Rules for Two Person Radio Speaking

Purpose of the Category

To develop the skills of selecting, editing, and organizing news items from supplied material with a partner, to deliver a succinct two-person oral newscast.

Definition of the Category

The challenge to the speaker is to present a well-organized, clearly communicated newscast that effectively uses two voices in the radio broadcast. Source material provided by the tournament director of approximately 15-30 minutes in length is to be cut and edited with special efforts made to end right at 8 minutes.

Rules

- 1. Prior to the tournament, the tournament host will share the radio packet with the coaches of those with students registered in the event. The packet will be provided in google docs and pdf form. **This is NOT a draw event; preparation is done in the days before the tournament.**
- 2. The team of speakers may agree to 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. Speakers will use the same broadcast in all three preliminary rounds and the power round, should they qualify. The speaker must supply their own stopwatch and equipment for cutting, editing, and reading the newscast.
- 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 eight minutes** and the speakers are expected to finish "on the nose;" however, if a speaker team concludes the presentation within ten seconds on either side, the speakers will not be penalized. Beyond those limits, the evaluation should reflect a deduction for further deviation. If all teams of speakers in the round finish more than 10 seconds over or under the limit, no first shall be given in that round.
- 6. Each speaker must present the radio broadcast in one professional/newsreader voice. Multiple voices are not permitted apart from the commercial.

Criteria for Evaluation

- 1. The extent to which the students provided clear and logical organization of the news script, balancing the levels and types of news including international, national and state news, **entertainment**, weather and sports.
- 2. The extent to which the presentation reflected effective language skills, including use of smooth transitions with clear, vivid, and appropriate word choices. Individual judges may lower the rank due to use of profanity or vulgarity.
- 3. The extent to which the delivery was in a clear, pleasant, and confident voice, reflecting good articulation, pronunciation, volume, pitch and voice quality. Physical presence of the contestant is not to be a consideration.
- 4. The extent to which the commercial(s) was incorporated as an important item in the newscast without dominating the news.
- 5. The extent to which the student delivered the newscast within the time limits without unnatural speeding up or slowing down.
- 6. The extent to which the two presenters took advantage of the opportunity to work as a team of broadcasters to create a unified radio broadcast, demonstrating how the inclusion of two speakers was a value add in the presentation including considerations like balance between speakers, complementarity, and effective wordplay.