



TO: KHSSL Member Schools

FROM: Steve Meadows, KHSSL Executive Director

DATE: August 2020

RE: Handbook Changes for 2020-2021

Below you shall find my **quick summary of the Handbook changes** for this school year. You will see changes marked in red in the Handbook itself, but this document shall serve as a shortcut for you. I love you too.

1. Comma error correction, additional information and/or heading clarification, etc. are my work alone. They're in red if not simply for correctness.
2. School dues changed this year as well as the early registration deadline to more rational amounts and timelines at my request from the Board. See page 7.
3. All event rules mentioned that students could not be disqualified for going over time in Semifinals and Finals but not Quarterfinals at the Regional/State Tournaments. Assuming this is simply an omission from the time before Quarterfinals were born, I have added in Quarters to these rule sets for all Senior Speech events.
4. Public Forum rules (see page 70) still reflect the experimental times added last year early in the season when the NSDA adopted them as a pilot. Once the NSDA Board has ruled on whether or not to permanently adopt these, the KHSSL Board will act accordingly if needed. Until further notice, the experimental times adopted last year stand (see the Handbook on page 70).
5. Jennifer Dunnaway added to Hall of Fame listings!
6. There is no number six.
7. Section 4 to Article 5 of the Constitution (allowing virtual meetings under extraordinary conditions) added.
8. Hall of Fame section rewritten by Board this summer updated (pages 79-80).

9. Duo Interpretation rules updated with these adds:
 - a. Except in the introduction, no touching is allowed.
 - b. Except in the introduction, students may not make obvious eye contact with one another.
10. Coaches must have Oratory and Informative speeches electronically available for retrieval (or paper copies available) at Regionals and State tournaments should questions of originality arise, but these documents no longer need be turned in at Registration.
11. The following changes regarding Improv Duo prompts were made by the Board:
 1. Prompts will not indicate how to play the scene (either humorous or serious)
 2. Round 1, 3, and semi-final prompts will be a statement. (Ex. Two friends disagree over a decision). Statement prompts must be gender neutral, containing a subject and verb, but no other specific details (such as location)
 3. Round 2, quarters and final prompts will be line (Ex. "You deserve a break today!"). Line should be worked into the scene.
 4. A note: All improvs would solve a problem so a problem would have to be presented in a statement, but it shouldn't be overly specific. An improv performance should contain characters, relationships, objectives and location.
12. The Board rewrote the Regional Tournament section of the Handbook. Coaches are advised to read these three pages fully. See pages 53-55. The main changes were for section size (applies to Regional Managers) and acknowledging that there are now four ways to qualify for State. Exemptions from Regionals should be rare as students who wish to attend State can qualify four ways; however, if there is an exemption needed, instructions will be provided. Schools can still enter only as many entries at State as they did at Regionals, however, so schools should definitely make sure they understand the Regional rules. Also, deadlines and drop fees were rewritten for simplification and to make Regional Managers' lives less traumatized by hosting.
13. Students can now qualify for State one of four ways. See page 56 rule 2. However, Regional tournaments still matter as teams can only send as many entries to State as they send to Regionals, and there are still Regional Championships to be won in each event. It is expected that students will attend Regionals unless they have good reasons not to. Coaches simply may not have to get them excused as often with the new rules. This language replaced the Rosters section of the rules.
14. Because of this, Exemptions from Regionals are now less likely to be needed. See rule 3 (page 56) for a full explanation of Regionals Exemptions.
15. State Speech and Debate tournament registration deadlines and drop fees were adjusted and simplified to make the Executive Director's life less traumatized by hosting.
16. Invitational rules were adjusted (see pages 49-52). Most are for tournament hosts and include how Sweepstakes awards may be calculated for speech tournaments, etc.