Only one Super Congress contestant per school can make a nomination, although multiple people from the same school can be nominated.
5. Voting will be by secret ballot and will be conducted by the Clerk of Congress or his/her designee so that the winner stays secret. Students in Super Congress will fill out ONE preferential ballot listing ALL nominees in their preferred order. If the top choice on a person's ballot gets eliminated on the first count, the #2 vote will be counted instead in the second round of ballot counting. This shall continue going down the preferential list until one nominee receives a majority of 50 percent plus one. Only one ballot is to be filled out per person. Students who do not list ALL candidates on their ballot in preferential order shall have their ballot voided. The voided ballot will not count in the final total.
6. Under no circumstances will the winner or any candidate being eliminated during the voting process be announced or disclosed until the awards ceremony. The TFL Chair and/or Clerk of Congress will guarantee the secrecy of the honor until the awards ceremony.

Manual Disclaimer:

The TFL manual may be updated by the committee up to the beginning of tournament competition, but not thereafter, as long as participating coaches are notified through email, website posting or announcement at the tournament that the manual has been revised from what was originally posted. However, absolutely no changes are allowed after the first round of competition has been posted.

**THIS IS THE
February 9, 2013
REVISION**