

Meeting Called To Order At 9:07 am

Coaches In Attendance

Name	School
Benjamin Gaddis	Trinity Preparatory School
Michael Rankin	NSU University School
Florence Petit	Pompano Beach High School
Grant Chmielewski	Dr. Phillips High School
Paul L. Gaba	Wellington Community High School
Bo Lint	American Heritage, Palm Beach
Brian McAninch	Lake Highland Preparatory School
Quentin Scruggs	John I Leonard High School
Dave Camous	Bishop Moore Catholic High School
Justin Weaver	West Boca Raton High
Kate Hamm	Ransom Everglades
Carol Cecil	G. Holmes Braddock
Richard Burns	Buchholz High School
Traci Lowe	Suncoast High
Sarah Botsch-McGuinn	Cypress Bay HA
Luiz Bravim	Cardinal Gibbons HS
Jacob Bosley	NSU University School
Bob Hutchings	The Bolles School
Jose Denis	Nova High School
Shannon Southam	Keystone Heights JR/SR High School
Melissa Losure	Samuel Wolfson High School
Andrew Hart	Our Lady of Lourdes Academy

Treasurer's Report

Attached by

grant.chmielewski@oc...

Grant Chmielewski

Carol motions to accept.

Kate Hamm Second.

20 pass.

Agenda

1. Varsity State - Sat/Sun 3/1/25 -3/2/25

Open State at UCF!

2. Novice State - Sat/Sun 4/12/25 - 4/13/25 *Subject To Change depending on TOC dates

Quentin Scruggs Host- John I Leonard High School
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KH: Can we get prices down?

PG: It should be more affordable in April rather than March.
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3. Open State - Carol & Ben

Open State at UCF!

Jose Denis: Will fees be affected?

Carol: We need to get more information
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Grant: The more that compete, the lower the student cost. Judge pool issues will impact us.

KH: Address questions that we are all going to field: Novices? What levels?
Gaddis: We must go by our bylaws in the first year.
Jose: Is Open State Guaranteed?
Gaddis: We have agreement, we are just waiting for paperwork saying we have the rooms.

4. Do not all double entry between Extemp & Impromptu - Sarah Botsch-McGuinn, Cypress Bay HS

SBM: Prep makes cross-entry incredibly difficult. Because so many double-enter between those two events, it is difficult to schedule, and the whole tournament gets behind.
MR: This seems like an overreach to make students make choices because it inconveniences us.
SBM: They can double enter in any other events, except impromptu
LB: I'm sensitive to the concerns that SMB brought up, but wondering if we could go back to making impromptu on a second day.
Gaddis: We would need to make that a bylaws change
Bo: We need to keep in mind that we created flights. We may want to consider it if we are still fighting. Your only options really are extemp and impromptu. We can handle this with scheduling.
Jose: It just causes a lot of headaches. Maybe we allow in a double entry in one of the flights.
Grant: We flighted because of considerations of rooms. We may need to consider in the spring meeting.
PJ: We need extemp prep to run on time, rather do that than punish kids. I am more than happy to help with the logistics
SBM: It's not extemp prep running late, the students in impromptu is late to impromptu. Or the judge leaves because the student has double-entered. When they run late, they can't start on time. It's not the prep room, it's the kids not being in impromptu. It's a ripple effect.
Bo: At Varsity State, we only had 6-7 sections of each event. It made up a large portion of the pool, making it hard to schedule between both. Potentially fewer

students with cross-entry pairing.
Kate: Impromptu is a 7-minute event, no extra time. Do we allow double entry in speech?
SBM: Because impromptu is shorter, the judges are there, and then leave. It's a reality, it happens, and we have to deal with it.
Michael: We need to see the impact.
Kh: Call the question. PG: Second Vote: Yes- 17 No- 3 Abstain--0

5. Update verbiage within Civility Code - Ryan Levesque, American Heritage Broward

Update #1

- Under **Tournament Decorum**, Section 11
- Currently says: "No person with access to information about tournament results shall divulge those results to others."
- I would like to add: "No person with access to information about tournament results shall divulge those results to others, nor use that information to inquire about scores or decisions affecting a particular team, especially the coach's own."

BL: Call the vote
Vote: Yes:16 No:2 Abstain:2

Proposed - by Nathan - to amend for ballot auditing - outside of official tabroom duties

Update #2

- Under **Email, Social Media, and Meeting Conduct**

- Change Heading to: **Email, Ballot, Social Media, and Meeting Conduct**
- And also add a #6 under the new (or existing) Heading that reads #6: The use of a judge ballot that is accusatory, mean-spirited, gratuitous, insulting, belittling, or exhibits a clear bias against the speaker because of an external association of any kind. External associations could range from a student's associated team, school, coach, race, ethnicity, sex, gender expression, orientation, etc.

Document provided:LINK
Carol: Vote
Vote Yes- 19 No- 0 Abstain- 1

6. Awards For World Schools Debate - Nathan Johnston, Lake Highland Prep
 Currently, the league only gets 1 trophy for World Schools elims which is understandable given that teams can fluctuate between 3 & 5 entries. That said, we give all members a trophy in events like Duo and PF. For WSD, the FFL should order additional awards following the tournament and distribute them to the participants of elim rounds. After the tournament, you will know the exact numbers you need. Yes, this is an expense to the league, but it is important to have equity across all events regarding awards given, and the students deserve to have their accomplishments acknowledged.

BM: In a world where every student who earned something is going away from a trophy, then it is odd we don't give one to every kid. When we have definitive numbers. Debate can be more solvent than speech in most cases. Maybe we can look at a redesign? Look at alternatives.
Grant: Eagles are expensive. Can we support the expense yes? But as things changes, can we always do this. We need to find a workaround.
KH: If we give other teams.
X: What about group interp?
Carol: they got one trophy. In 2019, we did after the fact mail schools awards

for their students. In some instances, we had kids' names engraved.

Carol: Vote
Second-

Vote
Yes- 15
No- 5
Abstain- 0

7. Update/Streamline Congress Manual - Bo Lint, American Heritage Palm Beach
 - a. Including looking at which procedures to implement at FFL Tournaments Congress Manual changes - Nathan Johnston & Chris Sprouse, Lake Highland Prep

Section I, C. Chambers

The optimal size of each chamber should be 18-20 legislators is 13-15 legislators, but a league official will make the final determination. Strike the language on Novice and Varsity state structure and replace it with "League officials will determine the structure of the Novice and Varsity State tournaments based on the number of entries."

Section 1, D. Splitting School Delegations Into Chambers

At the end of the first sentence, add "except one, which that school's judges may judge."

Section 1. H. Judges

Add, at the beginning of the first sentence, "Except at Novice State, where Congress judges will be drawn from a pool assigned to judge Congress and timed-prep speech events (such as Extemporaneous Speaking and Impromptu),"

BL: The congress manual had shortcomings. The manual doesn't line up with trends, norms, and national rules. This is an item to update the manual.
PG: We need to make this a living document, and they need to change and adapt.
BL: This just allows the manual to be updated to match
PG: We need to make the bylaws come back in line.
Grant: Call, KH second
Vote: Yes- 19 No- 0 Abstain- 1

8. Officially create new positions that need to be added to the FFL Governing Docs -
 - VP - Middle School (EBoard position)
 - New Team Support Specialist (Board of Directors position)

Social Media Manager
Carol & Ben

Grant: Vote. Second
Vote Yes- 20 No- Abstain-

9. Notes / Index Card (3x5) - Limited Prep Events Or at they very least IMP
- Jacob Abraham, Marjory Stoneman Douglas

Gaddis: This is about accommodations
SBM: Call
Vote: Yes-16 No- 3 Abstain- 1

10. Update / Create Impromptu Rules - Jacob Abraham, Marjory Stoneman Douglas

Gaddis: But the rules in the bylaws
Vote: Yes- No- Abstain-

11. Judging Obligations / Judge Quota For Debate Events - Bo Lint, Ben Gaddis,
Nathan Johnston, Jacob Abraham

Bo: Move to a round-based quota. Round obligation makes us more efficient. More in line with the nation. The entourage rule can be enforced.
SBM: Echo above. Allows the fix to entourage. Allows Saturday and Sunday only judges. Judges can now count. Clears up a lot of problems with clean judges in late out rounds.
GC: Round numbers are helpful to tab.

Call
Vote yes- 20 No- 0 Abstain-0

12. Constitutional Item

Powerpoint Here

Vote: Yes- No- Abstain-

Adjourned -Kate Hamm Move!
Adjourned at 11:04