Frequently Asked Questions about Speaking Events at the Regional Meet

Q: *Where do I find a schedule for my regional contests?*

A: Access your regional handbook. All regions are posted at this link:

https://www.uiltexas.org/academics/regional

Q: *Can competitors in Prose & Poetry change selections from district to region?*

A: Yes. You are cautioned to be certain your new documentation will pass documentation check since it won't have been reviewed at invitational and district meets. You will also need to create a new official Documentation Form with the updated selection(s). Secure the appropriate signatures on the new form, as well.

Q: *Is my school responsible for providing judges for the regional meet?*

A: Read the Region Handbook for your site. All regions are unique in their requirements. Pay particular attention to deadlines and requirements included there about speech/debate. Because these contests involve preliminary rounds and final rounds, and are typically paneled with 3-5 judges, schools are often required to contribute judges to the speech/debate judging pool. If questions still remain, contact your region, not the state office, since regions have different requirements.

Q: *Who do I submit my students' prose or poetry documentation to for review?*

A: Consult the information provided in your particular region's handbook. If you are unclear on procedures, contact the Region Director or Prose/Poetry Contest Directors listed for your site. Meet the deadline set. If you need help making sure your documentation is sufficient, access the Region Memo so you are more confident in the

requirements:
https://www.uiltexas.org/files/academics/speech/1._Prose_and_Poetry_Memo_Region_2024-25.pdf

Q. What should I do if I my speech contestant can no longer compete?

A. Immediately contact your district director/regional director so preparations can be made in advance to contact the alternate and change the pairings/sections. It is essential that you not wait until the day of the meet to drop your contestant.

Q. To whom do I send my fees?
A. Again, consult your handbook. Most times, the district official sends a check to cover all the schools in the district. However, read the handbook for how to handle the fees, to whom they should be sent, and the deadline prescribed by the region. OAP fees are separate.

Q. Do I need to enter my students in the contest?
A. Students who qualified out of district competition were automatically advanced through SpeechWire. You may want to check the spelling of your competitors to make sure they were entered correctly at the district level.

Q. Can my speech and debate students compete in other academic events at the region meet if they qualified out of district?
A. If a student qualified in both speech and academic evets, they are allowed to compete in both, as long as the events doot conflict on the Academic Conflict Pattern. The ACP is followed at region and state so if your student qualified in 2 conflict events because your district did not follow the ACP, they may not compete in both, even if the region meet time schedule provides.

Q. Are rounds open to the public?
A. They are, but there are specific restrictions on audiences. If debaters competing in the tournament have a bye for a round, they are not allowed to watch another round. In debate rounds, all

audience members are to sit in front of the judges(s). They may not take notes, bring computers into the round, or have cell phones out. Phones must be turned off so no speakers and performers are disturbed. No one is allowed to record rounds. This is strictly prohibited by contest rules. No audience member should be distractive in any way.

Coaches: Review thoroughly with your qualifiers the UIL Contest Rules in their entirety. If applicable to their contest, also go over the computer/electronic retrieval devices guidelines so they go into their region contest with knowledge about contest procedures, time limits, and potential rule violations. Preparation on the details promotes confidence and competency!