

Proposal to extend the grace period in all events except Radio to 30 seconds to align with national organizations

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Proposal

It is time for the WFCA to align with national organizations to support students who are competing outside of Wisconsin. Thus, I propose a rule change to all events except Radio to extend the grace period to 30 seconds.

Rationale:

We encourage coaches to invest time into outside organizations like WISSDA, NSDA, and NCFL, yet we continue to penalize students who compete in those organizations by only allowing a 15-second grace period. There would be no state ramifications for allowing the rule change, as we already allow plenty of time for each round. Students who compete in both WISDAA and WFCA would be limited to 15 seconds in WISDAA, but if they go over that while competing in WFCA, they would no longer incur a penalty. There are really no drawbacks to this change. Radio would maintain a different grace period as it is already different, aligns with the real world practice of 5-minute broadcasts, and does not have a national-level counterpart.