

Stoa Broadcasting Rules

Description: In Broadcasting competitors present a newscast which they create from provided material.

Goal: To understand the values and techniques used in copy selection and presentation, as well as writing and delivery, in order to learn and experience various skills used in broadcasting. These skills are applicable for a wide range of venues including podcasts, webcasts, radio and television broadcasting, etc.

Event Overview: Competitors will go to a Broadcasting Prep room where they will receive copies of news articles. They will have 15 minutes to prepare a 5-minute news broadcast using the articles they have received as well as any transitions they wish to add. In the competition room, competitors will present their complete news report while seated behind a desk or table. Competitors select, edit and compile their news copy by organizing worthy news event information. They will hone their ability to organize and present a concise, powerful, and compelling broadcast presentation.

Broadcasting Administration Rules:

1. The tournament will provide a Broadcasting Prep Room where competitors will assemble their news broadcast.
2. The tournament will provide identical copies of news stories for each competitor in the round.
3. New stories for each round must be from either one news day or one news source.
4. News may come from any source that the tournament chooses. This may include, but is not limited to, a copy of a newspaper, articles from the internet, wire service copy, photocopies of historical news sources, etc.
5. Tournaments may choose to vary the types of news from round to round, (i.e. front page news, local news, sports, business, etc.).
6. The tournament will provide a minimum of ten (10) stories unique to each round.
7. Judges will be given the general news topic subject (i.e. national, sports, historical, etc.)
8. A timekeeper will use a digital timepiece and announce the duration of the presentation.

Broadcasting Preparation Rules:

1. At the tournament, the competitor will be given a 15-minute prep time in the Broadcasting Prep Room to prepare the broadcast.
2. If a competitor is late to the Broadcasting Prep Room, he will have less time to prepare his presentation in order to speak on schedule. Tardiness will not extend Prep Time.
3. The competitor may not bring any pre-written material including outlines, introductions, transitions, or scripts into the prep room.
4. In the prep room, the competitor will be given a minimum of 10 news articles to use in the broadcast.
5. Competitors may put together the news copy in any format. They will decide which news stories to use, how much time to devote to each one, and how best to transition between stories.
6. Competitors may write out the broadcast entirely, outline what they wish to say, or simply arrange the articles in the order they plan to use them. How they prepare their presentation is entirely up to them. Competitors may bring supplies to cut and paste articles if they wish to do so.
7. Competitors may not communicate with other students or access outside information during their prep time.
8. Computers may be used but no internet access is allowed.
9. At the conclusion of his 15 minutes of Prep Time, the competitor will go immediately to the competition room to give the presentation.

Broadcasting Presentation Rules:

1. The competitor must present the entire broadcast seated behind a table or desk.
2. The competitor may hold and refer to the prepared copy and/or collection of articles. The copy may also be read from the computer.
3. No props, audio, or visual aids may be used.
4. Gratuitous vulgarity is strictly prohibited.
5. Maximum speaking time is five (5) minutes.
6. The timekeeper will start the timepiece when the competitor begins and will stop the timepiece when the competitor finishes. No hand signals will be given.
7. Competitors will self-time to pace their presentation accurately.
8. The competitor must not listen to other Broadcasting competitors speaking before him. He may stay after he has spoken and listen to subsequent competitors.

Preparation time – fifteen (15) minutes. Speaking time – five (5) minutes. No minimum time.