Extemporaneous Event Rules

Limited Preparation Speech

1. **General Speech Rules** must be followed in addition to these Event Rules.

2. **Topics** will refer to newsworthy events from the past 90 days, including questions about domestic politics and policy, international politics and policy, business, culture, and entertainment.

3. **Research** is permitted prior to the competition.
   - **Published articles or other materials** (e.g. books, magazines, newspapers) may be downloaded onto a computer or printed and stored in a personal or club file box(es).
   - **Previously prepared notes or analysis**, including debate briefs or speech outlines, may not be accessed from a computer or a personal or club box(es).
   - **Shared club box(es)** must have a label affixed to the outside that includes the club name and the individual names of all speakers who have permission to use the box at that tournament.

4. **Preparation time** is limited to a twenty-minute maximum.  
   - **Speech time** is limited to a seven-minute maximum.  
   - **Cross-examination** time during elimination rounds is limited to a two-minute maximum.

5. **The speaker** should report to the Extemporaneous Preparation Room at their assigned draw time. The speaker will remain until the assigned speech time.

6. **The speech** must be prepared in the Extemporaneous Preparation Room and delivered in the competition room.

7. **During preparation time:**
   - **The speaker** must prepare to speak on one of the two topics provided on their assigned topic card.
   - **The chosen topic** may be underlined, but no notes may be written on the topic card.
• Previously downloaded, published articles or other material (e.g. books, magazines, newspapers) may be accessed from a tablet or a laptop computer.

• Previously printed, published articles or other material (e.g. books, magazines, newspapers) may be accessed from a personal or club file box(es).

• Notes may be taken on paper, although this paper may not be used during the speech. Notes may not be taken on the computer.

• A single notecard must be prepared for use during the speech to ensure accurate information and citations. 3” x 5” notecards will be available.

• No help or advice about the topic may be requested before the speech.

• Unused preparation time may not be added to the speech time.

8. A laptop or tablet computer may be used during preparation time, but computers may not be shared between competitors in the Extemp Prep Room.

• Special accommodations will not be made for equipment failure.

• Computer power cords may not be plugged into outlets in the Extemp Prep Room.

• Connection to the internet or other shared devices is not permitted, and computers with built-in WiFi or cellular capability must have these capabilities disabled prior to the beginning of preparation time.

• Computers must be muted, and earbuds may not be used.

9. During the delivery of the speech:

• The speaker must speak on one of the two topics provided on their assigned topic card.

• The prepared 3” x 5” notecard must be held; the topic card may be held.

• The chosen topic must be stated early in the speech.

• Verifiable support for analysis must be provided by the speaker.

• Sources for supporting material used within the speech must be verbally mentioned in the speech.

10. After the speech:

• In preliminary rounds, the speaker must turn in the topic card and the prepared notecard to the Head Judge before leaving the room.

• In elimination rounds, continue with Cross-Examination.
Cross-Examination
In Elimination Rounds

11. **During the two-minute maximum cross-examination**, the judge(s) will ask a thought-provoking question(s) that invites dialogue and deepens understanding of the presented position.

12. **The speaker** must turn in the topic card and the prepared notecard to the Head Judge before leaving the room.