【Notes for both Recitation and Speeches】

(1) Pronunciation
- Please pay special attention to ensuring the correct pronunciation of (R), (L), (F), (V) (B), and (P) sounds.

(2) Gestures
- When practicing with students, ask yourself “Is this gesture necessary?” Superfluous gestures are distracting and result in a reduced score.

- Moving away from the podium or walking around is unnecessary and distracting, and will result in a greatly reduced score.

- Hitting the podium, stamping feet or otherwise making loud noises is distracting and seen as bad manners, and will also result in a greatly reduced score.

- Gestures should be natural and used to emphasize points in the performance, not as a replacement for verbal expressiveness.

(3) Eye Contact and Facial Expression
- Participants should avoid both staring at a fixed spot, as well as darting their eyes around the room. Participants should focus on naturally making eye contact with the audience and judges.

- Participants should not conceal their faces or avoid eye contact, as this will result in a reduced score. Additionally, participants should have a facial expression suitable to the content they are presenting, while avoiding being dramatic (I.E. gasping, pretending to wipe away tears, etc).

(4) Posture
- As stated above, participants should avoid walking around the stage.

- Participants should stand straight, but not rigidly at the podium. Participants should avoid leaning on or gripping the podium. It is acceptable for participants to rest their hands on the podium, but caution should be paid so the participant does not slump or lean.

【For Recitation】

(1) Delivery
- A participant’s understanding of the content affects how well they can mimic native speaking speed, vocal pitch etc. Make sure the participant has a clear understanding of the content before beginning practice.
- The participant should have a good vocal variety appropriate to the content of their presentation, and not speak in monotone.

**[About Speeches]**

- Judges have the text of all speeches as sent by each participating school. There have been incidents where the speech presented greatly varies from the text that was sent. In such an occurrence the judges will investigate to see if there has been a printing mistake or other error. However if no error can be found, it will be assumed that the content was altered after the text was sent or that the participant is presenting inaccurately, and their score will be reduced. Please be careful of this and ensure that the speech presented is true to the text that was sent to the organizing committee.

- If a mistake is discovered, please bring it to the attention of the organizing committee as soon as possible so corrections can be made prior to the presentation.

- Each year there are speeches that use grammar, vocabulary and expressions far beyond the level of junior high English. While the judges acknowledge that there are exceptional participants, speeches should use grammar and vocabulary approximately from the junior high level, and be written by the participant.