

KSHSAA Virtual Postseason Debate Summary for Executive Board

After discussions with the KSCA Virtual Debate Committee and our two State Host Site Managers, it is KSHSAA's recommendation to move forward with virtual platforms for the 2020-21, 4 Speaker and 2 Speaker debate post season tournaments. Please review the following timeline, summary, and manual changes for 2020-21.

- October 2020
 - KSHSAA Executive Board reviews the following summary for discussion and vote to approve or not approve.
 - If approved, all schools and debate coaches will be notified ASAP of the virtual post season formats so they may prepare their students for the upcoming events.

- December 18-19, 2020 4 Speaker Regionals
 - Multiple sites, determined in November
 - Platform would be Zoom
 - Volunteers to manage and tab with Zoom accounts

- January 15-16, 2020 4 Speaker State
 - Two sights: 6A-5A Olathe Northwest and 4A-321A Lyons
 - Platform will be Zoom
 - Volunteers to manage and tab with Zoom accounts

- January (14) 15-16, 2020 2 Speaker State
 - Two sights: 6A-5A Olathe Northwest & 4A-321A Lyons
 - Two Platform choices:
 - NSDA: Tabroom.com (free) plus Campus \$6.00 per room per day. Approximate room cost: \$1,416.00.
 - Zoom seems to be the most popular choice of our debate coaches. Approximate cost: Less than \$1,000.00.
 - Final choice will be made by the tab room managers.
 - Tab room managers will have experience with the platform they choose.

- Cons for offering a Virtual Post Season
 - Different than normal
 - NSDA Campus does not allow spectators in performance rooms
 - To offer spectators, the platform is \$30.00 per room per day.
 - *Debate Manual rules. Must have approval for not allowing spectators in rounds.
 - Virtual does not allow for person to person socialization for students, coaches, and judges.
 - Must have a computer and reliable internet to participate

- Pros for offering a Virtual Post Season
 - COVID 19
 - No travel or hotel expense
 - Easier to use more qualified debate judges from anywhere with strong internet
 - Host sites may still host, but schools from all over the state are not in their buildings
 - No custodial overtime
 - No hospitality costs
 - We have KS expert coaches for both Zoom and NSDA Campus virtual tournaments. They also have tremendous contacts at the NSDA to help with tech issues, etc.
 - Host schools can have school on Friday, January 15
 - KS schools are debating virtually. Most are using the two platforms listed above.

- Other considerations for Virtual tournaments
 - Schools/Administrators will need to determine the best locations for students to physically compete during a school day.

Debate Manual Rule Changes

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*Sec. 5. Spectators—In regional and state (4-speaker) debate tournaments, spectators may follow their own teams, but written “flow” comments or “scouting” shall not be allowed. Tape recorders and/or video cameras may not be used.

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*Sec. 15. Spectators—In state (2-speaker) debate tournaments spectators may follow their own teams, but written (flow) comments or “scouting” shall not be allowed. All elimination rounds shall be open to viewing and note taking. Tape recorders and video cameras may not be used. Page 18