

## **MSDL Board Meeting Minutes**

September 12, 2022 @ 7:30 PM

ZOOM meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:36 PM by the president, Greg Cunningham

### Board Members in attendance

Joyce Albert, Joe Bowden, Scott Caron, Josh Cohen, Greg Cunningham, Sue Hennessey, Lisa Honeyman, Jim Honeyman, Tammie Ruda, Chris Sheldon, and PJ Wexler. We were joined by Janet Novack.

### **1. Calendar 2022-2023 (including possible swapping venues for states)**

All of our host schools are in a position to host in person as of right now.  
The only tentative tournament is the Averill Memorial, which will likely be held online.

October 22 - Novice Tournament at Catholic Memorial

October 29 - Revere

We need to change sites for the State Tournaments. The dates will stay as previously announced.

March 25 - Acton-Boxborough will host Debate States

April 1 - Chelmsford will host Speech States

### **2. Prep for Novice Fest**

#### MATERIALS

- Extemp Questions - Lisa will coordinate the committee (Greg, Joyce, Joe, PJ, Chris)
- Impromptu - Sue
- Group Discussion topics - James Conway & Mark Fellowes with Greg's help
- Radio Copy - PJ
- Congress legislation - Joe
- PF - Novice Topic
- LD - Novice Topic
- Buttons - Sue will order more buttons (we don't have enough)

#### STAFFING

- Debate staffing: Josh, PJ & Tammie
- Speech staffing: Joyce, Greg
- Congress staffing: Joe
- Extemp & Radio prep: \_\_\_\_\_
- Judge briefing for our speech student judges: Chris

- New School Greeters: Jim & Chris (until the judge training starts)
- **Speech** judge training: Jim & Lisa (starting at 9:30 am)
- Showcase coordinator: Chris
- Equity officer: Yes - Scott will reach out to see if our EIO is available this season.
- Judge:Student ratios:
  - Debate: 1:2 (allows for single-fighting)
  - Speech: 1:5
- \$7 per student registration fees

### 3. Mask policies for 2022-2023

#### Proposed Mask Policy for 2022-2023 (Bowden)

The MSDL shall observe a "mask optional" policy for all participants for the 2022-2023 season. Students who choose to wear face coverings in competition shall not be penalized by judges in any way. Participants are welcome and encouraged to consider wearing face coverings based upon their personal comfort levels and risk perceptions.

The Board reserves the right to suspend this policy to comply with requirements imposed by tournament host schools or public health authorities. In such cases, the Board and the host school shall make every effort to provide both advance notice and reminders of such requirements on the day of the event.

An inherent risk of exposure to infectious diseases exists wherever groups of people congregate. Individuals experiencing symptoms of an illness, as well as persons who believe they may be ill, are encouraged to recuperate and stay home in order to minimize the risk of infecting others. Observing good hygiene, such as washing hands frequently with soap and water and covering the nose and mouth while coughing and sneezing, can help reduce the risk of illness.

Motion: Sheldon

2nd: Wexler

The proposal passes without objection.

### 4. Insurance

We will proceed with purchasing League Liability Insurance.

Will the league purchase weather Insurance for December - March tournaments?

We will not pursue this insurance this year.

If a school cannot host in person due to weather, we will move the tournament online. A decision must be made at least 48 hours prior to the tournament in order to purchase NSDA campus "rooms" for competition and give guest schools time to adjust.

## **5. Observers at tournaments**

This a tournament-director decision, based upon their school policies. If schools would like to bring observers, either to learn more about what Speech & Debate is all about or for judge training purposes, they should reach out to the tournament director and ask for permission.

## **6. Board Meeting Schedule for the 2022-2023 school year**

October 17 - 7:30 pm via Zoom  
November 14 - 7:30 pm via Zoom  
January 9 - 7:30 pm via Zoom  
February 27 - 7:30 pm via Zoom  
March 13 - 7:30 pm via Zoom

April 29 - Annual League Meeting - 11:00 am in person

Motion to adjourn: Cohen

2nd: Albert

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:51 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Honeyman

Clerk/Secretary