

## North Iowa Community High School Speech Policies

Welcome to the NICS Speech team! As your coaches, we're looking forward to getting to know you and assisting you in your efforts to excel as a competitor, student and member of the NICS community. If you are a returning member of the team, you are well aware of the academic and personal growth opportunities that the speech team has to offer. If you are new to the team, prepare to work hard, have fun, and learn a tremendous amount about yourself and what speech can do for you.

As with any class or school activity, there are policies that you must be aware of and follow in order to participate. Please read the following policies carefully. They are designed to allow you and your team members to participate fully and successfully in a very challenging activity the high school has to offer!

### **Eligibility**

Academic eligibility is determined in accordance with the North Iowa Community School District regulations.

#### **Co-Curricular Activities**

Students at North Iowa High School have the privilege to participate in activities that are coordinated by the school. These co-curricular activities are considered an extension of the classroom learning experience and are encouraged to all students. Co-curricular activities are a privilege and may be denied to students based on academic and/or disciplinary reasons. Co-curricular activities may include but are not limited to the following: **FFA, FCCLA, Student Council, Flag Corp, Band, Chorus, Cheerleading, Football, Volleyball, Cross Country, Quiz Bowl, Fall Play, Speech, Wrestling, Basketball, Bowling, Track, Golf, Spring Musical, Softball, Baseball, Yearbook, National Honor Society.**

#### **Academic Eligibility Rule for Co-Curricular Activities**

***Iowa No Pass, No Play Rule*** – Iowa law requires that students must be passing all classes at official grading periods in order to be eligible for co-curricular activities. Any student who failed a course at semester will be ineligible to participate in co-curricular activities for 30 calendar days. The student's ineligibility status will start on the next activity desiring to participate in and with the first scheduled event. A student will regain eligibility when they have fulfilled 30 full days of ineligibility from a co-curricular activity. Any student with an incomplete for a semester grade will

also be ineligible until the coursework has been completed. The high school principal will inform a student and his/her parents of their ineligible status. High school faculty, coaches, and activity advisors will also be informed of students becoming ineligible.

### **General Appearance and Conduct**

You represent both North Iowa High School and the community and your conduct should never be inappropriate. You must abide by the behavior expectations and rules of the North Iowa Community School District and the speech team. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. No smoking, no drinking, no drugs.
  - a. Smoking hinders your breathing, causes hoarseness, and is illegal for those under 18.
  - b. Drinking and drugs are illegal.
2. Ethics
  - a. You are expected to uphold the highest ethical and moral standards.
  - b. Falsifying evidence, plagiarizing and/ or lying in tournament rounds is unethical and can lead to your dismissal from the team.
  - c. NICS coaching staff must approve all interpretation cuttings to make certain they are appropriate for competition.
3. Tournaments
  - a. Be on time.
  - b. Notify coaches if an emergency occurs and you will be late or are unable to compete.
  - c. You may not leave the tournament building or campus without the direct permission of your coach.
4. Dress code
  - a. Professional attire is required at tournaments. Please don't wear t-shirts, jeans, shorts, midriffs, short skirts, flip flops or tennis shoes while competing.
  - b. Boys should wear a nice shirt and slacks or a suit.
  - c. Girls should wear a dress, a nice blouse and skirt or slacks, or a suit.
5. Large Group & Individual Participation
  - a. Group pieces picked out by Nov. 25<sup>th</sup>
  - b. Individual Pieces picked out by Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup>.
  - c. Practice for lg group a minimum @ least 2 times a week. Starting 12/1.
  - d. Practice for individual a minimum with Cheri @ least 2 times a week and practice with Jennifer @ least 2 times a week. Starting 1/12.

\*If you have questions, comments, or concerns please talk with the coaches first.

\*Sign-up sheets will be posted outside both coaches doors. Sign up at least a day in advance.

\*No switching categories once papers are submitted to State Office for competition.

\*If practices are not met, student will not be allowed to participate at contest. Extenuating circumstances will be determined by coaches if for some reason you do not meet the practice time requirement.

\*Unscheduled practices will be taken into consideration upon coach's discretion.

\*Practices before/after school – not during school hours – only upon coach's discretion.

6. Consequences for breaking the rules.

- a. NICS administration will be notified when a school policy has been violated and appropriate disciplinary steps will be taken.
- b. Your parents/guardians may be called and asked to arrange for your immediate transportation home.
- c. You may be dismissed from the speech team.

Contest Sites & Dates for 2014-15

Large Group Districts	Garner	1-24-15
Large Group State	Decorah	2-7-15
Large Group All State	IA State-Ames	2-21-15
Individual Districts	Clear Lake	2-28-15
Individual State	Starmont	3-14-15
Individual All State	Cedar Falls	3-30-15

I understand and agree to these policies.

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Student Signature

Date

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Parent or Guardian Signature

Date