

**2018 NCFL Fall Director's Meeting
September 28-29 ,2019
Milwaukee City Center Hilton**

Meeting came to order at 4:33 p.m.

Opening prayer: Bro John McGrory of Rockville Centre, NY

Roll Call conducted

Reports of the officers

President, Barbara Fontenot:

- Thanked Steve Sexton and his assistants for all their hard work in preparation.
- Barbara asked that we change the agenda order to allow sufficient time for Milwaukee presentation before breaking tonight.

Presentation (PowerPoint will be posted on website)

Steve Sexton then welcomed all and asked everyone to enjoy this "hidden gem" of a city. He then ran through his PowerPoint presentation regarding our tournament in May.

- Marquette to host Speech on Sat and Sun and LD and PF on Sunday
- Marquette University High School will be a backup space if needed for speech.
- MATC will host all debate events on Saturday.
- Hyatt will host Congress on Sat and Sunday
- Hilton City Center will host Policy Debate on Sunday
- Many options for hotels.
- Milwaukee Theatre will have mass, postings and awards.
- Food options
- Pathfinders Milwaukee organization: specific needs to be listed (pathfindersmke.org)
- Dinner tonight; Bus is departing at 6:15 pm

Barbara then shifted to the topic areas for debate

Jeff Stutzman spoke how the topics went from 13 to 5.

Charlie Sloat will post them online for a vote that needs to be done. (Survey Monkey)

First Vice President, Susan Peebles:

- Attended the Radiant Voice NSDA Conference in Phoenix this summer
Susan enjoyed it and found it valuable. She enjoyed the seminars especially how Broward county added debate to improve reading scores.
 - Building bridges between NSDA/NCFL with shared values and vision about the importance of speech and debate in our world today.
 - Open submission for seminar presentation in October, do NOT have to be NSDA member to submit.
 - The next one will be in August in Colorado Springs

- Debate Topics: Send LD & PF debate topic suggestions to Susan by January 10
- Common Core Communication Standards:
 - David Yastremski is putting together a group
 - If interested, please reach out to Susan or David directly.
- NFHS High School association is looking at creating a consolidated set of rules for tournaments that aren't in a particular league

Second Vice President, Ann Marie Duffy

Extemp topic areas due Jan 10

Questions will be due between Feb 1 and April 15

extemp@ncfl.org

Publicity Director, Tom Beck:

Social Media Updates

Twitter handle:

@NCFL_Updates - for tournament updates

@#NCFL2019 Greg Cunningham has been tweeting away

- Instagram nationalcatholicforensicleague (all one word)
- Like us on Facebook
- NCFL website

Recess 8:30 to tomorrow am

Meeting resumed at 8:33 am

Barbara thanked Steve Sexton for arranging a superb dinner and comedy show!

Treasurer (Mike Colletti, Chicago): Financial Report

- Mike went through the recent 2017-2018 Statement and handed out copies
- Major expenses included convention center and power/connectivity
- Roland then clarified some of the line items from DC and the convention center model
- Greg Cunningham asked if there is a need to raise fees. Mike said at this point we are in good shape
- Discussion arose about upcoming DC tournaments and what we have in place
- Sarah Donnelly spoke from the event point of view regarding the incredible mark up on food and beverage at hotels, conference centers.

- Roland then addressed the set up of events in cubicles vs. hard walls
- Greg Cunningham asked the financial report be accepted. Accepted

Tournament Director (Roland Burdett)

- Tabrooms worked well and the locations were ideal
- Online balloting for speech is coming! Please use online balloting locally so judges are familiar with the tabroom system. Paper ballots will be available for those without laptops.
- Bro John asked if there will be paper ballots in debate. Roland explained that it will be all online but there will be a handful of paper ballots available as needed
- Hotels: Renaissance gave us a rebate due to “critters” making an appearance in the meeting rooms

Tournament Reports

- DC (WACFL Ann Marie): Spoke to success of the tournament and thanked the league.
 - Hotel/convention center was very cooperative and worked with us
- Chicago 2020
 - Discussion of budget, costs of tournaments and potential increases for sites/space rental
 - Will not use buses due to cost and time of travel -- Extemp 10 min away
 - Everything will be held within 6 blocks Palmer House and Hilton
 - Things are looking good

Minneapolis 2021

- Things are looking good for convention center model acoustics
- DC 2022
- Louisville 2023
 - Katy Cecil said it will be the same 2017 as far as sites
 - U of L is locked in and eager to have us
 - Omni is the new headquarters hotel. Mass and awards will be there. Galt House will be used for Congress.

Amendments to the Bylaws and Constitution

A -- Should touching the ground be allowed?

- Greg Cunningham (Boston) brought up the amendment to eliminate the automatic disqualification for going to the floor.
- Robust conversation then ensued about whether or not it makes sense to have this change

- Greg mentioned that he was thinking it terms of Duo and DP
- David Kraft then spoke regarding DQ rules phrasing of “must” vs. “should”
- Catherine Luhr brought up the process of protest
- Robust discussion followed about “must” vs. “should” as far standing/feet on floor
- First vote failed
- Then amendment passes
- Robust discussion regarding the wording of the amendment.
- Voted to strike the second sentence.

The Amendment to the ByLaws passed as follows:

In Article II, Section C, 1, a. Oratorical Declamation. 3) ~~Only the performers’ feet may touch the ground.~~ Positions other than standing should not be excessive in length or dominate the performance.

In Article II, Section C, 1, b. Dramatic Performance. 6) ~~Only the performers’ feet may touch the ground.~~ Positions other than standing should not be excessive in length or dominate the performance.

In Article II, Section C, 1, c. Extemporaneous. 7) ~~Only the performers’ feet may touch the ground.~~ Positions other than standing should not be excessive in length or dominate the performance.

In Article II, Section C, 1, e. Original Oratory. 7) ~~Only the performers’ feet may touch the ground.~~ Positions other than standing should not be excessive in length or dominate the performance.

In Article II, Section C, 1, f. Duo Interpretation. 10) ~~Only the performers’ feet may touch the ground.~~ Positions other than standing should not be excessive in length or dominate the performance.

B- Internet Connectivity

Brought up by Roland

- Robust discussion around the topic of equality in connecting and how to enforce it
- Amendment was passed

The Amendment to the ByLaws passed as follows:

In Article II, Section D, 9. The use of computers, electronic storage and retrieval devices, etc is allowed in rounds of Policy Debate, Lincoln-Douglas Debate, Public Forum Debate, and Student Congress, and in the Extemporaneous Speaking Preparation Room. They are not allowed in any other event. In the Extemporaneous Speaking Preparation Room, connectivity is not allowed. This includes the prohibition of the use of wired or wireless local, or wide, area networks; cell phones; etc. The establishment of such a connection will constitute a violation of this rule. In Policy Debate, Lincoln-Douglas Debate, Public Forum Debate, and Student Congress, connectivity to any persons other than the competitors or judges in the round is not allowed. Competitors violating this rule will be disqualified from competition. No guarantee of power or of internet connectivity should be presumed. Students wishing to use digital devices

must be responsible for providing these resources and for having an alternative plan if the digital devices fail.

Discussion Items

Letter from Detroit regarding judge quality/qualifications.

- Barbara spoke about making sure the rules are disseminated to the judges.
- Katy Cecil talked about constructive criticism and suggested comments for judges
- Bro. John talked about the qualifications of judges. Barbara said it would be discussed at the winter meeting.
- Katy Cecil said that guidelines would help
- Eloise brought up the aspect of online ballots vs. paper ballots and comments being seen by students before coach. Perhaps a tab member could spot check.

Audio Enhancements in DP & Duo at Finals

- Greg Cunningham brought up the possibility of using audio equipment
- Roland responded about the Washington DC room and its acoustics. He does not like the idea of microphone without rehearsal for students.
- Sarah Donnelly spoke about larger spaces and the limitations
- Scott Waldrop discussed his students' experiences with microphones cutting out during performances and creating problems.

New Business

- Catherine Luhr discussed the Service Project
Martha's Table in DC received just over \$5,000 in contributions of goods and cash
She will put a link to the wish lists. She will also take money if it is too much to carry/ship
- Richard Gaudette Awards noms to Barb & Catherine by 1/31
- Membership forms and fees due by 12/10/2018
- Jan 10 Extemp topic areas to Ann Marie
- Jan 10 LD & PF Topics to Susan
- Looking for NCFL National Bids for 2024 or 2025
- Sarah Donnelly talked about how the league is ready and willing and able to help someone to bid
- Katy Cecil spoke to Louisville KY experience and found it easier than she thought. NCFL takes care a lot of the responsibilities. Let Sarah be your guide if interested
- Mike Coletti then spoke of his many experiences as Chicago hosts

Other Items

- Fall meeting: Last weekend in September 27-28

- Steve Sexton gave instructions about the cruise

Upon a motion duly made and seconded the meeting was adjourned at 12:34 pm.