



# 2024 Speech Terms and Conditions

**Note on Illustrations:** The Question and Answer examples contained within this document are provided for illustrative purposes only and are neither binding nor to be construed as having the effect of the By-laws or Constitution of this organization. In the event of a conflict, whether actual or believed, between an illustration contained in this section and any by-law or constitutional provision then in effect, the by-law or constitutional provision, as interpreted by the Board of Directors pursuant to Section 1.052 of the Constitution of this organization, shall control. Official rulings shall be requested in writing only by the principal of a member school and shall be provided in writing by the Executive Director. Only a formal ruling from the Executive Director is binding on the IESA.

**Speech is a competitive activity which fosters learning the art of public speaking. However, this activity encompasses much more than just speaking. It also involves performance, writing, leadership, creativity, listening, etc. Although competitive, it is an activity which this organization and its members believe at its core is educational and as much about personal growth and achievement as it is about competition.**

## I. THE ACTIVITY OF SPEECH

The Association shall conduct annual speech contests. The IESA Administrator for Speech shall divide all participating schools into state areas as may be found necessary. (4.080)

## II. STATE CONTEST SITES AND DATES

### A. 2023 Calendar

State Speech Workshop	Sept. 13
Entry Deadline	Sept. 30
Final Entry Deadline	Oct. 10
Participant Information Deadline	Oct. 14
State Recommended Dates	Nov. 1, 2, 8, 9, 15, or 16

### B. State Contest Sites

State contests will be held at a host school within each of the contest areas. The contest host will choose the contest date and determine scheduling. Contest hosts and area designations will be mailed to each participating school. This information will also be posted to the IESA website. ([www.iesa.org](http://www.iesa.org))

## III. ENTRY FORMS AND ENTRY PROCEDURE

### A. Entry Fees and Entries

Schools must pay their entry fees by the initial entry deadline of September 30<sup>th</sup>. Those entries postmarked October 1<sup>st</sup> through October 10<sup>th</sup> will be considered late and be required to pay late entry fees. The IESA Office **will not** accept entries postmarked after October 10<sup>th</sup>, the final entry deadline. Entries must be submitted on-line through the IESA website- [www.iesa.org](http://www.iesa.org).

Event	Regular Fee	Late Fee
<b>Individual Events</b>		
Solo Acting	\$5.00	\$10.00
Poetry	\$5.00	\$10.00
<b>Event</b>		
Impromptu Individual Speaking	\$5.00	\$10.00
Original Script- Individual	\$5.00	\$10.00
Storytelling	\$5.00	\$10.00
<b>Duet Events</b>		
Regular Duet Acting	\$10.00	\$20.00
Improv Duet Acting	\$10.00	\$20.00
Original Script- Duet	\$10.00	\$20.00
<b>Small Group Events</b>		
Small Group Acting	\$15.00	\$30.00
Team Improv	\$15.00	\$30.00
<b>Large Group Event</b>		
Chorale	\$20.00	\$40.00

Late entry fees will be waived for schools designated as new members or for current member schools entering an activity for the first-time which petition to participate in an activity after the initial entry deadline. Entry fees will be refunded only upon request prior to the initial entry deadline.

Designate the number of entries your school will be sending for each category/event. Entry fees should be determined per entry within each event and should be submitted to the IESA Office prior to the initial entry deadline. Any additional entries submitted after the initial invoice will be accepted until October 10<sup>th</sup>. Entries received after the initial entry deadline (September 30<sup>th</sup>) will be subject to late fees.

All entries must be submitted on-line through the IESA Member Center Login. At the completion of the registration process, an invoice will be generated. Forward the invoice and your school check to the IESA Office by the initial or final entry deadline. Penalty fees do apply.

## **B. Contest Participant Information**

### On-line entry of Contest Participant Information:

1. Schools will be able to enter contest information for all paid categories and events. Access to contest participant information will not be available to schools until paid registration has been received to the IESA Office.
2. On-line contest participant information includes: student name(s), year in contest, grade, and selection(s).
3. Each school entering the speech state series must submit its Participant Information via the Internet through the IESA Member School Center to the IESA Office. **ALL PARTICIPANT INFORMATION MUST BE ENTERED ON-LINE THROUGH THE SPEECH ENTRY CENTER BY THE TUESDAY OF WEEK 15 (OCTOBER 14).**
4. All schools who wish to enter students into the IESA State Speech Contest must register their participants on-line during the appropriate time frame.
5. After the Tuesday of Week 15, all event changes must include a \$25.00 fee made payable to the host school. Participant name changes within an entry or the elimination of an entry will continue to be accepted by hosts with no penalty.

## IV. ELIGIBILITY

### C. Eligibility

To enter any of the IESA activities, a student must be eligible under all the eligibility rules and conditions of competition of the IESA. These include but are not limited to:

#### 1. Attendance

Students must attend member schools and may only represent in competition the school they actually attend. (2.031)

#### 2. Scholastic Standing

All contestants shall be in grades five through eight and shall not have passed eighth-grade standing. (2.041)

A student shall be doing passing work as determined by the local school district in all school subjects and the school shall certify compliance with this By-Law. Use of a player, contestant, or participant shall be deemed such certification. (2.042)

For all IESA activities, athletic as well as non-athletic, passing work shall be checked weekly. Eligibility will be applied to the Monday through Saturday following the week that was checked. Students must be passing each subject each week to be eligible. Grades shall be cumulative for the school's grading period. (2.043)

The eligibility check shall be the same day each week unless school is not in session; then it must be taken on the last day of student attendance that week. (2.044)

For fall sports, the first eligibility check shall be made following the first full week of attendance at the beginning of the school year. During the succeeding weeks of the school year, the eligibility check shall begin the week prior to the first contest in an activity. (2.045)

#### 3. Use of Participants

Only students who are currently eligible under the rules and By-Laws are eligible to participate.

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### Illustrations for Eligibility

The following are provided for illustrative purposes only and are neither binding nor to be construed as having the effect of the By-laws or Constitution of this organization.

- Q.** Must a contestant be in school on the day he or she desires to participate in an interscholastic activity?  
**A.** The contestant is not required to do so by Association rules. Many schools maintain local policies of this sort which would determine if he or she would be permitted to play.
- Q.** What is the definition of "the school which they actually attend"?  
**A.** "The school which they actually attend" shall be viewed as the school at which a student is enrolled and permanent records are kept. The only exception to this definition would be students who fall under the provisions of By-Laws 2.032-2.036.
- Q.** Could a member school which is not in attendance due to a "strike" participate in an interscholastic contest?

- A.** A school shall not engage in an interscholastic activity unless 51% of the school's students are in attendance and the minimum program required by state law is being offered. This is in conformity with policy established by the *Illinois State Board of Education*. See By-Law 2.0152 for a further exception to this answer.
- Q.** May students from feeder elementary schools participate in a music solo and ensemble or speech contest as representatives of their junior high school which is an IESA member?
- A.** Yes. Students who attend a feeder school to their middle school or junior high school may represent the feeder grade school or they can represent the middle/junior high school in these activities. Each feeder school must be an IESA member school. If the feeder school students will be representing the middle/junior high school, the entries must be sent in with the middle/junior high school entries. If the student is going to represent the feeder grade school, then the entries must be received from the feeder school. Please see By-Law 2.035 for an exception for chorale presentation groups in speech contests.

**Situation:** A new principal has come to Illinois from another state where scholastic eligibility rules differ from those of the IESA. The principal notes in the IESA rules that a student must be passing all subjects weekly to be scholastically eligible. Not understanding how to determine what "passing per week" means, the principal calls the IESA Office for an explanation.

**A:** Most important to note is that "passing per week" is determined by measuring a student's performance on a cumulative basis from the beginning of a school's grading period (usually a six or nine-week period) through the date on which the check is made. The check should not reflect only a given school week's scholastic performance; rather it should reflect the student's cumulative performance for the grading period through the date of the check. Schools are expected to conduct this weekly check in some consistent manner convenient to their individual operations. Student eligibility or ineligibility is then affected on the Monday following the date of the check.

For example, consider a school which checks eligibility every Wednesday. Records are processed through the computer and a printout of all students' scholastic standing is given to the athletic director on Thursday. The athletic director's office reviews the list and reports Thursday afternoon to the principal that a student is not passing all subjects as of this check. The principal informs the student and coaches on Friday morning that the student is not passing the required work and is thus ineligible for one week, beginning the following Monday morning. The student may play in contests held that evening or on Saturday, the next day. However, the entire next week, Monday through Saturday, the student is ineligible. The following Wednesday, the process is repeated. This time, when the report reaches the principal on Thursday afternoon, the student's record shows the student is now passing all subjects on a cumulative basis since the beginning of the grading period. Now, the principal will inform the student and coach on Friday morning that the student will become eligible again the following Monday morning. Please note that the student is not permitted to play on this Friday and Saturday because of last week's failure to meet the grade requirements. A student becoming scholastically ineligible by the weekly eligibility check must remain ineligible for one full calendar week before possibly becoming eligible again.

- Q:** Our teacher's grades are due to the office by 3:00 p.m. each Thursday to determine grade eligibility for the following week. One of my teachers reported a failing grade for a student when he turned in grades. On the following Monday, the teacher reported that the student who was failing turned in an extra credit report over the weekend and was now considered passing. Is this student eligible?
- A:** No. The student is ineligible since he was failing on the day that grades were due to the office. The fact that the extra credit project now makes the student grade eligible will help when the grade check is done the next Thursday, but the student was failing when the grade check was completed and as a result, the student is ineligible for the following week. The grade check must be done on the same day each week and cannot count grades earned or received after the check has been completed
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## V. INDIVIDUAL EVENTS (4.082)

### A. Solo Acting

A theatrical presentation by an individual student. This may be a monologue or a selection in which two or more characters are portrayed.

**Time Limit:** 5-10 minutes

**Number of Participants:** 1

**Props:** Single chair

### B. Poetry

One or more selections of poetry.

**Time Limit:** 4-7 minutes

**Number of Participants:** 1

**Props:** Single chair

### C. Impromptu Speaking

Impromptu Speaking is an event in which a student is given eight minutes to prepare and deliver an original speech.

The student will be given two words or phrases from the judge and will then choose one and discard the other. The person will then have eight minutes to write and present the speech. The speaker may use one 3x5-note card and a writing instrument. The time will begin when the speaker is given the topics. The speaker may divide the writing/speaking time however he or she wishes. While the speaker is writing, the judge or timer (it is highly recommended that the host school provide a separate timer for this event) will announce the time remaining at one-minute intervals. Once the speaker has begun, the timer or judge will signal by means of upraised fingers or time cards the time remaining, and at the end of the eight minutes by an upraised hand. The speaker then has a grace period of 30 seconds to end the speech. If the speaker speaks beyond 8:30, the performance will be lowered one division rating.

**Time Limit:** 0-8 minutes

**Number of Participants:** 1

**Props:** 3x5 notecard and writing instrument

### D. Original Script

The student will present a speech which he or she has written. The speech may be a monologue, poetry, short story, essay, or presentation. All rules and limitations for individual events will apply.

**Time Limit:** 5-10 minutes

**Number of Participants:** 1

**Props:** Single chair

### E. Storytelling

The student will present a story from his/her own life experience, from folk literature, from his/her family's oral tradition, or from any other source. Storytelling is unique from most other contest events in that it should have a very spontaneous quality encouraging audience participation/interaction.

The presentation should have a clear beginning, middle, and end; and demonstrate the customary attributes of characterization, stage presence, body and facial expression, articulation, pronunciation, fluency, and eye contact.

The presentation may include multiple characters and sound effects.

**Time Limit:** 5-10 minutes

**Number of Participants:** 1

**Props:** Single chair

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### Illustrations for Individual Events

The following are provided for illustrative purposes only and are neither binding nor to be construed as having the effect of the By-laws or Constitution of this organization

- Q.** Must poetry be either humorous or serious?  
**A.** It may be all humorous, all serious, or a combination of the two.
- Q.** My student would like to present a famous speech such as Martin Luther King's "I Have A Dream" speech. In which category should I enter their presentation?  
**A.** Oratorical declamations such as Dr. King's speech should be entered in the Solo Acting category. Solo Acting is a dramatic presentation by an individual student. This may be a monologue or a selection in which two or more characters are portrayed.
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### VI. DUET EVENTS (4.083)

#### **A. Duet Acting**

Students may perform one to two humorous or serious selections within the time frame. Presentations must have direct dialogue or conversation between two contestants portraying any number of characters, who may speak to off-stage characters or to silent characters. Both contestants must appear or the duet presentation shall not be judged or rated, but may be performed.

**Time Limit:** 5-10 minutes

**Number of Participants:** 2

**Props:** 2 chairs/2 stools/1 chair and 1 stool/1 table and 2 chairs/1 table and 2 stools/1 table and 1 chair/1 table and 1 stool/1 table, 1 chair and 1 stool

#### **B. Improv Duet Acting**

Each pair of contestants shall stand before the judge at the appointed performance time. The judge shall give the team a prompt to be played humorously. Either contestant shall use the prompt, as given, as an opening line. No consultation time shall be allowed; the contestants must begin the scene immediately. After the scene has progressed for approximately two minutes, the judge will say "Stop". The performers must continue until the judge says, "Stop". The procedure is then repeated with a prompt to be played seriously, then finally with another prompt to be played humorously. The entire performance, including all three situations, shall be kept under an eight-minute (8) time limit by the judge. There is no penalty if the performance exceeds the eight minute limit as it is the judge's responsibility to control the time.

**Time Limit:** 0-8 minutes

**Number of Participants:** 2

**Props:** 2 chairs/2 stools/1 chair and 1 stool/1 table and 2 chairs/1 table and 2 stools/1 table and 1 chair/1 table and 1 stool/1 table, 1 chair and 1 stool

#### **C. Original Script**

The students will present a speech which they have written. The speech must be a duet. The work must be the product of one or both students. All rules and limitations for duet events will apply.

**Time Limit:** 5-10 minutes

**Number of Participants:** 2

**Props:** 2 chairs/2 stools/1 chair and 1 stool/1 table and 2 chairs/1 table and 2 stools/1 table and 1 chair/1 table and 1 stool/1 table, 1 chair and 1 stool

**D.** Contest judges must rate an entire entry and not just an individual from an entry. The contest host may allow an ineligible entry to perform but not receive a rating from a judge.

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### Illustrations for Duet Events

The following are provided for illustrative purposes only and are neither binding nor to be construed as having the effect of the By-laws or Constitution of this organization.

- Q:** May only one individual from a duet be rated by a judge?  
**A:** No. The entire entry must be rated. The contest host may allow an entry to perform but not receive a rating from the judge. However, the entry could be changed to an individual event and be rated as an individual event.
- Q:** One member of my duet will not be able to participate; may I replace them with someone else?  
**A:** If the substituting student is eligible to participate in that event, the substitution may be made and the event rated.
- Q:** I have had to make a last-minute replacement to a group. The student will be reading their part. Is this allowed?  
**A:** The entry may perform for the judge; however, the entry will not be eligible for awards and will receive no rating for the performance.
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## VII. CHORALE /LARGE GROUP EVENTS (4.084)

### A. Chorale Groups

Chorale groups of nine to twenty (20) members must present one or more memorized selections within the time limitation. Groups may not be conducted by the speech instructor except for those with only fifth and/or sixth grade contestants. Failure to have the correct number of contestants, or a group that is conducted by the speech instructor shall result in the chorale presentation not being judged or rated. Selections may still be performed at the discretion of the instructor.

**Time Limit:** 6-10 minutes

**Number of Participants:** 9-20

**Props:** No props allowed

## VIII. SMALL GROUP EVENTS (4.085)

### A. Small Group Acting

A serious or humorous presentation by three to five performers characterizing three or more persons presenting one selection within a time limitation. The small group may not be conducted by the speech instructor. Failure to have the correct number of contestants, or if the presentation is conducted by the speech instructor shall result in the small group acting presentation not being judged or rated. Selections may still be performed at the discretion of the instructor.

**Time Limit:** 5-10 minutes

**Number of Participants:** 3-5

**Props:** 1 table and 5 chairs

### B. Team Improv

Each team comprising of between 4 to 6 performers shall stand before the judge at the appointed performance time. The judge shall select the participants and game to be played by the team from the approved list. No consultation time shall be allowed; the contestants must begin the game immediately. After the game has progressed for approximately two minutes, the judge will say "Stop". The performers must continue until the judge says, "Stop". The procedure is then repeated with an additional game to be played, then finally with another game to be played. The entire performance, including all three games, shall be kept under a

twelve-minute (12) time limit by the judge. There is no penalty if the performance exceeds the twelve-minute limit as it is the judge's responsibility to control the time. The team shall perform three (3) games.

**Time Limit:** 0-12 minutes

**Number of Participants:** 4-6

**Props:** Maximum of 5 chairs

C. Contest judges must rate an entire entry and not just an individual(s) from an entry. The contest host may allow an ineligible entry to perform but not receive a rating from a judge.

## IX. INDIVIDUAL LIMITATIONS (4.086)

**A.** Qualified students are eligible to participate in the IESA State Speech Contest in any combination of up to three events. Students may participate in multiple performances in the same scripted event within the maximum. Improvisational events will only be allowed one entry in the same event per performer. To be eligible to participate in Team Improv, students must also perform a scripted event.

**B.** Individual contestants may not perform the same selection in multiple events or in more than one IESA state contest.

**C.** Contest judges must rate an entire entry and not just an individual(s) from an entry. The contest host may allow an ineligible entry to perform but not receive a rating from a judge.

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### Illustrations for Individual Limitations

The following are provided for illustrative purposes only and are neither binding nor to be construed as having the effect of the By-laws or Constitution of this organization.

**Q.** What IESA Speech events are available to my students?

**A.** IESA Speech is divided into four classifications: individual, duet, chorale presentation, and small group events. Individual events include poetry, solo acting, impromptu speaking, storytelling, and original script. Duet events can be regular duet acting, improv duet acting, and duet original script. Chorale is the only event in the third classification. Small group events are the fourth classification and include small group acting and Team Improv.

**Q.** May a speech contestant perform in two duet presentations?

**A.** Yes. The rules now allow for a student to participate in multiple events in the same scripted event category. The student could perform in two Regular Duet Acting performances but must present different scripts in each performance.

**Q.** May my speech contestants perform a humorous regular duet and a serious regular duet?

**A.** Yes. The rules now allow for multiple performances by an individual in a scripted event as long as different scripts are being presented.

**Q.** I have had to make a last-minute replacement to a group. The student will be reading their part. Is this allowed?

**A.** The entry may perform for the judge; however, the entry will not be eligible for awards and will receive no rating for the performance.

**Q.** I have a student who will be performing an Improv Duet. Is this student eligible for Team Improv?

**A.** No. The student must be entered and perform in a scripted event to be eligible for Team Improv.



- Q. I have a student who would like to enter just Team Improv. Is this student eligible for the event?
- A. No. The student must be entered into and perform a scripted event. In order for the student to be eligible for Team Improv, the student would have to enter and perform in one of the following events: Solo Acting, Poetry, Original Script, Storytelling, Duet Acting, Original Script Duet, Small Group Acting, or Chorale.
- Q. I have a student who has already performed in an Improv Duet. Can he serve as a partner in another Improv Duet?
- A. No. Improvisational events are only allowed one entry in the same event per performer.
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## X. GENERAL CONTEST REGULATIONS (4.087)

- A. All events are to be open to parents and students to observe as an audience.
- D. Selections**
1. All selections performed for scripted events are to be presented from memory. Students may not read from a script/notes for those events.
  2. All selections shall be carefully selected by the speech instructor and should be suitable for the age level of the student. Materials used may come from any source. Cuttings from plays, books, magazines, etc. are permissible if they do not infringe upon copyright laws.
  2. Schools are encouraged to limit the number of individuals, duets, and small groups using the same selection.
  3. All material at contest shall be appropriate for presentation by an elementary student.
- E. Props**
1. **INDIVIDUAL EVENTS:** The only prop permitted will be a single chair and only if it is absolutely necessary and appropriate to the selection. For Impromptu Individual Speaking, only a 3x5 note card and a writing instrument shall be allowed.
  2. **DUET EVENTS:** The only props permitted in duet acting and Improvisation presentations shall be two chairs, two stools, a chair and a stool, a table and two chairs, a table and two stools, a table and one chair, a table and one stool, or a table and one chair and one stool.
  3. **SMALL GROUP ACTING:** In small group acting, the only props permitted shall be a maximum of one table and five chairs.
  4. **TEAM IMPROV:** A maximum of five (5) chairs.
  5. **CHORALE:** No props such as chairs, tables, costumes, lights, make-up, etc. shall be used.
  6. Inadvertent contact with an object in the room, such as a chair, wall, etc. will not be constituted as the use of a prop.
  7. Contestants can interact with audience members without this being considered the introduction of a prop. This would include dialogue and/or physical contact.
- F. Costume and Dress**
1. For all events, no costumes will be permitted. Costuming is defined as dress that would intentionally reflect the character(s) portrayed.
  2. All students shall be dressed appropriately. Contest is a serious evaluation and the participant's dress should reflect this.

### **G. Time Limits**

Time limits shall be 4-7 minutes for poetry; 5-10 minutes for all other individual, regular duet events, and small group acting; 0-8 minutes for impromptu speaking and improv duet acting; 0-12 minutes for team improv; and 6-10 minutes for chorale groups.

The contestants shall be timed from the first spoken word- including the title, author, and introduction- or stage movement. Penalty for failure to meet time limits shall be one rating lower except for improv duet and team improv. There is no penalty if the performance in these two categories exceeds the time limit as it is the judge's responsibility to control the time.

### **H. Prompting**

Prompting for lines will be permitted in scripted events. If the judge concludes there is excessive prompting, the contestant shall be lowered one division in the final rating.

### **I. Handicaps**

Speech instructors should indicate to the judges in the on-line entry system any physical handicap which might affect their judging, such as the inability to stand straight, any type of speech impediment, etc.

### **J. Sound Effects**

Sound effects and singing are permitted for all events. They should be kept to a minimum and should not be considered as a character. Additional props may not be used to make sound effects.

### **K. Movement and Gestures**

Movement and gestures are permissible for all selections. Oral interpretation shall be stressed.

### **K. Violations**

Any violation of the speech contest rules unless otherwise stated in these By-Laws shall be penalized by the lowering of the rating to third place.

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### **Illustrations for General Contest Regulations**

The following are provided for illustrative purposes only and are neither binding nor to be construed as having the effect of the By-laws or Constitution of this organization.

Q. Would the clothes or jewelry of a participant ever be considered a prop/costume?

A. Yes. If the clothes or jewelry are referred to in the presentation or representative of the piece, they would be considered props/costume and would be penalized accordingly.

Q. What are the boundaries of the performance area?

A. Any area in the performance room may be used.

Q. Are parts of the body considered to be a prop?

A. No.

Q. **May a performer stand on a table or a chair?**

A. **No.**

Q. I have a student who would like to use a note card in his small group performance. Is this allowed?

A. No. Note cards may not be used in any event except for Impromptu Speaking.

- Q. May an audience member have a copy of a performance's script in sight during a performance?
- A. Yes; however, if the performer is provided an audible prompt and the judge believes that the performer was provided excessive assistance, the performance will be lowered a rating. A single prompt should not necessitate a lowering of a rating.
- Q. What is considered excessive prompting?
- A. If more than two lines/prompts are given, the judge will consider that be excessive prompting and the performance will be lowered by one rating. The judge will consider lines/prompts provided by performance partners, teammates, coaches (head, assistant, and/or volunteer) and audience members toward the total.
- Q. May a student or coach ask the judge not to time the introduction?
- A. No. Contestants shall be timed from the first spoken word or stage movement. Introductions are not required.
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## **XI. POINTS OF EMPHASIS FOR CONTEST HOSTS**

### **A. Complaints**

All written complaints to contest hosts shall be forwarded to the IESA Office for evaluation by the Speech Advisory Committee.

### **B. Judges**

1. Speech contest host schools shall have an experienced judge or the contest manager conduct the judges' meeting at the beginning of the contest. This meeting shall be mandatory for all contest judges.
2. Speech contest hosts shall obtain judges for the contests. A list of judges is available from the IESA Office. Host schools shall provide the speech judges with complete rules for the conduct of the contest. All judges shall be people well-versed in the ability of elementary and junior high students to express ideas orally. No coach serving as a judge shall judge students from his or her own school. The IESA Office will assign the Judge Representative to all contests.

### **C. Day-of-Contest Interpretations**

At a contest site, members of the Speech Advisory Committee, the head judge or the tournament manager may resolve interpretations of a judge's decision regarding rules and regulations.

### **D. Admission**

For all spectators:

\$5.00 for grades K-8, high school, adults, and Senior Citizens (62 years of age and over)

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### **Illustrations for Contest Hosts**

The following are provided for illustrative purposes only and are neither binding nor to be construed as having the effect of the By-laws or Constitution of this organization.

- Q. What do I do if I would like to protest or challenge a rating the day of contest?
- A. The coach should meet with the contest host, head judge or member of the Advisory Committee to resolve the complaint THE DAY OF CONTEST.
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## **XII. Concealed Carry Act**

Schools serving as a host must have signage in accordance with the Concealed Carry, Act 430 ILCS 66. This includes an IESA event that is held on your school property and IESA events held off-premise (i.e. a park).

## **XIII. RATINGS AND AWARDS (4.088)**

- A.** Ratings for speech contests shall be detailed on the various speech adjudication forms as determined by the Board of Directors.
- B.** In state speech contests, individuals or those in duet, chorale groups, or small group events who receive a Division I rating shall be awarded a medal. Individuals or those in duet, chorale groups, or small group events who receive a Division II or III rating shall be awarded a ribbon.
- C.** A "Judge's Choice" ranking shall be given by each contest judge to a maximum of two performances from those selections the judge has evaluated that day. Performances receiving a Division I rating may be selected for the Judge's Choice ranking. The ranking shall be in addition to any award the individual(s) have received. Those individuals receiving the ranking shall be given a certificate.

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### **Illustrations for Ratings and Awards**

The following are provided for illustrative purposes only and are neither binding nor to be construed as having the effect of the By-laws or Constitution of this organization.

- Q.** What should I do when I receive the incorrect award for a speech or music contestant?
- A.** Contact your host school first, as soon as possible. You should check your awards list prior to leaving contest site on contest date.

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## **XIV. JUDGES**

- A.** State contest hosts for speech shall contract the necessary judges and/or instructors for the activities.
- B.** Speech contest hosts shall obtain judges for the contests. A list of judges is available from the IESA Office. Host schools shall provide the speech judges with complete rules for the conduct of the contest. All judges shall be people well-versed in the ability of elementary and junior high students to express ideas orally. No coach serving as a judge shall judge students from his or her own school.
- C.** Speech contest host schools shall have a Speech Advisory Committee member, an experienced judge or the tournament manager conduct the judges' meeting at the beginning of the contest. This meeting shall be mandatory for all contest judges.
- D.** Payments of \$25.00 per hour (no mileage) for speech judges. A 30-minute lunch period shall be included in judge work time.
- E.** Contest judges must rate an entire entry and not just one individual from a duet, small group, or chorale. The contest host may allow an entry to perform but not receive a rating from a judge.

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### Illustrations for Judges

The following are provided for illustrative purposes only and are neither binding nor to be construed as having the effect of the By-laws or Constitution of this organization.

- Q. What do I do if I would like to protest or challenge a rating the day of contest?  
A. The coach should meet with the contest host, the head judge or a member of the Speech Advisory Committee to resolve the complaint THE DAY OF CONTEST.
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## XV. ADJUDICATION CRITERIA

The following criteria will be considered when determining performance ratings:

Event	Adjudication Criteria
<b>Individual Events</b>	Articulation, body and facial expression, characterization, fluency, pronunciation, memory, stage presence, and staging.
<b>Impromptu</b>	Articulation, body and facial expression, fluency, pronunciation, memory, stage presence, staging, content, and organization of presentation.
<b>Storytelling</b>	Audience interaction, articulation, body and facial expression, characterization, fluency, pronunciation, memory, stage presence, and staging.
<b>Regular Duet</b>	Articulation, body and facial expression, characterization, fluency, pronunciation, memory, stage presence, staging, and participant interaction.
<b>Improv Duet</b>	Articulation, body and facial expression, characterization, fluency, staging, entertainment value, and participant interaction.
<b>Original Script</b>	Articulation, body and facial expression, characterization, fluency, pronunciation, memory, stage presence, staging, quality of writing, and participant interaction (for duets).
<b>Small Group Acting</b>	Articulation, body and facial expression, characterization, fluency, pronunciation, memory, stage presence, staging and participant interaction.
<b>Team Improv</b>	Articulation, body and facial expression, characterization, fluency, staging, entertainment value, participant interaction, working together as a team, creativity, spontaneity, and adherence to the spirit of the game.
<b>Chorale</b>	Articulation, body and facial expression, fluency, pronunciation, memory, stage presence, staging, balance, and participant interaction.

## Adjudication Criteria and their Hidden Meanings

### VOICE AND DICTION

#### **Articulation:**

- Was it clearly spoken?
- Was there adequate volume?
- It is permissible to inform the judge of any speech impediments.

#### **Fluency:**

- Was pacing used to enhance the script?
- Was the rate of delivery understandable?

#### **Pronunciation:**

- Were all words pronounced correctly?

### STAGING AND MOVEMENT

#### **Stage presence:**

- Did the contestant seem comfortable, thus drawing attention to the presentation and not the presenter's anxiety?

#### **Eye contact:**

- Was eye contact with audience (when appropriate) and other characters comfortable and appropriate to the script?

#### **Staging:**

- Was it obvious that the movement was planned?
- Was there an appropriate use of the performance space?
- Were props used appropriately where applicable?

#### **Body and facial expression:**

- Were the expressions appropriate to the material?
- Were expressions present?
- Did the expressions enhance the presentation?

### Interpretation

#### **Audience Interaction:**

- Was the audience encouraged to participate when and appropriate for this selection?
- Some events- such as storytelling, Impromptu speaking, and some Solo Acting- are delivered directly to the audience, while in other events the audience becomes eavesdroppers to the scene.
- Please note that in the event of storytelling, a speaker's interaction with the audience is highly recommended.

#### **Participant Interaction:**

- Did the participants engage with one another?
- Was active listening apparent?

#### **Characterization:**

- Did the performers stay in character throughout the performance?
- Did the performers create a convincing character?

### CONTENT- as applied to student created pieces

#### **Quality of writing:**

- Was there a clear beginning, middle, and end?
- Was the quality of the script appropriate and challenging?

#### **Content:**

- Was it appropriate for students and audience?
- Originality should be emphasized in material written by the student.

### CONTENT- as applied to Impromptu

#### **Organization of Presentation**

- Did the presentation have a unified theme?
- Did the speaker provide transitions that served the presentation?

## IESA Speech Events and Limits

Event	# of Participants	Time Limit	# of Selections	Props
<i>Individual</i>				
Solo Acting	1	5-10 minutes	1-2	Single chair
Poetry	1	4-7 minutes	1+	Single chair
Impromptu Speaking	1	0-8 minutes		3x5 note card and writing instrument
Original Script	1	5-10 minutes	1+	Single chair
Storytelling	1	5-10 minutes	1	Single chair
<i>Duet</i>				
Duet Acting	2	5-10 minutes	1-2	2 chairs/ 2 stools/ 1 chair and 1 stool/ 1 table and 2 chairs/ 1 table and 2 stools/ 1 table and 1 chair/ 1 table and 1 stool/ 1 table, 1 stool, and 1 chair
Improv Duet	2	0-8 minutes <i>Approx. 2 min. per prompt</i>		2 chairs/ 2 stools/ 1 chair and 1 stool/ 1 table and 2 chairs/ 1 table and 2 stools/ 1 table and 1 chair/ 1 table and 1 stool/ 1 table, 1 stool, and 1 chair
Original Duet Script	2	5-10 minutes	1-2	2 chairs/ 2 stools/ 1 chair and 1 stool/ 1 table and 2 chairs/ 1 table and 2 stools/ 1 table and 1 chair/ 1 table and 1 stool/ 1 table, 1 stool, and 1 chair
<i>Small Group Events</i>				
Small Group Acting	3-5	5-10 minutes	1	1 table and 5 chairs
Team Improv	4-6	0-12 minutes <i>Approx. 3 min. per game</i>	3 games	Max of 5 chairs
<i>Chorale</i>				
	9-20	6-10 minutes	1+	No props allowed