

NDT Meeting

Call to order

Minutes approved by voice vote

Attendance

Kelley Young

Tim Odonnell

D Cram Helwich

Adrienne Brovero

Mike Hester

Dallas Perkins

Ed Lee

Gordon Stables

Glen Frappier

Stefan Bauschard

Sherry Hall

Sarah PartlowLefevre

Eric Morris

Jon Brushcke

Directors Report

Same tab as last year. We are starting to look at the future and see how we can change the process. This tournament is different because we have 3 ballots in every debate.

Things will be good on Monday at the hotel.

Campus – 9-10 classroom buildings tomorrow

At Austin, we announced the first round and then delivered round 2 pairings to debates. Would you like to have that happen again? If not we lose half an hour from the schedule.

Hopefully TRPC will minimize room movement. They are working on it by hand. But, long moves are inevitable. We will have problems picking up ballots with this many debates in this spread out.

To do it well, we need 20 ballot collectors. Has already visited Atlanta site. In the hotel for the whole time. Debating in some smallish executive suites.

Room moves. NDT could consider adding or subtracting 2 teams from the field because you could do pods and room move would be easier.

Tab room is trying to minimize changes and distance of changes

At the reception we will publish where to drop evidence

Official reading of the pairing for round 2 will happen in the tabroom.

Next Year's Proposed Dates

They are Fritch believes correct.

2 weeks for district processes to happen.

1st Round

Submission of applications: Th Feb 16, 5 PM CST

Voting: Fri Feb 17-Sun Feb 19

Announcement: Mon Feb 20

District:

Declaration of Intent: Thurs Feb 21

Announcement of preliminary allocation: Feb 22

2nd Round

Submission of applications: Thurs March 8, 5 pm CST

Voting: Fri March 9-Sun March 11

Announcement of second round: Mon March 12

NDT Dates

Registration: Thurs, March 29

Competition: Fri March 30-Monday April 2

Dates are approved.

First/Second Round Balloting

Someone gave their ballot to someone else this year. Would we approve of that?

The NDT committee does not approve of this. Also, the named person is accountable for the decision. The ballot belongs to the person. However it is cast, it is the person's responsibility. People may not assign the ballot to someone else in order to get a better ranking. It is the person's ballot, But, if they are not casting the vote, it needs to be made public with an explanation for why it is happening.

Districts should have a conversation about what would happen if their rep was temporarily unable to vote. Have a plan in place.

With the much more public availability of records the rankings are much more consistent that it was back in the day.

Any questions/concerns?

Getting extension cords so they can get power to the tables. Send Chris an email if you have one.

Each school will have a table. We are trying to equalize the access to the resources of the tables and the power. The internet works everywhere. It is very pleasant to work outside and the internet works outside. You can work in the big room is you want to.

Any other questions for John?

Bring surge protectors if you have them.

Very few changes this week in judging. The judge placement finalization worked a lot better this year.

It seems to help with pref sheets to have a fairly stable judging pool from 7 days out

Board of Trustees (BOT) Report

We feel it is fine to team up with nonprofits at the NDT as they did last year with the Bay Area UDL. However, there should be limits for for profits. But, if they want to donate. They can have access to the NDT with a banner or a speech.

We talked about software and future tournaments.

Emory next year and probably in Ogden at Weber for 2013. They have not put bid in but have made some progress. Marriott hotel \$75 a night, free parking and internet. School wants to make it very economical and affordable.

If you know anyone for 2014, please let us know.

If your campus doesn't work, look at hotel options and think outside the box. Be creative. No rooms on campus on Friday should not be a reason not to host.

Media

2 things in the past week. Contacted by UTD media relations office wanting to arrange for media coverage wanted to send out a call. Meeting with the person at 4 pm today. We want to have an agreement about what it is about. Last time. Dallas had to chase CBS news around because they were doing a non approved piece.

Second, a university documentary crew wants to document it's program and the NDT in general. The board and the NDT need to work together to have some procedures.

What should we convey today and what are the parameters for the team on campus this weekend.

List of issues and concerns that relate to the topic of filming at the NDT. We are going to draft something to attend to issues that have been identified. Liason with the media officers at universities. Notifying attendents and observers that they may be filmed. Can the NDT revoke access if they are doing something not approved. What kinds of release need to be signed? Types of filming. Educational purposes and news coverage vs. documentaries, etc. I handle all the release for all film related activities for this university.

This doesn't mean there might not be additional issues we need to deal with.

It is not always the case that we have a host's media relations.

Last time we were in Dallas we did not have a host's media relations person.

When we were here they wanted to approve CBS as well.

Filming alone is different from publication. It is not clear that filming alone is something that needs to be regulated. The question is what waivers do they need? Do they need to get waivers?

They may not interfere with contests. We need to make sure they understand that we will not wait/adjust what we are doing to accommodate filming.

Is it an expectation of attendance at the tournament that you will be filmed?

Are participants prohibited from publishing? It says personal and academic use.

Is there any way to put language in where we list and recommend sources they should talk to?

John would be the official spokesperson for the tournament. There should probably be a liason that is responsible for working with throughout.

Also, some of this addresses the difference between it being at a school or a hotel. There is no reason why there could not be a media statement that goes to press giving an overview and can be given to media outlets if they request information.

Could university policies of debaters debating on another campus affect this? Potentially but if we have a media policy then people agree to it by participation.

In the Board meeting we were discussing that we need to have a policy and say here is the process that you go through. We need to have a procedure for dealing with it.

We don't want a bunch of people interrupting debates?

We need to have liason. We need to address the question of content/editorial control.

Control over news coverage is different than editorial control over a documentary.

Whatever we agree to in regard to letting the media in, we need to make students aware in advance. We need to remind people of better behavior.

They aren't going to wander around the tournament for days for small media clips.

Specific times or places they are not allowed to bother us?

It is now sort of standard that those release policies say you should be able to ask for someone to stop filming and they would have to follow through. Feel free to shoot me an email.

How should we direct the UTD office and structure an agreement with the documentary film group. News coverage on campus during prelim is fine. If they want to film contests, then the easiest thing to do would be to be accompanied by a tournament official.

Inclined to approve Samford with an agreement. Put a clause in saying if it becomes other than educational, notice is necessary.

Question of intended use – if it is released beyond Samford, the BOT shall be so informed/approval?

Any change in intended use must be approved by the BOT

Chair's Report

Eligibility. We verified up until the 2nd districts weekend. Assuming the prevailing deadline is administrative convenience.

It was clear in one case they were not trying. We need to decide what we want to do about deadlines.

Is there a comfort level of that interpretation continuing to apply. Bid allocation is done assuming they will be eligible then if they are not certified the district will be impacted.

The chair got this responsibility foisted on them. It gets bigger and bigger and they run off to appeals if the chair says no.

It would be ok to make it less workload for the chair. Flexibility is appropriate.

Several Universities are using the national clearinghouse for academic eligibility verification. The report does not include discussion of good standing. There are some universities that will not sign letters for in good standing. It certifies they are enrolled and in good standing.

Question is if we should have rules that we are enforcing. "In good standing?"

We could require lesser documentation to verify good standing.

It makes sense to treat people equally but we should be harder on the clearinghouse people. Not easier on everyone else.

I have a hard time believing that they cannot verify that they are not on academic probation.

There seems to be some desire the weak language.

Third eligibility related thing. Continue to get social security numbers and name linked to birthday.

Tim is blacking out social security numbers on forms and shredding the documents as soon as he is done.

Bid Calculations

Ermo would like to fix the weather related reallocation of bids.

Also interest in the vibe of the committee on the disincentive for ranking.

Question of legitimacy of excuses. Should we disincentivize tournaments? How the tournaments intermesh does impact that. Is it ok to spend 10 k to narrow the teams down to 6.

What is the optimal role of the bid allocation process? It is almost unwieldy in the system. If it is the same three teams fighting for two slots, what are the complications? We carve off a quarter of our programs. We have to valorize the best teams. Part of the reason the conversation is fractured. When districts are having that conversation, being aware of what it is is relevant.

The policy should address what happens when teams can't get there? This year, people felt that they had to drive. We should not say if the tournament is cancelled it is ok not to drive and to say if the tournament is not cancelled then individuals have to make the programs.

Different schools have different levels of influence. The pressures to do unsafe things are not on just the decision to cancel. It is also the decision not to cancel.

What if the district tournaments were not automatic qualifiers? Why not go to 70 for 48 slots?

Belief you should be able to debate your way in.

Idea of basing regional allocations on district participation throughout the year.

If we find a cool thing that works, we can do it.

Our solution should address the issue of people having to travel in unsafe weather.

Maybe increase the number of rounds required.

The district qualification process is a powerful thing. A weather exemption is in some ways worse. There has to be something structurally in place.

Ermo is thinking of writing the second amendment. We should put a committee together to ask whether our qualification process is the right process regardless of the districts question.

Chair Election

D7 next NDT rep is Adrienne Brovero. It is my intention to step down as the AFA East rep. I feel that a university should not have 2 reps. That leads to the second part. Tim is directing the accreditation process at MW. May mean that I would be unable to travel. If you were interested in me serving next year, I could serve as the Chair as a nonvoting member. Otherwise you need to elect a different chair.

The most time consuming part of being the chair is the two weeks around academic eligibility.

The committee asks that Tim be the chair next year.

