



**The Christian School Speech & Debate League**  
***A Ministry of the Institute for Principle Studies***

**OFFICIAL INTERPRETIVE SPEECH RULES**

**I. Format**

- A. Each competitor's speech may not exceed 10 minutes in length.
- B. There shall be a minimum of two competitors and a maximum of eight competitors per room.

**II. Content**

- A. Competitors are to interpret published literature. Works written by the competitor or media transcripts are not allowed. Gratuitous vulgarity is not allowed.
- B. Speeches should be memorized. Competitors that use a script or notes will be placed a minimum of one rank lower.
- C. Competitors will deliver and act out the entire piece by themselves. Audio, visual aids, props, or costumes are not allowed.
- D. Competitors will deliver and use dramatic movement, but only the competitor's feet are allowed to touch the floor during their presentation.
- E. Competitors may cut or edit the original work where needed to manage the length of their speech. Competitors may also add up to 150 words of their choice, but the added content must maintain the context and intent of the original literature.
- F. Competitors should have a printed copy of the speech with them at the tournament. This copy of the speech should clearly indicate which material (words) have been added by the competitor. This printed copy of the speech shall be made available to the tournament director or the tournament director's designee upon request.
- G. The competitor shall not provided a printed copy of their speech to the judge except at the direction of the tournament director.

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## III. Judging

- A. Rounds will have one or more judges.
- B. Judges may consist of anyone who is over the age of 16 and not competing in the Logos Forensic Association at any tournament during that tournament year.

## IV. Dress Code

- A. Competitors must dress both modestly and business professionally. This includes, but is not limited to:
  - 1. Gentlemen should wear either suits, or sport coats with slacks; collared shirts and ties; and dress shoes.
  - 2. Ladies should wear dresses, skirts, or suits; tops with a modest neck line; and dress shoes. Skirt lengths should cover the knees when standing.

## V. Disciplinary Action

In the event that there is an infraction of the rules, the tournament director should be notified. The tournament director may review the case and make a decision based on the circumstances. Disciplinary options may include a warning, the loss of the round where the infraction occurred, or removal from the tournament.