



Senior High National Debating Championships

Meeting Minutes

April 27, 2013

I. Call to order

John Robinson called to order the regular meeting of the Senior High National Debating Championships at 9:00 pm on April 27, 2013 at Suite 2515 – Delta Bow Valley Hotel, Calgary, Alberta.

II. Roll call

John Robinson conducted a roll call.

In Attendance:

Board of Governors:

John Robinson – Manitoba (Chair); Josh Judah – Nova Scotia; Brian Casey – Nova Scotia; Steven Penner – Ontario; Tracey Lee – BC; Debra Miko – Alberta; Regrets – Andrew Kaplan – Manitoba

Voting Members:

Frankie Cena – BC; Debra Miko – Alberta; Melissa Ong – Saskatchewan; John Robinson – Manitoba; Steven Penner – Ontario; Jon Bracewell – Quebec; Brian Casey – Nova Scotia

Also, in attendance:

Stephen McCarthy – CSDF President; Sylvia Hayward – ADSA President – Alberta; Pardeep Dhaliwal – CAP – 2013 SH Debate Nationals; Jordan Burg – Manitoba; Liana Palko – Quebec; Bruce Duncan – Ontario; Brad Schoenfeld - Saskatchewan

Note: number of votes held - provincial/territorial members hold two, Board of Governors each hold one

III. Adoption of the Agenda

Brain Casey/Josh Judah moved adoption of the Agenda. Carried.

IV. Approval of minutes from last meeting

John Robinson read the minutes from the last meeting. There were two changes to be noted first one being that Steven Penner's name is spelt with a "v" and not a "p" and the second being that Gregory Loudon as Quebec's voting member, Gregory was not present and Chris George was the voting member for Quebec at the 2012 AGM. The minutes were approved as read.

V. Host Thank You

John Robinson/Brian Casey moved to officially thank Debra Miko on behalf of all those attending for hosting an amazing event. Carried with unanimous enthusiasm.

VI. Future Hosts: It was determined that we needed to have a 5 year plan in place and should circumstances change we can work with those changes. **Provinces should expect to host one National Tournament every 2 to 3 years just based on rotation.**

5 Year Host Plans for our 3 National Tournaments

Fall of each year – Oxford Cup

- Ontario 2013
- Quebec 2014
- Alberta 2015
- Manitoba 2016
- British Columbia 2017

Spring of each year – Senior High Nationals

- Alberta 2013
- Manitoba 2014
- British Columbia 2015
- Saskatchewan 2016
- Ontario 2017

Spring of each year – Junior High Nationals

- British Columbia 2013
- Ontario 2014
- Manitoba 2015
- Nova Scotia 2016
- Alberta 2017

VII. New business

- a) Rudi M. Lof, the McLeese Chair submitted a written request to the committee regarding hybrid teams being allowed to compete and break at the National Championships, his letter was based on debate programs not being available at some schools in Ontario. The letter was presented by Brian Casey and read by all in attendance. The final decision was **“the membership acknowledges Rudi’s letter but do not wish to change our rules regarding hybrid’s breaking at this time.”** The motion was presented by John Robinson (Manitoba); seconded by Steven Penner (Ontario) and carried unanimously.
- b) John Robinson brought forward the motion due to exceptional circumstances, the regulation requiring debaters to be in Grade 9, 10, 11, or 12 will be waived for this year only in the case of Ahmereen Hubab Salim that she is allowed to compete in this year’s Senior National Public Debating Championships. John Robinson put forward this motion, it was 2nd by Steven Penner and passed unanimously. This led to a discussion of whether a lower grade limit should exist.

As a result the following motion was proposed. The lower grade limit specified in rule 14 be abolished and that rule 14 be changed to **“A debater may not attend the CNDC if he or she is registered or is planning to register for the Junior High Debate Nationals in the same year.”** John Robinson put forward the motion, it was seconded by Steven Penner. Votes were 16 in favor and 4 against, passed! **Rule # 14** to be updated!

- c) Steven Penner brought forward a motion from Cameron Climie (2013 SH CAP Member) that independent adjudication be removed from our bylaw 31(a) and we accept the Nationals to have either conferral or consensus judging as determined by the host. After some discussion the committee felt that it should be up to the host to determine if they wanted independent adjudication and did vote unanimously to replace the ban on conferral with a ban on consensus in Rule 31 (a) The new wording for **Rule # 31 (a) “for the National Championships, the judges make their decision independently from each other (ie: no consensus judging). Conferral judging still applies for the Oxford Cup and, at the discretion of the host, may be used at the Senior High Nationals.”** John Robinson put forward the motion, seconded by Josh Judah and the majority voted in favor! **Rule # 31 (a)** to be updated after the 2013 SH Nationals
- d) Debra Miko presented a motion from an Albertan Coach William McClary regarding host schools being allowed to add extra teams who did not necessarily qualify through the same Provincial process as their peers. The committee felt that this was more of a personal grievance and did not feel that it was their decision to make. **“Host Provinces have always been offered double the spots as visiting Provinces, as an incentive to hosting. It is up to the individual Provincial body (or organizing committee) to determine how those spots would be divided, our committee has no authority nor interest, we do acknowledge the letter but we do not wish to make any changes.”** Brian Casey put forward the motion, Steven Penner seconded it and it was carried unanimously.
- e) Discussion was brought up regarding the “Review of the List of Impromptu Topics being sent out to the board for last minute tweaking” – Due to the time and the already lengthy AGM, John Robinson made a motion that this be brought up via email to the board for a vote, about 6 months from now. Brian Casey 2nd it and it was carried unanimously!
- f) Stephen McCarthy – CSDF President brought us an update. Their board has secured annual donations from Your Canada, Your Constitution! This will place \$5000 annually into the hands of the SH National Debate Championships host until 2017, along with each Provincial Organization will received a donation each year, until 2017. Stephen also spoke a bit on the changes to the annual seminar check all emails recently sent to Provincial organizations. You can also check the CSDF website for more details. Stephen is retiring from CSDF as he embarks on a new chapter in his life by accepting a position as math teacher in Mexico. John Robinson thanked him for all of his hard work during his tenure with the CSDF.

g) The following updates were also made for our rules:

Rule # 6 – should now read: “Questions arising at a meeting of members shall be decided by majority. Moved by Josh Judah; 2nd by John Robinson, carried unanimously.

Rule # 13 – should now read: “To be eligible to attend the CNDC a debater must be enrolled in a secondary school that is a member school of their Provincial or Territorial Organization. Where such a secondary school is semestered, a debater must have been enrolled in the secondary school for at least one semester of the current academic year.” Moved by Josh Judah, 2nd by John Robinson, carried unanimously.

Rule # 17 – should now read: “The Provincial or Territorial Chaperone are responsible for dealing with chaperoning and discipline issues involving their students.” Moved by Josh Judah, 2nd by John Robinson, carried unanimously.

VIII. Election of Board of Governors – The following were nominated; accepted and acclaimed to the Board of Governors:

- John Robinson, Nationals Chair
- Brian Casey
- Debra Miko
- Tracey Lee
- Josh Judah
- Steven Penner
- Liana Palko

John Robinson/Brian Casey moved to close nominations. Carried.

IX. Adjournment

John Robinson adjourned the meeting at 10:26 pm.

Minutes submitted by: Debra Miko

Minutes approved by: John Robinson