

WDCA Fall Coaches' Meeting Minutes

The fall coaches' meeting was held on Saturday, September 13, 2008 at Brookfield East High School in conjunction with the WDCA Workshop.

The meeting was called to order by WDCA President, Bill Batterman of Marquette University HS at 10:55 am.

Coaches introduced themselves to the group.

1. Past-President Report Laura Maly reminded the group that forms for WDCA Scholarships, Hall of Fame and Coach of the Year were available on the website. All forms should be mailed to her. The Deadline is November 15.

2. President Report Bill Batterman reported that the work for the Novice Packet was completed. The packet can be downloaded from the Wisconsin Forensics Daily webpage. (www.wiforensics.com). Bill also had CD's of the packet to distribute. Bill also offered to email the packet to coaches.

** Bill reminded coaches that this novice evidence packet was to be used exclusively until November 1. After that date, novice debaters could add to their evidence. (However, even after November 1, novice topics were still in use and no counter plans or critiques were allowed.) Coaches have been asked to explain this procedure to their judges. Teams are allowed to challenge evidence not from the packet as unusable and judges will be allowed to read challenged evidence to make a determination. Evidence NOT from the novice packet shall not be considered in the round before November 1.

** The final vote to accept the novice topics was done by email. The system seemed to work well and will be continued in future years.

** Bill announced the selections of Dr. Tim Dale of UWGB as the new WSDT Tournament Director and Tim Scheffler (Madison Memorial) as the WSDT Operations Director. He also announced the new Committee Chairpersons.

** Bill asked coaches to communicate with each other during the year and patronize Wisconsin tournaments. All tournaments can have successful competitions if we support each other.

3. We learned that November 15 is Ernest Chomicki's birthday. ☺

4. President-Elect Report Nick Bubb announced that Cory Puuri would be replacing Adam Jacobi as WDCA Webmaster. Adam has accepted a position with NFL. Please watch for WDCA info on the Wisconsin Forensics Daily site until Cory can transition into the job. (www.wiforensics.com)

** Coaches were asked to provide their contact information. Nick will be coordinating and distributing that information to all coaches. If you were not in attendance, please send your name, school, phone number and email address to Nick for inclusion.

** Nick lead a discussion about the workshop. Topics included: is the workshop a worthwhile program? Should the date or location be changed? Is it too expensive? Should it be combined with a VSS tournament? No decisions were made. If you have other suggestions, please send them to Nick.

** Nick announced that the 2008 WSDT would be hosted by Hortonville HS on December 12-13.

He then lead a discussion about changes for future WDST's. Topics included: continuing a Friday-Saturday tournament, moving to Saturday-Sunday tournament, moving to a college campus (UWSP was suggested), moving the tournament date. **The idea was referred to the Executive Committee for further research. A committee report will be presented in the spring.**

The meeting was recessed for lunch at 12:15 pm.
The meeting reconvened at 12:45 pm.

Old Business

1. Secretaries Report In her absence, Bill presented Kristy Plamann's Minutes. They were approved.

2. Treasurer's Report Eric VanErt said that he had received dues from a few schools. He also asked that coaches send separate checks for different activities. It is often confusing to receive a large check and need to determine which activities are being paid for.

** Eric reminded coaches to contact him to obtain **ballots** for their tournament. Please give Eric advanced notice of your tournament requests.

3. Judging Standards and Ethics Dan Hanson has accepted the Chair position. He said his first issue would be to "clean-up" Organization documents to improve consistency and understanding.

4. Tournament Practices and Procedures Tim Scheffler asked tournament hosts to send all of their results to him. He will collect all info about teams qualified to participate at WSDT. He will coordinate that information with Dr. Dale.

5. Middle Level Liaison Cheryl Bachtel asked tournament hosts to consider offering separate middle level divisions. Cheryl is anxious to help hosts in any way.

6. Historian Jin Sauer had no special report.

7. New Coaches Kari Stebig has accepted the Chair position. Kari shared several ideas for committee activities. She will look into coach retreats and mentor programs and other new ideas.

8. Calendar The calendar was presented with a number of additions and switches. Please consult the website for the updated version. Hosts are requested to get their invitations out as early as possible. This will help coaches make travel plans and coordinate their school's participation. Send your invitations to Cory Puuri to be put on web. Use invitation@wdca.org

** December 12-13, 2008 will be the dates for WSDT. The tournament will follow the same format as last year. Host will be Hortonville HS.

9. Standing Rules Clean-up Nick explained that the clean-up process was needed. Over the years, rules had been changed and the booklet needed adjustment to address minor changes in format. It was moved by Nick Bubb and seconded by Mike Traas. **Motion: Minor changes in wording and numbering, etc. be made.** Passed unanimously.

10 Constitutional By-Law Changes Nick further reposted that clean-up had not been completed. A finished presentation will be made at the Spring Meeting. NFL Representative, Adam Jacobi, said that NFL would like to host that meeting at the Ripon Public Library. The invitation was accepted. A date for that meeting will be set.

11. Novice Packet Dan Hanson asked the group for direction in handling coach complaints about use of evidence not from the packet being used by novice teams before November 1. Moved by Dan Hanson and seconded by Mike Traas. **Motion: Eliminate Item E of the Section III: Adjudicator's Guidelines.**

Discussion: Pro: eliminating the item would allow judges to review novice evidence without a challenge from either team in the round. Con: the issue should be handled the same way novice challenges for use of counter plan, etc. are currently handled. Those complaints must be made by debaters during the round.

Motion failed 7-8.

New Business

1. NDCA Bill encouraged coaches to join the National Debate Coaches' Association. Dues are \$25. The NDCA offers many free items. Bill also asked coaches to vote on the 2009 debate topics.

2. 2009 WSDT see earlier notes.

3. PF Paradigms Tim Sheffler suggested that we create a PF Judge Paradigm for use at the WSDT. He moved and Mike Traas seconded Motion: Authorize Tim to create a PF Judge Paradigm for use at the 2008 WSDT.

Discussion: Pro: the information (strictly biographical) would allow debaters to adjust their speaking style to the judge of the round. Con: There was a fear that the establishment of a formal paradigm would lead to judge preference information requests.

Adam Jacobi pointed out that to his knowledge no other state collected PF judge information and that NFL would be studying PF more this summer.

The motion was rescinded to wait for the results of the NFL study.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:48 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Doris Sexton for Kristy Plamann