

# Speech Arts – General

## Classification - based on grades 9-12

### **Debate**

Class A	1220 and over
Class B	1219 and under

### **Speech and Drama**

5A	1280 and over
4A	1279-640
3A	639 and under

1. Debate: Team and individuals compete by classification.  
Speech/Drama: No designated classification for individual event competition. Teams compete by classification.
2. Schools may petition to compete in the other classification for a two-year period. Petitions must be filed by October 1 to be considered for the current season.
3. Consistent with the classification cycle, the ISATA Executive Board will decide the A and B debate classification based on schools' November enrollment. This decision will be made at the December meeting of the ISATA Executive Board during the first year of the classification cycle.

## Eligibility

All students who participate in debate, speech and/or drama competition are subject to IHSAA eligibility rules 8-1 through 8-16, with the exception of Rule 8-4, Amateur Status.

## Coaches

1. Speech Arts head coaches must be certified to teach in Idaho or have completed the ASEP Coaching Principles course or NFHS Fundamentals of Coaching course.
2. All coaches must complete a first aid and CPR course from a school district recognized provider, as outlined in IHSAA Rule 3-2.
3. All coaches (includes head, volunteer and assistant coaches of all IHSAA activities) must take the NFHS online concussion course prior to the first day of practice. Volleyball, soccer and football coaches will be allowed to complete the course before the first competition.
4. Speech Arts head coaches are required to pass the recertification test in their discipline each year prior to their district tournament. Tests will be available at online after the rules webinar. Schools whose coach does not certify may be fined by their district board of control.

## 2014-2015 State Tournaments

Drama	December 5-6, 2014	Rocky Mtn HS, Meridian
Debate	March 13-14, 2015	TBD, District VI
Speech	April 10-11, 2015	Century HS, Pocatello

## State Tournament Fines

Schools will be assessed fines for the following:

1. Entries that withdraw after noon on the Wednesday before State: Fine - \$15.00.

2. Entries that withdraw within one hour before tournament check-in: Fine - \$25.00.
3. Coach leaves the tournament before his/her judging obligation is fulfilled or does not judge required number of rounds: Fine – \$100.
4. School does not bring the required number of “hired” judges: Fine – \$100.

## Judges

1. Age: Speech arts judges shall have been graduated from high school for at least twenty months.
2. Certification: Judges shall register, pay a required fee, attend a certification clinic and score 80% on a written test every year.

## State Tournament Judging

1. Coaches are required to judge up to four rounds. They will be paid for rounds in excess of four.
2. Schools are required to bring additional “hired” judges to state tournaments. Judging fees of certified judges will be paid by IHSAA, but schools are responsible for travel expenses. Requirements:
  - a. Drama / Speech - one judge
  - b. Debate - one judge for every seven students or fraction thereof.
3. Certified judges will be assigned before non-certified judges if possible. Only certified judges will be paid by the IHSAA.
4. Novice judges must attend a non-certifying rules clinic at the state tournament site.

## Reporting District-to-State Qualifiers

1. District Tournament Manager Responsibilities
  - a. Submit “District Manager’s Report” of state qualifiers to the IHSAA by *noon Monday* following the district tournament
  - b. Collect Principal Approval/Verification forms from qualifying schools and send to the IHSAA following the district tournament
2. Individual School Responsibilities
  - a. Register state qualifiers on the “Joy of Tournaments” website by 4:00 pm Tuesday following the district tournament. Failure to register may result in denial of participation at State.
  - b. Ensure that the district manager has a signed Principal Approval/Verification form for submission to the IHSAA.

## Coding Entries

A coding system shall be for state tournaments. A numerical or letter code shall be assigned to each school and also to each entry. Sectioning/pairing will be done by codes only.

## Tournament Inquiry Procedure

1. Concerns regarding possible rules violations by coaches or competitors during state tournaments must be submitted in writing to the tournament manager. The commissioner and manager will review the complaint and, if necessary, a

grievance committee will be convened to consider the inquiry and determine dispensation.

2. A contestant who is found to have violated rules of an event may be disqualified.
3. Ethical misconduct at tournaments will be dealt with as outlined in the "Ethical Misconduct Procedures" form.

### **Ballot Review**

1. Prior to advancement rounds, preliminary ballots and break results will be available for coaches to review for a period of 30 minutes. Coaches must remain in the room for the entire time. Ballots may not be taken after the review without permission of the tournament manager.
2. Concerns about preliminary results and ballots must be expressed prior to leaving the ballot review. No changes in preliminary results will be made after that time.

### **State Tab Rooms**

Tab rooms will be staffed with representatives from each district if possible. The ISATA commissioner of that discipline will serve as head of the grievance committee.

### **All-Stars**

Speech arts programs and/or coaches shall not sponsor, select, assist with, or announce "all-star" actors, debaters, or speakers.

## **Drama**

### **State Drama Representation**

1. No more than the top 1/3, or any fraction thereof, of the entries that complete all rounds of an event at district drama will advance to State provided each qualifier received an excellent or superior rating.
2. State qualifiers shall be determined by a cumulative two or three-round ranking and rating. If a tie exists in the last qualifying position, both entries may advance.
3. Honest Effort: If a participant does not finish all rounds at District, he/she may be included in the count that determines the number of state qualifiers, provided the tournament manager determines that the non-finish was due to emergency circumstances beyond the student's control.

### **District-to-state Representation**

1-3 = 1 qualifier	13-15 = 5 qualifiers
4-6 = 2 qualifiers	16-18 = 6 qualifiers
7-9 = 3 qualifier	19-21 = 7 qualifiers
10-12 = 4 qualifiers	22-24 = 8 qualifiers

### **Alternates**

1. Alternates shall be determined at the district tournament. Each district may designate two official alternates for each event, provided they received a superior or excellent rating at the district tournament.
2. If a qualifying entry cannot attend State, an official district alternate will be entered, but will not receive redraw rights.

3. Alternates will not be entered if the number of district qualifiers exceeds allowed representation due to ties in the last qualifying position.
4. Drops shall be reported to the IHSAA and changed on the "Joy of Tournaments" website by noon on the Wednesday preceding State. Drops reported after that time will result in a fine being levied against the school (see speech arts general regulations).
5. Alternates replacing late drops will be entered up to the start of the first round at State. First choice will be the alternates from the district reporting the drop. If that alternate is not available, another will be randomly drawn from a pool of available district alternates, first from the #1 alternates' pool and then from the #2 alternates' pool.
6. Schools choosing to bring official district alternates to the state tournament must register them upon arrival at the tournament site.

### **Entry Limitations – District & State**

1. At district and state tournaments, students may enter a maximum of three events as follows:
  - a. two acting and one technical theatre event, or
  - b. two technical theatre and one acting event
2. Students may enter an event only once.
3. At district tournaments, schools may enter a maximum of four entries per event.
4. At district tournaments, schools may enter a maximum of eight entries in any combination of tech categories.

### **State Drama Tournament Rounds / Sectioning**

1. Acting events shall have two or three preliminary rounds with one judge. Three judges are used in semifinal & final rounds.
2. Technical Theatre events shall have one preliminary round with two or three judges. The final round uses three judges.
3. The number of preliminary rounds sections will depend on the total number of entries. Sectioning priorities will be followed to the extent possible:
  - a. Entries will be randomly placed into sections of 5-8.
  - b. Entries will not be in the same section as teammates.
  - c. Entries will compete against different entries each round.
  - d. Performance order should rotate each round.

### **Use of Materials**

1. Material presented shall be appropriate for competition and public performance by high school students. A signed Principal's Approval Form must be submitted to both district and state managers to verify the principal's approval of all material presented by his/her students.
2. Materials and/or presentations may not be altered significantly from round to round or from district to state.
3. Contestants may not use any material that they have competitively performed at any previous years' competition.
4. Plagiarism is prohibited. Plagiarism shall be defined as, "The practice of taking someone else's work,

performance, or ideas and passing them off as one's own."

5. Contestants must produce scripts and/or source materials upon request from tournament management.

### **Grounds for Disqualification at District and State**

The following are grounds for disqualification from an event:

1. One or more rounds of "no show"
2. Violation of "Use of Materials Rules" above
3. Violation of the weapons rule
4. Use of properties in pantomime
5. Any outside assistance in any event

Note: Judges do not disqualify competitors. Violations shall be reported to tournament manager for appropriate action. Any other rule violation shall be considered a "minor violation" and shall result in dropping one rank.

### **Timing Regulations**

1. Timing violations in preliminary rounds will result in being dropped one rank. There are no "grace periods".
2. Timing penalties are not given in semifinals and finals.

### **Evaluation Scores**

Entries receive two scores from each judge:

**Rank** - Entries shall be evaluated against one another and ranked 1,2,3,4,4,4,etc. There can be only one 1<sup>st</sup>, one 2<sup>nd</sup>, and one 3<sup>rd</sup>. All other entries shall be ranked 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Rate** - Entries shall also be evaluated against a standard of performance and rated as Superior, Excellent, Average, or Below Average according to performance quality. Any rating may be awarded to more than one entry. "Below average" will not be used at State Drama. "6" will be the lowest rate given in semifinals or finals at State.

### **Rating Scale**

<u>Superior</u>	<u>Excellent</u>	<u>Average</u>	<u>Below Ave.</u>
10 9	8 7	6 5	4

### **Determining Advancement at State Drama**

1. Semi-Finals (Acting Events)
  - a. The top 16 entries from preliminary rounds will be selected by rank totals (14-16 to accommodate ties).
  - b. Two semi-final sections will be set by dividing the power based on preliminary rounds rank totals, and then rating totals as needed.
2. Finals (Acting and Tech Events)
  - a. The top four speakers in each semi-final section (Tech preliminary sections) will advance to the final round. Selection will be based on: 1) rank totals, 2) rating totals, 3) judge preference in the semi-final round. (#2, #3 in case of ties). Tech entries that advance to finals will be awarded both semifinal and final points.
  - b. Final round results will be based on: 1) rank totals, 2) rating totals, 3) judge preference in the final round, 4) semifinal rank totals, 5) semifinal rate totals, 6) preliminary rounds rank totals, 7) preliminary rounds rate totals (#2 through #7, will be used in case of ties)

### **Determining Team Champions**

1. Team winners in Class A and Class B are determined by event finish. Points listed are the maximum possible.

1 <sup>st</sup> place	5 points	finalist	2 points
2 <sup>nd</sup> place	4 points	semifinalist	1 point
3 <sup>rd</sup> place	3 points		
2. A tie for team placement will be broken by: a) number of entries breaking to finals; b) most first place finishers

### **ACTING EVENTS**

Humorous Solo	Serious Solo	Musical Theatre
Humorous Ensemble	Serious Ensemble	Pantomime
Humorous Original	Serious Original	Solo Audition

### **General Rules – Acting Events**

1. Makeup, costumes, and props are optional and shall not be part of the evaluation. Props are not allowed in pantomime.
2. Ensembles are composed of two to five actors.
3. Time limits include set-up, intro, performance and strike.
4. Competitors shall receive no outside assistance once the round has started.
5. Presentations may not contain more than 25% singing, *except* the Musical Theatre category.
6. Props as Weapons
  - a. The use of real weapons, facsimiles thereof, or look-alikes is prohibited.
  - b. Props that represent weapons must be made out of unpainted, undecorated wood and must not have moving parts, sharp points or sharp edges.
7. Discharge of any type of dispersing machine or pyrotechnic device (i.e., fog machine, flash pot) is prohibited. Violation of this rule will result in immediate disqualification.
8. The play will be staged for  $\frac{3}{4}$  arena or proscenium with the acting area not larger than 15 feet by 15 feet.
9. Recording of a competitor's performance in any format, photographs or video, during the rounds is strictly prohibited.

### **Ensemble Acting - Humorous / Serious**

Time Limits: 12 min. max

1. Scenes must be from a published, non-published, or copyrighted play or story not written by a high school student. Recordings or videos shall not be used as the primary source.
2. The emphasis shall be on acting and direction rather than on technical aspects (lighting, makeup, stage setting, etc.).

### **Ensemble Acting - Musical Theatre**

Time Limits: 12 min. max - ensembles; 2-8 min. - solos

1. Scenes must be from a published or copyrighted play or story not written by a high school student. Recordings or videos shall not be used as the primary source.
2. The emphasis shall be on acting, singing and movement rather than on technical aspects (lighting, makeup, stage setting, etc.) and may include dialogue.
3. Students may perform *a cappella*, or will provide recorded instrumental accompaniment without lead or

backup vocals. Actual musical instruments are not allowed.

4. Students will provide their own sound equipment.
5. Song(s) must be from a single published musical script.
6. Scenes will include acting, singing, movement and may include dialogue.

### **Solo Acting - Humorous / Serious**

Time Limits: 2-8 min.

1. Scenes or cuttings must be from a published, non-published, or copyrighted play or story not written by a high school student. Recordings or videos shall not be used as the primary source.
2. The student may act the part of one or more characters.

### **Original Acting - Humorous / Serious**

Time Limits: 12 min. max - ensembles; 2-8 min. - solos

1. Original Acting selections must be written by a student or students, although not necessarily by the student(s) who are performing them.
2. The student(s) may act the part of one or more characters.
3. Ad-libbing and/or improvisation are not permitted.
4. Adaptations and paraphrases are not considered original.

### **Pantomime**

Time Limits: 4-6 min. - ensemble; 2-5 min. - solo

1. Props are not allowed in pantomime. Intentional use of clothes as a prop must not be part of the presentation.
2. Pantomime may include sound effects and/or instrumental music.
3. Production of intentional human vocal sound and/or mouthing of words is not permitted. The penalty for violation of this rule is dropping one rank.
4. One chair per person is permitted, and must not be used as a hand prop.
5. A printed title of the presentation must be used only to introduce the piece. Contestants entry code must be displayed on the printed title of the presentation.
6. Story-telling and stylized mime are both acceptable.

### **Solo Audition**

Time Limits: 5 min. max

1. The contestant acts the part of a character in each of two contrasting pieces. Choices may include serious v humorous; modern v classical; contrasting characters, etc.
2. Scenes or cuttings must be from a published source. Recordings or videos shall not be the primary source.

## **TECHNICAL THEATRE EVENTS**

Technical Theatre is composed of four categories in which contestant displays support the action on the stage.

### **General Rules - Technical Theatre**

1. All technical entries must fit into a 10'x10'x10' area and must be able to fit through a standard double door.
2. A maximum of two students may work on a single project.

3. Contestants shall be available for interviews during the judging period and must be prepared to answer questions from the judges. Only the judges may ask questions.
4. The contestant's presentation shall not exceed 8 minutes. Total time for each entry (including judges' questions) shall not exceed 15 minutes.
5. Contestants must provide a summary (at least one paragraph in length) of the play and the student's intentions in preparing the entry. The summary may be displayed or handed to the judge. The summary shall include: a) the intended mood; b) the general style of production, theatrical period; or type of stage; c) title of the play for which the entry was produced.
6. The contestant's entry code must be displayed.
7. Props as Weapons
  - a. The use of real weapons or look-alikes is prohibited.
  - b. Props that represent weapons must be made out of unpainted, undecorated wood that has no moving parts or sharp points or sharp edges.
8. Discharge of any type of dispersing machine or pyrotechnic device (i.e., fog machine, flash pot) is prohibited. Violation of this rule will result in immediate disqualification.
9. Recording of a competitor's performance in any format, photographs or video, during the rounds is strictly prohibited.

### **Technical Theatre Events**

1. **Scene Design:** Renderings and/or models for one play with a floor plan, or light plots, or examples of special staging effects.
2. **Costume Design:** A set of renderings (including material swatches for three characters of a play and one finished costume for one of those characters. Makeup may not be included as part of a costume.
3. **Makeup:** Renderings and/or photographs of three characters from a play and one actual completed makeup (done at the tournament) of one of those characters.
  - a. Makeup must be applied at the tournament by the student-contestant in a designated public location. The makeup area will be available three hours prior to the start of the makeup round.
  - b. Application of makeup must be completed by the start of the round. Makeup may be applied to all parts of the body except the torso, defined as the area from the armpits to length of fingertips on the model's thighs. The torso must be covered in clothing that is not see-through or flesh-toned.
4. **Properties:** A complete property plot and one or more actual student-contestant constructed properties of a produced / non-produced play. Note: Types of properties categories may include: a. stage furniture; b. set dressing; c. hand props; d. personal props; e. visual effects.