

Proposal to expand Impromptu Speaking from five minutes to seven minutes

Rationale: an extra two minutes of combined prep/speak time will allow beginning students more time to prepare and organize before they need to begin speaking, and allow more experienced students to add additional content without having to rush through the speaking portion of their presentation. The expanded time limit will help to reward depth of content and organization as a factor in judging.

Previous language on page 47 of the WFCB handbook:

Maximum time limit: 5 minutes, with an allowable 15-second grace period. There is no minimum time requirement, and a contestant should not be penalized for brevity unless they fail to cover the subject adequately. Any entry exceeding the grace period may not be ranked first in the round. If all entries in a round exceed the grace period, no first rank shall be given in that round.

Proposed new language:

Maximum time limit: **7** minutes, with an allowable 15-second grace period. There is no minimum time requirement, and a contestant should not be penalized for brevity unless they fail to cover the subject adequately. Any entry exceeding the grace period may not be ranked first in the round. If all entries in a round exceed the grace period, no first rank shall be given in that round.