Forensics Events

No matter what your personality or style, there’s a forensic event for you!

Interpretation Events

1. **Humorous Interpretation (HI) –** Performance of a play, novel, or short story that is humorous in nature. Ten minutes maximum time limit. Manuscripts occasionally allowed, but should be memorized. Also called *Humorous Prose*.
2. **Dramatic Interpretation (DI)** – Performance of a play, novel, or short story that is serious in nature. Ten minutes maximum time limit. Manuscripts occasionally allowed, but should be memorized. Also called *Serious Prose*.
3. **Poetry Interpretation (POE) –** An interpretation (humorous or serious) of a poem or collection of poems, usually of the same theme or by the same author. 6-8 minutes in length. Manuscripts are required.
4. **Oral Interpretation of Drama (OID) –** Involves three to five students performing a cutting from a play. Performance normally uses off-stage focus. Fifteen minute maximum time limit. Manuscripts are required.
5. **Duet Acting (DA)** – Involves two competitors physically acting out a scene from a play. Stage props are limited to one table and two chairs. Actors can play more than one character, including a narrator. 10-12 minutes in length. Must be memorized.
6. **Dramatic Duo (DUO)** – Involves two competitors performing a scene from a play. Performance normally uses off-stage focus. Ten minutes maximum time limit. Scripts occasionally allowed, but generally memorized.

Public Address Events

1. **Original Oratory (OO)/Persuasive –** An original structured speech in which the speaker attempts to persuade the audience to change views or to become aware of a problematic situation. Ten minutes maximum time limit. Manuscripts occasionally allowed, but should be memorized.
2. **Informative (IPA)** – An original structured speech in which the speaker gives the audience a better understanding about a particular topic. Visual aids generally used. Eight minutes maximum time limit. Note cards allowed, but should be memorized.
3. **Entertainment (ENT)** – An original structured speech given for the purpose of entertaining the audience using various types of humor. The speech cannot be a stand-up routine. Visual aids generally used. Eight minutes maximum time limit. Note cards allowed, but should be memorized.

Limited Preparation Events

1. **Extemporaneous Speaking (EXT) –** An original structured speech prepared in response to a question of current events drawn at the tournament. Generally persuasive in nature. The speaker generally receives 30 minutes to one hour to prepare a speech 5-7 minutes in length. Note card is allowed, but generally memorized.
2. **Impromptu Speaking (IMP)** – An original structured speech “off the cuff.” Centered around a topic drawn during the round. Generally humorous in nature. Typically five minutes of preparation time with 3-5 minutes speaking time.

Debate & Student Congress

1. **Lincoln-Douglas Debate (LD) –** One-on-one debate revolving around a value premise. Rounds last approximately 45 minutes, with each debater speaking for 13 minutes, plus cross-examination and preparation time. Debaters must be prepared to argue both in favor of and in opposition to the resolution. Research, organization, listening skills, and extemporaneous speaking skills are the keys to success.
2. **Public Forum Debate (PF)/Turner** – A debate consisting of two-person teams roughly based on T.V.’s “Crossfire.” Rounds last approximately 33 minutes, with each debater speaking for 5-6 minutes, plus cross-examination and preparation time. Debaters must be prepared to argue both in favor of and in opposition to the resolution. Research, organization, listening skills, and extemporaneous skills are the keys to success.
3. **Student Congress** – Students author legislation, then convene a congressional session to debate and vote on the legislation. Knowledge of parliamentary process is helpful.