



Newsletter, October 1997

NCFL Newsletter Volume XLVII, October, 1997

Minutes of NCFL Fall Meeting

The Fall Meeting of the NCFL was called to order on September 26, 1997 at 7:05 p.m. by President, Sister Maureen Lawrence, I. H. M. at the Detroit Westin in Detroit, Michigan. After the invocation, delivered by Linda Luce, the roll was called. The twenty-nine leagues which were represented follow:

Arlington	Houston	Pittsburgh
Atlanta	Kansas City	Rochester
Baltimore	LaCrosse	Rockville Centre
Boston	Lafayette	Salina
Brooklyn	Miami	Scranton
Buffalo	Milwaukee	St. Petersburg
Chicago	New Orleans	Washington
Detroit	New York	Winona
Erie	Orlando	Worcester
Green Bay	Philadelphia	

Sister Maureen Lawrence welcomed the new moderators: Judy Seward, Laurie Way, and Sandra Broussard. She then issued a huge thank you to Tom Durkin and the entire Baltimore League for all of the hard work that they completed for our Grand National Tournament last year. Because Tom had not expected to be the host of the event, he is especially applauded for his outstanding efforts.

Since the NCFL now has a web site, www.ncfl.org, it was suggested that league moderators' school addresses appear there. Those moderators who do not wish their addresses to appear on the web site should notify Jim Lyness by mail so that their addresses will not be included.

Sister Maureen then announced that because this is an election year, she had provided candidate nomination forms for moderators to submit no later than December 31, 1997. A nomination form has been included in this mailing.

Nominating Committee

Chairperson

Greg Cunningham
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Hull, MA 02045
(617) 925-6057

Jimmy Cox
927 Toledano Street
New Orleans, LA 07305
(504) 895-8492

Pam Bowie
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Sister Maureen Lawrence
Villa Maria Academy
370 Old Lincoln Highway
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Albany, Boston, Brooklyn,
Buffalo, Newark, New York,
Odgensburg, Portland, Providence,
Rochester, Rockville , Syracuse

Houston, Jackson, Kansas City, KS,
Los Angles, Las Vegas, New Orleans,
Omaha, Salina, Salt Lake City, San Antonio,
Santa Fe, Tulsa, Tucson, Wichita

Chicago, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Detroit
Des Moines, Fargo, Green Bay, Indianapolis,
LaCrosse, Milwaukee, Pittsburgh, Winona,
Youngstown

Atlanta, Biloxi, Lafayette, Louisville,
Memphis, Miami, Nashville, Orlando, Palm
Beach, Richmond, St. Petersburg,
Wheeling-Charleston

Allentown, Altoona-Johnstown, Arlington,
Baltimore, Camden, Erie, Harrisburg,
Paterson, Philadelphia, Scranton, Washington
Worcester

The officers' reports continued with the First Vice-President, Ron Steinhorst, who asked that LD topics as well as extemporaneous areas be solicited from member schools and sent to him prior to January 1, 1998.

The Second Vice-President, Michael Nailor, announced the current extemporaneous areas for consideration by the moderators. These areas are as follows:

- Africa, Asia, and the Middle East
- Europe
- The Americas excluding the US
- Global and Domestic Economy
- United States Foreign Policy
- United States Social Issues
- United States Media and Press
- United States Politics and Domestic Policy
- Science and Technology

Richard Gaudette, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, presented our annual financial report and proposed budget; a copy is attached. He also submitted a list of outstanding fines from the 1997 Grand National Tournament in Baltimore; that list appears below. These schools/leagues must pay fines prior to tournament participation.

SCHOOL	LEAGUE	AMOUNT
Jefferson High School	Arlington	\$ 50.00

Mt. St. Joseph's	Baltimore	\$ 50.00
Catholic High School	Baltimore	\$ 50.00
Brooklyn Tech High School	Brooklyn	\$ 50.00
Marian Catholic High School	Chicago	\$ 50.00
Hortonville	Green Bay	\$ 50.00
Durand High School	LaCrosse	\$ 50.00
Ruston High School	Lafayette	\$ 50.00
Chapanal High School	Las Vegas	\$ 50.00
S. Oldham	Louisville	\$500.00
Miami Palmetto High School	Miami	\$500.00
Nicolet	Milwaukee	\$ 50.00
Holy Cross	New Orleans	\$ 50.00
Seton Hall Prep	Newark	\$ 50.00
Satellite Beach	Palm Beach	\$ 50.00
Eldorado High School	Sante Fe	\$500.00
Holland Patent	Syracuse	\$500.00
Whitman High School	Washington	\$ 50.00

Carmen Adkins, Publicity Director/Recording Secretary, announced that the scrapbook needs additional articles and pictures and requested that moderators send either to her so that they can be displayed. In addition, she reported on having attended the Debate Topic Selection Committee Meeting for the NCFL. Next year's policy topic must focus on foreign policy. The committee narrowed the field to five topic areas with one resolution each. Jim Lyness will mail the topic areas to league moderators so that their coaches can rank order their choices for next year's topic. Those choices will then be returned to Jim by the league moderators.

Jim Lyness, Grand Tournament Director, then distributed a packet of Tournament Bid Information to be used by local leagues in preparation for submitting bids for the NCFL Grand National Tournament.

Grand National Tournament reports were then presented. The Baltimore report was presented by Tom Durkin; he stated that the number of individuals involved in the tournament in one capacity or another was 3400; we utilized 1482 hotel rooms. While the bussing bill for the tournament was quite large, the fact that some of the sites were donated for competition tended to offset that figure.

Kim White presented the Detroit report. She currently has 1425 rooms contracted for the tournament. The Westin will be the tournament hotel; the official contact person there is Ophelia Twine. Additional hotels within walking distance of the Westin are the Doubletree (contact Cynthia Holme) and the Crowne Plaza Pontchartrain (contact Jennifer Neal).

The rates at the Westin are as follows:

single \$ 84.00
double \$ 94.00
triple \$110.00
quad \$118.00
plus 14% tax

Although plans have not been finalized for the competition sites because Wayne State University cannot make a final decision regarding room availability until the end of October, tentative plans include the following:

Saturday Sites

- Policy and LD Debate at Cass Technical High School
- four speech events at Wayne State University (all if rooms available)
- two speech events at Detroit Country Day
- Congress at the Westin

Sunday Sites

- Cobo Convention Center (a ten-minute walk from the Westin)
- Westin
- Doubletree

Students and judges will be transported on Saturday by Detroit Public Schools' busses from the above specified hotels.

Plenty of restaurants in all price ranges are easily accessible to the hotels and within a short distance of the People Mover. On Saturday night the Detroit League will sponsor a ticketed event for the students--a Motown Party complete with disc jockey. Moderators were asked to plan for a \$ 7.00 fee for each lunch on Saturday.

Details will be communicated to league moderators as the tournament date nears.

Mike Colletti gave us a brief report on the 1999 Grand National Tournament to be held in Chicago. The Palmer House will again be the tournament hotel; the secured rates are as follows:

single \$ 92.00
double \$ 95.00
triple \$110.00
quad \$128.00
plus 14 or 15% tax

Joanne Hamm presented a brief report on the 2000 Grand National Tournament to be held in Rochester. All competition will be held at the Rochester Institute of Technology. She will make more details available as the tournament approaches.

It was then suggested by Jim Lyness that interested parties should follow the guidelines established in the NCFL Bid Information Packet and make certain that all bids are submitted by January 2 of the year three years prior to the Grand National Tournament for which they are bidding.

A proposal to raise the school registration fee to \$ 25.00 or to increase the amount for registration per student to the Grand National Tournament to \$ 25.00 was debated. After much discussion the moderators voted to increase the school registration fee to \$ 20.00 beginning in September 1998.

We then began action to Constitution and By-Laws items.

A motion was proposed to Article II that the NCFL eliminate the speech events of Oral Interpretation

and Dramatic Performance and substitute in their places the events of Dramatic Interpretation and Humorous Interpretation. After some discussion, the motion was withdrawn.

A motion was proposed to Article II that all necessary changes be made to allow for memorized interpretation--no manuscripts. After some discussion, the motion failed.

At this point the meeting was recessed, and the moderators reconvened at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 27, 1997.

A motion was made to Article II to specify precise penalties for violations of rules and to add a statement to event descriptions to deal with recourse of disqualified students' coaches. After much discussion, it was suggested that the NCFE Executive Council work on ballots at their Winter Meeting. The amended motion passed.

A motion to help with Saturday time problems to change Article II, Section C, 4, b to read, Rounds I, II, and III: random pairing on geographical basis. Round IV: direct power pairing, high-high, based on Rounds I-III with side constraints. Round V: high-low within brackets with flip for sides. After a great deal of discussion, the question was called, and the motion passed. (weighted vote 81 to 52) [Additional action to this motion should be noted later in the minutes.]

A motion to help with Saturday judging problems to change Article II, Section B, 1, b to reflect judge quotas in Lincoln/Douglas Debate as follows:

- 1 debater: 1 judge
- 2 debaters: 2 judges
- 3 debaters: 3 judges
- 4 debaters: 4 judges
- 5 debaters: 5 judges
- 6 debaters: 6 judges

After some discussion, the motion passed. (weighted vote 95 to 38)

A motion to change Article II, Section C, 1, f to read no manuscripts will be employed in Duo Interpretation. After some discussion, the motion failed by a straw vote.

A motion to change the previously adopted pairing method in debate at the Grand National Tournament was proposed. Article II, Section C, 4, b should read, Rounds I and II: random pairing on a geographical basis. Round III: lag-powered based upon the results of Round I. Round IV: high-low within brackets with side constraints. Round V: high-low within brackets with flip for sides. After a brief discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

The following items were discussed at some length:

1. Breakfast at tournament sites with early departure times--could it be offered? Kim White, one of our hostesses for the Detroit tournament, suggested that this was a problem which her league had noted at past tournaments and one with which they plan to deal.

2. Could LD rounds begin on Friday since the rounds are so crammed into Saturday? It was generally felt that this would not be feasible. The new pairing method should help with time.

3. Can starting time and bus time be a bit more humane? We will make every effort to begin later this year.

- 4. Complaints concerning event descriptions varying from performances which actually win were discussed. Although it was felt that not a great deal could be done to change this, perhaps the Executive Council can come up with suggestions as a result of their work at their Winter Meeting.**
- 5. Concern regarding the content of some bills in Student Congress was discussed. While some moderators felt that the bills should be censored, the general feeling of the moderators was that the bills should be chosen on the basis of debatability. Conduct in the chamber should be monitored by those adults in charge.**
- 6. Behavior of students at the Grand National Tournament was discussed. It was suggested that perhaps a letter from the Grand Tournament Director regarding the conduct expected might be sent to coaches as a reminder of curfews and coach responsibilities.**
- 7. Can we have a program to move the tournament at rounds 3 and 4 in Team Debate and LD? We are currently examining the possibility of using a computer program for the preliminary rounds in the debate events.**
- 8. Some moderators suggested that a new copy of the NCFL Constitution and By-Laws be distributed. It was suggested that copies could be easily obtained from our web site.**
- 9. Proposals for the Fall Meeting of 1998 were mentioned by moderators for Milwaukee and Savannah.**

A motion to accept the Bid Process Packet passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carmen S. Adkins

Publicity Director/Recording Secretary

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SECONDARY SCHOOL PRINCIPALS HAS PLACED THE NCFL GRAND NATIONAL TOURNAMENT ON THE NASSP NATIONAL ADVISORY LIST OF CONTESTS AND ACTIVITIES FOR 1997-98.

BACK |

HOME |