



# MFL Annual Meeting 2009 Agenda

## 1. Consent Agenda:

1. Acceptance of the minutes for the 2008 Annual Meeting

## 2. President's & Treasurer's Report (Palmer)

## 3. Membership Eligibility

### Amend Section 1.2.:

Part 1: Add: "join as a member chapter of the MFL, and" between "may" and "participate", making the line "may join as a member chapter of the MFL, and participate in any of the league events....."

Part 2: Strike the section: "Any non-Massachusetts school may participate as an affiliate member in any of the league events, excluding the state finals tournament, upon complying with all terms and conditions established by the Board of Directors."

Replace with "Any non-Massachusetts school from an adjoining state that has no equivalent state-level forensics organization may also join as a member chapter of the MFL and participate in any of the league events upon complying with all terms and conditions established by the Board of Directors."

## 4. (Cunningham) Re-add Radio Broadcasting

Add the category Radio Broadcasting to the list of required speech events at MFL sanctioned tournaments (Rules Section 3.5, adding Section 3.5.17) with the following rules:

**3.5.17 Radio Broadcasting** is a required speech event with the following description:

Description of the event: Radio Broadcasting is a public address event in which a student presents a classic "top-of-the-hour" news broadcast in the voice of a single professional broadcaster. In this event, each student will receive a packet of news-copy or a newspaper. The

student will report to a preparation room where s/he will have 30 minutes to select and organize the material into a 5 minute radio news broadcast. Judges will listen to (not watch) the presentation. Throughout the broadcast, the timekeeper or judge will keep the student informed of +time. Students may use minimal introductory remarks and transitional material. Advertising, including +sponsorship taglines, is not allowed even if it is included in the copy provided by the tournament staff.

Time: 5 minute maximum (5 second grace over or under-time)

Standards for judging:

- Does the student speak with poise/confidence and with appropriate skills?
- Does the speaker exhibit an understanding of the subject matter?
- Is the broadcast logically organized, impartial, and unbiased?
- Is the broadcast believable and professional?
- Does the speaker exhibit appropriate vocal inflection and pronunciation?

## **5. (Cunningham – withdrawn if #4 fails) Novice events post-December.**

Amend sections 3.5.10 (Novice Extemporaneous Speaking) and 3.5.11 (Novice Reading) of Rules of the MFL.

Following the words “required speech event,” add the words “prior to January 1st of each League Season.”

## **6. (Cunningham) State Tournament Judging**

Add section 3.21 to Rules of MFL:

All judges at the MFL State Tournaments must have previously judged or participated as a competitor at a forensic tournament. Coaches will be required to list qualifications for each judge as part of registration for the tournament. (i.e.: judged at Holly Fest this year, competed for three years of high school, etc.) Judges who do not meet this requirement will not count toward the judge quota a school is required to provide.

## **7. (Albert) Amend Impromptu Rules**

Amend section 3.5.8 to delete the requirement that the tournament provide a 3x5" card. Substitute "Students may use one blank 3x5" card during each round".

## **8. (Albert) Penalty for Competing in Wrong Room**

Add section 3.21: “If a student in Speech events competes in a round to which they were not assigned, that student receives last place in the room in which s/he should have competed. Scores are adjusted up for the other students in the room in which s/he did compete.”

## **9. (Albert) Room Usage**

Add section 2.1.9 (Under Rules of Professionalism): “At the discretion of the Tournament Director and/or Tournament Host, a rule may be put in place that calls for immediate disqualification from competition if any student or group of students is found in a classroom or in any area of a school that has been designated as off limits. without adult supervision. The rule must be included in the invitation and announced and/or posted at the tournament.”

## **10. (Palmer) Combine DI and HI into Dramatic Performance**

Eliminate section 3.5.3 (Dramatic Interpretation) and section 3.5.7 (Humorous Interpretation) and replace with

**3.5.3 Dramatic Performance** is a required speech event with the following description:

This is a memorized event in which the student presents a memorized selection of literature. The presentation should include an introduction that cites the name of the piece and the author, and should develop the narrative and/or character(s) via vocal and physical techniques. The selection must be from a single published play, a fictional or non-fictional work, or a poem or program of poetry. Material from more than one author is not allowed. The author’s words as published in the literature may not be altered for this presentation with the exception that cutting is permitted. No scripts, costumes, or props may be used in the presentation.

**Time:** 10 minute maximum, including introduction (30 second grace); no minimum

## **11. Evidence use**

Amend section 3.13 to remove the line “Judges may request to see original copies of the sources cited, and bring discrepancies to the attention of the tournament director” and replace it with

All competitors must have copies of all sources cited in competition, with full source citations, at the tournament. Debaters should also have such copies in the rounds in which the sources are cited. Debate opponents and judges may request to see sources during the round; sources must be presented if they are requested. Debate judges may evaluate evidence within the round as they

choose, but severe ethical discrepancies in the use of sources, in all events, should be brought to the attention of the tournament director.

**12. Elimination of Group Discussion as a required MFL event (tabled motion)**

Strike section 3.5.6 (Group Discussion) from the MFL Rules.

**13. Points of discussion/other business**

**14. Conclusion of the 2007-2009 Board Term and commencement of the 2009-2011 Board Term.**