

- 09:04:22 AM Mike Colletti calls meeting to order, thanks Kathie for hosting us at Resurrection
- 09:05:20 AM Prayers offered
- 09:06:53 AM Fall 2013 minutes approved (without remark or edit, because the minutes were kept so well, though Libby Kincanon was here in the fall but not listed, and we are sorry about that)
- 09:08:16 AM President's Report, Cindi Schliesmann expresses concern over continuing next year as related to ND's continuing speech team/involvement in the league
- 09:10:49 AM Introductions around the room (I did my best, but people moved fast?)
Martin, Laine, Scott, Mary Beth, John, Libby, Tracey, Wanda, Cindi Laruen, Holly, Kathie, Chris, Rebecca, Sean, Tom, Aaron, David, Melissa, Marsha, Libby, Lucas,
- 09:11:46 AM VP report/secretary reports, all is good
- 09:12:07 AM Treasurer report from Bernadette Colletti. CCFL financial information was presented and approved.
- 09:16:06 AM Director report from Mike; invoices for teams participating in NCFL this year distributed; please make checks payable to Chicago Catholic Forensic League, and mail to PO Box 31785, Chicago, 60631; please check entry lists for name accuracy and return corrections to Mike
- 09:21:13 AM Host districts are typically given judge leeway for nationals; speech needs 5 judges, LD and PF need 2 each, Congress needs 1, policy needs full complement; we will settle those commitments here at the end of the meeting; then every other judge gets put into the hired judge pool
- 09:28:35 AM Volunteer responsibility sheet passed around with a volunteer list form; please send list of volunteers to Bernadette, and include name, shift/availability, shirt size, and lunch order for Saturday; big need is ballot running and sorting, especially at remote sites
- 09:36:39 AM Tracey asks about parade considerations on Memorial Day, Mike says that our bus needs
are earlier and later than the parade, and all pedestrian traffic is close and on one side of Michigan Ave;
- 09:37:41 AM Chris adds altar service at Saturday mass to volunteer list, would like someone to provide music also
- 09:40:14 AM Site leads will receive site specific materials (signs, lunch tickets, etc) in the next month
- 09:41:14 AM General meeting/ballot distribution for speech Saturday morning by 7:30 AM, so all building second-leads should be at the Hilton for that process

- 09:42:46 AM National personell run administrative meetings; site leads and seconds at LD/PF and Congress/Policy are there to troubleshoot and provide support
- 09:46:44 AM Melissa asks about Friday obligations; volunteer needs are already covered for Friday, so site specific people aren't needed Friday evening
- 09:50:09 AM Much concern expressed over site leads/seconds responsibilities; the Colletti's will provide details and information as appropriate, but basically people just need to provide volunteers ASAP and be ready to work Saturday morning
- 09:53:59 AM There will be no food provided for judges at the tournament; need to provide a lunch order for hired judges; volunteers get lunch provided for them; extra lunches downtown for sale at Jones College Prep (which is also where all lunches are provided)
- 09:56:01 AM Martin and Tom avail themselves of food in preparation for foodless nationals
- 09:59:24 AM Friday at 5:30 is the diocesan director meeting, all are welcome to attend for last minute logistical details; meeting is at Hilton, room TBD
- 10:02:39 AM Mike asks everyone to let him know if you plan to stay downtown, provide contact info
- 10:04:03 AM Nationals website is www.ncfnationals.org; it is being updated as information is available; schedules are up, topics up soon, hotel information, judge sign-up info, etc
- 10:11:20 AM Qualifier/League schedule for 2014-2015; Cindi expresses a concern about students losing interest towards end of the year/schedule, and suggests a schedule that would allow students to qualify for a final district tournament which would then qualify to nationals;
- 10:17:50 AM Concerns: smaller tournament sizes, date conflicts with ending tournament, students not being able to double qualify to nationals
- 10:19:58 AM Possible to maybe split speech and debate times to allow for double entry
- 10:20:59 AM Problematic for Congress because they need more numbers
- 10:28:24 AM Can schools provide the rooms for tournaments with multiple events; would teams play games with entries to avoid other good teams in different events;
- 10:33:38 AM Possibly could use existing local tournaments for qualifying students to national qualifier; concerns raised about IHSA differences in terms of rules and performance expectations; extending the season seems valuable
- 10:55:44 AM Much discussion happened; Laine tries to refocus on actual scheduling; would have to create specific rules regarding qualification process; lots of principle/idea/logistics; how

do we attract new schools while still preserving the CFL's identity

- 11:36:33 AM After a lengthy break, everyone came back to discuss league schedule structure; proposal is three fall tournaments with at least two tournaments for each event (LD, PF, speech, and Congress); competing at one of these tournaments in an event qualifies a student for the district tournament; debate date will be the February date that is not Harvard/Berkeley and not IHSA regionals; speech date will be the weekend after IHSA
- 11:55:00 AM Scheduling: October 18th: Congress and LD, Fenwick; November 8th: Speech, PF, LD Antioch; December 6th: Congress and Speech, Marist; January 17th: PF and LD, Stagg; February 21, CFL Debate Districts, ETHS, LD PF and Congress; February 28th, CFL Speech Districts, Notre Dame;
- 12:11:51 PM Laine adds local schedule info: 9/27, PF training at Sandburg; 10/4 LD training at Fremd; 10/11 LD/PF at Schaumburg; 9/6 Congress training Fenwick; 11/1 Fremd LD and PF; 1/24 Sandburg LD/PF; 1/10 speech at Buffalo Grove;
- 12:13:30 PM Tracey reports on Speech critique sheet changes, moving rubric material to the back of the ballot to free up space for the judge to make a holistic evaluation of the performance
- 12:16:23 PM IE Festival was poorly attended, and so instinct was to cancel it; new schedule proposal eliminates it anyway; IE workshop in April or early May might work better;
- 12:34:14 PM Notre Dame has an interest in hosting a festival on October 18th opposite the Congress and LD schedule
- 12:18:42 PM Website development needs a firmer hand; Jeff will monitor, people should email Jeff items to be updated onto the website
- 12:20:34 PM Scott McGraw suggests a marketing/recruitment position for the league to help with growth
- 12:21:36 PM A Constitution exists for the league; Mike shares a little of the information in there; Mike will scan the document (because it doesn't exist digitally, which is hilarious) and send it to everyone for comments and feedback, and the league will revisit this at the fall meeting
- 12:23:55 PM Mary Beth identifies a problem with Congress judging, i.e. two judges required for more than ten kids, and the judges end up judging (and not ranking) their own students; so we need to fix the unaffiliated judging issue; could bill schools for buying a second unaffiliated judge, i.e. not allow them to bring two judges; wide agreement on need to fix this problem
- 12:29:48 PM OH GOD IT'S TWELVE THIRTY; Notre Dame still has an interest in hosting an early season speech tournament, like the festival.

12:29:56 PM Fall Meeting will be held at Gordon Tech HS on August 23rd, 8:30 AM

12:32:07 PM Adjournment. High fives all around.