**The New Member's Dictionary**

***(What in the world are they talking about?)***

**Ask-** If ever you don't know something, find a coach or a teammate and DO THIS!!!!! If you are unable to find someone from your team, seek out another coach ‑ Mr. Johnson from Raymond Central, Ms. Jerome from Millard West, Mr. Davis from Lincoln East, etc. They will help!

**Attention Lines‑** The first few lines in your interp piece, designed to get the audience's attention, will be referred to at some time on a ballot as "teaser."

**Awards‑** An awards ceremony is held at the end of each speech tournament, after finals are over. At this time, both individual and team awards are presented. Parents and other spectators are allowed to attend and take pictures. Team members may change into jeans and team shirts at this time.

**Award Aerobics‑** This is a strange competitor practice. There will be a lot of standing and sitting and clapping at awards. Just do what we do.

**Ballots‑** Judges assign points and rank on a sheet of paper and (hopefully) write a lot of comments. The ballots are the same (or similar) to the ballots in your practice ballot folders. The ballots are given to the coaches after the awards ceremony and the coaches will let you see them on the bus. The ballots must be returned to the coaches to be put in your files!

**Bigger**‑ You will definitely hear this from a coach or see it on a ballot at one time. It means: cut loose, go for it, don't hold back, throw caution to the wind, make it BIGGER!!!!

**Break‑** This is a good thing. To "break" means to be one of the top six speakers in one event and thus advance to finals.

**Chalkboard Lingo‑** If you see something like this (or an abbreviated version thereof on a chalkboard:

F14 DE in R2 FA OO BB ASAP THANKS

Don't panic. It means, "Speaker F14 (his of her code) is double‑entered (enrolled in two events) in round two, flight A of original oratory, but will be back as soon as possible, thank you for waiting for me."

See Also: Code, Double‑entered, Flight, Round

**Code‑** Because speech is such a subjective event and we don't announce to what team we belong, each team will have a letter code. ("F" in the earlier example) Each speaker will have a number code as well: F1, F2, F3, etc. Note: at some tournaments schools will have two codes for ultra secrecy F1, F2, F3... and M1, M2, M3, etc. Some tournaments will also use double letters, i.e. FF12 or AB12 This is usually done at Districts so that judges will not know if they are sending two people from the same school to the State Tournament (the top three in finals at Districts go to State and schools can enter two speakers in each event, so teams can send two people to State in some events.)

**Double Entered‑** This means a speaker is competing in two different events at the same time. For example:

You are **F14**. For round I you're scheduled:

Sec 2 HI Room 134 Sec 3 OO Room 210

GI B20

**F14** L17

M23 D6

K5 G12

A10 **F14**

What you should do is, go to Room 210 before the rounds begin and write on the chalk‑board, "F14 (code) DE (double entered) RI (round 1) OO (Original Oratory (or whatever event you're double-entered in))." Then go to Room 134 and give your HI when called. After you are finished, say to the judge, "I am double‑entered, may I please be excused?" Then go to Room 210 to give your OO. If you should happen to be scheduled at the same time in both rooms, say last, write on one board and go to the other room and ask that judge politely if you may speak early because you are double‑entered. If you are in a group event, discus with your partner or team which event comes first, usually a group event will be done first to avoid waiting for a partner.

**Draw‑** Extempers draw their topics for their speeches either 30 or 60 minutes before speak time, depending on the tournament. If you are an extemper, find out immediately when draw begins. It will be printed on the schedule you receive from Mr. Bender when you arrive. If you are double entered with Extemp being one of your events, ask a varsity extemper, they will tell you how to do this because it depends on the tournament.

**Drop‑Add.** Before the tournament begins, the tournament director will have to make changes to the schedules (when scheduled speakers or judges are sick and do not arrive, etc.) It is very important to be *absolutely silent* during this time and to listen to your event's changes‑ you may be moved to another room, moved in order, etc. Extemp draw usually starts at the same time Drops & Adds are taking place; usually any changes in Extemp are brought to the draw room.

**Finals‑** After rounds are over, the six (in some tournaments five, seven, or eight) top speakers in each event will speak in a finals round. Once in finals three judges will watch each speaker and the judges' scores will be averaged together for the tournament trophies or medals in each event. All speechers who are not competing in finals are expected to watch either a teammate in finals or the finals for your event. The people competing in finals are the best and you can learn a lot from watching them! Speechers, may NOT change clothes to watch finals.

**Flight‑** Some school arrange their tournaments in two groups called flights to make large tournaments with many double‑entered participants easier. For example during Round One Flight A of "Podunk High Invitational" the following events would compete INF, OID, EXT, DI, and IMP, Let's say that this round began at 8 a.m. At 10 a.m., Round 1 Flight B events would go: DUET, OPA, H1, ENT, and POE. Then at noon, Round 2 of Flight A would continue and at 2 p.m. Round 2 of Flight B would begin, etc.

**Forced‑** This is another common comment judges like to put on ballots. To "force" something means you are trying so hard that it seems insincere. Usually speakers who do this are rushing themselves into performing and are not really feeling.

**Lunch break‑** These rarely exist at speech meets. There will always, however, be time to eat between rounds. Look at your schedule when you arrive and plan ahead. A note: most tournaments sell pizza for lunch, and often bagels and fruit. You are more than welcome to bring something else if you prefer! If you don't bring food, bring money! Also, at most meets we will stop at a fast food restaurant on the way home, but only if there is time and the weather permits,

**Novice‑** AKA "Rookie" This is you, first‑year speakers. Some tournaments give awards to the highest‑finishing novice as well as the top in each event.

**Panel-** A group of judges, as in finals. Most tournaments will have three judges for finals and semifinals. Rounds have one judge in each section.

**Parents‑ THESE ARE GOOD THINGS! WE LIKE THEM!** Parents are welcome to attend all or part of any practice (although they might be shocked to find out what we're all really like ... ) or speech meet.

**Posters‑** When the speakers who have made finals are chosen, the tournament will write their names on large posters (one per event) and post it on the wall for everyone to see. This is how you know if you have made it to finals. After finals are over, if the poster is still on the wall, the posters are up for grabs to the first speecher (with his or her name on the poster) to claim it.

**Posting‑** Posting is when the posters announcing the finalists are hung for everyone to see. Please be careful that you don't get trampled!

**Preparing the Audience‑** The addresses you make to your audience during your interp piece to prepare them for you presentation will be referred to as an intro by many judges on ballots.

**Round‑** Tournaments are arranged into rounds, where all speakers in each event compete in groups or sections, of (usually) six. See Also: Section

**Section.** Each room of speakers in a round is a section, For example, during H I Round 1, six people will speak in Room 245 in Section 001; seven speakers will compete in Room 247 in Section 002, six in Room 249 in Section 003...

**Semifinals‑** Some large tournaments, in addition to finals, will also have semi‑finals where the top 12 in each event will compete, six in two sections. Then the top six (usually the top three from each room, but it can vary) of those, advance to finals.

**V.A.'s**‑ Another judge's notation, meaning Visual Aids.