

Section 1000: SPEECH

- (a) ELIGIBILITY. Contestants shall be eligible under Subchapter M.
- (b) EVENTS AND ENTRIES. The UIL speech program shall consist of six events divided into three basic skill categories: debate, oral interpretation and extemporaneous speaking. Students are permitted to enter two events in speech, and Cross-Examination Team Debate (see [c] Scheduling). The eligibility section requirements of each contest shall be met and no more than one event shall be selected from each of the following categories:
  - (1) *Debate.*
    - (A) Cross-Examination Team Debate
    - (B) Lincoln-Douglas
  - (2) *Interpretation.*
    - (A) Prose Interpretation
    - (B) Poetry Interpretation
  - (3) *Extemporaneous Speaking.*
    - (A) Informative Speaking
    - (B) Persuasive Speaking
  - (4) *Prohibited Double Entries.*

<u>If You Enter:</u>	<u>You May Not Enter These Contests:</u>
Team Debate	Lincoln-Douglas Debate
Lincoln-Douglas Debate	Team Debate, Prose Interpretation, Poetry Interpretation
Prose Interpretation	Lincoln-Douglas Debate, Poetry Interpretation
Poetry Interpretation	Lincoln-Douglas Debate, Prose Interpretation
Informative Speaking	Persuasive Speaking
Persuasive Speaking	Informative Speaking

- (c) SCHEDULING. In addition to restrictions of individual contest plans, it is imperative that students and academic coaches become familiar with the Academic Conflict Pattern when selecting contests for competition. This pattern is provided with the Spring Meet List, in the *Spring Meet Manual* and in the *Academic Coordinator's Manual*. Students who want to double enter may request that they be allowed to speak first or second in a section but may not request to be placed in the bottom one-half of the section. If the double entry is not prohibited in (b) above, contest directors may allow the double entry if the necessary accommodations do not inconvenience other contestants. Contest directors are to use their best judgment in the matter. There shall be no protest of their decisions.
- (d) RECORDING. Schools and/or individuals are prohibited from recording (audio and/or video) speech contests. The UIL reserves the right to record for educational purposes.

Section 1001: CROSS-EXAMINATION TEAM DEBATE

- (a) PURPOSE OF THE CONTEST. The purpose of this contest is to train the student to analyze a problem, conduct thorough and relevant research, and utilize principles of argumentation and advocacy in orally presenting the most effective case for or against a given proposition. Debate provides invaluable training in critical thinking, quick responses, defending worthy ideas and attacking invalid ideas. It teaches the student to tolerate other points of view. Debate exists only in democratic societies, and no democratic society can exist without debate.
- (b) ENTRIES.
  - (1) *Representation.* The debates shall be conducted in one division in each conference. In all conferences a school may enter in its district meet three, two-member teams. In districts where fewer than a total of eight teams are competing, each school with a full entry may

enter a fourth team.

- (2) *Eligibility.* Each debater entered shall be eligible under Subchapter M. Furthermore, only students in high school are eligible for this contest. Students who graduate during the year are eligible for UIL post-district competition if they have qualified for that competition on or before the date they graduate. Team debaters shall not enter Lincoln-Douglas debate.
  - (3) *Substitutions.*
    - (A) *Prior to the District Competition.* An eligible student may be substituted for any name on the official district debate online entry form by providing the contest director with a letter or official substitution form signed by the superintendent or designated administrator certifying the student's eligibility. The letter shall be presented to the contest director before the contest begins. At the conclusion of the meet, the contest director shall submit the letter to the spring meet district director to be filed with the school's original entry form. See Section 902.
    - (B) *Prior to the State Meet.* A debate team shall consist of two members. If one team member cannot compete at the State Meet, one academically eligible certifiable student may be substituted for one of the team members. The substitute shall be certified as eligible under Subchapter M and Section 1000 by the school administrator and shall present the contest director with a letter or official substitution form certifying eligibility and, if required by the district, a certification of rounds document. See (k)(1)(B). If a team member is substituted at the State Meet, the remaining debater shall be a member of the original team that qualified at the district meet to advance to the State Meet.
    - (C) *Limit on Substitutions.* After a given tournament has begun, no substitutions will be allowed. The contest director is empowered to disqualify a team for substituting after a tournament has begun.
  - (4) *Failure to Compete at District.* Disqualification from the Cross-Examination Debate Contest for the current academic year may result if an academic coach fails to notify the district contest director, in a timely manner prior to the meet, that a team will not compete and such may be grounds for suspension from team debate for the following year.
  - (5) *Alternates.* In the event that neither member of the original qualifying team can compete, then the alternate team shall be notified and permitted to advance. Alternates in districts with fewer than 8 teams competing or in districts with only one school competing are subject to the certification requirements detailed in (k) (1) (B). An academic coach who fails to notify the state contest director that a team will not compete is in violation of the Academic Spring Meet Code and the school shall be disqualified from team debate for the current academic competition and such violations may be grounds for suspension from team debate for the following year.
- (c) **THE PROPOSITION.** The proposition for debate during the current school year is:

Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially increase its economic engagement toward Cuba, Mexico or Venezuela.

OR

as altered by the League office.

- (d) **FORMAT AND TIME LIMITATIONS.** Continuous speaking time and order of speeches shall be as follows:

- (1) *Constructive:*

Affirmative, 8 minutes  
Cross-Examination by Negative, 3 minutes  
Negative, 8 minutes  
Cross-Examination by Affirmative, 3 minutes  
Affirmative, 8 minutes  
Cross-Examination by Negative, 3 minutes  
Negative, 8 minutes  
Cross-Examination by Affirmative, 3 minutes

(2) *Rebuttal:*

Negative, 5 minutes  
Affirmative, 5 minutes  
Negative, 5 minutes  
Affirmative, 5 minutes

Each member of a team shall deliver a constructive speech and a rebuttal speech. Failure to do so will result in the team receiving a loss in the round. In rebuttal, either team may present its speakers in reverse order without penalty.

- (3) *Preparation Time.* A team shall take no more than eight minutes total elapsed preparation time during a round of debate.
- (4) *Overtime.* Overtime may count against a team at the discretion of the judge(s).
- (5) *Abuse of Time.* Excessive abuse of the time allotments may result in loss of the round at the discretion of the contest director.

- (e) **CROSS-EXAMINATION PERIOD.** During the questioning period, both opponents stand and face the judge. Each debater shall question one opponent and only that one opponent may respond. A debater may waive the cross-examination privilege but will lose the time waived. The questioner should control the use of time during the period and may only ask questions and may not comment on the answers or make any statement of his/her own views. Rudeness, sarcasm and condescension shall not be tolerated during the cross-examination period, and the judge may choose to assign speaker points accordingly. The purpose of the questioning period is to:

- (1) Ask for information to gain clarification and understanding.
- (2) Set up strategies to use in developing further argumentation.
- (3) Discover fallacies or inconsistencies in opponent's argumentation.

- (f) **RAPID DELIVERY.** Debaters whose use of rapid delivery interferes with their communication with the audience and debate colleagues have forgotten that debate is a form of public speaking. To help restore the fundamental purpose of training debaters to communicate with their audience, all UIL guidebooks and ballots will carry the instructions that rapid delivery which interferes with effective communication is to be severely penalized.

(g) **EVIDENCE.**

- (1) *Quotes.* Whenever a debater quotes at any length the words of another, the fact the evidence is quoted material should be plainly stated.
- (2) *Availability of Materials.* Speakers may use notes if they wish. If charts, maps, books, or other materials are used by any debater, they shall be left before the audience and shall be available for use by the opposing debaters in refutation. Debaters may use laptop computers in the round in accordance with the rules published in the UIL *Cross-Examination Debate Handbook* and other official UIL publications available through the League office and on the UIL website. Coaches are responsible for reviewing these rules in advance of the contest.
- (3) *Available in Writing on Demand.* All participants submitting evidence in competition shall do so orally and possess and present promptly upon demand of debater such evidence in

published or electronic form, easily accessible and readable by opponent. The evidence shall display full bibliographic source citation, even if the full citation is not orally delivered. Full citation should include the following elements: author's name, author's qualifications, complete source information, complete date and page number. Citations of online publications or from online data bases also require the publication medium (online), the Internet URL, or the name of the computer service, and the date of access. Failure to meet this requirement can result, at the discretion of the judge, in:

- (A) loss of round;
- (B) the evidence not being counted in the round; or
- (C) the evidence not being given as much weight in the decision of the round.

(4) The contest director shall be empowered with the final decision in questions concerning falsification of evidence. See (k) (6) (A).

(h) SCOUTING.

(1) *Debates Shall Be Public.* Debate, by its very nature, is public. Therefore, all debates in League district and state competition shall be open to the public, with the exception of debate teams competing in that tournament. Competing debaters shall not observe rounds of district or state competition in which they are not debating.

(2) *Notes.* With the exception of the final debate in district and state competition, only the judge and the four student participants shall take notes. For example, anyone may take notes in the debates which determine first and second place, and third and fourth place. See Section 1001 (m) regarding taping and filming.

(3) *Sharing of Notes.* During a tournament, participants or judges may not give or accept notes taken during that tournament. For example, a judge or a debater participating in the district contest is neither allowed to give nor accept notes regarding any rounds in that tournament from anyone else during that tournament.

(4) *Penalty for Debaters.* Violation by debaters of the scouting rule is grounds for disqualification of the debate team from the current competition. The contest director shall be empowered with the final decision in questions concerning scouting. Such violations may be grounds for suspension of the school from team debate for the following year.

(5) *Penalty for Coaches.* Violation by coaches of the scouting rule is grounds for disqualification of their teams from the current competition. Coaches who violate scouting rules will also be subject to the full range of penalties as outlined in Sections 27 and 29, and such violations may be grounds for suspension of the school from team debate for the following year.

(i) COACHING FOR DEBATE.

(1) *Coaching Before the Meet.* Aside from the bulletins furnished by the League office and other reading matter, the assistance furnished contestants in preparing debates should not exceed the following:

- (A) aid in outlining the arguments;
- (B) citing sources of information; and
- (C) suggestions as to delivery.

(2) *Coaching During a Debate.* In all contests, the debaters shall be separated from the audience and shall receive no coaching while the debate is in progress. *Viva voce* or other prompting either by the speaker's colleague or by any other person while the debater has the floor is prohibited. Debaters may, however, refer to their notes and materials and may consult with their teammates while they do not have the floor.

(3) *Penalty for Prompting.* If prompting occurs during a round, the team in violation of the prompting rule shall be assigned a loss in the round in which the prompting took place.

Time signals are not considered prompting.

(j) **PLANNING THE CROSS-EXAMINATION DISTRICT COMPETITION.**

- (1) *District Planning Meeting.* The district cross-examination debate contest is administered under the authority of the district executive committee. The League office urges the spring meet district director or organizing chair of each spring meet district to name a chair for the district cross-examination debate planning meeting. This planning meeting should be held prior to October 1. The chair should schedule a meeting and notify all cross-examination debate coaches in the district of the time and place of the meeting. Recommendations resulting from this meeting concerning contest procedures may be made to the spring meet district director.
- (2) *Agenda for District Planning Meeting.* Refer to the current *Academic Coordinator's Manual* or website for complete agenda. Some of the subjects which should be addressed at the planning meeting include:
  - (A) Agree on a knowledgeable contest director for the cross-examination debate contest and submit the name to the district executive committee for approval. The spring meet district director should provide the League office with the name of the contest director as soon as the appointment is made and submit the online CX Debate Director Information Form no later than November 1. If this person is a cross-examination debate coach of teams competing in the district, special attention should be given to what procedures will be used for pairing debates and making judging assignments. Determine whether the Spring Meet Director or the contest director is responsible for setting up the cross-examination district meet online. Online meet set-up deadline is December 1.
  - (B) Set the date(s) and location(s) for the cross-examination debate competition. District cross-examination competition shall be held between the first school day in January and February 8, unless granted a waiver by the UIL state debate director. Confirmation of the district winners and alternates should be entered online no later than 10 calendar days after the conclusion of the district competition, or February 10, whichever is sooner. Certification of first place teams in districts with only one school participating and second place teams in districts with fewer than eight participating teams is due no later than February 13. State judging forms should be entered online no later than 10 calendar days after the conclusion of the district competition or February 13, whichever is sooner.
  - (C) Determine the format and tentative schedule for the competition. The district winners may be decided by round robin or by preliminary rounds leading to an elimination bracket where all undefeated contestants shall be placed into the elimination bracket.
  - (D) The deadline for online cross-examination debate entries is 10 days prior to the competition. Determine the procedures for notifying the contest director of any changes in entries and for notifying schools in the district of the number of entries.
  - (E) Determine, under the direction of the spring meet district director, what awards are to be presented and how they are to be obtained.
  - (F) Determine an estimated number of debate entries. The spring meet district director or a designated representative shall use this estimate to order ballots and judging instructions from the League office. The CX Debate District Information Form and request for materials should be entered online no later than November 1.
  - (G) Determine the procedures and criteria that will be used to select, secure, train and assign the necessary number of judges. See (k) (3).
  - (H) Determine the method that will be used to select, secure, train and assign the

necessary number of timekeepers. See (k) (5).

- (I) Consider any other contest procedures recommended by planning committee members. A suggested agenda is posted on the UIL website.
  - (J) All recommendations made by the planning committee concerning the cross-examination debate district competition should be submitted to the spring meet district director for approval.
- (k) **TOURNAMENT PROCEDURES.**
- (1) *Eliminations.*
    - (A) *Pairings.* Teams should be paired by the tournament director, who should try to prevent, where possible, teams from the same school from meeting in preliminary rounds or elimination rounds.
    - (B) *District.* The district championship may be decided, as the district executive committee directs, by (1) round robin or (2) preliminary rounds leading to an elimination bracket where all undefeated contestants shall be placed into the elimination bracket. First, second, third and fourth places shall be determined. No ties shall be awarded. The district director should notify the schools of the format prior to the meet. First place teams in districts with multiple schools entered will advance to state competition. In districts with only one school entered in the district meet, first place advances to state competition only if the high school principal certifies that the team has competed in a minimum of eight competitive interschool debate rounds prior to the certification deadline. In districts with fewer than a total of eight teams competing, the second place team advances to state competition only if the high school principal certifies that the team has competed in a minimum of eight competitive interschool CX debate rounds prior to the certification deadline – see (j) (2) (B). In districts with eight teams or more competing, the second place team advances automatically. The third and fourth place teams will serve as alternates.
    - (C) *State.* At the State Meet, the tournament format will be structured to allow for preliminary rounds for the purpose of seeding for the elimination rounds. The teams advancing to the elimination rounds will be announced after the completion of the preliminary rounds. Brackets are not broken at the State Meet. Both semifinalist teams will be awarded bronze medals. First and second place shall debate for medals. Teams who refuse to debate in semifinal or final rounds at the State Meet shall be disqualified from the tournament and such violations may be grounds for suspension from team debate for the following year.
  - (2) *Choice of Sides.* If possible, each team should debate both the affirmative side and the negative side of the resolution during the course of the meet. For example, in a three-preliminary round tournament each team should debate affirmative one round, negative one round, and then flip a coin or come to a mutual agreement for a third round.
  - (3) *Judges.* Judges shall be selected in odd numbers (1, 3, 5) for each debate. Judges should be:
    - (A) selected on the basis of capability, impartiality and willingness to judge according to UIL standards;
    - (B) at minimum, high school graduates;
    - (C) instructed to sit apart during the debate;
    - (D) provided with adequate instructions for using the judging criteria for debate in the UIL program;
    - (E) instructed to direct questions to the contest director; and
    - (F) instructed not to discuss their decisions with other individuals or judges while judging a given debate.

- (i) *District.* Judges for the district meet shall be chosen by the contest director subject to the approval of the district executive committee. So far as possible, the judges should not know which school a debater represents. On the ballot, the contestant is to be designated as the affirmative or the negative or by number.
  - (ii) *State.* Judges for the State Meet shall be selected by the state contest director. All schools that qualify for State Meet shall provide one experienced judge for each team qualified for the state competition, unless excused for a valid reason by the contest director. The coach may serve as judge. Schools qualifying two teams should contact the State Director immediately following district competition. Schools should submit online judging form(s) within 10 calendar days following the district meet or by February 13, whichever is sooner. Schools that fail to submit state judging forms online by the prescribed deadline as outlined in (j) (2) (B) shall be subject to a \$100 late judging fee which should be received in the League office at least one calendar week in advance of the State Meet to prevent disqualification from the tournament, and shall provide the required judge. Unless excused for a valid reason by the contest director, schools which advance to elimination rounds shall provide an experienced judge for each team advancing who will be available until dismissed by the contest director. Failure to provide a judge could constitute grounds for forfeiture of the round. The contest director is empowered to determine if forfeiture of a round is necessary.
  - (iii) *Instructions to the Judges.* The director of the contest is charged with the responsibility of enforcing instructions given on the debate ballot, and only the most flagrant delinquency in this matter will be considered grounds for question.
- (4) *Interruptions.* The contest director should permit no interruption of a speaker from the audience during a debate. Any intentional interruption of a debate by an audience member is considered unethical behavior. See Section 901 Spring Meet Code.
- (5) *Timekeeper and Signal Standards.* The timekeeper should announce to the debaters prior to the contest the types of time signals to be used. Either time cards, hand signals or automatic timers may be used.
- (A) If hand signals or time cards are used, the time remaining should be indicated.
  - (B) When a speaker uses all of the allotted time in either the constructive or rebuttal speeches, the timekeeper should so indicate.
  - (C) A timekeeper is provided for convenience. The responsibility for staying within the time limits lies with the debater.
  - (D) Overtime may count against the debater at the discretion of the judge.
  - (E) Excessive abuse of the time allotments may result in disqualification at the discretion of the contest director.
- (6) *Questions.*
- (A) Questions shall be directed to the contest director before the decision of the judges is announced. The decision of the meet officials in these matters is final. No arguments with the judges will be permitted.
  - (B) Excessive abuse by either contestants or their coaches shall be reason for disqualification of that school and its contestants for the current competition and may be grounds for suspension for the following year.
- (7) *Ballot Verification Period.* Before beginning any elimination round, contest directors shall hold a ballot verification period to make certain that there have been no clerical errors in

determining those teams that will advance to the next round. Results announced before this period are considered unofficial. Ballots shall be returned to contestants or coaches to be checked for possible tabulation errors before official results of advancing teams are announced. A student and/or coach not present for the ballot verification period forfeits the opportunity to verify tabulation. Approximately 15 minutes should be allotted for this verification period. This is designed as a time to verify tabulation, not a time to question the decision or ranking that a judge has given the debaters.

- (8) *Official Results.* At the end of the ballot verification period, results shall be read as official results. No questions may be raised after this point.
- (l) **RECORDING.** Schools and/or individuals are prohibited from recording (audio and/or video) speech contests. The UIL reserves the right to record for educational purposes.

Section 1002: LINCOLN-DOUGLAS DEBATE

- (a) **PURPOSE OF THE CONTEST.** Lincoln-Douglas debate provides excellent training for development of skills in argumentation, persuasion, research and audience analysis. Through this contest, students are encouraged to develop a direct and communicative style of oral delivery. Lincoln-Douglas debate is an oral one-on-one argumentation in which debaters attempt to convince the judge of the acceptability of their side of a proposition. One debater shall argue the affirmative side of the resolution, and one debater shall argue the negative side of the resolution in a given round.
- (b) **ENTRIES.**
  - (1) *Representation.* The debates shall be conducted in one division in each conference. In all conferences, a school may enter three individuals in its district meet.
  - (2) *Eligibility.* Each debater entered shall be eligible under Subchapter M. The student may not enter more than two speech events; and when entered in Lincoln-Douglas, the second speech event may not be team debate, prose or poetry. See Section 1000.
  - (3) *Substitutions.* During the district meet, substitutions shall not be allowed after a given tournament has begun. Substitutions shall not be allowed after the district meet.
  - (4) *Failure to Compete at District.* Disqualification from the Lincoln-Douglas Debate Contest for the current academic year may result if an academic coach fails to notify the district contest director, in a timely manner prior to the meet, that a debater will not compete and such may be grounds for suspension from Lincoln-Douglas debate for the following year.
  - (5) *Alternates.* When a debater who qualified for the next higher meet cannot participate in the next higher meet, the alternate should be notified. A coach or designee who fails to notify the regional and/or state contest directors that a student will not compete is in violation of the academic Spring Meet Code and the school shall be disqualified from Lincoln-Douglas debate for the current academic competition, and such violations may be grounds for suspension from Lincoln-Douglas debate for the following year.
- (c) **THE LINCOLN-DOUGLAS DEBATE RESOLUTION.** Two topics for debate, one for fall and one for spring, provided by the League office, will be announced during the course of the school year in the *Leaguer* and on the UIL website.
- (d) **FORMAT AND TIME LIMITATIONS.** Continuous speaking time and order of speeches shall be as follows:
  - Constructive*
  - Affirmative, six minutes
  - Cross-examination by negative, three minutes
  - Negative, seven minutes
  - Cross-examination by affirmative, three minutes



*Rebuttal*

Affirmative, four minutes

Negative, six minutes

Affirmative, three minutes

- (1) *Preparation Time.* A maximum of four minutes of preparation time per debater is allowed during the course of the debate.
  - (2) *Overtime.* Overtime may count against a team at the discretion of the judge.
  - (3) *Abuse of Time.* Excessive abuse of the time allotments may result in disqualification at the discretion of the contest director.
- (e) **DELIVERY.** Communication with the audience is to be considered a high priority for UIL debaters. Oral delivery in Lincoln-Douglas debate is to be communicative and persuasive.
- (f) **EVIDENCE.**
- (1) *Use.* Supporting evidence adds to the persuasiveness of the reasoning and argumentation of the debate. Whenever a debater quotes at any length the words of another, the fact the evidence is quoted material should be plainly stated.
  - (2) *Availability of Materials.* Speakers may use notes if they wish. If charts, maps, books, or other materials are used by any debater, they shall be left before the audience and shall be available for use by the opposing debaters in refutation. Debaters may use laptop computers in the round in accordance with the rules published in the UIL *Lincoln-Douglas Debate Handbook* and other official UIL publications available through the League office and on the UIL website. Coaches are responsible for reviewing these rules in advance of the contest.
  - (3) *Available in Writing on Demand.* All participants submitting evidence in competition shall do so orally and possess and present promptly upon demand of debater such evidence in published form. The evidence shall display full bibliographic source citation, even if the full citation is not orally delivered. Full citation should include the following elements: author's name, author's qualifications, complete source information, complete date and page number. Citations of online publications or from online data bases also require the publication medium (online), the Internet URL, or the name of the computer service, and the date of access. Failure to meet this requirement can, at the discretion of the judge and contest director, result in:
    - (A) loss of round,
    - (B) the evidence not being counted in the round, or
    - (C) the evidence not being given as much weight in the decision of the round.
  - (4) The contest director shall be empowered with the final decision in questions concerning falsification of evidence. See (i) (7).
- (g) **CROSS-EXAMINATION PERIOD.** During the questioning period, both opponents shall stand and face the judge. The questioner should control the use of time during the period and may only ask questions. Questioners may not comment on the answers or make any statements of their own views during the cross-examination period. The purpose of the questioning period is to:
- (1) Ask for information to gain clarification and understanding.
  - (2) Set up strategies to use in developing further argumentation.
  - (3) Discover fallacies or inconsistencies in opponent's argumentation.
- (h) **SCOUTING.**
- (1) *Debates Shall Be Public.* Debate, by its very nature, is public. Therefore, all debates in League district, regional and state competition shall be open to the public, with the exception of debaters competing in that tournament. Competing debaters shall not observe rounds of district, region, or state competition in which they are not debating.

- (2) *Notes*. With the exception of the final debate in district, regional and state competition, only the judge and the two student participants shall take notes. For example, anyone may take notes in the debates which determine first and second place, and third and fourth place. See Section 1002 (j) regarding taping and filming.
  - (3) *Sharing of Notes*. During a tournament, participants or judges may not give or accept notes taken during that tournament. For example, a judge or a debater participating in the district contest is neither allowed to give nor accept notes regarding any rounds in that tournament from anyone else during that tournament.
  - (4) *Penalty for Debaters*. Violation by debaters of the scouting rule is grounds for disqualification of the debater from the current competition. The contest director shall be empowered with the final decision in questions concerning scouting. Such violations may be grounds for suspension of the school from Lincoln-Douglas debate for the following year.
  - (5) *Penalty for Coaches*. Violation by coaches of the scouting rule is grounds for disqualification of their debaters from the current competition. Coaches who violate scouting rules will also be subject to the full range of penalties as outlined in Sections 27 and 29, and such violations may be grounds for suspension of the school from Lincoln-Douglas debate for the following year.
- (i) TOURNAMENT PROCEDURES.
- (1) *District Planning Meeting*. The contest director is urged to hold a preliminary planning meeting with the Lincoln-Douglas coaches in the district in advance of the organizing date for district contests. Recommendations from this meeting concerning site, judging, tournament format, bracketing and other contest procedures should be made to the district director. Suggested meeting agenda is located on the UIL website.
  - (2) *Eliminations*.
    - (A) Debaters should be paired by the tournament director, who should try to prevent, where possible, debaters from the same school, district, or region from meeting except in power-matched preliminary rounds or elimination rounds.
    - (B) At the district meet, the championship may be decided at the discretion of the district executive committee, by round robin or preliminary rounds leading to an elimination bracket where all undefeated contestants shall be placed into the elimination bracket. All places (first, second, third and fourth) shall be determined. No ties shall be awarded. First, second and third place shall advance to the next level of competition. Fourth place shall be designated as first alternate. The highest seeds eliminated in the quarterfinal round, or the fifth and sixth seed after preliminary competition, depending on the tournament format determined by the district executive committee, shall be designated as second and third alternates for advancement purposes only, but shall receive no points, ranks or medals.
    - (C) At the regional meet, the championship shall be determined by preliminary rounds leading to an elimination bracket, where all undefeated contestants shall be placed into the elimination bracket. First, second, third and fourth place shall be determined. No ties shall be awarded. First, second and third places shall advance to the next level of competition. Fourth place shall be designated as first alternate. The highest seeds eliminated in the quarterfinal round shall be designated as second and third alternates for advancement purposes only, but shall receive no points, ranks or medals.
    - (D) At the State Meet, the tournament format will be structured to allow for three preliminary rounds for the purpose of seeding for the semifinal round. Those advancing to the semifinal round will be announced after the completion of the third preliminary round. Brackets are not broken at the State Meet. First and second place shall debate for medals.

Debaters who refuse to debate in semifinal or final rounds at the State Meet shall be disqualified from the tournament and such violations may be grounds for suspension from LD debate for the following year. Both semifinalists will be awarded bronze medals.

- (3) *Choice of Sides.* If possible, each student should debate both the affirmative side and the negative side of the resolution during the course of the meet. For example, in a three-preliminary round tournament each student should debate affirmative one round, negative one round, and then flip a coin or come to a mutual agreement for a third round.
- (4) *Judges.* Judges shall be selected in odd numbers (1, 3, 5) for each debate. Judges should be:
  - (A) selected on the basis of capability, impartiality and willingness to judge according to UIL standards;
  - (B) at minimum, be high school graduates;
  - (C) instructed to sit apart during the debate;
  - (D) instructed not to discuss their decisions with other individuals or judges while judging a given debate;
  - (E) provided with adequate instructions for using the judging criteria for Lincoln-Douglas debate in the UIL program; and
  - (F) instructed to direct questions concerning tournament procedure, or other questions to the contest director.
    - (i) *District.* Judges for the district meet shall be chosen by the contest director subject to the approval of the district executive committee.
    - (ii) *Regional.* Judges for regional meets shall be selected by the regional Lincoln-Douglas debate contest director.
    - (iii) *State.* Judges for the State Meet shall be selected by the state contest director. Any school that qualifies for the State Meet shall provide an experienced judge for each debater who qualifies for the state competition, unless excused for a valid reason by the contest director. Schools qualifying more than one debater should contact the State Director immediately following regional competition. State judging forms should be entered online by the first Tuesday following the regional contest. Unless excused for a valid reason by the contest director, schools which advance to elimination rounds shall provide an experienced judge for each advancing debater who will be available until dismissed by the contest director. Failure to provide a judge could constitute grounds for forfeiture of the round. The contest director is empowered to determine if forfeiture of a round is necessary.
    - (iv) *Schools Represented Not to be Known by the Judges.* Except at State Meet, so far as possible, the judges should not know which school a debater represents. On the ballot, the contestant is to be designated as the affirmative or the negative or by number.
    - (v) *Instructions to the Judge.* The contest director is charged with the responsibility of enforcing instructions given on the Lincoln-Douglas debate ballot, and only the most flagrant delinquency in this matter will be considered grounds for question.
- (5) *Interruptions.* The contest director should permit no interruption of a speaker from the audience during a debate. No cheering shall be permitted during the debate. Any intentional interruption of a debate by an audience member is considered unethical behavior.
- (6) *Timekeeper and Signal Standards.* The timekeeper should announce to the debaters prior to the contest the types of time signals to be used. Either time cards, hand signals or

automatic timers may be used.

- (A) If hand signals or time cards are used, the time remaining should be indicated.
  - (B) When a speaker uses all of the allotted time, in either the constructive or rebuttal speeches, the timekeeper should so indicate.
  - (C) A timekeeper is provided for convenience. The primary responsibility for staying within the time limits lies with the debater.
  - (D) Overtime may count against the debater at the discretion of the judge.
  - (E) Excessive abuse of the time allotments may result in disqualification at the discretion of the contest director.
- (7) *Questions.*
- (A) Questions shall be directed to the contest director before the official decision of the judges is announced. The decision of the meet officials in these matters is final. No arguments with the judges will be permitted.
  - (B) Excessive abuse by either the contestant or the coach shall be reason for disqualification of that school and its contestant for the current competition and may be grounds for suspension for the following year.
- (8) *Ballot Verification.* Unofficial results of those advancing to elimination rounds may be announced prior to ballot verification. Ballots should be returned to contestants or coaches to be checked for possible tabulation errors before official results of those advancing are announced. A student and/or coach not present for the ballot verification period forfeits the opportunity to verify tabulation. Approximately 15 minutes should be allotted for this verification period. This is designed as a time to verify tabulation, not a time to question the decision of the judges.
- (9) *Official Results.* At the end of the ballot verification period, results shall be read as official results. No questions may be raised after this point.
- (j) **RECORDING.** Schools and/or individuals are prohibited from recording (audio and/or video) speech contests. The UIL reserves the right to record for educational purposes.

**Section 1003: INDIVIDUAL SPEECH CONTESTS**

- (a) **PURPOSE.** The purpose of each of the individual speech contests is to stimulate the student's ability to communicate ideas and information to an audience. In the extemporaneous informative speaking and extemporaneous persuasive speaking contests, these ideas are essentially those of the speaker, derived from the speaker's background of research on current events. In poetry interpretation and prose interpretation, the student is challenged to ascertain and communicate the ideas of a literary selection, based on the student's understanding and research.
- (b) **GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS.**
  - (1) *Sections.* A section shall consist of no more than eight contestants. If nine or more students enter a single contest, one preliminary round and one final round shall be held. Preliminary round sections shall be divided as equally as possible. The following chart shall be used to determine the number of sections and finalists in each section:

<u>No. Entries</u>	<u>Preliminaries</u>	<u>Participants Advancing to Final Round</u>
1- 8	None	Final Round
9-16	2 Sections	1st, 2nd, 3rd from each section
15-24	3 Sections	1st, 2nd from each section
20-32	4 Sections	1st, 2nd from each section
32-39	8 Sections	1st from each section

Contestants should be entered on the district online entry form according to strength. Contest directors should section by distributing first, second and third place

district entries as equally as possible, avoiding when possible, placing contestants from the same school in the same section. At the regional level, first, second and third place district winners should be distributed as equally as possible throughout the sections.

- (2) *Judging All Individual Speech Contests.* Judging shall be by an odd number of judges or by one judge. In any event, the contest director should make every attempt to secure competent judges who have had training in the field of speech. At minimum, judges should be high school graduates. In so far as possible, the judges should not know which school contestants represent. A copy of the judging instructions provided by the League office should be given to each judge. Prose and poetry judges for high school oral interpretation should be given literary categories prior to the meet. Contest directors are responsible for explaining these instructions and categories to the judges. Judges should be instructed not to discuss their decisions with other individuals or judges while judging a given contest. The responsibility of the judge is to rank the speaker, evaluate the performance, and give constructive suggestions for the benefit of the speaker. Written evaluations are encouraged.

- (3) *Timekeeper and Signal Standards.*

(A) A timekeeper should be provided for each contest to notify the contestant of the amount of time remaining from the total allotted time. The timekeeper should sit where they can be seen by contestants and should demonstrate before each contestant begins the type of time signals to be used. The time cards are a much preferred method of signal.

(B) A timekeeper may use either timecards or hand signals to indicate to the speaker the remaining time. If timecards are available, when the speaker begins to talk, the card marked "7" should be held so that the speaker can see it. When the speaker has talked for one minute, the card marked "6", should be held so the speaker can see it, which indicates six minutes remaining, etc. When the speaker has talked for six minutes the timekeeper should raise the card marked "1" above his/her head. When only 30 seconds remain, the timekeeper should raise the "1/2" card (preferably a yellow card) above the head. At the end of the full seven minutes, the timekeeper should hold the "stop" card (preferably a red card) above the head, or otherwise indicate that the total allotted time has been consumed. An interpretative contestant who is still speaking as the "stop" card is raised is deemed to have gone over seven minutes. Prose and poetry contestants may not go over seven minutes without disqualification. In informative and persuasive speaking, the speaker may complete only the sentence in progress without disqualification. The responsibility for keeping within restricted time limit rests with the contestant.

The following hand signals (signal with fingers) are recommended if timecards are not used:

- (i) After three minutes have elapsed, give a signal of four fingers.
- (ii) After five minutes have elapsed, give a signal of two fingers.
- (iii) After six minutes have elapsed, give a signal of one finger.
- (iv) After seven minutes have elapsed, the timekeeper may stand or otherwise indicate that the total time has elapsed.

- (4) *Ranking the Contestants.*

(A) At the close of the contest, the judges shall rank all speakers by numbers: 1, 2, 3, etc. The contest director will supervise tabulation of contest results, using the official UIL Talktab speech tabulation software. Points are to be awarded through sixth place in accordance with Section 902.

- (B) In the case of panel judging, the following criteria, in the following order, shall be used to determine all ranks: (1) majority or BETTER; (2) lowest sum; (3) judges' preference; (4) decimal equivalent; (5) judges' preference to break decimal ties; (6) blind draw, except at state finals. When a place has been determined, the contest director shall revert back to the first criteria (majority or BETTER) to determine the next rank, unless there is a tie, whereupon all contestants who are tied shall be awarded a place before going on to another contestant or place. NOTE: At no time during tabulation should judges discuss their ranks or confer with one another regarding ranks - item (iii) below, "Judges' Preference" is a method of tabulation and does NOT infer that judges confer to reach a preference. See \* in (C) below for instructions on tabulating judges' preference.
- (i) Any contestant who receives a majority of firsts shall be awarded first place.
  - (ii) In the event that no contestant receives a majority of firsts, the contestant with the lowest sum of total ranks shall be awarded first place.
  - (iii) If, at this point, two or more contestants tie with the same low sum of total ranks, the tie shall be broken by the use of judges' preference. See (C) \* below for instructions on determining judges' preference.)
  - (iv) In any case where there is a tie, all contestants who are tied shall be awarded a place before going on to another contestant or place.
  - (v) Should a tie occur at this point among three or more contestants which cannot be broken by judges' preference, the ranks of only the tied contestants shall be converted to decimal equivalents on the following scale:
    - Rank of first = 1.00
    - Rank of second = .50
    - Rank of third = .33
    - Rank of fourth = .25
    - Rank of fifth = .20
    - Rank of sixth = .17
    - Rank of seventh = .14
    - Rank of eighth = .13The contestant with the highest sum total of the decimal value of ranks shall be awarded first place.
  - (vi) If after converting to decimal values two contestants remain tied with equal sums of decimal values, this tie shall be broken by judges' preference.
  - (vii) Should a tie among three or more contestants occur which cannot be broken by these methods, it shall be broken by a blind draw, except at state finals.
  - (viii) The order of this procedure shall be followed to determine all ranks. When determining second place, a majority of second place ranks OR BETTER is the first criterion. When determining third place, a majority of third place ranks OR BETTER is the first criterion, etc.
- (C) Second place shall be determined next. If a tie existed for first place, after breaking the tie by the above methods, the person who was tied with the first place winner is automatically given second place. If no tie existed, revert to the first ranking criteria (majority or BETTER.) A contestant (not already awarded a place) ranked second OR BETTER by a majority of the judges shall be awarded second place. If, however, no contestant receives a majority of seconds OR BETTER or if two unranked contestants receive a majority of seconds OR BETTER. (i.e., ranks of 1 and 2, or 2 and 2), then the contestant with the lowest sum of total ranks shall be awarded second. In the following example, both unranked contestants have a majority of

seconds OR BETTER, so contestant #2, whose sum of total ranks is lower, is ranked second. Contestant #1 is then awarded third before any other contestant or place is considered, and the next place to be awarded is fourth.

Contestant	Judge A	Judge B	Judge C	Total	Rank
One	3	2	2	7	3rd
Two	2	1	3	6	2nd
Three	1	5	1	N/A	1st

\*In the next example, first place was awarded to a contestant with a majority of firsts, and no contestant had a majority of seconds OR BETTER. Contestants 1 and 2 have the same sum of total ranks, so the tie for second shall be determined by judges' preference.

Contestant	Judge A	Judge B	Judge C	Total	Preference	Rank
One	2	5	3	10	+	2nd
Two	4	2	4	10	-	3rd

Contestant 1 is ranked higher (or receives higher preference) than contestant 2 by two of the three judges (A & C), and is awarded second place. Contestant 2 shall be awarded third place before any other contestant or place is considered. Any tie between only two contestants can be broken by judges' preference.

- (D) Many three-way ties, where three contestants have the same sum of total ranks, can also be broken by determining judges' preference, as in the following example:

Contestant	Judge A	Judge B	Judge C	Total	Preference	Rank
One	1	4	4	9	--	3rd
Two	4	3	2	9	++	1st
Three	5	1	3	9	+ -	2nd
Four	3	5	5	13		5th
Five	2	2	6	10		4th
Six	6	6	1	13		6th

No speaker has a majority of firsts, and three speakers are tied with a rank sum of 9. Compare speaker #1 to speaker #2, and two of three judges (B & C) ranked #2 higher. A (+) beside speaker #2 in the preference column, and a (-) beside #1 indicate the judges' preference. Now compare speaker #1 to the other contestant involved in the tie, speaker #3. Two judges (B & C) ranked #3 higher than #1, indicated by a (+) in the preference column for speaker #3, and a (-) in the preference column for #1. Now compare speaker #2 to speaker #3, and note that two of the three judges (A & C) ranked speaker #2 higher, as indicated by a (+) in the preference column for speaker, #2, and a (-) for speaker #3. The two (+)'s for speaker #2 in the judges' preference column indicate that speaker #2 was preferred over both other contestants, so this speaker is awarded first place. Speaker #3 was ranked higher than speaker #1 by two of the three judges, so contestant #3 is awarded second place. Contestant #1 is then awarded third place.

Please note that although speaker #5 has a majority of second place ranks, this contestant is not awarded second place, because all three contestants tied for first shall be ranked before considering other contestants or places. The next place to be determined is fourth place, and speaker #5 is the only unranked contestant with a majority of fourths OR BETTER (two second place ranks). Therefore contestant #5 is awarded fourth place. The next place to be determined is fifth, and speaker #4 is the only unranked contestant with a majority of fifths or better. Therefore, contestant #4 is awarded fifth place, and speaker #6 is awarded sixth.

- (E) Should a tie occur at this point among three or more contestants which cannot be broken by judges' preference, the ranks of only those contestants involved in the tie shall be converted to their decimal equivalent. See Section 1003 (b) (3) (B) (v). In

the following example, contestant #2 has a majority of firsts and is awarded first place. No unranked contestant has a majority of seconds or better, and contestants #1, #3, and #5 have the same total low sum of ranks.

Contestant	Judge A	Judge B	Judge C	Total	Preference
One	1	6	4	11	+ -
Two	2	1	1	N/A	
Three	3	2	6	11	- +
Four	6	3	5	14	
Five	4	5	2	11	- +
Six	5	4	3	12	

Judges' preference cannot be determined because no contestant is given preference over both others. Only the ranks of the tied contestants shall be converted to their decimal equivalent as follows:

Contestant #1		Contestant #3		Contestant #5	
1st	= 1.00	3rd	= .33	4th	= .25
6th	= .17	2nd	= .50	5th	= .20
4th	= <u>.25</u>	6th	= <u>.17</u>	2nd	= <u>.50</u>
	1.42		1.00		.95

Contestant #1 has the highest sum total of decimal value, and is awarded second place. Contestant #3 has the next highest total, and is awarded third place, and contestant #5 is awarded fourth place. Both contestants remaining unranked have a majority of fifths OR BETTER. Therefore, contestant #6, with the lowest sum of total ranks, is awarded fifth place and contestant #4 is awarded sixth.

Contestant	Judge			Total	Pref	Decimal	
	A	B	C			Value	Rank
One	1	6	4	11	+ -	1.42	2nd
Two	2	1	1	N/A			1st
Three	3	2	6	11	- +	1.00	3rd
Four	6	3	5	14			6th
Five	4	5	2	11	- +	.95	4th
Six	5	4	3	12			5th

- (F) If after conversion to decimal values, two contestants remained tied, this tie shall be broken by judges' preference, as in the following example of three contestants tied for first:

Contestant	Judge			Total	Pref	Decimal	
	A	B	C			Value	Rank
One	1	5	2	8		1.70	1st
Two	3	1	4	8	+	1.58	2nd
Three	4	3	1	8	-	1.58	3rd

In this example, judges' preference cannot be determined among the three tied contestants. When ranks are converted to decimal value, contestant #1 has the highest total and is therefore awarded first place. Now judges' preference shall be used to break the simple two-way tie between contestants #2 and #3. Two of the three judges (A & B) ranked contestant #2 higher than #3, and contestant #2 is awarded second place. Contestant #3 shall be awarded third place before any other contestant is considered.

- (G) If at this point, a tie still exists among three or more contestants whose decimal value of ranks is equal, the tie shall be broken by a blind draw, except at state finals. The following example illustrates a tie among three contestants which shall be broken by a blind draw.

Contestant	Judge			Total	Pref	Decimal	
	A	B	C			Value	Rank
One	1	3	5	9	+ -	1.53	TIE



Two	3	5	1	9	- +	1.53	TIE
Three	5	1	3	9	+ -	1.53	TIE

All three contestants shall be awarded ranks by a blind draw before any other contestant or place is considered. Points shall be divided equally in accordance with Section 902.

(H) Contestants who are disqualified receive no place and no points.

- (5) *Unofficial Results.* Until students and/or coaches have had a chance to look at the rankings and at the individual evaluation sheets during the announced verification period, results should be announced as unofficial.
- (6) *Ballot Verification Period.* After the preliminary and final rounds (excluding final round at State) and the announcement of unofficial rankings, the individual evaluation sheets for each contestant shall be made available to the contestant and/or the coach. Unofficial rankings of each round should be available printed from the official UIL TalkTab software during this verification period. It then becomes the responsibility of the student and/or the coach to question any tabulation error before the official results of those advancing to the final round or being awarded medals is announced. Students and/or coaches who are not present for this announced ballot verification period forfeit their opportunity to verify tabulation. Approximately 15 minutes should be allotted for this verification period. This is designed as a time to verify tabulation, not a time to question the decision or ranking that a judge has given the student.
- (7) *Official Results.* At the end of the ballot verification period, rankings shall be read and posted as Official Results. No questions may be raised after this point.

#### Section 1004: EXTEMPORANEOUS INFORMATIVE SPEAKING

- (a) **PURPOSE OF THE CONTEST.** The purpose of this contest is to stimulate an active interest in current affairs at the state, national and international levels, and to teach the student to present extemporaneously in a clear and impartial manner the facts about a subject as they appear in the best available sources of information. This contest is an exercise in clear thinking and informing the public on the issues and concerns of the American people. The objective is to present information orally in an interesting way, and an attempt should not be made to change the listener's mind beyond presenting the information.
- (b) **ENTRIES.**
  - (1) *Representation.* Each participant school in all conferences may enter three students in the contest.
  - (2) *Eligibility.* Each contestant shall be eligible under Subchapter M. Only students in high school are eligible for this contest. Contestants shall not compete in district in more than one extemporaneous event in the same year. See Subchapter M and Section 1000, Eligibility Rules.
- (c) **PREPARATION.**
  - (1) *Sources.* Students should prepare for this contest by reading a daily newspaper and any of the many news magazines, searching the Internet, and listening to radio and television news broadcasts. Schools will periodically be notified of available publications and lists of practice topics through the UIL website. Helpful magazines include *Time*, *Newsweek*, *U.S. News and World Report* and other news publications. Useful newspaper sources include *The New York Times*, *The Christian Science Monitor* and major Texas newspapers. There are also numerous news-oriented sites on the Internet, some of which are linked from the UIL website ([www.uiltexas.org/speech](http://www.uiltexas.org/speech)).
  - (2) *Topics.*

- (A) Topics for extemporaneous informative speaking shall be based on current news events. They shall include topics from state, national and international levels. They will be chosen from the general areas of political, social, economic, educational and cultural interests. Practice topics will be posted from time to time on the UIL website.
  - (B) The topics for the extemporaneous informative speaking contest are designed to elicit an informative response from the speaker, but under no condition is it the obligation of the League to provide an “informative topic.” That obligation is remanded to the speaker. All topics in this contest are intended to be treated as ones that are calling for a speech that informs. The speaker should avoid attempts to persuade the audience or judges.
  - (C) Topics for the preliminary and final rounds of district, regional and state meets are provided by the League office.
- (3) *Resource.* The contest is discussed in more detail in the UIL *Informative and Persuasive Speaking Handbook* available through the League office and on the UIL website. Coaches are responsible for reviewing this publication in advance of the contest.

(d) CONDUCTING THE CONTEST.

- (1) *Sections.* If more than eight contestants are entered, preliminary and final rounds shall be held. See Section 1003 (b) (1).

- (2) *Drawings.*

- (A) The League office shall furnish the director in charge with topics. The district topics will be delivered in a sealed envelope. The envelope will contain enough complete sets of the topic questions for each section of preliminaries (i. e., if there are two preliminary sections, two copies will be needed; if there are three sections, three copies will be needed, etc.). A short time before the contest begins, the contest director should open the sealed envelope. A separate envelope or receptacle will be needed for each preliminary section. Each copy of the topics should be cut by the contest director, leaving one topic on each slip. One complete set of separated topic questions should be put into the envelope or receptacle for each section of preliminaries. Each contestant shall draw five topic slips and select one of the five. The topic chosen should be recorded by the director, and the remaining four slips returned to the receptacle from which they were drawn. The slips should be mixed before the next contestant draws, and so on. The speakers should be allowed to draw at approximately 10 minute intervals.

For example:

<u>Order</u>	<u>Draw</u>	<u>Speak</u>
Speaker One	1:00	1:30
Speaker Two	1:10	1:40
Speaker Three	1:20	1:50

If preliminaries are necessary, the process shall be repeated for selection of topics for the final contest. Topics for preliminary and final rounds shall be provided by the League office.

- (B) In the preliminary rounds of this event all sections are to be run simultaneously. That is, if three preliminary sections are required by the sectioning rules previously mentioned, all three are to be conducted at the same time; if two are required, both are to be run at the same time, etc. All first speakers will draw at the same time; all second speakers will draw at the same time, etc. Accordingly, all speakers shall speak in their respective rooms at the same time designated for their speaking positions. This will require a number of judges as well as contest rooms equal to the number of

sections required by the League rules. See Section 1003 (b) (1).

(C) The contest director shall destroy all unused topics.

- (3) *The Preparation Period: Procedure and Timing.* In conducting this contest, rooms will be needed for drawing topics, preparing speeches and presenting speeches in each section. Informative speaking and persuasive speaking preparation rooms should be combined to allow students from the same school to share files. Contestants may draw topics and prepare in the same large room if necessary. A preparation room monitor should be on duty to make certain that the contestants work quietly in preparing their speeches. After contestants draw their topics, they shall not discuss them with others. At the end of half an hour, the contestant shall leave the preparation room with only the topic slip and no more than one notecard that is no larger than 3 x 5 inches to go to the contest room to deliver the speech. Contestants should report directly to their contest room without conversing or consulting with anyone. In the meantime, the director will have called other speakers at about 10 minute intervals to draw topics, and so on until the contest is completed. Speakers shall leave the preparation room when their speaker order is called.
  - (4) *Restrictions in Preparation Room.* To assist in preparing the speech, the speaker may use magazines, newspapers, journals and other published source materials and photocopies made in compliance with copyright laws, and electronic materials saved according to the *UIL Guidelines for Electronic Retrieval Devices in Extemporaneous Speaking*, as long as the material cannot be considered an outline of a speech. Any source material resembling the outline of a speech shall not to be used by the speaker in preparing the contest speech. Prepared notes, extemp speeches, debate evidence handbooks and briefs are not allowed. Published material from computer online data services may be used. The URL source of the published downloaded material should be included. Typed or hand-written materials may not be taken into the preparation room, except in the form of an index file which has been prepared by the student for the sole purpose of convenience in finding references to specific topics. Speakers may use laptop and tablet computers, and other electronic retrieval devices in the preparation room in accordance with the rules published in the *UIL Informative and Persuasive Speaking Handbook* and other official UIL Publications available through the League office, and on the UIL website. Coaches are responsible for reviewing these rules in advance of the contest.
  - (5) *Restriction on Notes.* Speakers may use only one notecard that is no larger than 3 x 5 inches when delivering speeches. No limit is placed on the quantity of information on the one card. All source citations orally delivered in the speech should be legitimate.
  - (6) *Speech Topic and Type.* The contestant shall deliver an informative speech on the topic selected.
  - (7) *Length of Speeches.* Informative speeches shall not be longer than seven minutes. There shall be no minimum time. The speaker may complete only the sentence which is in progress without disqualification, after the allotted time has expired. The responsibility of keeping within the seven-minute time limit rests with the contestant.
  - (8) *Audiences.* Speaking, by its very nature, is public. Therefore, all extemporaneous speaking rounds in League district, regional and state competition shall be open to the public.
  - (9) *Timekeeper and Signal Standards.* A timekeeper should be provided for each contest to notify the contestant of the amount of time remaining from the total allotted time. The timekeeper should sit where they can be seen by contestants and should demonstrate before each contestant begins speaking the type of time signals to be used. See General Instructions, Section 1003 (b) (4).
- (e) DUTIES OF THE CONTEST DIRECTOR.

- (1) *Announcement of Topics.* The practice of having speakers announce their own topics before beginning to speak should be discouraged. Topics should be announced in one of two ways:
  - (A) The contestant may write the topic on the board and give the slip to the room chair or judge; or
  - (B) The chair, timekeeper, or director in charge of the contest, or a designated representative, may announce the topic drawn by each speaker in the contest room to insure that the judge or judges have the topic before the speaker begins.
- (2) *Audiences and Interruptions.* Spectators are encouraged to attend speeches. Contest directors should not permit any interruption of the speakers during the contest. Cheering is not permitted. Coaches and contestants may be audience members. No coaching shall be permitted during the contest.
- (3) *Recording.* Schools and/or individuals are prohibited from recording (audio and/or video) speech contests. The UIL reserves the right to record for educational purposes.
- (4) *Judging.* Judging shall be by an odd number of judges or by one judge. At minimum, judges should be high school graduates. A copy of the judging instructions (provided by the League office) shall be given to each judge. Contest directors are responsible for explaining these instructions to the judges. Judges should be instructed not to discuss their decisions with other individuals or judges while judging a given contest. See Section 1003 (b) (2).
- (5) *Questions.* Questions shall be made to the contest director before the decision of the judges is rendered. The decisions of the meet officials in these matters are final.
- (6) *Ranking Contestants.* See Section 1003 (b).
- (7) *Unofficial Results.* Until students and/or coaches have had a chance to look at the rankings and the individual evaluation sheets during the announced ballot verification period, results should be announced as unofficial.
- (8) *Ballot Verification Period.* See General Instructions, Section 1003 (b) (6). This procedure is mandatory.
- (9) *Official Results.* See General Instructions, Section 1003 (b) (7).

Section 1005: EXTEMPORANEOUS PERSUASIVE SPEAKING

- (a) **PURPOSE OF THE CONTEST.** The purpose of this contest is to train students to analyze a current issue, determine a point of view, and then organize and deliver extemporaneously a speech that seeks to persuade listeners to agree with that viewpoint. The objective is to reinforce the views of listeners who already believe as the speaker does, but even more so, to bring those of neutral or opposing views around to the speaker's beliefs or proposed course of action. This oral contest should especially appeal to those who have a strong argumentative urge and who wish to advocate reforms or outline solutions for current problems.
- (b) **ENTRIES.**
  - (1) *Representation.* Each participant school in all conferences may enter three students in the contest.
  - (2) *Eligibility.* Each contestant shall be eligible under Subchapter M. Only students in high school are eligible for this contest. Contestants shall not compete in district in more than one extemporaneous speaking event in the same year. See Subchapter M and Section 1000, Speech Eligibility Rules.
- (c) **PREPARATION.**
  - (1) *Sources.* Students should prepare for this contest by reading a daily newspaper and any of the many news magazines, searching the Internet, and listening to radio and television

news broadcasts. Schools will periodically be notified of available publications and lists of topics through the UIL website. Helpful magazines include *Time*, *Newsweek*, *U.S. News and World Report* and other news publications. Useful newspaper sources include *The New York Times*, *The Christian Science Monitor* and major Texas newspapers. There are also numerous news oriented sites on the Internet, some of which are linked from the UIL website ([www.uiltexas.org/speech](http://www.uiltexas.org/speech)).

(2) *Topics.*

- (A) Topics for extemporaneous persuasive speaking shall be based on current news events. They shall include topics from state, national and international levels. They will be chosen from the general areas of political, social, economic, educational, and cultural interests. Practice topics will be posted from time to time on the UIL website.
- (B) The topics will be worded so as to elicit persuasive speeches rather than informative speeches but under no condition is it the obligation of the League to provide a “persuasive topic.” That obligation is remanded to the speaker. The contest requires a contestant to convince or persuade the audience and judges to accept the speaker’s point of view. The contestant is required to take a position in answering a specific topic question.
- (C) Topics for the preliminary and final rounds at district and regional meets are provided by the League office.

(3) *Resource.* The contest is discussed in more detail in the *UIL Informative and Persuasive Speaking Handbook* available through the League office and on the UIL website. Coaches are responsible for reviewing these publications in advance of the contest.

(d) CONDUCTING THE CONTEST.

(1) *Sections.* If more than eight contestants are entered, preliminary and final rounds shall be held. See Section 1003 (b) (1).

(2) *Drawings.*

(A) The League office shall furnish the director in charge with topics. The district topics will be delivered in a sealed envelope. The envelope will contain enough complete sets of the topic questions for each section of preliminaries (i. e., if there are two preliminary sections, two copies will be needed; if there are three sections, three copies will be needed, etc.). A short time before the contest begins, the contest director should open the sealed envelope. A separate envelope or receptacle will be needed for each preliminary section. Each copy of the topics should be cut by the contest director, leaving one topic on each slip. One complete set of separated topic questions should be put into the envelope or receptacle for each section of preliminaries. Each contestant shall draw five topic slips and select one of the five. The topic chosen should be recorded by the director, and the remaining four slips returned to the receptacle from which they were drawn. The slips should be mixed before the next contestant draws, and so on. The speakers should be allowed to draw at approximately 10 minute intervals. For example:

<u>Order</u>	<u>Draw</u>	<u>Speak</u>
Speaker One	1:00	1:30
Speaker Two	1:10	1:40
Speaker Three	1:20	1:50

If preliminaries are necessary, the process shall be repeated for selection of topics for the final contest. Topics for preliminary and final rounds shall be provided by the League office.

(B) In the preliminary rounds of this event, all sections are to be run simultaneously.

That is, if three preliminary sections are required by the sectioning rules previously mentioned, all three are to be conducted at the same time; if two are required, both will be run at the same time, etc. All first speakers will draw at the same time; all second speakers will draw at the same time, etc. Accordingly, all speakers shall speak in their respective rooms at the same time designated for their speaking positions. This will require a number of judges as well as contest rooms equal to the number of sections required by the League rules. See Section 1003 (b) (1).

(C) The contest director shall destroy all unused topics.

- (3) *The Preparation Period: Procedure and Timing.* In conducting this contest, rooms will be needed for drawing topics, preparing speeches and presenting speeches in each section. Informative speaking and persuasive speaking preparation rooms should be combined to allow students from the same school to share files. Contestants may draw topics and prepare in the same large room if necessary. A preparation room monitor shall be on duty to make certain that the contestants work quietly in preparing their speeches. After contestants draw topics, they shall not discuss them with others. At the end of half an hour the contestant shall leave the preparation room with only the topic slip and no more than one notecard that is no larger than 3 x 5 inches to go to the contest room to deliver the speech. Contestants should report directly to their contest room without conversing or consulting with anyone. In the meantime, the director will have called other speakers at about 10 minute intervals to draw topics, and so on until the contest is completed. Speakers shall leave the preparation room when their speaker order is called.
- (4) *Restrictions in Preparation Room.* To assist in preparing the speech, the speaker may use magazines, newspapers, journals and other published source materials, and photocopies made in compliance with copyright laws, and electronic materials saved according to the *UIL Guidelines for Electronic Retrieval Devices in Extemporaneous Speaking*, as long as the material cannot be considered an outline of a speech. Any source material resembling the outline of a speech shall not be used by the speaker to prepare the contest speech. Prepared notes, extemp speeches, debate evidence handbooks and briefs are not allowed. Published material from computer online data services may be used. The URL source of the published downloaded material should be included. Typed or hand-written materials may not be taken into the preparation room, except in the form of an index file which has been prepared by the student for the sole purpose of convenience in finding references to specific topics. Speakers may use laptop and tablet computers, and other electronic retrieval devices in the preparation room in accordance with the rules published in the *UIL Informative and Persuasive Speaking Handbook* and other official UIL Publications available through the League office, and on the UIL website. Coaches are responsible for reviewing these rules in advance of the contest.
- (5) *Restriction on Notes.* The speaker may use only one notecard that is no larger than 3 x 5 inches when delivering the speech. No limit is placed on the quantity of information on that one card. All source citations orally delivered in the speech should be legitimate.
- (6) *Speech Topic and Type.* The contestant shall deliver a persuasive speech on the topic selected.
- (7) *Length of Speeches.* Persuasive speeches shall not be longer than seven minutes. There shall be no minimum time. The speaker may complete only the sentence in progress without disqualification, after the allotted time has expired. The responsibility of keeping within the seven-minute time limit rests with the contestant.
- (8) *Audiences.* Speaking, by its very nature, is public. Therefore, all extemporaneous speaking rounds in League district, regional and state competition shall be open to the public.
- (9) *Timekeeper and Signal Standards.* A timekeeper should be provided for each contest to

notify the contestants of the amount of time remaining from their total allotted time. The timekeeper should sit where they can be seen by contestants and should demonstrate before each contestant begins speaking the type of time signals to be used. See Section 1003 (b) (4).

(e) DUTIES OF THE CONTEST DIRECTOR.

- (1) *Announcement of Topics.* The practice of having speakers announce their own topics before beginning to speak should be discouraged. Topics should be announced in one of two ways:
  - (A) The contestant may write the topic on the board and give the slip to the room chair or judge; or
  - (B) The chair, timekeeper, or director in charge of the contest, or a designated representative, may announce the topic drawn by each speaker in the contest room to insure that the judge or judges have the topic before the speaker begins.
- (2) *Audiences and Interruptions.* Spectators are encouraged to attend the speeches. Contest directors should not permit any interruption of the speakers during the contest. Cheering is not permitted. Coaches and contestants may be audience members. No coaching shall be permitted during the contest.
- (3) *Recording.* Schools and/or individuals are prohibited from recording (audio and/or video) speech contests. The UIL reserves the right to record for educational purposes.
- (4) *Judging.* Judging shall be by an odd number of judges or by one judge. At minimum, judges should be high school graduates. A copy of the judging instructions provided by the League office shall be given to each judge. Contest directors are responsible for explaining these instructions to the judges. Judges should be instructed not to discuss their decisions with other individuals or judges while judging a given contest. See Section 1003 (b) (2).
- (5) *Questions.* Questions shall be made to the contest director before the decision of the judges is rendered. The decisions of the meet officials in these matters are final.
- (6) *Ranking Contestants.* See Section 1003 (b).
- (7) *Unofficial Results.* Until students and coaches have had a chance to look at the rankings and the individual evaluation sheets during the announced ballot verification period, results should be announced as unofficial.
- (8) *Ballot Verification Period.* See Section 1003 (b) (6). This procedure is mandatory.
- (9) *Official Results.* See Section 1003 (b) (7).