**Cary High School Speech and Debate Booster Club**

Minutes from June 1, 2019 Meeting

9:00 AM, Ms. Krishna’s Residence

Members Present:

Patrick Jessee, Chairperson

Joe Coletti, Treasurer

Annie Ngo, Secretary

Alma Logue, Member-at-large

Alison Horowitz, Member-at-large

Smitha Krishna, Member-at-large

**Approval of the Previous Meeting’s Minutes**Mr. Jessee distributed copies of the minutes from the March 26 board meeting. The board read the minutes. Ms. Ngo moved that we approve the minutes, Ms. Krishna seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Mr. Coletti distributed and discussed financials. The main changes from his last report were the banquet, honor cords & Nationals. This year, we earned $15K, and spent $13K, netting us $2K, leaving $6K left for next year. So we’re in pretty good shape with a strong team next year probably going to Nationals. Ms. Ngo moved that we approve the report, Ms. Horowitz seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**Reflections on NCFL’s**

NCFL’s were in Milwaukee over Memorial Day weekend. Beck, Isabelle, and Riley & Sam competed. Ms. Horowitz & Ms. Weisz chaperoned. The students felt they did their best.

Ms. Horowitz loved being on campus because it was so convenient, but living in the dorms wasn’t quite as nice as a hotel. She did observe that most of the judges were white males, so students may want to keep this in mind when they choose topics.

**Reflections on the Banquet**The board discussed the Banquet, which was once again a huge success. Many thanks to all those who helped, especially Ms. Logue. The clubhouse had 49 chairs. Big round tables fit 10 people, and the smaller round tables fit 8. Bring a sharpie next year for cups.

Next year we need much more iced tea and other drinks. The iced tea dispenser wasn’t even full. We had plenty of chicken leftover. The caterer planned for 52 people; we had 54.

Madison’s speech was very funny and Lam’s was very moving. We think the roasting will continue (it started last year), as long as it’s in good taste.

**Consideration to Change Amount Charged to Parents who don’t Judge**

Currently team dues are $20 per half of season, and they are waived for students whose parents judge at least twice. Dogwood tournaments are $15, Durham Academy is $25, and Districts is $30. Tournaments with overnight stays have additional hotel costs.

At Dogwood Tournaments, $50 is charged for each missing judge. A $100 judge bond is charged at Districts. If a judge is absent, we lose the bond.

The board discussed various pricing structures to try to encourage more parents to judge. We decided that team dues would be $35. Each student would need to pay a $100 bond, and that would be refunded if a parent or family member judged at least three tournaments throughout the year. Both fees would be due at the student’s first tournament.

**Soliciting Lawyer Sponsorships for our Tournament**

This year we got $275 in donations from grocery stores, etc. It would be better experience (and significantly less follow up work for the parents) if we could get a couple donations from lawyers. We don’t have to limit our search to Cary.

It would be a lot of a different type of work - choosing lawyers, scheduling meetings, and having the meetings. We don’t want to take away tournament prep from the students. Mr. Jessee may approach Ms. York for help on this as a class project, since they did the senior picnic as a class project.

Since we have a “buffer” of $6K, this can be experiment. Perhaps Mr. Decker can call half of the lawyers and students can call the rest. Even if we don’t make money, it would be a great experience for the students. We could also approach corporations, as Ms. Krishna’s company contributed $500.

We thought that lawyers might also consider judging, especially Congress.

**Sneak Peek at Next Season - Calendar and Coaching Staff Recommendations**

Mr. Jessee distributed the tournament calendar (eight tournaments).  He had met with Mr. Decker, Ms. Davies and student leaders. Mr. Jessee was voted onto the Districts committee, so he will definitely be going to Districts. All three teachers will plan on attending all the tournaments.

This year, each event had two student meetings per week, and it was believed that there was too much focus on prep and not on actual debate or speech. Next year we will go back to one event meeting per week. We hope the students prepare outside of the meetings and actually practice for the tournaments. Mr. Jessee noted that there were several students who went to practices but not tournaments. He will try to discourage this in the future.

The coaching staff also agreed that all members should be required to practice at school before each tournament they attend. In the past, all students have been encouraged to practice and most do, but only team members preparing for their first tournament have been required to practice.

Next year will be the first time we will have team cases, especially so novice debaters can focus on the mechanics of debating. Mr. Jessee, Mr. Decker and varsity students will come up with the cases.

**Reviewing and Revising Board Documents**

The By-laws are for items that don’t change often, but the Policy Manual can change yearly, as needed.

The board discussed the following changes to revision “August 11, 2018” of “Cary High Speech and Debate Booster Club By-Laws”:

* Article II - add a period at the end of the last sentence
* Article III  - add “the following” after “include but are not limited to”
* Article III A. - remove “religious,”
* Article V F. 1. was changed to read:
Removal: In the event a board member (excluding the chair - see number 3) is deemed unfit to continue service, the board member may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the other board members and coaching staff.
* Article VI. B. 1. A. was changed to read:
Regular Meetings:  The board will meet at least four times each school year, once per school quarter.  One meeting must occur before the IMPvitational, and another meeting must occur after the IMPvitational.  Another meeting must occur before the end-of-the-season banquet, and another must occur sometime after the last regular season tournament and the banquet.
* Article VI. B. 2. a. - remove “He will email the members at least two weeks before the proposed date and will change the date, if necessary, to achieve a quorum.” Also remove “no later than forty-eight hours”.
* Article VI. B. 2. b. - remove “three” and “no later than forty-eight hours”.
* Article VI. B. 3. Change the last line to read “The final item on the agenda must be the proposed date, time, location, and agenda items for the following meeting.”
* Article VI. B. 4. b. - change “number 2” to “number 1”
* Article IX C. - change “club” to “Club”

Additionally, after Article VIII A., the following was inserted from the Policy Manual:

A. **Method of Funds Collection:** The Treasurer is the only person with the consistent authority to receipt and deposit the funds. In the case that the Treasurer is unavailable and is not able to perform his or her duties, the head coach may appoint one of the Members-at-large to serve in this capacity on a temporary basis.

B. **Method of Funds Disbursement:** The Treasurer and the head coach have the authority to disburse funds. All receipts should be given to and kept by the Treasurer in his or her records. All transactions should appear in the Treasurer’s report for accounting and accountability purposes. The head coach and Treasurer should keep each other informed by email of non-routine expenditures. These emails should be printed and be kept in the Treasurer’s records. The Treasurer has the authority to write checks to individuals as a form of reimbursement for expenses regarding the booster club and team as specified elsewhere in the Constitution or as approved by the board in its minutes.

The above insertion changed numbering for the remainder of the document. The revision “June 1, 2019” of the By-Laws contains the version that was discussed.

Mr. Coletti moved that we approve revision “June 1, 2019” of the By-Laws, Ms. Horowitz seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

The board discussed changes to “Cary High Speech and Debate Booster Club Policy Manual 2018-19”. Mr. Coletti updated the document during the discussion and emailed it to the board, who will review and vote on approving the revisions.

**Other Questions and Concerns**

Mr. Jessee thanked Ms. Ngo for serving on the board these last two years, as her son is graduating. Ms. Horowitz will take over the role of Secretary. Mr. Coletti will retain his role as Treasurer. Ms. Logue and Ms. Krishna will retain their roles as Members-at-large. Ms. Weisz will join the board next year as a Member-at-large.