

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT FORM

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Rationale for Amendment: For too long, overtime penalties in interpretation and public speaking events have been overly strict and enforced by the wrong people. Currently, by rule, a performance consisting only of a single expletive from a David Mamet play would rank higher than a thoughtfully cut and beautifully delivered performance of that same play if it was timed at 10:31. Tab room disqualifications should be reserved for individuals who purposefully break rules, not for those who run a second longer than their usual, practiced time. Additionally, tab room staff are in the least reasonable position to make a decision to penalize a competitor based on time. The judge is the adult in the room, observing and timing the performance (including audience reaction), and is, therefore, the best person to impose any penalty. A penalty WILL remain for overtime violations (a competitor running overtime may not be ranked first), discouraging conscious overtime. And the judge determines the final rank in the round, able to penalize competitors for time violations as s/he sees fit (individual judges always use their personal criteria to rank a round. If time is their number one priority, they are within their rights to rank overtime competitors last. This possibility would also discourage purposeful overtime by competitors). This rule change does two things. One - it makes the time limit a part of a performance rather than the only thing that matters in the case of overtime. Two – it gets the tab room out of the business of changing ranks after the round, and puts it in the hands of the judge where it belongs. (I also added the language, “There is no minimum time required.” to extemp, oratory, dramatic/humorous and prose/poetry for the sake of consistency and clarity.)

Section of the Constitution where Change occurs:

- Constitution
- ByLaws
- Code of Professional Standards
- Standing Rules: Competition Event Guide
- Standing Rules: IQT Operations Manual
- Standing Rules: State Tournament Operations Manual

Page number of change: For Extemp: p. 44 #7; For Oratory: p. 46 #6; For Duet Acting: p. 47 #5; For Duo Interp: p. 49 #5; For Dramatic – p. 51 #6; For Humorous – none needed, as it draws from the rules of Dramatic; For Prose – p. 87 #1; For Impromptu – p. 87 #3.

Proposed Change(s) *(List the change/add here. Changes should include any language you are replacing from the existing constitution along with the proposed new language.)*

[EXTEMP]: 7. Time limit is seven minutes maximum with a thirty-second grace period. There is no minimum time required. Violation shall result in being ranked last in the round by the tab room when visible time signals have been given by the judge or by the authorized timekeepers.

[Underlined section replaced by]: **There is no minimum time required. Overtime violators **SHALL** NOT be ranked first in the round by the judge. Any other penalty is at the discretion of the judge. Judges may consider audience reaction and its impact on official time before enforcing any overtime penalty.**

[ORATORY]: 6. Time limit shall be ten minutes maximum with a thirty-second grace period. Violation shall result in being ranked last in the round by the tab room when visible time signals have been given by the judge or by the authorized timekeepers. Without adding text to the previously performed selection and only considering audience response, the contestant shall not be penalized for exceeding the time limit in all qualifying and state tournament elimination and final rounds.

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[DUET ACTING]: 5. Time for presentation shall not exceed twelve minutes with a thirty-second grace period. There is no minimum time required. Violation shall result in being ranked last in the round by the tab room when visible time signals have been given by the judge or by the authorized timekeeper. Without adding text to the previously performed selection and only considering audience response, the contestant shall not be penalized for exceeding the time limit in all qualifying and state tournament elimination and final rounds.

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[DUO INTERPRETATION]: 5. Time for presentation shall not exceed ten minutes with a thirty-second grace period. There is no minimum time required. Violation shall result in being ranked last in the round by the tab room when visible time signals have been given by the judge or by the authorized timekeeper. Without adding text to the previously performed selection and only considering audience response, the contestant shall not be penalized for exceeding the time limit in all qualifying and state tournament elimination and final rounds.

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[DRAMATIC/HUMOROUS]: 6. Maximum time shall be ten minutes with a thirty-second grace period. Violation shall result in being ranked last in the round by the tab room when visible time signals have been given by the judge or by the authorized timekeeper. Without adding text to the previously performed selection and only considering audience response, the contestant shall not be penalized for exceeding the time limit in all qualifying and state tournament elimination and final rounds.

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[PROSE/POETRY]: 1. Prose (Offered in even years only): Selection(s) must be from a published work (or published works) and must be read from a folder. Selections cannot be taken from plays. A memorized introduction stating the title(s) and author(s) is required. Maximum time is seven minutes with a thirty-second grace period. Without adding text to the previously performed selection(s) and only considering audience response, the contestant shall not be penalized for exceeding the time limit in all state tournament elimination and final rounds.

[Underlined section replaced by]: **There is no minimum time required. Overtime violators **SHALL** NOT be ranked first in the round by the judge. Any other penalty is at the discretion of the judge. Judges may consider audience reaction and its impact on official time before enforcing any overtime penalty.**

[IMPROMPTU]: 3. Impromptu: The speaker will draw three topics, choose one, and take one minute to prepare. Topics shall be chosen from proverbs, quotations, current concerns, and famous people. The maximum time for the speech is five minutes with a thirty-second grace period. There is no minimum time.

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