



Dear Members and Friends of DANEIS,

December 18th, 2015

We cordially invite you to attend the 2016 Kingswood Oxford Speaking Tournament on Sunday, February 7th in West Hartford, Connecticut. Each school may register up to eight speakers. Every speaker must compete in two rounds of two events, meaning that each speaker will compete in two events in a total of four rounds:

- I) After Dinner Speaking **or** Persuasive Speaking
- II) Impromptu Speaking **or** Ethical Dilemmas

Our goals in departing from the traditional three single-round events followed by finals are the following: to encourage students to prepare one event really well, to offer more opportunity for learning over the course of the day, and, in determining awards based on two sets of scores, mitigate the effects of irrationally exuberant or snappish scores. Guidelines for all of the events are attached. Also attached are copies of all the ballots we will be using along with sample ethical dilemmas. If you require further information about any of the events, please do not hesitate to contact us.

We ask that each school entering bring at least one adult judge for its first four entrants and one additional judge (who may be either an adult or a senior with public speaking experience) for any additional entrants. Again, we hope that permitting senior judges will increase the number of students who can participate. Student and adult judges will work together; neither will judge any speakers from their own schools.

Although there will not be separate advanced and novice divisions, we will award distinguished younger speakers competing in their first public speaking tournament. Awards will be given to the top three speakers in each individual category, the top three overall speakers, and the top three schools. In order to be eligible for a school award, a team must consist of at least four speakers.

Space is limited, so it would be wise to RSVP as soon as possible. The deadline for entering is January 31st. Please RSVP to Whalen.S@k-o.org. At that time, please let us know how many speakers you plan to bring, whether they will be entering After Dinner Speaking or Persuasive Speaking, Impromptu Speaking or Ethical Dilemmas. The registration fee of \$15 per competitor (payable to Kingswood Oxford School) should be paid by check at the door. We look forward to seeing you on February 8th.

Sincerely,

Sarah Whalen, Beth Repp, and Ted Levine, Forensic Union Coaches



Tournament Schedule

- 10:00-11:00 Registration and Hearty Brunch in Cafeteria
- 11:00-11:30 Meeting for Judges and Competitors in Cafeteria
- 11:30- 12:30 After Dinner Speaking and Persuasive Speaking, Round 1
- 12:45-1:45 Impromptu Speaking and Ethical Dilemmas, Round 1
- 2:00-3:00 After Dinner Speaking and Persuasive Speaking, Round 2
- 3:15- 4:15 Impromptu Speaking and Ethical Dilemmas, Round 2
- 4:30 Awards (preceded by an exhibition-round by the top speakers of a game similar to triple-speak, time permitting) in Tomasso

Drinks and snacks will be available all day in Commons between rounds.

Directions

Pick up 84 West in Hartford.

Proceed to Exit 43 (Park Road).

Take a right off the exit and then a quick left onto Trout Brook Drive.

After the first traffic light, a sign indicating the entrance to the school will be on your right. Registration will be in the foyer of Meade Dining Hall (same building as the library).

On the morning of the tournament, should you need directions or have a last-minute change to your team, please call Sarah Whalen at (516) 650-7357.

Kingswood Oxford Speaking Tournament
After-Dinner Speaking

Speaker's Name: _____

Speaker's Code: _____

Scoring Guidelines: 60-69 70-79 80-89 90-100
 Subpar Okay Good to Very Good Superb

CATEGORY

SCORE

Thoughtful, Logical Organization of Speech _____
(Max = 10)

Quality of Information _____
(Max = 30)

Quality of Entertainment (Appeal to Audience) _____
(Max = 30)

Delivery (eye contact, voice quality, self-assurance) _____
(Max = 30)

Length of Speech: _____

Total Points(Max = 100*) _____

*If the sum of the categories doesn't equal the total score, we will assume that we should use the overall total unless you check here: _____ Use the actual sum of the categories if it differs from the total.

TAB ROOM USE ONLY: Minus Time Penalty (if applicable) _____ Adjusted Score: _____

Comments:

Judge's Signature: _____

Judge's Code _____

Kingswood Oxford Speaking Tournament
Persuasive Speaking

Speaker's Name: _____

Speaker's Code: _____

Scoring Guidelines: 60-69 70-79 80-89 90-100
 Subpar Okay Good to Very Good Superb

CATEGORY

SCORE

Identification of problem and effectiveness of solution..... _____
(Max = 30)

Knowledge of topic and use of evidence..... _____
(Max = 30)

Clarity of thought and structure of speech..... _____
(Max = 20)

Delivery and persuasiveness..... _____
(Max = 20)

Length of Speech _____

Total Points _____
(Max = 100)

*If the sum of the categories doesn't equal the total score, we will assume that we should use the overall total unless you check here: _____ Use the actual sum of the categories if it differs from the total.

TAB ROOM USE ONLY: Minus Time Penalty (if applicable) _____ Adjusted Score: _____

Comments:

Judge's Signature: _____

Judge's Code _____

Kingswood Oxford Speaking Tournament
Impromptu Speaking

Speaker's Name: _____

Speaker's Code: _____

Scoring Guidelines: 60-69 70-79 80-89 90-100
 Subpar Okay Good to Very Good Superb

CATEGORY

SCORE

Contents of speech: development and use of topic..... _____
(Max = 30)

Structure of speech..... _____
(Max = 20)

Agility of thought _____
(Max = 20)

Delivery and impact of speech..... _____
(Max = 30)

Length of Speech _____

Total Points _____
(Max = 100)

TAB ROOM USE ONLY: Minus Time Penalty (if applicable) _____ Adjusted Score: _____

Comments:

Judge's Signature: _____

Judge's Code _____

Kingswood Oxford Speaking Tournament
Ethical Dilemmas

Speaker's Name: _____ Speaker's Code: _____

Scoring Guidelines: 60-69 70-79 80-89 90-100
 Subpar Okay Good to Very Good Superb

CATEGORY **SCORE**

Delineation of Problem (logic, clarity, sound analysis of conflict) _____
 (Max = 20)

Persuasiveness (arguments for proposed solution are clear and compelling)..... _____
 (Max = 20)

Organization (structure of speech) _____
 (Max = 20)

Use of Language (apt use of ethical terms, vocabulary, sentence style) _____
 (Max = 20)

Delivery (eye contact, voice quality, self-assurance)..... _____
 (Max = 20)

Length of Speech _____ *Total Points* _____
 (Max = 100)

*If the sum of the categories doesn't equal the total score, we will assume that we should use the overall total unless
 you check here: _____ Use the actual sum of the categories if it differs from the total.

TAB ROOM USE ONLY: Minus Time Penalty (if applicable) _____ Adjusted Score: _____

Comments:

Judge's Signature: _____ Judge's Code _____

KO Speaking Tournament Event Guidelines 2016

After-Dinner Speaking

1. Each speaker must deliver an original humorous address to a group (real or imaginary) with a common interest at a formal dinner (e.g. a male nurse may speak at a convention of men in traditionally female jobs, the Bowdlerizers of America may have a lecture on cleaning up Shakespeare, or an anger management expert may address parents of Little Leaguers).
2. The intent of the speech is to entertain *as well as* to inform. The speaker must deliver some new and relevant insights. Wit and satire are desirable; stand-up comedy acts will not suffice.
3. The speech should be five to seven minutes long. A time penalty of ten points will be assessed for a speech under five minutes or over seven minutes.
4. Notes must be limited to one 3x5 index card, and should be used as little as possible.
5. Props may not be used.

Persuasive Speaking

1. Each speaker must deliver an original speech on a serious topic. Speeches must contain credible documented research.
2. A problem/solution approach must be taken. However, equal time need not be given to the problem and the solution. For example, the speaker may choose to spend the lion's share of the speech convincing the audience that a problem exists (or that a seemingly trivial issue is actually a serious problem). Alternatively, he or she may outline an acknowledged weighty problem more briefly and then delve into a longer solution.
3. Speeches should be seven to ten minutes long. There will be a time penalty of ten points for speeches under 7 minutes or over ten minutes.
4. Notes must be limited to one 3x5 index card, and should be used as little as possible.
5. Props may not be used.

Impromptu Speaking

1. Each speaker will draw a card three topics, which may be a words, quotations or phrases—anything not related to current events. The speaker then has two minutes to select one of the three topics and prepare his or her speech.
2. Competitors may sit or stand when preparing but must remain in the room. Competitors may take notes while they are preparing but may **not** use any notes when speaking.
3. Competitors may speak in favor of the topic, against it, or about it. They may interpret within reason. They must, however, deal with the topic that they have been given and may not use a previously prepared speech or barely related theme. Wit, humor, philosophy, sentiment and absurdity are all equally welcome. Judges will be looking for agility of thought, for "meat on the bones," for organizational ability, and—above all—for the ability of each speaker to communicate with style and originality.
4. Speeches must be three to five minutes long (with fifteen seconds grace on either side). A time penalty of ten points will be assessed for going under two minutes forty-five seconds or over five minutes fifteen seconds.
5. At the end of the speech the topic must be handed back to the moderator who will announce the topic to the room.

Ethical Dilemmas

1. Each contestant will draw a card with a brief description of an ethical problem or situation that invites resolution.
2. The contestant will have ten minutes of preparation time to analyze the problem and make notes on an index card that will be provided.
3. Responses should be three to five minutes long. Time violations will result in a ten point deduction.
4. Each speech must:
 - Briefly outline the situation.
 - Clearly delineate the conflict of interests and values that must be taken into consideration before reaching a solution.
 - Present a solution along with the reason(s) that would make that particular solution preferable to other solutions.
5. Judges will be looking for a serious examination of the central ethical issue(s) in each situation regardless of how plausible or preposterous the situation given may be.

Sample Ethical Dilemma

Sam, a strong swimmer trained in Red Cross life saving, is the sole remaining passenger on a rapidly sinking ship bound for Stratford on Avon. As he prepares to leap into his handy lifeboat, he realizes that just within his grasp are an old woman (of no relation to him) and the only existing copies of two Shakespearean plays that have just been discovered. The old woman is struggling mightily to stay afloat, and the plays are about to sink to the murky depths forever. If Sam does not save the old woman, she will certainly drown. If Sam does not save the plays, they will be lost to humanity forever.

Sam only has time to save one, alas. Which should he save?