

## ARTICLE XXXVII

### Student Congress

#### Section 1. Entries.

Clause 1. Each member school may enter six members.

Clause 2. The entry fee will be fifteen dollars (\$15) per member. If more than 120 entries are received in Student Congress, it will be divided into two separate pods and they will be divided by the numbers of entries starting with the largest schools and then going down the list. When the pod is at half, then the second pod will start. This will happen after all entries are received. If a school enters late, their entry will be placed in the pod that is within their enrollment.

Clause 3. Each school must provide a qualified judge for every six (or part thereof) entries. The judge must be available for all three sessions. If a school cannot provide a judge, the fee will be one hundred seventy-five dollars (\$175). Students who are first year judges just out of high school will be allowed to judge if deemed qualified by the tournament manager. These judges may represent their own school or the IHSSA as a hired judge. A coach/school must contact the division manager to get the approval for this judge before they are allowed to use this student. If deemed qualified by the Tournament Manager, the judge furnished by the school may be assigned to other areas of competition.

Clause 4. Each member school will pay a “refundable” judges bond of \$200. This bond must be received by the State Office prior to the state tournament and accompany the tournament entry forms. The refund will occur after the completion of your school’s judging obligations.

#### Section 2. Houses of Congress

Clause 1. The number of houses will be set by the Tournament Manager based upon the number of entries. Should entries fall to 20 or below the day of contest, one congress session will be held the first day and one session the second day. The six judges’ ballots will be used to determine the awards. The top five speakers will receive awards. Each house will be considered a unicameral.

Clause 2. At the conclusion of the session II, a student’s total scores will be totaled from Sessions 1A, 1B and II. The highest rated students (generally the top 3 - 8 members in each house) will be assigned to the AWARDS HOUSE for the final session. The presiding officer will be appointed by tournament management.

**Section 3.** Each school planning on entering Student Congress must fill out an intent form from the State Office and submit it and at least two bills or resolutions to the State Office by November 15. The Bill(s) or Resolution(s) shall be suitable for the United States Congress and/or Iowa State Legislature (see Section 10 as to style). These bills will be read by a committee appointed by the Executive Director. This committee will then pick at least one bill from each school to be used at the State Tournament in preliminary sessions. From the pool of remaining bills and resolutions not selected for preliminary sessions, 6 – 8 of these will be selected for Session III for use in all houses. The Committee may provide up to five bills in addition to those provided by schools. A separate agenda will be set for each session. The bills will be sent by December 1 to the schools who have returned an “intent to enter” form.

**Section 4.** On-Line registration will be completed no later than Wednesday, three and one half weeks prior to the date of the tournament and the fees will be mailed to the State Office.

**Section 5.** Each house will have judges assigned to it. One of the judges will be designated as the parliamentarian. The judges will be re-assigned for the 1B (if held), II, III sessions. Additional judges will be assigned to the AWARDS HOUSE for the third session.

#### Section 6. Points.

Clause 1. At the end of each session, each of the judges will award points for each member of the house (including the presiding officer). The judge will also assign a rank for the first through the tenth member.

Clause 2. For members the points will be awarded on the basis of quality of arguments, quality of evidence, refutation skills, clarity and persuasiveness, attitude toward colleagues and presiding officer, knowledge and skill in use of parliamentary procedure, and general leadership skills. The 1A PO gets credit for running the meeting and/or points equal to two speeches. Also, recency for the 1A PO is listed as last speaker.

Clause 3. For presiding officers the points will be awarded on the basis of attitude toward members, knowledge and skill in use of parliamentary procedure, and general behavior.