

NPDA Business Meeting Minutes

Fall 2006, San Antonio, TX

1. Kevin Minch called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. Kevin noted that this document will also have a copy of the proxies attached so that there will be a record of who has submitted proxies.
2. Approval of Spring 2006 minutes: Moved and seconded. Approved without objection.
3. Reports: New procedure for putting reports online – Kevin and Joe's reports.

Kevin: Ed received an ACE fellowship, so he had to resign. Committee assignments and site visits have been done.

Joe: Awareness of sanctioning - they should be done 30 days in advance. This year, we've been lenient. We're going to make people aware of the requirements. No more turning them in after the fact! The reason: tournaments should be open...Making sure that the calendar is done.

Renea: No report.

Brent: Treasurer's Report:

1) Budget (see attached document) - Finance Committee will submit a budget at the NPDA National tournament. Some items didn't get spent - the Finance Committee will receive these items for consideration.

2) Requests for credit card payment: It's in the process of finishing - Chase will be the provider. Danny Cantrell will be working on making it work for both membership and for the tournament. Estimated timeframes:

3) Kevin sent to Brent the tapes from previous final rounds. Brent has been working with a company from Helena - each speech will be a chapter. The teams/results/etc. will be shown on a chapter. The hope is by Christmas, DVD's will be available. The final round tapes have been received from

4) Trying to update the database of emails and DOF's.

Danny noted for Forensics Tournament.net – you need to create only ONE login for the site. Do not use multiple accounts.

Brent also noted that there will be a treasurer's page on Forensics Tournament.net.

Trischa: Journal Editor. Took 1 year off – hosting nationals, and nothing to publish. The journal has been sent to IDEA for publication.

There are currently 2 articles accepted with revisions. When the national final round comes in, there will be a new issue published.

Marty will be a guest editor on wellness in NPDA - welcoming submissions.

Michael: Webmaster - No report.

Committee Reports:

Site (Marty Birkholt): If interested, we would graciously welcome a bid, sooner rather than later. "If you host an invitational tournament, and have 150 rooms or so, it's an easy thing to do."

Chris Shaw - Host for 2007 Nationals. Kevin came in to spend a weekend and talk about it...Konrad will be coming in as well. Concerns: IT will set up 5 routers - open network to use on site. There are contingency plans in place if there is a blizzard.

Question: John Meany raised the equity issues about wireless access.
Kevin's response - Should raise a motion and deal in the context of the rules. There's nothing in the site documents that have the requirement of wireless access. The rules are silent about the issue.

Trischa noted that she received questions beginning in Fall 2005. Student pressure was intense.

Chris also pointed out that he's received pressure and noted that it will happen. He will handle the local judges, not Mike and Al. Room situation: 152 rooms already reserved, there could be a few more made available.

Kevin noted that the hotel was announced September 1. The block has 250 of the 300 rooms at the hotel. The invitation will be out in a couple of weeks. CC is trying to set up a meal plan for us.

Nominating Committee: Renea was appointed to the Vice President position. In consultation with the past presidents, Renea was nominated to the vice president position. No other nominations; hence, Renea is the sole nominee.

Professional Development (Trischa): One of the problems is that we didn't award the All-American Award. The Professional Development Committee for this year only will get that award going. This will be out this year.

Kevin noted: Consent Items - This will go to the Vice President.

Renea said: Let's work on this together.

Consent Items:

The editorial changes to Constitution and Bylaws – approved without objection.

Discussion Items:

1. Sexual Harassment Policy (proposed by Lisa): Approved without objection.
2. This item was not listed on the website - the Mike Dorsi (UC-Berkeley) proposal for sharing judge.

Motion moved and seconded. Approved without objection.

Kevin noted: 5 minute discussion periods. It then automatically goes as an action item at the next meeting.

3. Sanctioning Penalties (Renea): Strong statement that if you don't do it for 3 years in a row, don't sanction the tournament.

Motion moved and seconded.

Steve Hunt: Why not 2? Renea notes that there was a probation period.

John Meany: Why any? You have to make a decision to sanction.

How long for results? 21 days.

Timely manner? In perpetuity? Renea: If new director, can be lifted.

John: Renea and Michael roamed trying to get tournament information...

John Meany proposes to strike the language "three consecutive years"

Amendment moved and seconded.

Danny Cantrell notes that this is too harsh. After discussion by Michael and Steve Hunt, the following was proposed:

Michael amends item J as follows: "a new program director is in place or a successful appeal to the executive council is made."

Amendment as amended seconded and approved.

Now moved as amended. Thus, it goes to the next meeting as an action item.

Thus, the item will be: "Add to NPDA Bylaws, Article V, I & J (old I becomes K):

- I. If a tournament fails to submit results in a timely....
4. Definitions of semester: Moved and seconded.

Steve Hunt: How consistent is this with AFA and others?

Joe: Looked at CEDA, AFA, NPTE - similar. All state at the end of December. Some state at the end of January.

Dan Schabot offers an amendment:
Change "beginning of season" to September 1
End of season: National tournament.

After discussion, the amendment was withdrawn.

This will go to Spring meeting.

5. Change in tabulation procedures (Joe Gantt):

Noted that the previous proposal was a compromise, but that there are inequities. Cited example of University of Wyoming - 4-3 team losing in double-octas received 1 point; 0-7 team received 1 point.

Moved and seconded.

Reward teams for winning the tournament.

Amendment by Chris: 2 points for a win.. And 2 additional points for winning the tournament.
Amendment seconded.

Michael question: Under this system, what about PRP style tournaments? Answer: split the points.

Dan Schabot question: If only 2 elimination rounds, do you get 4 points for the last round?

Duane: When mess with sweepstakes, then it affects what types of outrounds? Perhaps we just do semis and get bonus points. Outrounds dictated by sweepstakes, not entries.

Marty: The proposed amendment would weight small tournaments - extra points just for that second round. Concern for 6 outrounds versus

Steve: Should get the points only if there are more than 2 outrounds.

John: Similar experiences - don't reward stamina.

Brent: How would this play out and see what the difference would be.

Trischa calls the question.
Chris's amendment fails.

Main motion:

Michael question: How would this affect partials?

Joe: If there are enough teams - the partial counts as a full according to the rules.
If there are 55, then we start at octas.

Time expires. This goes to the Spring meeting.

6. Eligibility standards changes (Joe): Semester and national tournament year standards.
Current: 8 semesters of eligibility, 4 national tournament years. The standards seem to be conflated. If competed at national tournament in spring, do you lose the fall semester previous?

Motion: 8 semesters of competition and 4 national tournament years. Removing the part of the bylaws that do both.

Kevin notes: We're getting pre-emptive appeals based on the current language.

Melissa question: Current semester definition still exists? Yes.

Moved to the Spring meeting.

7. Change in tabulation of national tournament sweepstakes (Joe):
Bring in line with season sweepstakes.

Before: 2 points per advanced - now it's won.

Also: 2 points.

Moved and seconded.

Trischa: Remembered when not counted.

Danny: 5-3 lose quad octas - no sweepstakes points? Yes.

Joe - Wants consistency.

Trischa: There's a difference - no problem with inconsistency.

Marty: We break all 5-3 teams.

Trischa: If I'm 7-1, no reward. We should have double-reward.

Brent: Agree with Trischa; everybody who wins should get something.

Points are awarded for byes.

Marty: Uneasy with idea of rewarding teams for losing.

Moves to Spring meeting.

8. Statue of limitations (Joe Gantt):

All appeals should be within 30 days.

Moved and seconded.

Marty: Why 30 days? Why not 7?

Joe: People getting back - and need some time to review and get time after nationals.

John: Time appropriate; what if basis for the appeal wasn't discovered/available until later – i.e., tab room, software, etc.?

Joe: Past a certain time, difficult to go back. If we find out at 1-2 years later, it's hard to go back.

Amendment via John Meany and Michael Dreher: If the information for the appeal was not available within that timeframe, after which the appeal must be made within 30 days.

Danny: This could continue the problem.

Kevin: Did have some material to deal with during the summer - DOF's start turn over, and people graduate. It's hard to run these down when we have... A DOF left, and didn't have access to that past record.

Marty: Information was available, but not in an easy form. That information existed, so it couldn't be available after 30 days.

Brent: Simplify - business of the NCA convention to certify the results? Then there would be some finality.

John: Case has to be made by the appellant; prove didn't have access to the information. Would have to succeed.

Danny: That person must make the argument within 30 days. Must have evidence.

Joe: If didn't bring it in those 30 days, why didn't you bring it if you didn't know?

Michael: What if they don't have the evidence within 30 days? Could they still appeal?

Melissa: Could have the opposite - lots of accusations.

Robert calls the question.

Amendment passed.

Main motion - move to Spring.

9. Clarification of prep rules: Joe Gantt

1998-1999 - some changes - laptops, prepared during prep time could be "Ctrl-C, Ctrl-V, Print."
All can't just write and hand

Joe would like to change amendment:

"Briefs prepared before the preparation time."

Moved and seconded.

Robert: Trying to keep copy/pasting?

Joe: Yes, and to say that it was during preparation time. Rule: No electronic copying.

Robert: Can I do websites?

Joe: No, it's only if you hand-copy.

Chris: This stuff happens quite often. I won't call out, because how do I prove?

Joe: Current rule is unenforceable and so is the present rule.

Enforcement step: We can determine this after we determine what is enforceable.

Melissa: Carbon paper? 3-4 students writing a DA with carbon paper? Yes, if it's used by the team.

Todd Graham: Current versus previous - far better.

Steve: Question - what is the purpose? Rationale of the rule?

Joe: Ensure that parli debate remains extemporaneous. Fairness issue - especially when debaters/coaches handing lots of positions versus 1 team/1 coach. We keep this extemporaneous - prepare during prep time.

Move to extend by 5 minutes.

John: "using in the debating chamber" - is this an artistic term? Yes.

ADA exception? Would be open to this amendment...

Kevin: How do we adjudicate those claims?

Todd: This doesn't exclude.

Steve: Burden of proof is pre-facto.

Amendment by John Meany: Except in the case of a documented ADA exception, other resources...

Amendment passed.

Renea: Is the intent handwritten?

Joe: Actually, typing is OK, but the intent is to prevent copy/paste. The rules don't explicitly ban typed material in the room.

Kevin: Assumption is that we have typed material on the spot...

Moves to the Spring business meeting.

10. IDEA Agreement - Robert Trapp

IDEA has some money from the United Nations foundation - try to give money to NPDA schools through foundations.

A) Redistribute to IDEA members - if school joins IDEA (\$90) and each person joins (\$15 lifetime membership), then IDEA pays \$100 entry fee for school.

1 team: $\$90 + \30 for team = \$120. IDEA sends back \$100.

2 teams: $\$90 + \$60 = \$150$. IDEA sends back \$200.

Motive to increase IDEA membership.

Danny: Where does extra money go? School gets to keep it!

5 teams: $\$90 + \$150 = \$240$. Get check for \$500.

- B) For each school who joins IDEA, Brent gets check for \$30. For every student who joins IDEA, Brent gets check for \$5.
- C) 5 monetary prizes - to get the prize, schools must log on to IDEA, then go to Debate Tracker, then put in results for IDEA-sanctioned (Colorado College, Lewis & Clark). Whoever enters the most results: \$1,000; then \$750, \$500, etc. – \$4,000 to schools.
- D) Same for individuals - each individual student who puts the most things into Debate Tracker gets \$1,000, then \$750, then \$500, etc. – \$4,000 to students.
- E) If IDEA gets 100 NPDA schools, then NPDA gets \$5,000.

Kevin: There is no bylaw/constitutional provision. This is a sense of the community. Brought to us during the summer, thus, the Executive Council acted in the emergency provision of the bylaws.

Brent: In order to make this best for schools and credit cards – February 28 applies to everything. You enter by then and pay by then, and must be an IDEA member by that point. Rebates then happen at nationals.

Trischa: The \$250 per tournament still happening?

Robert: It's done. November 30th.

Trischa: This should be made clear to people.

How will receipts work?

Danny: How will this work if the check was sent? This may need to be different.

Robert: Brent did send the email list and phone list - warning that we'll be contacted. You will be contacted to promote this.

Brent: We could handle receipts any the membership wanted.

John: What is contingent for December 1? Being a member?

Robert: I will negotiate scratching the December 1. That would only apply to the \$5,000 bonus to NPDA. He will negotiate this for February 28.

Kevin: This is contingent on IDEA agreeing for another year. Basically, in the Spring, we'll say whether we want IDEA to continue this experiment or not.

We are adjourned - at 8:20 p.m.