

NCFCA Model Regional Plan

2010 Competitive Season

1. Qualifying Tournament Standards

1.1. Lincoln Douglas (LD) Debate.

1.1.1. **Size.** A Qualifying Tournament must have 4 teams to hold an event, with a minimum room capacity to minimize any waiting list. Expected standard is that at least 85% of registrants will be accepted in LD.

1.1.2. **Outrounds.** Tournaments will break students from preliminaries to outrounds according to the following schedule:

- 4 to 6 teams – finals
- 7 to 14 teams – semifinals
- 15 to 27 teams – quarterfinals
- 28 to 55 teams – octafinals
- 56 or more teams – double octafinals

1.2. Team Policy (TP) Debate.

1.2.1. **Size.** A Qualifying Tournament must have 6 teams to hold an event, with a minimum room capacity to minimize any waiting list. Expected standard is that at least 85% of registrants will be accepted in TP.

1.2.2. **Outrounds.** Tournaments will break students from preliminaries to outrounds according to the following schedule:

- 4 to 6 teams – finals
- 7 to 14 teams – semifinals
- 15 to 27 teams – quarterfinals
- 28 to 55 teams – octafinals
- 56 or more teams – double octafinals

1.3. Individual Events.

1.3.1. **Size.** A Qualifying Tournament must offer all sanctioned events for registration. Events with less than 4 paid registrations may be dropped from the tournament. Every effort should be made to provide sufficient competition rooms to minimize any waiting list. Expected standard is that at least 85% of registrants will be accepted in each event.

1.3.2. **Maximum Size.** The largest event may not be more than one room larger in size than the second largest event. (For example, suppose that the largest event is Impromptu and the second largest event is Apologetics. If the registrations for Impromptu would result in 6 rooms, and the registrations for Apologetics would result in 4 rooms, then Impromptu will be limited to 5 rooms.) This rule applies even if curtailing the largest event results in less than 85% of registrants being accepted in that event.

- 1.3.3. **Outrounds.** An event with only one room of competitors will hold three preliminaries without a final round. An event with two rooms of competitors will break to a final round. An event with three or more rooms of competitors will break to semifinals.

2. Invitation Criteria for the Regional Invitational Tournament

- 2.1. **Debate Criteria.** Any debate team (TP or LD) which finishes with a winning record in the preliminaries or breaks to outrounds in any of their Region's Qualifying Tournaments or any National Open Tournament is qualified for their Region's Invitational Tournament in that event. Only teams meeting this criteria will earn an invitation (in other words, the invitations are not rolled down for any reason). Even if a debater has met the Qualifying criteria in both TP and LD, a debater may not compete in both TP and LD at the Regional Invitational Tournament. Full participation in outrounds is expected to keep the invitation.
- 2.2. **IE Criteria.** Any IE competitor who proceeds to outrounds in any of their Region's Qualifying Tournaments or any National Open Tournament in a particular event is qualified for their Region's Invitational Tournament in that event. Only competitors meeting this criteria will earn an invitation (in other words, the invitations are not rolled down for any reason). In a single room event, roughly the top half of participants will qualify for the Regional Invitational Tournament in that event (e.g. if Dramatic Interp has only four participants, then two participants would qualify for the Regional). Full participation in outrounds is expected to keep the invitation.

3. Tournament Administration

- 3.1. **Regional Affiliation.** In some cases (geography, club allegiances, etc), it would be in an Affiliate family's best interest to move their NCFCA affiliation from their Region of residence to a different Region. An NCFCA Affiliate family may move its affiliation by properly filing a Petition to Re-Affiliate before December 31, 2009. The re-Affiliation remains in effect for the entire season.
- 3.2. **Registration Fees.** Tournament directors are encouraged to make every effort to minimize costs to participants. Activities planned for Qualifying Tournaments should emphasize opportunities for interaction among families participating rather than elaborate programming. Fees associated with any optional activities may not be included in any tournament fees.
- 3.3. **Tournament Awards.** Awards for the Qualifying Tournaments should be simple and inexpensive, such as ribbons, certificates, or creative items for recognition. More prestigious awards are best reserved for the Regional Invitational.

4. National Championship Slots

- 4.1. **Regional Invitational.** 75% of slots to the National Championship will be awarded at the Regional Invitational.

4.2. Regional At-Large. 25% of slots to the National Championship will be awarded on an At-Large basis to students who did not otherwise receive slots. The NCFCA Office will collect tournament data and administer the At-Large slot program.

4.3. Debate Slot Allocation within Region. Option A – 68% TP and 32% LD. Option B – 50% TP and 50% LD. Option C – 32% TP and 68% LD.

5. Region Tournament Schedule (January 1 – May 1, 2010)

5.1. Name, Location, Date

5.2. Name, Location, Date

5.3. Name, Location, Date

5.4. Name, Location, Date --- Last date for the last Qualifier is three weeks before the Regional unless prior approval is received.

5.5. Region Invitational Tournament, Location, Date --- Last date for the Regional Invitational will be the last weekend in April, unless prior approval is received.