



NATIONAL CATHOLIC FORENSIC LEAGUE

Leadership Through Speech

NCFL Newsletter

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The Fall Meeting of the NCFL Executive Committee was called to order on Friday, September 24, 1999 by President Ron Steinhorst at 7:10pm at the Hyatt Hotel in Rochester, New York, site of the NCFL Grand National Tournament in 2000. The roll was called, the twenty-eight leagues in attendance were:

Arlington
Atlanta
Baltimore
Boston
Brooklyn
Buffalo
Chicago
Erie
Green Bay
Ks City/St. Joseph's
Lafayette
Miami
Milwaukee
Newark
New Orleans
New York
Ogdensburg
Orlando
Palm Beach
Philadelphia
Pittsburgh
Rochester
Rockville Centre
Salina
Scranton
St. Petersburg
Washington, DC
Worcester

Mr. Steinhorst introduced the new moderators and introduced our host, Ms. JoAnn Hamm of Rochester. Ms. Hamm discussed the plans for the weekend.

Mr. Michael Nailor, 1st Vice President, was introduced to present his Officer's Report. He asked for suggestions on Extemporaneous Speaking Topics and Lincoln-Douglas Debate Topics. He will be sending out a mailing providing information on last year's topics and suggesting topics for this year's tournament.

Ms. Carmen Adkins, 2nd Vice President, was introduced to present her Officer's Report. She indicated that she would be working with Mr. Nailor on the Extemp and L-D Debate Topics.

Mr. Dick Gaudette, Executive Secretary and Treasurer, was introduced to present his report. He reminded everyone of the NCFL Deadlines for School Membership, December 1st at \$20 per school and late membership by January 1st at a 10% penalty in addition to the fee, for a total of \$22 per school. Mr. Gaudette reminded everyone that he had the NCFL Pins for sale.

Mr. Roland Burdett, the Recording Secretary and Publicity Director, was introduced to present his report. He is keeping the Official NCFL Scrapbook of photos and news clippings. If anyone has any additions, he asked that they be sent to him.

Mr. Jim Lyness, the NCFL Grand National Tournament Director, was introduced to present his report. He thanked everyone who worked in the Tab Rooms at last year's National Tournament. He indicated that the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) had placed the NCFL Grand National Tournament in 2000 on the NASSP National Advisory List of Contests and Activities. He distributed the NCFL Policy Debate Topic Selection Form to the Directors present and indicated he would mail it to those not present. Mr. Lyness needs the completed form returned to him by October 15, 1999.

Mr. Lyness indicated that two mistakes were made in the Tab Room in Chicago. Ms. Amy Jo Burns of Mercer High School in the Erie Diocese should have been an Octo Finalist in Dramatic Performance. Mr. Colon Weir of Murray High School in the Louisville Diocese should have been a Quarter Finalist in Extemporaneous Speaking. The NCFL extends its apologies to these students for the errors and will send them appropriate trophies.

Ms. Adkins reported on the Policy Debate Topic Selection Committee Meeting held in the summer of 1999. If Directors are willing and interested in writing Topic Study Reports for future topics they should see Mr. Steinhorst. The meeting next year is in Corpus Christi, TX and the topic to be selected must be international in focus.

Mr. Mike Colletti of the Chicago Diocese was introduced. Mr. Steinhorst extended his thanks and the thanks of the NCFL to Mike, Bern and the entire Chicago Team for another rousing success in Chicago. He thanked everyone for their cooperation and patience during the tournament. He noted that the hotel rooms had really expanded. There were a total of 1450 rooms used!

Ms. Joann Hamm of the Rochester Diocese was introduced. She provided information on the Rochester 2000 Grand Nationals to be held May 26-28, 2000. She reported that six hotels would be used to house attendees. There are three hotels in the downtown area: the Hyatt (275 rooms), Sheraton (450 rooms), and Crowne Plaza (200 rooms). There are three hotels in the suburban area near the Rochester Institute of Technology: the Radisson (100 rooms), Holidome (also known as the Holiday Inn Airport South) (200 rooms), and the Holiday Inn Airport (100 rooms). Hotels are accepting reservations now.

The Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) will be hosting Student Congress, Extemp, Original Oratory, and Oral Interpretation events and all the Elimination Rounds, Awards, and Saturday Mass. The Webster County school system will be hosting Lincoln-Douglas Debate, Policy Debate, Dramatic Performance, Declamation, and Duo Interp. Buses for the tournament will be provided by the Webster County Schools.

The hotels will host a \$1 per item continental breakfast on Saturday morning as the tournament begins. Box lunches will be provided at RIT and at the Webster Schools. Tickets will be ordered and paid for in advance. Watch for information from the Rochester Diocese. There will be a Student Reception on Friday night. There will be two masses on Saturday night.

Mr. Steinhorst introduced Mr. Jim Lyness to discuss the 2001 Nationals in New York City. He reported that the hotel rates have been locked in at the tournament hotels at \$140 for a Single, \$150 for Doubles, and \$160 for Triples and Quads. The tournament hotels are the Grand Hyatt and Roosevelt Hotel. New York state tax exemption is available only for registered New York organizations. Though, you can apply for this tax exemption in advance. Policy Debate will be held in the hotels. Regis and Loyola Schools will host Lincoln-Douglas Debate. Speech and Congress will be held at Fordham University.

Ms. Beth Young, the host of NCFL Nationals 2002 in Pittsburgh was introduced. She reported that she has completed contracts with five hotels downtown for 1300 rooms at \$95 to \$125 per room per night. She is trying to arrange all the events at Duquesne University, with the University of Pittsburgh as a backup.

Ms. Eleanor Wright, the host of NCFL Nationals 2003 in Arlington was introduced. She reported that the Hyatt and two Marriott hotels have been contracted with and that the schools have agreed to provide the facilities rent-free.

Mr. Gaudette then presented the Financial Report. He reported that the National Tournament continues to be more expensive than planned. The Financial Statement for the 1998-1999 Year is:

Balance on 1 September 1998 \$ 42,397.44

Receipts for the Year \$ 88,424.26

Total \$130,821.70

Less Expenses for the Year \$ 87,171.57

Balance on 31 August 1999 \$ 43,650.13 with \$38,931.51 in Savings and \$4,718.62 in Checking.

He reported the Receipts and Expenses as follows:

<u>Receipts</u>		<u>Expenses</u>	
Dues	\$20,545.50	Supplies	\$376.15
Penalty	\$860.00	Postage	\$581.10
Pins	\$566.00	Phone	\$1,123.02

Nationals	\$56,365.00	Nationals	\$71,422.37
Fines	\$5,650.00	Executive Council	\$10,623.29
Interest	\$1,055.26	Other Meeting Exp.	\$612.50
Misc.	\$382.50	WebSite Maint.	\$585.00
Palmer House Contrib	\$3,000.00	Misc.	\$602.00
Total Receipts	\$88,424.26	Total Expenses	\$87,171.57

Mr. Gaudette reported that the Expenses for the 1998 NCFL Grand National Tournament were:

Awards	\$16,522.72
Postage	\$741.50
Ballots	\$635.47
Supplies	\$2,769.45
Mass	\$1,325.75
Phone	\$652.55
Insurance	\$583.60
Printing	\$4,985.00
Palmer House	\$9,760.06
Buses	\$14,500.00
Schools	\$18,946.27

Mr. Gaudette presented the Budget for the 1999-2000 Year. A motion was made to accept the budget. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously. The budget is:

<u>Receipts</u>		<u>Expenses</u>	
Dues	\$20,520.00	Supplies	\$600.00
Penalty	\$500.00	Printing	\$1,000.00
Pins	\$700.00	Postage	\$1,000.00

Fines	\$2,500.00	Pins	\$1,100.00
Interest	\$1,300.00	Phone	\$1,200.00
Misc.	\$2,000.00	Executive Council	\$12,000.00
		Other Meeting Exp.	\$800.00
		Web Site Support	\$500.00
Total Receipts	\$27,520.00	Total Expenses	\$18,200.00

Mr. Steinhorst then turned to new business and discussions. Mr. Burdett presented the Executive Council's proposed revisions to the NCFL's Instructions to Bidders for the Annual NCFL Grand National Speech and Debate Tournament. After a short discussion the revisions were accepted Unanimously. The approved instructions will be posted on the NCFL Website at www.ncfl.org and may be obtained in hard copy from the Publicity Director or Tournament Director.

Then the Executive Committee began discussion of the rules for Duo Interpretation. The discussion was begun by Ms. Mary Beth McCarthy of the Salina Diocese. After a very long discussion, the following By-Laws change was proposed:

Duo Interpretation teams will receive an automatic rank of 6 if (a) either speaker loses possession of the script, (b) either speaker does not remain standing, (c) if students make physical contact with one another, or (d) if students make eye contact with one another outside of the introductory and transition material. Ties with the rank of 6 are permitted in a round only among students violating these rules.

This proposal passed with a weighted vote of 107 to 30.

It was pointed out that the Duo Interpretation Ballot should be revised accordingly. The Executive Council was assigned this effort for their Winter 2000 Meeting. The current changes will go into effect on the existing ballot for Nationals 2000. The revised ballot will be presented at the Fall Meeting in 2000 for approval and implementation at Nationals 2001.

Discussion was begun by Mr. Greg Cunningham of Boston about including the piece titles for Oral Interpretation and Dramatic Performance on the NCFL Nationals Registrations. This could help handle protests and possibly prevent some of them if the registrations were reviewed before the tournament. After a short discussion, no action was taken on this based on concerns about pieces changing and the workload required to review the titles. It was agreed that Diocesan Directors should work with their local leagues to explain the rules and their implementation.

Ms. Lynda Luce of Green Bay suggested that the tournament should provide some additional staff in the Speech Event Tab Rooms to help handle the protests that occur. Mr. Lyness, the Grand National Tournament Director, indicated he would address this problem by assigning more staff to each Tab Room to assist in whatever capacity is necessary.

Mr. Keiran Larkin of the Brooklyn Diocese began discussion of splitting Humorous Interpretation from Dramatic Performance since it is hard to mix and compare these pieces. After a short discussion no action was taken on this since it would mean increasing the size of the tournament or reducing quotas.

Mr. Gaudette reported the following fines remain outstanding (as of 25 September 1999) from the 1999 NCFL Grand National Tournament:

<u>Diocese</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Fine</u>
Arlington	Broad Run	\$50.00
Atlanta	Coffey County	\$150.00
Atlanta	Houston County	\$50.00
Boston	St. John's Prep	\$100.00
Brooklyn	Franklin Lane	\$50.00
Green Bay	Hortonville	\$50.00
Green Bay	Appleton North	\$50.00
Houston	Crosby	\$50.00
Jackson	Brookhaven	\$50.00
Kansas City	Atchison	\$50.00
Kansas City/St. Joseph's	Bishop LeBlond	\$400.00
Lafayette	Lafayette	\$50.00
Milwaukee	Brookfield East	\$50.00
Ogdensburg	Potsdam Central	\$100.00
Omaha	SW Omaha Club	\$450.00
Omaha	Bugeater Club	\$50.00
Palm Beach	Dreyfoos/Arts	\$50.00
Pittsburgh	Bethel Park	\$100.00
Scranton	Scranton Prep	\$50.00
Scranton	Scranton HS	\$50.00
St. Petersburg	Niceville	\$50.00
St. Petersburg	Lely	\$50.00
St. Petersburg	Hillsborough	\$50.00
Washington	Heights	\$50.00

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45am.

Respectfully submitted,

Roland E. Burdett, III
NCFL Recording Secretary/Publicity Director

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Last Modified: 1/5/00
by [Jeff Alpi](#)