**ICTA State Debate Tournament Commission Report**

ICTA Convention Annual Report

September 23, 2016

The SDTC is tasked each year with holding a state tourney for high school novice and jr. varsity competitors in Lincoln-Douglas, Public Forum, and Congressional debate.

The 2016 ICTA State JV/Novice Debate Tournament was held Friday-Saturday, March 11-12, at Belleville West High School, Belleville, IL. 23 schools participated.

**Entries**: Entry numbers were up this year, with our entries as follows:

JV Lincoln-Douglas 31 Novice Lincoln-Douglas 32

JV Public Forum 32 Novice Public Forum 36

JV Congress 16 Novice Congress 19

**Scheduling**: For the second year now, we single-flighted the tournament. We held three preliminary rounds Friday night, and had two prelim rounds and broke to quarterfinals on Saturday. We DID limit entries to four teams per division instead of six, which resulted in some schools putting students on a waiting list, but we were able to take all the teams on the wait list. We used almost 75 classrooms at Belleville West.

**Location**: Dr. Brandon Hentze, the coach at Belleville West, did an outstanding job of hosting. Arranging for food for almost 300 students and 80 adults is never easy, and Dr. Hentze did that very well. Next year’s location will be Libertyville HS.

**Working with policy debate programs**: The Commission would love to have a joint tournament with the Illinois Debate Coaches Association (policy debate schools) next year, but it does not look like that will work. Their tournament continues to grow in size, and we will not be able to find a school that would be large enough to hand our 80 rooms plus another 50 or more for policy. The ICDA coaches do not want to impose entry limits because they want to field as many teams as possible.

This was my LAST year as chair the committee, and Brian Voss of Libertyville HS has agreed to take my place. He is a very dedicated, responsible coach who will do a great job. I hope the Board makes him feel welcome.

Carol Harms, SDTC chair

Belleville East HS, retired