

Texas Forensic Association *NEWS*

Fall Newsletter

August 2008

Welcome Back!

Where did summer go? Hopefully you've had a fun-filled and refreshing summer. Now it is time to turn our attention to another TFA season. This newsletter contains important information to help you get back into the swing of things.

If you haven't already done so, it is time to update your TFA membership. Dues are \$150 if you are attending convention or \$120 if you are not attending convention. The membership application process is online this year. You can signup and select your membership options; you can even pay online if you want to do so! Go to www.txfa.org now to signup and/or register for convention.

continued on page 2

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1** Welcome Back
- 1** Convention Details
- 1** Important Dates
- 2** Why join?
- 2** Convention / Amendments
- 2** TXFA.ORG website
- 3** Tournament Calendar
- 3** May Executive Council Meeting
- 3** 2009 State Tournament
- 3** IQT Process
- 4** 2008-09 Committees
- 4** Current Officers
- 5** Official IQT Calendar

CONVENTION DETAILS

DATES

October 8-11, 2008

LOCATION

Omni Bayfront Tower

900 N. Shoreline Blvd.

Corpus Christi, TX 78401

(361) 887-1600

(800) 843-6664

COST

If you are attending convention, your dues will be \$150.

If you are NOT attending convention, dues are \$120.

IMPORTANT DATES

30-DAY NOTICE AMENDMENT DEADLINE

September 9

PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR CONVENTION

September 19

CONVENTION

October 8-11

MEMBERSHIP DEADLINE

October 31

Why join?

Membership in TFA allows your students to qualify for the State Meet. Your participation in TFA will foster learning about forensics, and your dues go toward providing scholarships and awards for deserving seniors.

Additionally, when you join TFA, you also become a member of the National Federation of Speech Coaches Association. This association carries a liability policy that protects you whenever you transport students to and from tournaments. This policy alone is worth the membership dues.

Convention

Convention is rapidly approaching. Each year, TFA holds annual meetings in conjunction with the Texas Speech Communication Association convention. This year, convention will be in Corpus Christi, October 8-11 at the Omni Bayfront Tower.

TFA sponsors several workshops in debate, public speaking, interpretation, and student congress. TFA also holds an annual meeting where rule changes, constitutional amendments, and tournament calendar changes are proposed and voted on.

Amendments

Speaking of convention, if you intend to submit an amendment, the early notice deadline is September 9. Amendments proposed prior to that deadline require only a simple majority for approval. Amendments proposed after that date will require a 75% majority.

To submit an amendment, send a copy to Brent Hinkle

(brent@joyoftournaments.com)

and to Bill Schuetz

(wschuetz@g-pisd.org).

You will receive an acknowledgment within 24 hours of your submission.

If you do not receive an acknowledgment, assume that the submission has been lost in cyber-space and follow up.

TXFA.ORG

Please make sure that you bookmark the TFA website <http://www.txfa.org>. The website serves as a focal point for communication within our organization. The website is updated regularly with important information. You can easily stay “in the loop” by watching for announcements on the website. Features of the website include:

Official Documents: You may download the Constitution and By-Laws, ballots for use at tournaments and scholarship applications, as well as many other useful documents.

Tournament Calendar: The tournament schedule is now official. A listing of the tournament schedule is provided at the end of this document, but you can always view an electronic copy of the calendar on the website.

IQT Reports: Throughout the year, results from the various IQT tournaments are submitted online and are available for you to view. Most of the reports will be available on the Monday following each tournament, although occasionally there may be a slight delay. You’ll want to refer to the website to double-check the accuracy of your student’s points throughout the season. As each tournament is completed, a 7-day period is allowed for corrections and then the results become official.

Contact Information: If you need to contact someone within the organization, that information is always available to you on the website. Officers are easily located. You may not know it, but you can also obtain contact information for other TFA members on the website. Use the “Member Login” option on the website to view contact information about any active member of the organization.

Updates: The website is your lifeline to the latest news. When new information is added, your region representatives will contact you. As convention approaches, the website will be updated with any proposed changes to the TFA constitution, and as the state meet approaches, the website may be updated on a daily basis. Please check it often.

Tournament Calendar

The official 2008-09 IQT Calendar is now available. There have been multiple updates over the summer. You may view the tournament calendar on the TFA website. Options are available to view all of the tournaments or to narrow the listing by region. The official calendar is also included at the end of this newsletter.

Except for extenuating circumstances (fire to building, coach turnover, cancellations due to weather), new tournaments may not be added at this time. Changes to the tournament calendar now require a vote of attending members during the meetings at convention in Corpus Christi.

May Executive Council Meeting

The Executive Council met in Dallas on May 18, 2008. Here is a summary of items discussed at the meeting.

1. 2008-09 tournament calendar was discussed.
2. State Tournament Site for 2009 was discussed. The EC accepted the recommendation from the state site committee (Cy-Fair); however, several issues were noted with the Cy-Fair proposal
 - a) No early release means no cross-entry. Voted to disallow cross-entry for C-X, L-D, and Student Congress. Individual Events and Duet/Duo participants may enter two events.
 - b) multiple venue proposal seems problematic for scheduling. Is it necessary to have multiple venues? It also appears there would be additional costs to use the Berry center and that doesn't seem to be cost-effective or desirable.
 - c) site visit needed
3. Discussion of recommendations from the State Size Committee. EC remains in support of the 10 point qualification schedule.
4. Deadlines for membership will be more strictly enforced. Voting will be restricted to PAID members at convention (that is, a PO will not suffice to obtain a membership card for voting at convention. A school check is required by convention or another form of payment will be required – personal check, cash, etc.)

2009 State Tournament

The State Tournament has been scheduled for March 5-7, 2009. The tournament host will be Cypress Fair banks School District (Houston). More details about the state tournament will be forthcoming at convention

Tournament Hosts / IQT Process

If you are hosting a tournament, please make sure that you read the following.

1. IQT Reports are due on the Monday following your tournament. Results must be uploaded to the TFA website by Monday at 5:00pm. The IQT coordinator will verify results after you have submitted them. Results will be "unofficial" for 7 days but available for review.
2. IQT Reports are posted on the TFA website. Coaches are responsible for checking the accuracy of results as they are posted.
3. If you do not meet the Monday deadline, you will be fined \$150.00 plus \$25.00 per day if you do not submit your report by the Wednesday following your tournament. A letter to the host's principal will be sent explaining why the host was fined.
4. The results of each tournament will be unofficial, and the points earned by the competitors will not count towards the state meet. Qualified students from the host school will also be prohibited from participation in the State Meet until fines are paid.
5. Once the reports are in and the fines are paid, students will be allowed to compete.
6. Please make sure to check the IQT reports regularly. Submit corrections (name changes, spelling changes) to the IQT coordinator. Corrections must be made within 7 days. Changes (except spelling errors) will not be accepted once the 7 day review period has expired.

2008-09 Committees

Nomination Committee

Region 1: Jennifer Zinn
Region 2: Kristy Thomas
Region 3: Cynthia Almaguer (chair)
Region 4: Debbie Waddell
Region 5: Cindy Wiebusch

Scholarship Committee

Ann Hayden (chair)
Region 1: Melissa Locke
Region 2: Tracy McFarland
Region 3: Annie Smith
Region 4: Deanne Christensen
Region 5: Corina Vasquez Favela

Public Relations Committee

Region 1: Carol Hildebrand
Region 2: Jack Nelson
Region 3: Charlene Dietrich
Region 4: Debbie Waddell
Region 5: Cindy Wiebusch

Finance Committee

Region 2: Rosemary Kincaid (chair)
Region 4: Randy Ellis
Region 5: Jennifer Adams

Debate Committee

Region 2: Richard Kincaid
Region 3: David Gardiner (chair)
Region 4: Katrese Skinner
Region 5: Clint Adams

Emeritus Committee

Region 1: Ann Shofner
Region 2: J.E. Masters
Region 3: Charlotte Brown
Region 4: Randy Ellis (chair)
Region 5: Yolanda Silva

Officer Nominations

Elections will be held during the business meeting at Convention for Secretary and Vice President. Only one candidate is known at this point.

Vice President

Robert Shepard – Region 2

President

W.E. Scheutz
Gregory-Portland HS
wschuetz@g-pisd.org

Vice President

Karen Wilbanks
Plano Senior HS
karen.wilbanks@pisd.edu

Treasurer

David Gardiner
King HS
dlgardiner@ccisd.us

Secretary

Brent Hinkle
Joy of Tournaments
brent@joyoftournaments.com

Archivist

Sammy Green
Spring HS
sammyg@springisd.org

IQT Coordinator

Alicia Dunson
Creekview HS
dunsona@cibisd.edu

Region 1 Representative

Carol Hildebrand
Caprock HS
Carol.hildebrand@amaisd.org

Region 2 Representative

Jason Sykes
Grapevine HS
Jason.sykes@gcisd.net

Region 3 Representative

Erin Stage
Hays HS
stagee@hayscisd.net

Region 4 Representative

Adam Woodward
Atascocita HS
adam.woodward@humble.k12.tx.us

Region 5 Representative

Yolanda Silva
Burges HS
yxsilva@episd.org

Past President

Rhonda Bell
rbell@spelendoraisd.org

2008-09 IQT Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Host</u>
August			
29-30	2	Plano Senior	Cheryl Potts, Karen Wilbanks
September			
5-6	2	Grapevine	Jane Boyd, Jason Sykes, Carla Reasoner
5-6	2	Naaman Forest	Rhonda Hill
5-6	4	Alief Elsik	John Lemaster, Darrell Yarbrough
5-6	4	Deer Park	Martin Klein
5-6	5	Eastwood	Jacob Rodriguez
12-13	2	Southlake Carroll	Diane Forbes, Eric Melin
12-13	3	Flour Bluff	Pamela Pailes
12-13	4	Elkins	Bonnie Bonnette, Nathan Nigrelli
12-13	4	Stratford	Kristi Goemmer
19-20	2	Grand Prairie	Jordan Williams
19-20	3	Hendrickson	Kristen Nash, Leeann Solice
19-20	3	Texas A&M Corpus Christi	Kelly Russell
19-20	4	Dulles	Anthony Yim
19-20	4	The Woodlands	Gary Boeger
19-20	5	EPCC Valle Verde	Keith Townsend
19-20	5	Odessa	Aaron Cox
26-27	1	Texas Tech	Joseph Gantt
26-27	2	Newman Smith	Chris Agee, Robert Martin
26-27	3	Sandra Day O'Connor	Raul Ruiz, Annie Smith
26-27	4	Elsik Ninth Grade Center	John Lemaster, Darrell Yarbrough
26-27	4	Memorial Houston	Cecil Trent
26-27	5	Americas	Elissa Contreras
October			
3-4	2	Plano West	Nancy Lewis
3-4	3	John Jay	Andrea Mancillas
3-4	3	L.C. Anderson	Joseph Uhler
3-4	4	University of Houston	Dr. Michael Fain
3-4	5	Bel Air	Shawn Mena
4	1	Muleshoe	Dr. Kerry Moore
4	2	R.L. Turner	John Yowell
17-18	2	Plano Clark	Rhonda Smith
17-18	2	St. Mark's	Tim Mahoney
17-18	3	Georgetown	Terri Robinson, Julie Triana
17-18	3	Ronald Reagan	Joshua Duelm, Katie Vogel
17-18	4	Alief Hastings	Lillian Ogunbanjo
17-18	4	Cy-Falls/Jersey Village	Debbie Waddell, Leslie Wendt
17-18	5	Loretto Academy	Denicka Martinez
17-18	5	Midland Lee	Cindy Wiebusch
24-25	2	Mansfield	Chris Knight
24-25	3	Jack C. Hays	Erin Stage, Jeremy Martin
24-25	4	Bellaire	Jay Stubbs
24-25	4	Lamar Consolidated	Connie Aufdembrink
24-25	5	University of Texas El Paso	Kerri Harrison
25	1	Caprock	Carol Hildebrand
25	3	Gregory Portland	Charlotte Brown, William Schuetz

2008-09 IQT Calendar

November

31-1	3	Bishop	Joe Trevino
31-1	3	McNeil	Matthew Murrell
31-1	4	Kingwood	Walter Willis
31-1	4	Westside	Heath Martin
31-1	5	Big Spring	Clint Adams, Jennifer Adams
31-1	5	El Paso Coronado	Kyle Peterson
7-8	2	University of North Texas	Brian Lain
7-8	3	Calallen	Charlene Dietrich
7-8	3	Stephen F. Austin	John Mast
7-8	4	Clear Lake	Martha Pierson
7-8	4	Klein	Ryan Hennessey
7-8	5	Midland	Deborah Morton
8	1	Randall/Canyon	Lacy Venhaus
14-15	1	West Texas A&M	Connie McKee
14-15	2	Hockaday	Stacy Thomas
14-15	3	Douglas MacArthur	Amanda White
14-15	3	Harlingen South	Lee Ann Ince
14-15	4	Spring	Sammy Green, Randy Ellis
14-15	4	Spring Woods	Victoria Beard
14-15	5	Abilene Cooper	Carolyn Thomas
14-15	5	Hanks	Daniel Pecquet
21	1	Lubbock	Michelle Pittman
22	1	Coronado	Melissa Locke
21-22	2	Plano Williams	Pam Ballow
21-22	3	Round Rock	Debbie Johnson, Randall Krawl, Karen Black
21-22	3	W.B. Ray	Douglas Holcomb
21-22	4	James E. Taylor	Gay Hollis
21-22	4	Scarborough	Dr. Michael Fain

December

5-6	1	Amarillo	Mellessa Denny
5-6	2	South Garland	Keith Haney
5-6	3	University of Texas	Martin Cox
5-6	4	Bay City	Magda Mirelez
5-6	4	Cypress Ridge	Scott Baker
5-6	5	Seminole	Danny Stottlemyre
5-6	5	Ysleta	Michael Tune
12-13	2	Creekview	Robert Shepard, Alicia Dunson
12-13	3	Richard King	David Gardiner
12-13	3	Westlake	Michael Harlan, Terry Hunt
12-13	4	Clear Brook	Michael Rutledge
12-13	5	Canutillo	Tom Wilson

2008-09 IQT Calendar

January

9-10	2	Coppell	Glenda Ferguson, Maleda Kunkle
9-10	3	McAllen	Vanessa Chapa
9-10	3	Stony Point	Brandi Boyd, Richard Colling
9-10	4	Foster	Larry Balfe, Patrick Ralls
9-10	4	Westfield	Kaye Magill, Dundra Hollins, Laren Shelley
9-10	5	YISD	Billye Lucas
16-17	2	Plano East	Richard Kincaid, Rosemary Kincaid
16-17	3	Winston Churchill	Kandi King, Brian Eanes, Lori Ingersoll, Charles Vickers
16-17	4	Katy	Robert Powell
16-17	4	Magnolia	Cindi Havron
16-17	5	Abilene	William Sowers
23-24	3	Lady Bird	Barbara McCain
23-24	3	Lyndon B Johnston	Malhaz Jibladze
23-24	4	Pasadena Memorial	Yvonne Sobhani-Bedru
23-24	5	Snyder	Ron Hester
23-24	5	San Elizario	Cookie Laffler, Michael Warfield
24	1	Hereford	Jennifer Zinn
24	2	Granbury	Shyller McGuire
30-31	1	Farwell	Angela Hall, Tra Hall
30-31	2	Irving Nimitz	Gwendolyn Cowen
30-31	2	Flower Mound	Eric Mears
30-31	3	Earl Warren	LeNita Smith
30-31	3	Mercedes	Robert Root
30-31	4	Atascocita	Adam Woodward, Erin Ledet
30-31	4	Clear Creek	Valleri Speer
30-31	5	San Angelo Central	Julie Schniers

February

6-7	1	Tasosa	Ann Shofner
6-7	2	Colleyville Heritage	David Huston
6-7	3	Corpus Christi Carroll	Kelly Kimball
6-7	3	W. Charles Akins	Katie Delmore, Shelbi Dicke
6-7	4	Nimitz Houston	Thomas Kietur
6-7	4	Texas City	Lisa Herrera
6-7	5	Permian	Amber Sweeney
6-7	5	Hillcrest	Shawn Mena
13-14	3	Madison	Christopher Gloege
13-14	4	Lamar Houston	Eloise Blair
13-14	4	Mayde Creek	Gregory McGee, Patrick Mercier
13-14	5	EPCC Transmountain	Keith Townsend

March

5-7	4	TFA State	
-----	---	-----------	--