BCFL Fall Coach Meeting

August 19, 2019, 6:30 PM

Notre Dame Prep in Towson

Attendance:

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| Alyssa Reinhardt, Catonsville | Aimee Sann, Notre Dame Prep |
| Deborah Hamilton, Dulaney High  | Steven Sprouse, Carver Vocational-Tech |
| Michelle Flynn, Centennial | Teresa Needer, Towson High |
| Andrew Torrez, Catonsville | Daniel Jacoby, Park |
| Rachel Campbell, Arundel | Peter Susko, Calvert Hall |
| Kara Bauer, Dundalk High | Cayman, Giordano |
| Kathleen Norwood, St. Mary’s  | Brianna Smith, Dundalk High |
| Teresa R. Dimka, Arundel High | Carl Klein |
| Amber Phelps, Balto. City College | Michelle Dacey, Towson University |
| Roberta Gore, Francis Scott Key | Joe Scheide, John Carroll |
| Darryl Burch, McDonogh | Emily Mandile, Reservoir High  |
| Matt Martelli, St. Mary’s Annapolis | Eloisa Valencia, Maryvale Prep |
| Lynn Myers, Francis Scott Key | Travis Henschen, Friends School |
| Lan Deng, Marriotts Ridge | Susie Bi, Marriotts Ridge |
| Callum McLagan, Marriotts Ridge | Sandie Skordalos, Patapsco High |
| Victoria Hall, Patapsco High | (call in) Steve Moss, Loyola-Blakefield |
| (call in) Jody Zepp, Long Reach High | (call in) John Bagileo, Glenelg High |
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1. The meeting began at 6:35 with a welcome from Steven.
2. NCFL Nationals Reflections: The BCFL had four students advance to elimination rounds. Steven opened the floor to comments about how the tournament went. The comments were all positive. The BCFL did not incur any fines. Electronic balloting for Speech went smoothly—being able to provide constructive feedback online instead of on paper resulted in better (and legible) comments, easier distribution of ballots, less hassle, and a simpler process than expected. Some coaches made positive comments on the availability of less expensive places to stay (dorms) for the tournament.

We are looking at piloting e-balloting when Reservoir hosts on October 12. The primary concern for E-Ballots (beyond a pilot) is whether a host school is capable of providing reliable guest WiFi to all judges.  If the issues are just for one or two judges, having a tablet/Chromebook/laptop at the ballot table for manual entry solves most of those problems, but if there are regions of the school that don't get WiFi or the district doesn't allow visitor access, then requiring E-Ballot access would significantly reduce our pool of host sites.

1. Budget: Carl reported that dues will remain $250 per school, due on November 1 and to be

submitted with the NCFL Data card. These will be sent to all coaches by email and are due November 1. Please contact the treasurer if you are having a problem working with your school to have the payment on time.

4. Competition Calendar 2019-2020:

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| BCFL1 | September 28 | Baltimore City College  |
| BCFL2 | October 12  | Reservoir |
| BCFL3 and student congress | November 16 | Arundel |
| BCFL4 | December 21 | Notre Dame Prep |
| BCFL5  | January 25 | Centennial |
| BCFL6 and student congress | February 29 | Dundalk High School |
| Snow date | March 7th | Catonsville High School |
| Metros BCFL championship | March 21 | Calvert Hall |
| Chesapeake NSDA | Feb 22 |  |
| SMDSDA championship | Mar 28 |  |

**Student Congress Competition Schedule**

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| SC #1 | Sept 25 | Baltimore City |
| SC #2 | October 23rd | St. Mary’s  |
| SC #3 and #4 | Saturday, November 16 | Arundel High |
| SC #5 | December 11th | Patapsco |
| SC #6 | January 22th | John Carroll |
| SC #7 and #8 | Saturday, February 29h | Dundalk High |
| SC Finals | March 18 | Loyola-Blakefield |
| Snow make up date | February 12th | John Carroll |

5. Election of officers: Results:

Director of PF Debate: Emily Mandile was re-elected

Director of LD Debate: Cayman Giordano was re-elected

Secretary/Treasurer: Aimee Sann

Carl Klein is retiring from his long-held position as the secretary-treasurer of the BCFL. He began as a parent volunteer when his son competed and he judged Policy debate. He soon became Catonsville’s coach, and then Frank Sharp convinced him to become treasurer. Carl brought his business experience to the job, creating a budget, more formal accounting, and our 501C status as an organization. He is going to continue to mentor Aimee in her new role and continue to join us, and entertain us with his sense of humor, at BCFLs.

6. The proposal to make the JV PF class permanent passed with minor changes in wording:

a. JV PF class should be open to any team who has less than one year high school debate experience in any events with separate JV/Varsity divisions. Both partners must meet this requirement.

b. A student may only compete in JV for one competition season only regardless of how many tournaments they entered that year.

c. The win loss record in JV does not count toward qualifying for metros in varsity

d. Name all JV/Novice classes consistently so that Novice LD would be renamed JV LD to be consistent with Policy and PF. The same restrictions on JV PF were placed on JV CX and JV LD.

7. The proposal to make the two tournament qualification to Metros permanent was shelved for another year. We agreed to pilot this for another year.

8. The proposal concerning judges for Metros passed with an addition of having open rounds. Coaches were enthusiastic about having Metros involve teams from all schools and having newer teams and coaches use it as a learning experience.

1. It is proposed that any member school who did not qualify an entry in any category competed at metros but whose coach agrees to judge for the entire metro competition will receive as compensation a $50 reduction in dues for the following season. This reduction will not apply to a college student who is paid directly by the league under the current rules.

Because the $50 to judge at Metros is (1) less than minimum wage (2) less than what we charge schools to hire a judge at Metros (3) less than we pay college students to judge at Metros, there was some discussion of calling it an honorarium and revisiting the amount based on how many people took the offer this upcoming year and how that affected the budget.

1. Non competitors will be able to watch all open rounds. Note: This is already the rule and was not voted on.  We resolved to clarify that in the Metros invite in order to make it more inclusive to non-qualifying schools.

9. The proposal to eliminate quad entries at tournaments was shelved for another year after some discussion of which combinations of events students multiple enter in that delay and disrupt the day. The hope is that E-ballots use of the "start round" button and timestamped ballot entry will help give us better data on which rooms hold up tournaments and why.

10. The proposal addressing rules and expectations for judges was discussed. Some parts of the proposal are event-specific and need to be considered separately by each Assistant Director. Cayman has set up a committee to work on communicating judge responsibilities and the areas of training needed. Anyone who wants to be included in the working group but didn't leave their Email on the sign-up sheet should Email Cayman1@gmail.com.

11. The Congress rule change proposal passed:

Legislation Submission Tier System:

* Schools with 1-4 registered students must submit at least one bill prior to the scheduled event.
* Schools with 5-8 registered students must submit at least two bills prior to the scheduled event.
* Schools with 9-12 registered students must submit at least three bills prior to the scheduled event.
* This tier system would continue in increments of one bill per four registered students.

To accommodate the potential of late add/drops in registration we will also install a credit/debt system. If a school over submits legislation, their “credit” bill will be applied to the next tournament they attend. If a school under submits legislation, they must “pay their debt” at the next tournament they attend.

12. The proposal to have a minimum of three regularly scheduled meetings during the calendar year passed. It was noted that legislation can be voted on at any coach meeting.

* The August/September meeting will be used primarily to finalize the competition calendar.
* The Spring meeting will be divided into two separate meetings:

 The NCFL Nationals Meeting will occur in early May. All schools sending students to the NCFLs should have a representative at the meeting. Its purpose is to ensure timely completion of all BCFL and school items pertaining to competing at the NCFL Grand National Tournament.

 The Post-Season Meeting will occur in the first half of April. Its purpose is to reflect on the season, hold elections, and address any legislative proposals.

Note: Even though the post-season meeting (and thus the rescheduled elections) occurs before the NCFL Nationals meeting, league officers’ terms of office expire after NCFLs, not between the meetings, except in exigent circumstances.

13. There was no new business.

The meeting adjourned at 8:26.

Respectfully submitted,

Aimee Sann