

General Balloting Guidelines

NITOC 2017

I. Procedure:

- A. Judges should wear their official NITOC nametag given to them at check-in.
- B. A blind ballot push procedure will be followed in which a ballot will be turned over in front of the potential judge and confirmed for no club or personal conflict.

For a more detailed explanation of the blind ballot push procedure, please see the Blind Ballot Push Procedure Document under NITOC 2017 Documents.

II. General Judge Eligibility:

- A. Judge must be at least age 18 by January 1, 2017.
- B. Judge must not have competed in high school forensics during the 2016-2017 tournament season.
- C. Judge must be a high school graduate.

III. General Judging Guidelines:

A. Judges are allowed to:

1. Judge students from their state or region
2. Judge the same student in multiple speech events
3. Judge the same debate student/team in different debate events

B. Judges are not allowed to:

1. Judge students from their club, their own children or relatives
2. Judge students they have coached
3. Judge the same speech event more than one time (exceptions may be made for limited prep speeches based on tracking software updates)
4. Judge a debate student/team more than once in each form of debate

C. A reminder to all Judges:

1. Do not disclose speech results to anyone during the tournament
2. Do not disclose debate decisions to anyone during the tournament

IV. Additional Judging Guidelines for Rounds Later in the Tournament

Additional limitations on the judging pool apply when the tournament reaches specific points.

A. When these additional guidelines apply:

1. Parliamentary debate: semifinals onward
2. Team policy debate: outround 8 onward
3. Lincoln Douglass debate: outround 8 onward
4. Speech: semifinals onward

B. Nature of the additional guidelines:

1. Parents may not judge events in which their child is still competing
2. Alumni may not judge events in which their sibling is still competing
3. Coaches, parents, alumni may not judge events in which a student they coach is still competing

V. Additional Guidelines for Parliamentary Debate

- A. Coaches, parents, and alumni may assist teams during preparation time and then judge other teams for the same debate round, until semifinals.

- B. Coaches, parents, and alumni may not judge during the Semifinal or Final Rounds if they help any team during preparation time

VI. Judge Paneling Guidelines: Panel Size

A. Guidelines for Debate Outrounds:

- 1. Early outrounds
Three (3) judge panels, primarily parents, but community & alumni as available.
- 2. Semifinals (or outround 8)
Seven (7) judge panels
- 3. Finals
Nine (9) or more panels

B. Guidelines for Speech Outrounds:

- 1. Quarterfinals:
Three (3) judge panels
- 2. Semifinals
Five (5) judge panels
- 3. Finals
Seven (7) judge panels

VII. Judge Paneling Guidelines: Preferred Panel Composition

A. On 5 Judge Panels:

- 1 parent
- 1 alumni
- 1 community
- Additional two judges are not specified

B. On 7 Judge Panels:

- 2 parents
- 2 alumni
- 2 community
- Additional judge not specified

C. On 9 or more Judge Panels:

- 3 parents
- 3 alumni
- 3 community
- Additional judges not specified

The tournament directors reserve the right to sacrifice any of the guidelines in order to keep the tournament running on time.

Help make NITOC 2017 the BEST NITOC EVER by judging for the glory of God.