

2017 NCFL Fall Director's Meeting  
September 29-30, 2017  
Washington, D.C.

Meeting came to order at 6.04 p.m.  
Roll Call conducted

### **Reports of the officers**

President, Roberta Hyland: NHFS Policy Debate Topic Selection Committee

- Topic areas for 2018-2019 are:
  - Presidential Authority
  - Poverty
  - Immigration
  - Food security
  - Supreme Court (five specific cases to be overruled)
- Next year's topic meeting is in Spokane, Washington
- NHFS considering that for international topics, the actors will be international themselves; also considering topics with non-government actors

First Vice President, Barbara Fontenot: Topic areas and volunteers for the for LD and PF working committees due by January 10, 2018

Second Vice President, Susan Peebles: Extemp questions due by January 10, 2018

Publicity Director, Ann Marie Duffy: Social Media Updates / Weekend News

- New Twitter handle: **@NCFL2018** - for social and fun
- Old Twitter handle: **@NCFL\_Updates** - for tournament updates
- Instagram - new # for 2018 = **#NCFL2018** (post away); and search for **NCFLS** and follow us
- Like us on Facebook
- The March for Racial Equality is Saturday morning, please note road closures

Treasurer (Mike Colletti, Chicago): Financial Report

Tournament Director (Roland Burdett)

- 2017 NCFL Tournament: Louisville Wrap-up
- Agreement was reached among the Directors to use the Program App only and no longer print programs

## **Tournament Reports**

- Louisville (Katy Cecil): Spoke to success of the tournament and thanked the league
- Minneapolis Bid Presentation for 2021
- Washington, DC Bid Presentation for 2022 and 2026
  - Discussion of budget, costs of tournaments and potential increases to registration fees as well as sponsorships

Upon a motion duly made and seconded the meeting was adjourned until 9:00 a.m. Saturday, September 30, 2017

Saturday, September 30, 2017

Meeting was called to order at 8:58 a.m.

- Discussion Minneapolis Bid for 2021

Upon a motion duly made and seconded the Minneapolis Bid for 2021 was accepted

- Update on 2018 Tournament in Washington, D.C
- Discussion of the Washington DC Bid for 2022 and 2026
  - Discussion of Conferencedirect and benefit of having them help plan tournaments this far in advance
  - Question about hotel rates and ability to lock in rates
  - Question and discussion about use of schools as back-up to convention center model
  - Discussion of convention center experience in Sacramento
  - Discussion of costs associated with the convention center model and larger cities, like Washington DC
  - Discussion about the size of the tournaments and difficulty in finding host leagues and space in which to compete
  - Question and discussion about the University-based model
  - Eloise Blair (Houston): Spoke to the concerns about expense and locations and offered Houston as the alternative site should the DC tournament fall through
  - Questions and discussion about contracts and details for the 2022/2026 tournaments

Upon a motion duly made and seconded the Washington, DC bid for 2022 and 20206 was accepted

- Louisville plans to bid for 2023
- Milwaukee Tournament Update Presentation by Steve Sexton (Milwaukee)
- Chicago Tournament Update Presentation by Mike Colletti (Chicago)

## Amendments to the Bylaws and Constitution

**A. NCFL ByLaws Article II, Section C - Events: Definitions and Procedures, 1, c, 2, rephrase as: The literature chosen may include any form of prose or poetry, fiction or non-fiction. Drama, including theatrical monologues, is prohibited. Musical lyrics shall be allowed as poetry, including music from dramatic works (such as a musical), if published independently from the dramatic work. Speeches written to be delivered in real-life are prohibited. -- Submitted by Boston**

- Kieran Larkin (Brooklyn): moved to amend the proposed amendment as follows:

The literature chosen may include any form of prose or poetry, fiction or non-fiction. Drama, including theatrical monologues, is prohibited. Musical lyrics shall be allowed as poetry, except for musical lyrics originally written for inclusion in a dramatic work including music from dramatic works (such as a musical), if published independently from the dramatic work. Speeches written to be delivered in real-life are prohibited

Upon a motion duly made and seconded Mr. Larkin's amendment failed on a hand vote 16 to 15

- Mr. Petersen (LaCrosse) moved to amend the proposed amendment as follows:

NCFL ByLaws Article II, Section C - Events: Definitions and Procedures, 1, c, 2, rephrase as: The literature chosen may include any form of prose or poetry, fiction or non-fiction. Drama, including theatrical monologues, is prohibited. Musical lyrics shall be allowed as poetry, including music from dramatic works (such as a musical), ~~if published independently from the dramatic work.~~ Speeches written to be delivered in real-life are prohibited. -- Submitted by Boston

Upon a motion duly made and seconded the Mr. Petersen's amendment passed

Upon a motion duly made and seconded the amended change failed on a roll call vote: 78 to 70 with 15 abstentions

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Summary: Proposal A (as amended) Ultimately FAILED

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**B) NCFL ByLaws Article II, Section C.4.b Debate Procedures In Paragraph b. After the words, "receive a bye to Round VII." Add the sentence, "If Round VII is to take place on Sunday morning, the posting on Saturday night will have separate lists of debaters who must compete in Round VI and debaters who are byed into Round VII." -- Submitted by Rockville Centre**

Upon a motion duly made and seconded the amendment passes

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Summary: Proposal B PASSED

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**C) NCFL ByLaws, Article II, Section E, Awards, #3, Gaudette NCFL Service Award. Add at the end of the second paragraph ... “The Executive Council may, at its sole discretion, under unusual circumstances present a second award. The Service Award Committee, at its sole discretion may decide not to make an award in any given year.” -- Submitted by the Gaudette Service Award Committee**

Upon a motion duly made and seconded the amendment passes

Summary: Proposal C PASSED

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D) Revisions in the Student Congress Manual: II. CHRONOLOGY OF STUDENT CONGRESS AT THE GRAND NATIONAL TOURNAMENT Decorum – Floor Speeches and Cross Examination

Members may not yield any portion of their speaking time to another member except to answer a question during a cross-examination period. A mandatory two-minute questioning period follows all authorship and sponsorship on amendment speeches. A two-minute questioning period shall also follow the first negative speech on any item of legislation. The Presiding Officer shall recognize legislators who wish to ask a question of the speaker; the speaker MAY NOT perform this function him/herself. All other speeches will have a mandatory one-minute questioning period that may not be suspended. Questioners may only ask one question at a time. Thus, the Presiding Officer has an obligation to rule “two-part,” misleading, or irrelevant questions out of order. If time remains once all questioners have been exhausted, the chair will absorb the remainder of the time. After a sponsorship speech on an item of legislation, the sponsor must stand for a two-minute cross-examination period. After any other type of speech, the speaker may decline to answer questions.

When many members wish to speak, the Presiding Officer will choose those who have spoken least. ~~Members may speak more than once on the same legislation.~~ Presiding Officers should maintain careful records of the number of times each student has spoken and use this as a guide in the selection of speakers. At the start of each preliminary session, all students start with zero speeches (recency is reset).

~~A member may speak more than once on the same question but may not do so unless no other speaker wishes to speak. The Presiding officer may refuse to recognize the speaker if the P.O. feels that the speaker is trying to monopolize the debate. This decision is appealable.~~

It is not necessary – and in fact discouraged – for a questioner to ask, “Will the speaker yield to a question?” If the speaker has signaled his/her intention to answer questions or is the sponsor of an item of legislation, it is sufficient that **the**

**Chair recognize the questioner.** ~~Sponsors MUST answer questions for the duration of their automatic twominute questioning period.~~ -- Submitted by the New York

Upon a motion duly made and seconded the amendment was split into two sections: (1) the first and fourth paragraphs; and (2) the rest of the proposed amendments

Upon a motion duly made and seconded the first half of the amendment passes

Upon a motion duly made and seconded the second half of the amendment passes

Summary: Proposal D (as amended) Ultimately PASSED

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## **Discussion Items**

*There is a need to address the discrepancy in Oral Interp that allows manuscripts to be used as props yet requires Oral Interpers to maintain eye contact with script.*

- Kieran Larkin (Brooklyn): Spoke to this issue and the need for clarification
- David Long (Allentown): Spoke to interpretation of current language
- Katy Cecil (Louisville): Spoke to interpretation of current language
- Roland Burdett (Tournament Director): Spoke to need to look at issue due to protests made to Protest Committee

## **New Business**

- Hurricanes Harvey and Irma / League support
  - Roberta Hyland (Arlington) seeks motion from the floor to authorize Board to assess and address needs of the impacted leagues
  - Mark: makes motion
  - Br. John McGrory (Rockville-Centre): seconds motion
  - Voice vote carries the motion
- Richard Gaudette Service Award selection committee
  - Roland Burdett asked for nominations for awards
- Executive Board Nominating Committee
  - Roberta Hyland (Arlington) called for applications

## **Other Items**

- Fall meeting: Milwaukee is willing to host, but is willing to allow someone else to host
- Greg moves to have fall meeting in Milwaukee
- Mark seconds
- Voice vote carries

Upon a motion duly made and seconded the meeting was adjourned.