

## **Dramatic and Humorous Interpretation (NSDA Rules, aka Solo Serious and Solo Humorous)**

1. This includes categories of individual (solo) performance of dramatic (serious) and humorous literature, with selections drawn from published, printed: novels, short stories, plays, poetry, or other printed, published works, PDFs, e-books, as well as online.

2. **Length:** The time limit is ten minutes with a 30-second “grace period.” If there are multiple judges in the round, all must agree that the student has gone beyond the grace period. Should a student go beyond the grace period, the student may not be ranked 1st. There is no other prescribed penalty for going over the grace period. The ranking is up to each individual judge’s discretion.

3. **Material:** Selections used in the events of Dramatic and Humorous Interpretation must be cuttings from a single work of literature (one short story, play, or novel), unless poetry is used, in which case cuttings may come from one or more poems from a single source.

4. **Performance:** The presentation may not use physical objects or costuming. During the presentation, the contestant/team must name the author and the book or magazine from which the cutting was made. Additionally:

A. Adaptations to material may only be used for the purpose of transition. The gender stated by the author must be honored. However, a female contestant may play a male role, and a male contestant may play a female role.

B. Interpretation selections must be presented from memory.

### **Extemporaneous Speaking (WFCA Rules, 30 second grace period)**

1. The speech is to be original with the participant, who may consult published books, magazines, newspapers and journals or articles therein, including printed or copies of information from online services as well as the original source material from the online source.
2. One-half hour before speaking, the participant will draw five questions, choose one, and return the remaining four. Identical sets of questions will be used for multiple sections.
3. Notes are permitted but limited to both sides of one 4" x 6" card. Use of a notecard is subject to critique. Visual aids are not permitted.
4. Maximum time limit: 7 minutes, with an allowable **30-second grace period**. There is no minimum time requirement. Any entry exceeding the grace period may not be ranked first in the round. If all entries in a round exceed the grace period, no first rank shall be given in that round. Contestants may use a stopwatch, or have another student give them time signals.

## **Informative Speaking (NSDA Rules)**

1. **Purpose:** An informative speech is an original speech designed to explain, define, describe, or illustrate a particular subject. The general purpose of the speech is for the audience to gain understanding and/or knowledge of a topic. Any other purpose such as to entertain or to convince shall be secondary. The use of audio/visual aids is optional. (See # 4 on Aids.)
2. **Contest:** This contest comprises only memorized speeches composed by the contestants and not used by them during a previous contest season.
3. **Subject:** Effective speeches provide new information or perspectives on a topic, including those that are widely known. The responsibility for choosing a worthwhile topic rests with the contestant. A fabricated topic may not be used. Any non-factual reference, including a personal reference, must be so identified.
4. **Aids:** Audio/visual aids may or may not be used to supplement and reinforce the message. If used, the audio/visual aids should enhance or support the message rather than distract from the overall effectiveness of the presentation. During the presentation, no electronic equipment is permitted. Electronic equipment is defined as any object requiring an electrical cord, battery, or solar power to operate it (projectors, cell phones, radios, iPads, computers, etc.). The use of live animals or any additional people as visual aids is not allowed during the speech. Items of dress put on and/or removed for illustration during the course of the presentation are considered costumes and may not be part of the contestant's presentation. Visual aids may not violate policies as dictated by local and state law (weapons, drugs, etc.)
5. **Length:** The time limit is 10 minutes with a 30-second "grace period." If there are multiple judges in the round, all must agree that the student has gone beyond the grace period. Should a student go beyond the grace period, the student may not be ranked 1st. There is no other prescribed penalty for going over the grace period. The ranking is up to each individual judge's discretion. Judges who choose to time are to use accurate (stopwatch function) timing devices. No minimum time is mandated.

## **Original Oratory (NSDA Rules)**

1. **Purpose:** The general purpose of the speech is to persuade. Any other purpose such as to inform or entertain shall be secondary.
2. **Contest:** This contest comprises only memorized orations actually composed by the contestants and not used by them during a previous contest season. No visual aids are permitted.
3. **Subject:** Any appropriate subject may be used, but the orator must be truthful. Any non-factual reference, especially a personal one, must be so identified.
4. **Length:** The time limit in Original Oratory is ten minutes with a 30-second “grace period.” If there are multiple judges in the round, all must agree that the student has gone beyond the grace period. Should a student go beyond the grace period, the student may not be ranked 1st. There is no other prescribed penalty for going over the grace period. The ranking is up to each individual judge’s discretion. Judges who choose to time are to use accurate (stopwatch function) timing devices. No minimum time is mandated.

## **Program Oral Interpretation (NSDA Rules, aka Farrago, POI)**

1. **Purpose:** POI is a program of oral interpretation of thematically-linked selections chosen from two or three genres: prose, poetry, drama (plays). At least two pieces of literature that represent at least two separate genres must be used. Unlike the other interpretation events, Program Oral Interpretation may use multiple sources for the program. The title or author of all selections must be verbally identified in either the introduction and/or transitional phrases. The title may identify the primary source (e.g., book, anthology, journal, magazine, newspaper, approved website, etc.) or the specific title within the primary source (e.g., a poem, a play, a short story, a journal/magazine article, a newspaper article, etc.). If more than one author is attributed to the source, at a minimum, the primary author should be verbally cited. Competitors are encouraged to devote approximately equal times to each of the genres used in the program. This distinction pertains to these two or three genres as a whole, not types of literature within a genre (such as fiction/nonfiction). Prose expresses thought through language recorded in sentences and paragraphs: fiction (short stories, novels) and non-fiction (articles, essays, journals, biographies). Poetry is writing which expresses ideas, experience, or emotion through the creative arrangement of words according to their sound, their rhythm, their meaning. Poetry may rely on verse and stanza form.

2. **Contest:** The use of a manuscript during the performance is required. Common practices include the use of a binder or folder. Reading from a book or magazine is not permitted. The intact manuscript may be used by the contestant as a prop, so long as it is in the contestant's control by remaining in contact with the body at all times. No costumes or props other than the manuscript are permitted. Pictures, graphics, and/or illustrations are considered a visual aid, even if included in the original manuscript, and may not be displayed. The contestant must address the script; however, introduction and transitional material may be memorized.

3. **Length:** The time limit is 10 minutes with a 30-second "grace period." If there are multiple judges in the round, all must agree that the student has gone beyond the grace period. Should a student go beyond the grace period, the student may not be ranked 1st. There is no other prescribed penalty for going over the grace period. The ranking is up to each individual judge's discretion. Judges who choose to time are to use accurate (stopwatch function) timing devices. No minimum time is mandated.

### **Prose and Poetry (NSDA Rules, 10 minute time limit, original works allowed)**

1. Prose: Prose expresses thought through language recorded in sentences and paragraphs: fiction (short stories, novels) and non-fiction (articles, essays, journals, biographies).
2. Poetry: Poetry is writing which expresses ideas, experience, or emotion through the creative arrangement of words according to their sound, their rhythm, their meaning. Poetry may rely on verse and stanza form.
3. Selections: Published, printed works may be used, as well as original, unpublished works.
4. Time: The maximum time limit is **10 minutes** with a 30-second “grace period.” If there are multiple judges in the round, all must agree that the student has gone beyond the grace period. Should a student go beyond the grace period, the student may not be ranked 1st. There is no other prescribed penalty for going over the grace period. The ranking is up to each individual judge’s discretion. Judges who choose to time are to use accurate (stopwatch function) timing devices. **No minimum time is mandated.**
5. Presentation: Performances must be from a manuscript (which may be in a folder). The intact manuscript may be used by the contestant as a prop, so long as it is in the contestant’s control by remaining in contact with the body at all times. No costumes or props other than the manuscript are permitted. Pictures, graphics, and/or illustrations are considered a visual aid, even if included in the original manuscript, and may not be displayed. The contestant must address the script; however, introduction and transitional material may be memorized.

## **Radio Announcing (WFCA Rules)**

The challenge to the speaker is to present a well-organized, clearly communicated newscast. Source material provided by the tournament director is to be cut and edited with special efforts made to end right at **5 minutes**.

1. One-half hour before the contest, the speaker will receive source material. Identical material will be provided for each contestant. The tournament should provide the judge with a copy of the packet of material given to each speaker.
2. The speaker may delete or edit any parts of items from the provided material. However, no new articles or items may be added except transition sentences, introductions and conclusions.
3. The newscast will include one or more commercials advertising some product or service. Commercials will be supplied with the material, which the student may use as written or make changes to further enhance the product or service. Original commercials may not be used. The commercial(s) may be inserted at any point but must be included within the time limits.
4. Use of visual aids is not permitted.
5. The time limit shall be **five minutes** and the speaker is expected to finish "on the nose;" however, if a speaker concludes the presentation within ten seconds on either side, the speaker will not be penalized. Beyond those limits, the evaluation should reflect a deduction for further deviation. If all speakers in the round finish more than 10 seconds over or under the limit, no first shall be given in that round.
6. Speaker must present the radio broadcast in one professional/newsreader voice. Multiple voices are not permitted apart from the commercial.

### **Special Occasion Speaking (WFCA Rules, 30 second grace period)**

The challenge to the speaker is to make an appropriate presentation that responds to the constraints of the occasion, including the probable audience. In considering the "appropriateness" of the speaker's work attention will be paid to the purpose the speaker chooses, the position taken, the content, organization and general stylistic tone, and the manner of delivery. It is possible that a speech may pursue more than one of the standard general purposes of informing, persuading, and entertaining.

1. The participant must choose one of the annually presented topics to develop and present an appropriate original speech. Situations for 2019-20 are:
  - A. An opening argument for a trial
  - B. A speech to decline an award
  - C. A press conference to announce a product recall
  - D. An end-of-the-year banquet speech
2. Visual supporting materials may be used, but not worn. Electronic devices may not be used as a visual aid.
3. Notes are permitted but limited to both sides of one 4" x 6" card. Use of a notecard is subject to critique.
4. Maximum time limit: 6 minutes, with an allowable 30-second grace period. There is no minimum time requirement. Any entry exceeding the grace period may not be ranked first in the round. If all entries in a round exceed the grace period, no first rank shall be given in that round.

### **Storytelling (NSDA Rules, 8 minute time limit)**

1. A single published, printed story, anecdote, tale, myth, or legend must be retold without notes or props. Any theme/topic area may be used.
2. **Time:** The maximum time limit is **8 minutes** with a 30-second “grace period.” If there are multiple judges in the round, all must agree that the student has gone beyond the grace period. Should a student go beyond the grace period, the student may not be ranked 1st. There is no other prescribed penalty for going over the grace period. The ranking is up to each individual judge’s discretion. Judges who choose to time are to use accurate (stopwatch function) timing devices. **No minimum time is mandated.**
3. The delivery must be extempore, not read. No book or script may be used. The story may be delivered standing or seated.
4. Gestures, pantomime and characterization, may be used but the focus must be on the narrative.