

PHSSL State Tournament

FAQs

Helpful Hints for Judges

- Be on time! Write comments during the round on the ballot and not on a separate paper and expect to transfer them over to the ballot.
- You should not be judging anyone from your district. (except in Impromptu) If there is a question, please see the tab room.
- Check ballots! (sign them, rankings match, arranged in speaking order, etc.)
- Return ballots promptly (no more than 5 minutes after the round). Do not go to next round with them. In Impromptu, judges should return their ballots only after both flights have been completed.
- Read ballots – Don't make up rules.
 - Examples:
 - Forecasting in Impromptu – it may be helpful, but is not a rule
 - No time minimums in events
- Comments should be educationally sound & please give constructive criticism so students can improve.
- You are judging student's performance not their piece. (if you heard it a thousand times...)
- Rank of 1 is highest/best.
- Do not give oral critiques and do not divulge any decisions/ranks.
- Duo is memorized & students may move around. Use your professional judgment about movement (no lying on the floor).
- In Impromptu, students will be preparing in the auditorium and arriving to you in speaking order. There will be two flights. Please be sure to rank all of one flight together and set those ballots aside. Then, rank the second flight as a separate group.
- Time signals
 - Students in all events may ask for them. Impromptu competitors may expect them.
 - Clocks on walls may not be very accurate so use a stopwatch if at all possible.
 - Grace period is 30 seconds in all events. If a student goes over the 30 second grace period, the only required penalty is that he/she can't be ranked first (for example a student going 10 minutes and 31 seconds in Prose). In your judgment, if you believe that this is a significant issue of preparation, you may rank him or her lower.
- 2 judges per room per round in preliminary rounds – Don't assume that the other adult is a judge.
- Make sure contestants are in the proper rooms (& flights). – Especially in Impromptu
- Judges should be available in the judges' lounge.
- Facilities – If moving furniture, please put it back at the end of each round, leave things alone.
- Technology use - PHSSL position XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
- The tab room is XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX.