

Canadian National Debating Championships
Annual General Meeting
Campbell Collegiate, Regina, Saskatchewan
Sunday, April 26, 2009 9:30am

1. **Call to Order and Attendance**

Lorelie DeRoose, as Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:35am

In Attendance:

Board of Governors

*Lorelie DeRoose, Saskatchewan
(Chair)
*John Baty, British Columbia
*John Robinson, Manitoba**
*Josh Judah****, Nova Scotia
*Kirsten Wyndham-West, Ontario
*Linda Martin, Manitoba
*Harold Kyte, Nova Scotia

Provincial Voting Members

**Tracey Lee, British Columbia
**Angela Fraser, Alberta
**Wendy James, Saskatchewan
**Rudi Lof, Ontario
**David Stewart, Nova Scotia
**Dave Gorman, New Brunswick

Also in attendance

Emily Cooley, British Columbia
Sharon Harvey, Saskatchewan
Lisa Harrison, Quebec
Gregory Loudon, Quebec
Sean Hayden, British Columbia
Rhonda Smith, Manitoba
Jeff Hull, Manitoba
Michelle White, New Brunswick
John Vella, Ontario
Pauline Dimitroulakos, Ontario
Hugh Watson, Ontario
Melissa Watson, Ontario

*Board of governors each held one vote in addition to any Provincial votes they held.

**Each Province has two votes – each star (*) represents one provincial vote.

****Josh Judah also held 2 proxy votes for each of Newfoundland and Quebec.

2. **Adoption of the Agenda**

The following item was added to the agenda item 5:

e) Point of clarification

Moved/seconded? **moved adoption of the amended agenda.** Carried.

3. **Adoption of the 2008 Minutes**

Dave Gorman/Rudi Lof moved adoption of the minutes of the 2008 General Meeting.
Carried.

4. **Report on the Championships**

All appreciated the smooth running of the tournament.

John Robinson/? moved to thank Lorelie DeRoose & the organizing committee for their splendid efforts. Carried.

5. **Varia**

a.) **Seeing the same judge more than once**

The concern was raised about teams seeing the same judge or judging panels more than once. No motion was made, however members suggested future hosts use a tabs program that tracked judging assignments and that they allow sufficient time between rounds to manually adjust the assignments to minimize the instances.

b.) **Ballots outside of the range**

Although judges were told the scoring range was 60 to 83, a few Saturday judges gave scores in the 90s. Sunday judges were warned that their ballot would be discarded if they marked outside the range.

John Robinson/Kirsten Wyndham-West moved that the Tournament Directors disregard any ballot that has a score outside of the official scoring range, with the win/loss decision still in effect. Carried.

Since various provinces have different ranges, the “official” CNDC range may be difficult for local judges to adapt to.

John Robinson/? moved that the range of scores at the tournament be determined by tournament organizers subject to the approval of the board. Carried.

The membership also recommended that the scoring range be included on the ballot and that the organizers be free to speak to judges who score out of range.

c.) **Pull-up policy**

The 2009 Tabs Director, Garrett Richards, recommended a review of the Pull-up policy in By-law 27, as it gives a consistently unfair advantage to the top team.

John Robinson/? moved to removed the second sentence of By-law 27 and replace it with “The Tournament Director shall determine the pull-up policy.” The motion further amends sentence four to read “Tournament Director” instead of “Tabs Director”. Carried.

d.) **Guidelines for interpreting “This House”**

Due to the confusion between regions regarding the interpretation of “This House,” the membership has asked the Board of Governors to write a brief guideline to include in section 2.2, regarding General Motions, of the *Guide to Judging Nationals Style Debate*.

e.) **Points of clarification**

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the pros and cons of both Points of Clarification and the exchange of definitions before rounds began, as methods to elevate the level of debate. In the end, it was decided that teams at this level should be skilled enough to provide clear definitions, especially for the straight resolutions required by the National Championships.

Rudi Lof moved with no seconder that a By-law be added between points 36 and 37 to allow Points of Clarification in the first minute of debate. Motion withdrawn.

John Baty/Kirsten Wyndham-West moved to add a By-law after point 25 to read: “Definitions are to be exchanged 10 minutes into the preparation period. Defeated.

Rudi Lof/John Robinson moved that a By-law be added between points 36 and 37 to allow Points of Clarification in the first minute of debate. Defeated.

6) Items concerning the National Schedule

a.) Review National Championships hosting list & Bids for upcoming years

The 2010 Nationals will be hosted in Vancouver April 24-26th, 2010. Halifax is scheduled to host in 2011. The next couple of hosts will be determined next year. Members should work together to plan the schedule of national events for the next couple of years, including the fate of the Western Seminar.

b.) North American Hosting bids

Halifax and Ontario were proposed as possible hosts for upcoming years. The Board of Governors is to secure these hosts.

John Robinson/seconded moved to change the name of the “North American Championships” to the “Oxford Cup”. Carried.

c.) Timing of Worlds try-outs

The members brought up the need to discuss, with the Worlds Committee, the timing of Worlds try-outs due to the great length of time from the try-outs to the actual Championships.

d.) National Strategic Planning

The CSDF would like to bring together the major stakeholders in Canadian debate for a weekend strategic planning session. Members indicated that summer is an acceptable time.

e.) Other

It was recommended that if possible, future National Championship hosts schedule a practice day for Team Canada that also gives coaches a professional development opportunity.

Lorelie DeRoose, as President of the CSDF, explained that each member organization receives funds at the beginning of each year to bring their balance back to \$1,000. Funds are to be used for program development, within the stated guidelines. Reports are sent to the McLeese Chair to inform Mr. McLeese on how the funds are used each year.

7. Election of Board of Governors

- John Baty, automatically on the board as Tournament Chair
- Linda Martin nominated by Josh Judah, accepts
- Harold Kyte nominated by John Robinson, accepts
- Kirsten Wyndham-West nominated by John Baty, accepts
- Lorelie DeRoose nominated by Wendy James, accepts
- John Robinson nominated by Harold Kyte, accepts
- Josh Judah nominated by Linda Martin, accepts

Nominations closed. All are acclaimed as nominated.

8. Adjournment

Linda moved adjournment at 11:20 am.