NIETOC
NATIONAL INDIVIDUAL EVENTS TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS

**DRAMATIC INTERPRETATION & HUMOROUS INTERPRETATION**

Rules:

a. SELECTION -- Selections used in Dramatic or Humorous Interpretation shall be cuttings from a single source from a published printed novel, short story, play, poem or screenplay. One-character selections, or monologues, may be used. No contestant may use the same literary work that s/he used in previous competitive years. No contestant may enter the same selection in two qualifying events. The material may be humorous or dramatic, or combine both tones depending on the selected work. Contestants may not combine two or more pieces of literature. A piece of literature shall be defined as one piece of writing which was written with the intent to be published as one work.

b. PUBLICATION -- All contestants must use published materials. “Published” as defined by these rules mean materials for which the coach is able to provide proof of publication using either of the following methods: — Originating in print form (book, photocopy of the book, or a manuscript) — Originating in digital form (a printed copy of an online transcript) Unpublished material used for introductions and transitions shall be the original work of the contestant. Transitions and other added material must not change the author’s intent.

c. TIME -- Interpretations shall be no more than ten (10) minutes in performance including introductory and transitional materials. There is no minimum time limit. Exceeding this time limit by more than 30 seconds shall prevent the speaker from receiving first place in the round.

d. PERFORMANCE -- The interpretation must be delivered from memory; no notes, prompting or scripts shall be permitted. No costumes or props shall be permitted.

FOR THE 2021 TOURNAMENT: Preliminary and octafinal rounds will be judged asynchronously via submitted videotapes. Contestants advancing to quarterfinal, semifinal and final rounds will perform live and synchronously via Zoom.

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**PROGRAM ORAL INTERPRETATION**

Rules:

A. SELECTION — With a spotlight on argumentation through literature, Program Oral Interpretation focuses on a student's ability to combine multiple genres of literature centered around a single theme. Selections used in Program Oral Interpretation shall be cuttings from a minimum of two genres of literature (prose, poetry, drama) constructed to create a theme or argument. The material may be humorous, dramatic or combine both tones, and be taken from the following:
*Drama which includes plays, screenplays or monologues
*Poetry which includes literature written in verse and free-verse.
*Prose which includes fiction or nonfiction, and may be taken from but not limited to, novels and short stories; journal, magazine or newspaper articles; research from governmental and educational documents; as well as essays, speeches and blogs.
While a contestant may not include cuttings from a literary work used in previous competitive years, the contestant may use different cuttings from the same literary work. No contestant may enter the same selection in two qualifying events.

B. PUBLICATION -- All contestants must use published materials. "Published" as defined by these rules mean materials for which the coach is able to provide proof of publication using either of the following methods: — Originating in print form (book, photocopy of the book, or a manuscript) — Originating in digital form (a printed copy of an online transcript) Unpublished material used for introductions and transitions shall be the original work of the contestant. Transitions and other added material must not change the author's intent. Coaches will need to provide a link to the works cited page for the entry as part of the registration process.

C. TIME — Interpretations shall be no more than ten (10) minutes in performance including introductory and transitional materials. There is no minimum time limit. Speakers exceeding this time limit by more than 30 seconds shall not be ranked first.

D. PERFORMANCE —The interpretation must be delivered via manuscript. The student is allowed to use the manuscript as a prop to enhance blocking as long as the manuscript is in the student's physical possession throughout the performance. No costumes or props other than the manuscript shall be permitted. The introduction shall be memorized. All titles and authors used in the performance must be cited in the introduction. Transition material may be memorized.

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**INFORMATIVE SPEAKING**

Rules:

A. TOPIC — An informative speech is an original memorized speech designed to explain, define, describe, or illustrate an object, idea, concept or process. The general purpose of the speech is for the audience to gain understanding and/or knowledge of a topic that the student believes important for the audience. Informative speaking avoids predominantly persuasive subjects and techniques. All speeches must have been prepared during the current competitive year.

B. TIME — Speeches shall be no longer than ten minutes; there is no minimum time. Speakers exceeding this time limit by more than 30 seconds shall not be ranked first.

C. QUOTATIONS— No more than 150 words of the speech may be direct quotations from another speech or writing. Extensive paraphrasing from other sources is prohibited. Coaches will need to provide a link to the works cited page for the entry as part of the registration process.

D. VISUAL AIDS- The use of visual aids is optional. It is important to note that a visual aid is an integral part of the speech content and not an unnecessary gimmick. Visual aids may be two-dimensional and/or three-dimensional, but may not violate local, state or federal laws and/or school policies. The use of animals or any additional people as visual aids is not allowed during the speech. Electronic equipment such as projectors, cell phones, radios, iPads, computers are allowed, but all equipment and any risk associated with using these devices is the speaker's responsibility.

F. PERFORMANCE -- The speech must be delivered from memory; no notes, prompting or scripts shall be permitted. No costumes shall be permitted.

G. VIOLATION – A violation of any of the rules stated above may result in disqualification.

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**ORIGINAL ORATORY**

Rules:

a. TOPIC -- All speeches entered must be the original work of the contestant. Any appropriate subject may be used, but the orator must be truthful. Any non-factual reference, including a personal one, must be so identified. All speeches must have been prepared during the current competitive year. Speeches that have been used in tournaments or service club contests in previous years shall be disqualified; this rule applies to a new speech by a speaker based on the same subject used in a previous year or to any subject used for any original speech by the same contestant during the same or previous years.

b. TIME -- Speeches shall be no longer than ten minutes; there is no minimum time. Exceeding this time limit by more than 30 seconds shall prevent the speaker from receiving first place in the round.

c. QUOTATIONS -- No more than 150 words of the speech may be direct quotations from another speech or writing. Extensive paraphrasing from other sources is prohibited. Coaches will need to provide a link to the works cited page for the entry as part of the registration process.

d. VISUAL AIDS -- No notes, visual or audio aids, or manuscripts shall be permitted in the contest rounds.

e. PERFORMANCE -- The speech must be delivered from memory; no notes, prompting or scripts shall be permitted. No costumes or props shall be permitted.

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**DUO INTERPRETATION**

Rules:

a. SELECTION -- Selections used in Duo Interpretation shall be cuttings from a single source from a published printed novel, short story, play, poem or screenplay. No contestant may use the same literary work that s/he used in previous competitive years. No contestant may enter the same selection in two qualifying events. The material may be humorous or dramatic, or combine both tones depending on the selected work. Contestants may not combine two or more pieces of literature. A piece of literature shall be defined as one piece of writing which was written with the intent to be published as one work. Each of the two performers may play one or more characters so long as performance responsibility in the cutting remains as balanced as possible. Introductory and/or transitional material may be presented by either or both contestants.

b. PUBLICATION -- All contestants must use published materials. "Published" as defined by these rules mean materials for which the coach is able to provide proof of publication using either of the following methods: — Originating in print form (book, photocopy of the book, or a manuscript) — Originating in digital form (a printed copy of an online transcript) Unpublished material used for introductions and transitions shall be the original work of the contestant. Transitions and other added material must not change the author's intent.

c. TIME -- Interpretations shall be no more than ten (10) minutes in performance including introductory and transitional materials. There is no minimum time limit. Speakers exceeding this time limit by more than 30 seconds shall not be ranked first

d. PERFORMANCE -- The interpretation is most commonly delivered from memory; however, the contestant may also perform from a manuscript. No costumes or props shall be permitted.

e. GUIDELINES FOR RECORDING DUO PERFORMANCES:

Competitors will record performances using available technology, so that each of the performers are in separate rooms, using separate devices, so that they appear in side-by-side windows. It can be recorded repeatedly until competitors are content with the recording. Performances should be routed to coaches who will do a quality check and make sure the videos adhere to the rules and are of the sound, visual, and performance quality deemed sufficient by the coach.

Video editing is not permitted. In the event that video editing is discovered, the competitor will be disqualified. Competitors may not move the camera during the recording. Besides the competitor, no other bodies may be on screen during a recording. Competitors may not use a virtual background. Competitors may choose to wear a headset or cordless earbuds, but they may not be used as a prop.

In the unique circumstance that Duo partners are siblings or living together, in the interest of equity, these partners must also perform in two separate rooms using two separate devices on Zoom.

**Recommendations:**

Competitors should practice setups for performing to produce the best recording they can. This includes how to set up a section of your home to perform, acquiring an adequately wide lens camera among other technical considerations. Keep in mind that phone cameras/videos/mics are often superior to the default setup on computers. Competitors should use trial and error to find the best recording setup for visuals and sound. Please view this video for helpful hints regarding the recording process: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bk9Yhz6cpnY&feature=youtu.be

FOR THE 2021 TOURNAMENT: All rounds of this event will be asynchronous.

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## DUET ACTING

Rules:

a. SELECTION -- Selections used in Duet Acting shall be cuttings from a single source from a published printed novel, short story, play, poem or screenplay. No contestant may use the same literary work that s/he used in previous competitive years. No contestant may enter the same selection in two qualifying events. The material may be humorous or dramatic, or combine both tones depending on the selected work. Contestants may not combine two or more pieces of literature. A piece of literature shall be defined as one piece of writing which was written with the intent to be published as one work. Each of the two performers may play one or more characters so long as performance responsibility in the cutting remains as balanced as possible. Introductory and/or transitional material may be presented by either or both contestants.

b. PUBLICATION -- All contestants must use published materials. “Published” as defined by these rules mean materials for which the coach is able to provide proof of publication using either of the following methods: — Originating in print form (book, photocopy of the book, or a manuscript) — Originating in digital form (a printed copy of an online transcript) Unpublished material used for introductions and transitions shall be the original work of the contestant. Transitions and other added material must not change the author’s intent.

c. TIME -- Interpretations shall be no more than ten (10) minutes in performance including introductory and transitional materials. There is no minimum time limit. Speakers exceeding this time limit by more than 30 seconds shall not be ranked first

d. PERFORMANCE -- The scene must be delivered from memory; no notes, prompting or scripts shall be permitted. No costumes or props shall be permitted. During the performance, on-stage focus (meaning contestants MAY look directly at each other) may and/or should be employed by both contestants. Contestants are encouraged to touch and make eye contact during any part of the performance. Two chairs will be allowed for use as props or to facilitate blocking and to create levels, atmosphere and environment.

e. GUIDELINES FOR RECORDING DUET ACTING PERFORMANCES:

Competitors will record performances for this event with both performers in the same room. The actors may perform with or without masks, as dictated by local directed health measures. It can be recorded repeatedly until competitors are content with the recording. These performances will be routed to coaches who will do a quality check and make sure the videos adhere to the rules and are of the sound, visual, and performance quality deemed sufficient by the coach.

Video editing is not permitted. In the event that video editing is discovered, the competitor will be disqualified. Competitors may not move the camera during the recording. Besides the competitor, no other bodies may be on a screen during a recording. Competitors may not use a virtual background. Competitors may choose to wear a headset or cordless earbuds, but they may not be used as a prop.

**Recommendations:**
Competitors should practice setups for performing to produce the best recording they can. This includes how to set up a section of your home to perform, acquiring an adequately wide lens camera among other technical considerations. Keep in mind that phone cameras/videos/mics are often superior to the default setup on computers. Competitors should use trial and error to find the best recording setup for visuals and sound.

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**EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING**

Rules:

A. TOPIC – Topics for each round will alternate between international and domestic topic areas.

B. PREPARATION TIME – (If a live draw is held) Speech preparation time will be 30 minutes with draw times at 7-minute intervals to accommodate 7-minute speeches. Open internet access may be utilized during prep time. Communicating with, emailing or texting persons inside or outside of draw is not allowed while in the draw room or prior to speaking.

C. QUOTATIONS – Speeches should include quoted material from multiple verifiable sources. Fabrication of sources and/or evidence is not allowed.

D. PERFORMANCE -- The speech must be delivered from memory; no notes, prompting or scripts shall be permitted. No costumes or props shall be permitted.

E. SPEAKING TIME – Speeches shall be no more than 7 minutes in length. There is no minimum time limit. Speakers exceeding this time limit by more than 30 seconds may not be ranked first in the round. For each final round, a tournament official or designee shall serve as the official timer, and this person will have the discretion of waiving time violations for contestants exceeding the time limit due to audience reactions. This authority may be extended to the semi-final round at the discretion of the tournament director or designee.

F. VIOLATION – A violation of any of the rules stated above may result in disqualification.

G. VIDEOTAPING – Students will submit four videotaped speeches; one for each prelim and a fourth to be used in the octafinal round. Speakers must draw from the topics provided for that given round. Each video must be single take and no editing is allowed.

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