

Junior Public Speaking Provincials

Description of Events



Speakers compete in all four of the events listed below. Overall scores are determined by averaging all event scores.	
Event	Times
Impromptu Speaking	3 minute prep time 3-5 minute speech <i>(Time Penalties: 15 seconds grace on either side. Under 2:45 -5, 5:16 to 5:30 -1, 5:31 to 6:00 -3, above 6:01 -5)</i>
Debate <i>*First and last minute are protected time</i> <i>*Summaries must be done by the first speaker of each team</i>	1st Proposition - 6 minutes 1st Opposition - 6 minutes 2nd Proposition - 6 minutes 2nd Opposition - 6 minutes Opp Summary - 3 minutes Prop Summary - 3 minutes <i>(15 seconds grace. Judges are instructed to stop listening and cut off the speaker after grace time has elapsed.)</i>
Persuasive Speaking	5-8 minutes <i>(Time Penalties: 15 seconds grace on either side. Under 4:45 -5, 8:16 to 8:30 -1, 8:31 to 9:00 -3, above 9:01 -5)</i>
Interpretive Reading	5-8 minutes <i>(Time Penalties: 15 seconds grace on either side. Under 4:45 -5, 8:16 to 8:30 -1, 8:31 to 9:00 -3, above 9:01 -5)</i>

Scoring Guidelines				
75-78 Poor	79-82 Adequate	83-87 Average	88-91 Very Good	92-95 Excellent

Debate	Persuasive Speaking	Interpretive Reading	Solo Acting	Impromptu Speaking
Strength of Arguments	Analysis of Problem	Quality/Helpfulness of Introduction	Quality/Helpfulness of Introduction	Adherence to Statement or Topic
Quality of Refutation	Persuasiveness of Discussion	Overcoming the Manuscript	Body Language: (Facial Expressions, Gestures, Use of Space)	Organization and Structure
Organization and Structure	Organization and Structure	Understanding of the Selected Text	Understanding of the Selected Text	Interest
Delivery: (Voice, Pace, Timing)	Delivery: (Voice, Pace, Timing)	Delivery: (Voice, Pace, Timing)	Delivery: (Voice, Pace, Timing)	Delivery: (Voice, Pace, Timing)
Overall Appeal to Audience	Overall Appeal to Audience	Overall Appeal to Audience	Overall Appeal to Audience	Overall Appeal to Audience

Event 1 - Impromptu Speaking

Speakers will draw three topics, which may be a word, a quotation, a phrase or anything not related to current events. They must choose one of them and then prepare within three minutes. They may write notes but may not bring them up when they speak. The speech must last from three to five minutes. Speakers may speak in favour of, against, in favour of and against, or about the topic. It should be the sort of speech that would be delivered if the speaker were asked to speak on short notice to a general audience on the topic given. They may interpret it within reason, including treating it as a metaphor but must speak about the topic that they have been given. It is strictly understood that competitors will not use prepared material for this event. Wit, humour, logic, philosophy and sentiment are all equally welcome. Judges will be looking for agility of thought, substance, organizational ability and, above all, the ability of each speaker to communicate with style and originality. Points will be scored for adherence to the statement of topic, organization, interest, and delivery.

Specific guidelines:

- Speeches should be structured and logical.
- The interpretation of the topic and the speech should correlate in a meaningful way.
- Canned/rehearsed/reworked impromptus will be penalized.
- No props of any kind are permitted.
- The speaker must state the topic at the end of their speech.
- No notes of any kind, other than the topic paper are permitted during the speech.
- Although a speaker may make reference to the words or beliefs of others, whether fictional or real characters, he or she must speak in his or her own person for the substantial majority of the speech. Adoption of a persona is not allowed for Impromptu speaking.
- [Past DSABC Impromptu Prompts can be found here!](#)

Event 2 - Debate

This is coordinate CNDF debating. Each competitor will be randomly paired with a debate partner from another province and must determine speaking order amongst themselves. Teams will be given 30 minutes to prepare. Teams will be given three topics, one team chooses the topic and one team chooses the side. The Proposition team must reveal the definition to the opposition 20 minutes before the debate. Resolutions must be defined in a way that a reasonable person might interpret the resolution and should be in keeping with the intent of the resolution. The tournament organizer will settle disputes about definitions.

Each speaker will have 6 minutes for their major speeches and the first speaker on each side will deliver a 3-minute rebuttal. In this style, the first Opposition delivers the first summary followed by the first Proposition. Points of information are allowed and encouraged outside of the 1 minute protected time on each end of constructive speeches. Points of order, points of privilege, and heckling are not allowed. The tournament will use the CNDF Rules found on the CSDF website. However, please note that there is a greater emphasis on public speaking and delivery, given this is a public speaking competition. Students should focus on delivery, persuasion, content, and organization.

[Past DSABC Debate Motions can be found here!](#)

Event 3 - Persuasive Speaking

This speech is designed to persuade and must be on a serious topic, although this does not mean that humour might not be useful at points in the speech. A problem/solution approach must be taken, i.e. speakers must identify a problem (it need not be an earth-shattering one) and propose, or at least examine, one or more solutions to it. Speeches should be prepared beforehand (i.e. prior to arriving at the competition) and should be from five to eight minutes in length. The same speech should be used throughout the competition. Speakers may use note cards, although judges are often more impressed by speakers who do not use any notes. Props should not be used. Participants' speeches are scored on the analysis of the problem, on the persuasiveness of the discussion (logic, appeal), on interest and on delivery.

Event 4 - Interpretive Reading

Each participant should read a passage of prose or poetry (or a collection of poems), serious or humorous, with an appropriate brief introduction. The introduction is included in the five to eight minute time frame for this event. Competitors must select their piece(s) prior to the tournament. The piece(s) must have been published and may not have been written by the reader. Students may read from the published text or from word processed pages in a folder. Choices of text may include anything from Dr. Seuss to George Orwell. Judges will be assessing how much the reader's voice and presentation add to the material rather than with the talent of the author. Please note that this is a reading, not a dramatic presentation. Competitors may stand or sit but should not move around excessively.