

Junior Nationals
2010 Minutes of the Coaches Meeting
Calgary Science School
Sunday May 16, 2010

In Attendance (*voting delegate)

Tracey Lee, British Columbia

*Ruth McGhee, British Columbia

*Sheryl Burrows, Alberta

Jon Hoyt-Hallett, Alberta

*Sarah Morphy, Saskatchewan

Lori Cline Flath, Saskatchewan

Pam DeChief, Saskatchewan

Melissa Ong, Saskatchewan

Lorelie DeRoose, Saskatchewan (secretary)

Rhonda Smith, Manitoba

*Linda Martin, Manitoba

Andrew Kaplan, Manitoba

*Jill Strimas, Ontario

Kevin Misak, Ontario

*Greg Loudon, Quebec

Liana Palko, Quebec

Chris George, Quebec (Chair)

*Josh Judah, Nova Scotia

1. Call to order

Chris George called the meeting to order at 8:50 a.m.

2. Acceptance of the Minutes

Josh/Greg moved acceptance of the 2009 Minutes.

3. Business from previous minutes

There was no business from previous minutes.

4. Thank you

On behalf of all the adult and student delegates, Lorelie/Tracey moved to thank Jon and David and their committee for all their hard work organizing an amazing event. Carried.

5. Upcoming Hosts

Estevan, Saskatchewan will be hosting the 2011 Junior Nationals. Expected events will include tours of the coal and oil industries. The tentative date will be the same weekend as 2010.

The attending adult representatives confirmed the following hosting commitments:

2012 Quebec

2015 Manitoba

2013 BC

2016 Nova Scotia

2014 Ontario

2017 Alberta

Chris George, the 2012 Quebec host, has proposed to host both Junior and Senior Nationals simultaneously. A possible plan might be to arrive on a Wednesday, debate Thursday, visit Quebec City Friday, have the impromptu rounds Saturday, break rounds Sunday and return Monday. The hosts would keep the invited team limits to the minimum, and not open unfilled spots to other provinces. The expected costs would roughly be \$600 per person and include local transportation, most meals and accommodations. It is likely the debating and social events between the two categories would mainly be kept separate, with some overlap.

The idea behind the proposal is to remove the hosting burden, since provinces have to host both events at some point anyway, and to assist adult delegates minimize the chaperoning expenses – both in time and travel costs. Hosting both together would also eliminate the issue of debaters attending Senior Nationals and then Junior Nationals in the same year.

The addition of the Worlds Qualifier event can be accommodated if needed. The Committee will discuss this and get back to Chris.

For now, the 2012 combined event will be a one-time thing, but if it proves successful, has the potential to become the expected model, if the hosts can accommodate both events.

Chris will take into consideration the dates of AP, IB and university exams, along with the Passover dates of April 7 to 14, when setting the final date.

It was suggested that an overarching theme for both the events – not same topic, but related for prep topic – could be of benefit.

This proposal would not require any changes to either event's governing documents. However, Quebec favours conferral judging and would ask that it be used at both events.

Chris will have a formal proposal for the National Championships Board of Governors at a later date.

6. Constitutional changes

a) Competing at both Junior and Senior Nationals

At Senior Nationals, the issue of grade 9 teams competing at first Senior then Junior Nationals was raised and it was requested that the adult representatives at Junior Nationals discuss this issue. Some provinces have a rule that if you move up a division, you can not move back.

Others raised the fact that many grade 9 teams attend the major invitational tournaments – UBC, McGill, Donahue Cup, etc. with no restriction and that the experience is no different. Further, teams that debated at Worlds compete at their provincials and at Nationals. It was mentioned that debaters are excited to debate against the top teams – boosting the level of competition, and while intimidating, it is ultimately invigorating. Quebec teams attend both since they end debate in Grade 11. Linda, who originally brought up the issue discussed it with her debaters and they said they like going to both and do not see it being an issue.

Hosting both Championships concurrently will eliminate this issue for 2012. If dual hosting becomes the norm, then this issue become moot.

There was no motion made.

b) Co-ordinate rounds

Josh/Greg moved to amend Rule 6c to allow co-ordinate partnerships at the discretion of the hosts.

The history of Junior Nationals was discussed. It was originally started in the west as a friendly, easy-going event. Debaters attended as individuals and co-ordinate partnerships were a key part of debaters getting to know each other. Over the years, the event has evolved into a much more competitive team event, mirroring the Senior Nationals. Debaters have said they do not like the co-ordinate rounds as they don't know who they'll be getting for partners and the rounds don't count towards their rankings. It was suggested that rule 6c regarding co-ordinate partnerships has outlived its purpose. The Alberta hosts opted to run a Model Parliament instead of co-ordinate rounds, to still give debaters the opportunity to interact with each other.

Josh with drew the motion.

Josh/Linda moved to strike 6c altogether and to renumber the subsequent clauses. Carried unanimously.

7. English Speaking Union

Chris spoke to the sponsorship of \$500 provided by the Canadian branch of the English Speaking Union. An equal amount was also provided to the Senior Nationals. However, the ESU in Canada is small, and is not working to increase its membership. The funds available for this sponsorship are limited and will only be available for the next couple of years. Hosts are to contact Chris George for information about the sponsorship.

8. 2011 Hay River National Seminar

Lorelie reminded everyone that the 2011 Seminar in Hay River will be March 9 to 14 (includes travel dates) and that information will be circulated before the end of June. She asked that provinces help generate interest in their membership for this unique opportunity and that they consider the cultural, learning, and adventure aspect of the Seminar when selecting their delegations.

A concern was raised about access to proper winter wear. Lorelie will forward that concern to the organizers.

Lorelie also mentioned that the CSDF is still committed to holding a strategic planning session next fall.

9. Adjournment

Linda/moved to adjourn at 9:35 a.m. Carried.