

ARTICLE XXVIII
Television Newscasting

Section 1. Entries.

Clause 1. Each school will be entitled to enter two teams of two to fifteen students.

Clause 2. Any or all of the team members may be in front of the camera.

Section 2. Selections and Materials.

Clause 1. The content of the news broadcast is up to the discretion of the news team. The news broadcast may include any or all of the following: local, state, national, international, sports, weather and/or special feature. Regardless of selection of stories, the content must be based on actual news. Commentary on the stories is allowed and may or may not be biased. An original special feature may or may not be included. News stories are not restricted by time frame, and may be of historic nature.

Clause 2. Entries will include one or more commercials of original nature. Total time allotted for commercial(s) will not exceed two minutes.

Clause 3. Transitional material is left up to the discretion of the contestants and will be original and may include editorial commentary.

Clause 4. Contestants may re-record for the State Contest, using new, same, or a combination for news copy and/or special feature.

Section 3. Length. The television newscast will be limited to ten minutes.

Section 4. Preparation and Presentation.

Clause 1. The contestants will edit and arrange material into a news presentation based on the contestants chosen style. It may be creative, thematic, comedic, serious, historic, traditional or other.

Clause 2. Entries will be limited to a ten minute presentation, recorded in any environment. A sound stage, news station and/or green screen is NOT required.

Clause 3. The entries must bring their own media formatted presentation and at least one school representative (coach and/or student) to the Contest Site. The judge and those members of the crew present will view the media formatted presentation together.

Clause 4. Schools may rehearse and record segments of the presentation in any location or environment in any order. All aspects of the newscast may be edited. The final presentation must be recorded in one media format.

Clause 5. Pre-recorded video and/or audio material, computer imagery, digital imagery can be incorporated and can be edited. No school identification will appear on the media formatted presentation or the presentation case other than the school code.

Clause 6. The speakers may utilize normal wearing apparel to enhance their presentation and costuming may be used in any way deemed necessary for the news presentation.

Clause 7. Students will be permitted to use audio-visual aids and/or properties which will enhance their presentation. The set will bear no school identification.

Clause 8. The performance will be viewed by a judge. The host school will provide a projection surface. The host school will NOT provide internet access. The contestants will be responsible for providing projector, media source, and provide speakers.

Clause 9. Each team will be introduced by the room chairperson using the contestant's number and school code.

Clause 10. ALL material must be performed by students from the member school.

Section 5. Timing. Timing for TV Newscasting will begin with the first spoken word, visual image, or music/sound heard and will conclude with the last spoken word, visual image or music/sound heard.

Section 6. Judging.

Clause 1. The news teams are to be judged on content and delivery. Content is to be judged on the selection, revising, and arrangement of material for news worthiness and effective communication. Delivery is to be judged on both oral and physical presentational skills, including voice quality, vocal rate, emphasis, pronunciation, vitality of presentation, facial expression, camera presence, poise and unity of performance and production.

CASEBOOK

Questions – Answers

1. Q. May more than one camera be allowed?
A. Yes.
2. Q. Must a presentation be in color?
A. No.
3. Q. May singing, sound effects, or music be used at any time during the television newscast?
A. Yes.
4. Q. What would be appropriate for the style of the overall news presentation?
A. Traditional, news magazine, sportscast, Weather Channel, morning talk show, parody news program, historic newscast, humorous, thematic, etc..
5. Q. What subjects would be appropriate if you choose to include a special feature?
A. Possibilities could include human interest features, investigative reporting, movie or entertainment review, editorial, etc.
6. Q. Could a contestant use a local item of interest as a special feature?
A. A local interest issue could certainly be appropriate; however, the contestants must not at any time during the newscast refer to home, school or community or in any way identify themselves.
7. Q. May cue cards, teleprompter or computer display be used?
A. Yes, but it is not required to do so.
8. Q. May I use the same qualifying presentation at All-State?
A. Yes, or you may re-record.
9. Q. Does the news team have to be present at contest?
A. Each school entering Television Newscasting must have a school representative (coach and/or student) at the contest to present the broadcast.
10. Q. Could special effects, sound, graphics, pictures, additional video, etc. be added to the news presentation?
A. Yes.
11. Q. May commercials include real or established products?
A. Yes, however the actual commercial may not be copied. Slogans, phrases, and words may be taken from actual commercials and be used.
12. Q. Can I show video images of non-students?
A. Yes, as long as the images are SECONDARY to the student performers.
13. Q. May the video come from an outside source, i.e. professional or college sports highlights.
A. Yes, but the video must be SECONDARY to the production.
14. Q. Can I use video interviews of nonstudents in my newscast? I.e. an interview with a State Representative?
A. No.
15. Q. Can the entire broadcast be commercials?
A. No.
16. Q. Must the content of the entry be serious in nature?
A. NO. There are no restrictions on the genres that may be covered.
17. Q. Will I invite a lower rating if I do not use a professional/traditional television news setting?
A. No, contest ratings will **NOT** be reflective of where a news program is filmed, since not all schools have equal access to filming at news stations.
18. Q. Is there a time minimum?
A. No.