

Minutes of the Coaches Meeting at Junior Nationals 2006
Friday, April 28, 2006 10 a.m.

In attendance: Tracey Lee, BC; Karen Rowe and Jon Hoyt-Hallett, AB; Prema Bursa and Jordan Burg, Manitoba; Josh Judah, Nova Scotia; Aija Zommers, Diane Lang, Judy McAdams and Kozo Ota, Ontario; William Kresowaty, Sask; Simon Lono Nfld; Lorelie DeRoose, Saskatchewan, Liana Palko Quebec;

Liana Palko—Quebec called meeting to order. Will be hosting next year.

Kudos to Aija Zommers for hosting.

Main issues: after noon today 8 rounds will be done. Decision needs to be made concerning semi-final rounds. 2 rooms have been set up. 4 top overall teams will be debating. Suggestion made by Josh Judah: 2 topics. 1st against 4th. 2nd against 3rd. Lower team chooses style and topic. Higher placed team chooses side. Ex: Politics would be cross-x. Discussion regarding whether or not impromptu topics should count in choice. Decision to eliminate impromptu for semi-finals due to logistics. Finals: Impromptu modified world style.

Discussion concerning possible Impromptu topics. Final decision: 1 topic: BIRT voting is not worth the trouble. Flip for sides.

Junior Nationals 2007: May 10-12th in Montreal hosted by LCC\Selwyn House. Hosts are currently trying to enlist the participation of one public school. Chris George will chair event. Billeting will be divided between LCC and Selwyn House. Some effort will be made to try and have the coaches' meet in an informal way, give them some downtime, etc. Will try and keep costs down.

Christina Lau of the parent Council confirmed each team's plans for this afternoon's free time and tomorrow's departure. Confirmed that everyone needs to return to Branksome this evening by 5:30.

Junior Nationals 2007: Do not want to discourage other schools from hosting large events such as Nationals. Nothing wrong with keeping it low-key. The key is to make sure that the kids have fun. Please talk to your association schools and try to encourage them to host much more simplified events.

Discussion of introducing Bilingual Nationals at the Jr High Level. Challenge of encouraging students to debate bilingually, finding judges, logistics for the host province, etc. There will be no opportunity to have any Bilingual Debates at next year's Nationals. Questions and discussion regarding the possibility. Onerous to have to run a bilingual debate. Hosts will be encouraged to have a Bilingual Segment. Best way to introduce it would be to have Alberta host the Nationals. Final decision: We welcome bilingual debating for those hosts willing to do it

FUTURE HOSTS:

Newfoundland 2008: Can't commit to bilingual segment. Nightmare of National Seminar still lingering. Simon will have a better idea at next year's Nationals.

Nova Scotia : 2009

Alberta: 2010

Saskatchewan: 2011

BC: 2012

Martin Poirier is hosting the French Bilingual Jr\Sr March 23-25, 2007 at William Aberhart in Calgary. Will ask him to consider opening the event to Grades 7-9.

Proposed by-law changes: Chris George, president of Quebec Debate Assn. is proposing changes:

Changing the number of debate styles that we use: Thinking: reduces stress on students and coaches in so many different styles in addition to 3 different prepared resolutions. Reducing stress on hosts as well as difficulty in versing moderators and judges on different styles. Reducing the number of resolutions that we use. Changing the way in which the debates are judged.

STYLE: Coaching teams becomes complex. Puts an unfair onus on host school. Schools will be less likely to host. Adopt one or two styles into the constitution and name a simplified format: CDN National Debate Format with 4 constructive speeches on each side.

Motion: To replace the current Constitution with the Quebec By-Law document.

In favor: Quebec

Opposed: all others

Motion defeated

Motion: The host may choose to host the debates using the following styles: Discussion, Cross-X, Parliamentary and Cdn Ntl Debate Format and the host may use either 2 or 3 styles.

In favor: all

Against: none

Motion carried

Motion: There will be at least one but no more than 2 resolutions.

In favor: all

Against: none

Motion carried

Motion: The upcoming hosts should endeavor to present the rules that the competition will operate under to the participating teams at the current coaches meeting.

In favor: all

Against: none

Motion carried

Motion: All participants will be granted equal speaking time in all rounds.

Motion carried

For the record, Saskatchewan objects

Scoring: Win-loss bracketing will be done next year to determine the winners for 2007 Nationals. Do we want to make a motion to add that to the Constitution?

Motion: Amendment to 6i): Calculations of scores should be done by at least two individuals according to a fair and equitable tabulating system as determined by the Host School.

Motion carried

Lorelie: Would we like to see a Jr. Nationals traveling Trophy? Consensus that it would be a great idea.

Suggestion that the Top Award for Best Individual Speaker would be named the John Robinson Award. Tracey and Lorelie will take this suggestion to the CSDF Committee.

On behalf of CSDF President Tanya Sturgeon is very please with the business of today's meeting and that we kept the diversity of styles and uniqueness of each province.

Meeting adjourned.