

## Tournament Expectations as a Judge

**IMPORTANT: PARENT/GUARDIAN PRESENCE FOR JUDGES WHO ARE MINORS--All judges who are minors must have a parent/guardian present in the room and also visible in the background unless a waiver is signed and submitted.**

1. Judges should use a computer (not a mobile device) for the tournament. They will need a lot of room. The tournament recommends opening one Chrome tab to watch videos and another to fill out the eBallots.
2. When postings are released, the tournament director will send an automatic message to everyone who has verified their cell/e-mail. When judges click the link in the email, it will open an eBallot. This eBallot will then have another button that takes them to their virtual room. Most judges find it helpful to leave the ballot visible on the screen while also looking at the virtual room. This allows the judge to write comments on the eBallot while also being able to watch the speech.
3. If a competitor's connection fails multiple times, she can use the dial-in service to access the virtual room through an audio-only phone call. The phone number to call is (888)-633-0347. When the competitor calls, the voice on the other end will ask for a PIN that connects the competitor to the room. The PIN is unique to each room, and is available by clicking on the information icon in the lower right corner of the screen. Judges may need to copy and paste the PIN into the chat window for the competitor to use.
4. Judges should stay in the virtual room until they finish filling out the eBallot and submit them promptly. All tournaments depend on prompt responses from judges, and these delays are what cause 95% of the delays at tournaments.
5. If judges have trouble with their eBallots, they can check in with the help desk. The link will always be the same for every tournament: [8x8.vc/SCJFLHelp](https://8x8.vc/SCJFLHelp). Many times, the problem is that judges are trying to use a browser other than Chrome.
6. For Final Rounds, judges should make sure they wait for all three judges before starting the round. Since the room can be rather large with so many people, one judge will be selected as the chair. The chair judge should be the one to call role before the round begins to make sure all competitors are present. The chair should also check that all three judges have finished writing their feedback before moving on to the next speaker.
7. Final round judges are expected to rank their round independently from the other judges in the room. Judges should never confer about their scoring of the round.

**SCJFL Event Reference Guide for Speech Judges**  
**for Friday, April 10, 2020 4th Quarter Speech Only Online Tournament:**

**Scoring Guidelines:** When ranking the students, remember that 1 is the **highest** number and 5 is the **lowest**. This means that the 1 is given to the **best** competitor. You stop ranking the students at 5 so if there are 7 competitors in a round, the bottom three students shall be all ranked 5 (tie them for 5th).

**Time deadlines:** Every judge should be timing every competitor in every round (as noted in the table). Each event, except for sightreading, has a set amount of time allowed for the presentation, along with a 30-second grace period. In preliminary rounds, if a speaker goes over the grace period, then he or she cannot be given the rank of 1. In finals rounds or elimination rounds, laughter or audience interaction could be cause to extend the grace period. When in doubt, ask the helpproom. Time deadlines are given in the table below. Please note: Sightreading has a one minute preparation time limit, but NO time limit for the actual presentation.

**Time signals:** There is often confusion about when to give hand signals to speakers. For memorized events such as Storytelling, Duo, Dramatic Interpretation, Poetry, Speech to Entertain, Informative, speakers are expected to know their times since they are, *by nature*, memorized events. Time signals are therefore not given even if a competitor requests them in a memorized event. For limited preparation events, however, such as Impromptu, Extemp, and Spar. Give the speaker 30-second intervals out loud for prep time and hand signals during the speech as follows: If giving a 7 minute speech, let them know when they have 6 minutes left, 5 left, 4, 3, 2, 1 and then 30 seconds, and then a 10-second countdown. For a five minute speech, let them know when they have 4 minutes left, 3, 2, 1, and then 30 seconds, and then a 10-second countdown. Use your fingers as the numbers (see pictures below)

So, when students have X number of *minutes* left in their speech, hold up the finger that represents how many minutes they have left (diagram shows “1”, then “2” then “3” then “4” minutes noting the number of minutes they have REMAINING). Do NOT hold up fingers for how many minutes have passed! --This is very confusing for speakers. Again, HOLD UP FINGERS representing how many minutes they HAVE REMAINING. So if a speaker has 5 minutes total to give a speech, after s/he speaks for one minute, hold up FOUR fingers to show s/he has 4 minutes remaining, after s/he speaks for a total of 2 minutes, hold up THREE fingers to show s/he has 3 minutes left, and so on



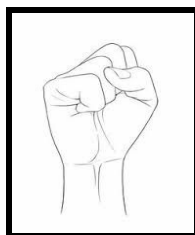
When students have *30 seconds* left in their speech, hold up a c shape.



When students have *10 seconds* left in their speech, do your best to show a countdown of their last 10 seconds using your fingers with the number of fingers you are holding being representative of how many seconds they have left.



When students have *0 seconds* left in their speech, hold up a fist to let them know they have reached the allotted time. Make sure you start counting on your timer their 30-second grace period if they continue to talk after the time is done.



## QUICK REFERENCE TABLE:

<b>Interpretation Events:</b>	<b>SCJFL Time and grace period</b>	<b>Time Signals? Visual Aids?</b>
<b>Storytelling</b>	5 minutes (and 30 sec grace period after 5 minutes)	No time signals needed b/c is a memorized event;  No visual aids allowed
<b>Dramatic Interpretation</b>	10 minutes (and 30 sec grace period after 10 minutes)	No time signals needed b/c is a memorized event;  No visual aids allowed
<b>DUO</b>	10 minutes (and 30 sec grace period after 10 minutes)	No time signals needed b/c is a memorized event;  No visual aids are allowed
<b>Poetry</b>	7 minutes (and 30 sec grace period after 7 minutes)	No time signals needed b/c is a memorized event;  Binder required and may be used as a prop; other than binder, no visual aids allowed
<b>Sightreading</b>	1 minute preparation time;  “... the duration of the performance should be dictated by the length of the literature provided (i.e. there is no time limit to the performance...)”	“... the duration of the performance should be dictated by the length of the literature provided (i.e. there is no time limit to the performance...)”
<b>Platform Events:</b>	<b>SCJFL Time and grace period</b>	<b>Time Signals? Visual Aids?</b>
<b>Informative</b>	5 minutes (30 sec grace period after 5 minutes)	No time signals needed b/c is a memorized event;  Yes, visual aids are allowed
<b>Speech to Entertain</b>	5 minute speech (and 30 sec grace period after 5 minutes)	No time signals needed b/c is a memorized event;  No visual aids are allowed

<b>LIMITED PREP Events</b>	<b>SCJFL Time and grace period</b>	<b>Time Signals? Visual Aids?</b>
<p><b>Impromptu:</b></p> <p><b>Round 1</b> - Proverbs  <b>Round 2</b> - Abstract Nouns  <b>Round 3</b> - Events  <b>Final Round</b> - Famous People</p>	<p>7 minute bank (a total amount of time for prep and presentation of the speech)</p> <p>(and 30 second grace period after the 7 minutes)</p>	<p>Yes requires time signals;</p> <p>A blank single notecard not to exceed 4x6 may be used during the presentation.</p> <p>No props may be used.</p>
<p><b>Extemp:</b></p> <p><b>Round 1</b> - Sports  <b>Round 2</b> - Pop culture  <b>Round 3</b> - Domestic news  <b>Final Round</b> - Foreign news</p>	<p>30 minutes to prepare in the Extemp Prep room</p> <p>and 7 minutes to present the speech in the round</p> <p>(and 30 second grace period after the 7 minutes)</p>	<p>Yes requires time signals;</p> <p>No visual aids are allowed</p>
<p><b>SPAR</b></p>	<p>Judge pairs competitors (try to pair from different schools if possible) (if odd number, ask someone to go again but do not score that person's second time), assigns Aff and Neg and topic is assigned.</p> <p><b>Times: 2-2-2-4-2-2:</b>  Prep time 2 minute (both sides prep at same time)</p> <p>Pro Constructive 2 minutes</p> <p>Con Constructive 2 minutes</p> <p>Crossfire 4 minutes (all competitors may ask questions)</p> <p>Pro Rebuttal 2 minutes</p> <p>Con Rebuttal 2 minutes</p>	

## **Detailed Event Description (from the SCJFL by-laws)**

### **Storytelling:**

A memorized performance of a single published, printed story, anecdote, tale, myth, or legend. The story may be delivered standing or seated, thus one chair is permitted, however, this is not an acting event; thus, no costumes, props, lighting, etc., are to be used. Maximum time is 5 minutes including introduction.

### **Dramatic Interpretation:**

A memorized performance of literature of literary merit, with the main intent to create a serious tone. This is not an acting event; thus, no costumes, props, lighting, etc., are to be used. Use of focal points and/or direct contact with the audience should be determined by the literature. Maximum time is 10 minutes including introduction

### **Duo:**

A memorized performance from one or more texts of literary merit, humorous or serious, involving the portrayal of two or more characters presented by two individuals. The material may be drawn from any genre of literature. This is not an acting event; thus, no costumes, props, lighting, etc., are to be used. Competitors are not permitted to touch each other nor make direct eye contact while performing except during the introduction....Maximum time limit for middle school competitions is 10 minutes including introduction.

#### Additional note on online Duo as an event:

This event probably has the most difficult transition to the online medium. The SCJFL does not endorse competitors being in the same room, however, we do not forbid it. We understand that some Duos may consist of competitors who are siblings; asking such competitors to use different devices would actually create more problems than it would solve. We leave the decision to perform together in the hands of the competitors, coaches, and parents.

### **Poetry:**

A performance of poetry of literary merit, which may be drawn from more than one source. A primary focus of this event should be on the development of language. This is not an acting event; thus, no costumes, props, lighting, etc., are to be used. Play cuttings and prose works are prohibited. Use of manuscript is required....Maximum time limit for middle school competitions is 7 minutes including introduction.

### **Sightreading:**

A performance of age-appropriate script-like material is provided by the tournament. Competitors shall be given one minute to review the literature, then create an interpretation-based performance of that literature. This is not an acting event; thus, no costumes, props, lighting, etc., are to be used. While the preparation time is limited to one minute, the duration of the performance should be dictated by the length of the literature provided (i.e. there is no time limit to the performance, only the prep time. Tournaments should keep this in mind when selecting literature). The tournament should provide one (1) piece of literature to all competitors in the round. Different topic areas will be used for each round. The topic areas available to choose from are the following: short stories, plays, screenplays, teleplays, radioplays, or webplays.

#### **Additional information:**

Literature pieces will be given to judges by judges room and for online tournaments, judges will post each piece of literature on the chat room for the speaker who is up.

### **Informative:**

An original, factual speech by the competitor to fulfill the general aim to inform the audience. Audio-visual aids are optional. Multiple sources should be used and cited in the development of the speech. As this is a memorized event, notes are discouraged. Maximum time is 5 minutes.

### **Speech to Entertain:**

An original, humorous speech by the competitor, designed to exhibit sound speech composition, thematic, coherence, direct communicative public speaking skills, and good taste. The speech should not resemble a night club act, an impersonation, or comic dialogue. Audio-visual aids may not be used. Multiple sources should be used

and cited in the development of the speech. As this is a memorized event, notes are discouraged. Maximum time limit is 5 minutes.

### **Impromptu Speech:**

An impromptu speech, substantive in nature, with topic selections varied by round and by section. Topics will be derived from concrete nouns, abstract nouns, proverbs, famous people, quotations, or additional topic areas at the discretion of the tournament host. Different topic areas must be used for each round. Tournament invitations should indicate which topic areas will be used for each round. Each speaker will draw three topics and choose one. Unless double-entered, competitors should remain inside the room to hear other competitors' speeches. Speakers may not consult with anyone else during their prep time. Speakers will have a total of 7 minutes for both preparation and speaking. Timing commences with the acceptance of the topics sheet. A blank single notecard not to exceed 4x6 may be used during the presentation. No props may be used. Speakers are not permitted to read the discarded topics aloud. Impromptu speakers may not use the same example in the same way in more than two rounds per tournament.

#### **Additional Helpful Notes for Judges**

Speakers will receive their prompts through the chat window of the virtual room. Judges will have the prompts loaded onto their eBallot. They should copy and paste these prompts into the chat window for the competitors. Time should begin once the prompts have been sent. Students are encouraged to time themselves with a timer that is visible at a distance.

Have each speaker choose from 3 topics. Begin a timer. Students choose one of the topics without reading the other choices out loud. Students have a 7 minute bank which allows them to choose how long to prep for and how long to speak. This means the time they have used to prep plus the time they speak should not exceed 7 minutes. During their prep time, let them know orally how much time they have used. Example: You have used 1 minute. You have used 2 minutes. You have used 3 minutes. Once the students stand up to speak, switch to hand gestures to help them know how much time they have left.

### **Extemporaneous Speech:**

Contestants will be given three topics in the general area of current events, choose one, and have 30 minutes to prepare a speech that is the original work of the competitor.



Contestants may not leave the preparation area until dismissed by the Extemp proctor. Consultation with any person other than the Extemp proctor between the time of drawing and time of speaking is prohibited. Maximum time limit for the speech is 7 minutes. Once a speaker has spoken, they may listen to other speakers in that round. Use of Internet is optional, but it is not the responsibility of the tournament to provide Internet access. Different topic areas will be used for each round. News stories should be selected from the six (6) weeks prior to the tournament. The topic areas available to choose from are the following: domestic news, international news, sports news, pop culture, economy, technology, and science. Tournament invitations should indicate which topic areas will be used for each round. Because Extemporaneous Speaking is an Individual event, contestants are expected to prepare speeches on their own without consultation with others. Attendance in the Extemporaneous Speaking Preparation Room is restricted to monitors appointed by the Tournament Director and contestants in the event.

Additional information for Judges:

Students are giving you a speech from memory in response to a topic given to them that they prepared for 30 minutes before the round and use sources. Each student should give the speak one-by-one so that competitors who have not yet given their speech cannot listen to the person ahead of them. Students should be sent out in 7 minute intervals from the prep room to your round and present one-by-one.

At the 4/10/20 tournament, the topics will be: **Round 1** - Sports; **Round 2** - Pop culture; **Round 3** - Domestic news and **Final Round** - Foreign news.

Each student will be given a prompt in a virtual room. In 30 minutes, the competitor should go to their competition room to perform their speech. We fully understand that this might provide the opportunity for competitors to contact coaches/others to help with their speech. We hope that teams will encourage integrity for their speakers. This is still against the SCJFL rules and by-laws, so we are asking that everyone act with honesty.

**Spar:**

Debaters will be assigned to the pro or con side by the judge prior to the assignment of the topic and prior start of the round. Each pair will consider 3 issues/resolutions. The pro will strike one resolution and then the con will strike one of the two remaining resolutions, leaving the pair with one final resolution to debate. Both sides will have two

minutes to prepare their arguments before speaking must commence. The pro speaker will give a two-minute speech in favor of the resolution; immediately after that speech, the con speaker will refute the position in a two-minute constructive. Strict adherence to the exact wording of the resolution is not required, but the debaters should at least regard the topic as a common frame-of-reference. Following the opening statements, there will be a four-minute open crossfire. The pair should question each other, and should be prepared to take at least a few questions from the audience of other competitors. The competitors should select these questions (i.e. not the judge). Only other Spar competitors listed to speak in that round are permitted to ask crossfire questions (judges and other spectators are not permitted to ask questions). Two rebuttal speeches of the pro and con respectively complete the round. No preparation time during the debate is allowed. Spar competitors should be judged on the basis of overall presentation, wit, persuasion and quality argument construction. Competitors may not access the Internet during the prep time or during the round. Competitors may use blank paper or notecards, but may not consult pre-written notes or any other reference material.

Order of Speeches in Spar:

Prep time	2 minutes
Pro/Aff Constructive	2 minutes
Con/Neg Constructive	2 minutes
Crossfire	4 minutes
Pro/Aff Rebuttal	2 minutes
Con/Neg Rebuttal	2 minutes

Before the Debate

Topics will be given to judges by judges room. Choose two students who will be the debaters going against each other. If possible, try to choose competitors who are from different schools. If you have an odd number of competitors, ask someone to volunteer to go again. During that spar, the person who is going again will not be judged for that round in which he or she has volunteered to go again. Debaters will be assigned to the pro or con side by the judge prior to the start of the debate. Each pair will consider 3 issues/resolutions. The pro will strike one resolution and then the con will strike one of the two remaining resolutions, leaving the pair with one final resolution to debate. Both

sides will have two minutes to prepare their arguments before speaking must commence.

#### During the Debate

The pro speaker will give a two-minute speech in favor of the resolution; immediately after that speech, the con speaker will refute the position in a two-minute constructive. Strict adherence to the exact wording of the resolution is not required, but the debaters should at least regard the topic as a common frame-of-reference. Following the opening statements, there will be a four minute open crossfire. The pair should question each other, and should be prepared to take at least a few questions from the audience of other competitors. Only other Spar competitors listed to speak in that round are permitted to ask crossfire questions (judges and other spectators are not permitted to ask questions). The students should be running their own crossfire. Two rebuttal speeches of the pro and con respectively complete the round. No preparation time during the debate is allowed. Judges should give time signals to students in order to help them keep track of their speech.

#### Judging Spar:

Spar competitors should be judged on the basis of overall wit, persuasion and quality argument construction. Competitors may not access the Internet during the prep time or during the round.