

## The Judge's Perspective

### How are scores computed?

- Long-term counts twice as much as Spontaneous, Spontaneous twice as much as Style
- top scorer at each site gets maximum score, all others are proportional
  - range of 60 – 150 for Long-term becomes 80 – 200
  - range of 24 – 40 for Style becomes 30 – 50
  - range of 45 – 75 for Spontaneous becomes 60 – 100; 69 – 150 becomes 46 – 100
  - final scores cannot be known until end of tournament
- raw scores don't mean much
  - Spontaneous scores especially deceptive – vary tremendously from problem to problem
  - top Long-term score can be very low (once was less than 10!)
  - sometimes first place team not top scorer in any category

### How do judges judge?

- judges are nice people, want kids to succeed
- scoring is based on problem – make sure everything to be judged is clear to them
- all points are judged by more than one judge
- objective scores
  - did it happen or not
  - judges must agree
  - may be challenged if team/coach believe it did happen and judges said it didn't
- subjective scores
  - judge's opinion, may not be challenged
  - average of several judges
  - judge's sense of humor or of what is inappropriate may differ from team's

### Where do judges come from?

- Each team must provide a judge and a volunteer
- avoid deadline panic - start looking early
  - needed to register for tournament
- must be 18 or older
  - volunteer is 2-hour shift on tournament day, can watch team's performance
  - judge is on behalf of team, not for team – will be assigned to a different problem
    - 9:00 – 4:00 commitment for training -- February 23 for NoVA North
      - must stay all day to be considered trained
      - other training may be available, make arrangements through judges coordinator
    - all-day commitment for tournament – March 9 for NoVA North
    - will **NOT** be able to watch team
    - look beyond team parents (but get them to help look)
    - more than one judge doesn't hurt
      - team judges alone not enough for a good tournament
      - 20% to 25% are not judging on behalf of a team
  - look among neighbors, co-workers, church, clubs, classes, teachers, college students
    - teachers get recommendations for CEU credits
  - present as fun opportunity, not obligation
  - check with school coordinator – some also recruit judges
- if judge cannot make training or tournament, contact judge coordinator and school coordinator