

# Rubric for Impromptu

[See Sample Ballot](#)

## **Content:** *Consider topic, ideas, thesis*

*Contact Tournament Administration (Compliance staff) for concerns regarding NCFCA Mission Alignment rules.*

- 1 - Beginning: States the topic and minimally adheres to it. Inadequate content to defend the thesis.
- 2 - Developing: States the topic and somewhat adheres to it. Some content to defend the thesis.
- 3 - Capable: Adheres to the stated topic with a logical or creative defense. Adequate content to support the thesis from personal stories, examples, and/or other material from credible sources.
- 4 - Proficient: Closely adheres to the stated topic with a well-reasoned defense of the thesis. Robust content to support the thesis from personal stories, examples, and/or other material from credible sources.
- 5 - Excellent: Develops the stated topic through a compelling or convincing thesis. Outstanding variety and depth of content, including personal stories, examples, and/or other material from credible sources.

## **Organization & Citations:** *Consider clarity through organization and citations*

*Contact Tournament Administration (Compliance staff) for concerns regarding Academic Integrity rules.*

- 1 - Beginning: Confusing or little structure. Missing or unclear introduction and/or conclusion. Missing or unclear verbal citations when needed.
- 2 - Developing: Some structure with transitions. Unbalanced introduction and/or conclusion. Some missing verbal citations when needed.
- 3 - Capable: Clear structure with transitions for introduction, conclusion, and points. Somewhat consistent use of clear verbal citations when needed.
- 4 - Proficient: Engaging introduction and conclusion with balanced points and smooth transitions. Consistently clear citations when needed.
- 5 - Excellent: Captivating introduction, balanced points, and strong conclusion. Skillful, clear citations when needed.

## **Vocal Delivery:** *Consider articulation, pronunciation, volume, rate, pitch, style, tone*

- 1 - Beginning: Mumbling, halting, or lack of vocal energy. Mispronunciations. Minimum vocal variation or inappropriate volume, rate, pitch or tone.
- 2 - Developing: Some mumbling, mispronunciation, or verbal pauses. Inconsistent effectiveness of volume, rate, and/or articulation that needs continued practice.
- 3 - Capable: Generally accurate articulation and pronunciation. Sincere style with vocal variation appropriate for the content. Minimal distractions.
- 4 - Proficient: Overall command of energy, volume, rate, and articulation that enhances the content. Winsome, conversational style, without distractions.
- 5 - Excellent: Powerful, memorable. and/or highly impactful vocal style. Expert vocal variation and control that magnifies the message.

**Physical Delivery:** *Consider poise, professionalism, movement, gestures, eye contact, facial expression*

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- 1 - Beginning: Nervous or stiff manner. Distracting, habitual movements (e.g. tapping, pacing, swaying). Minimum eye contact.
- 2 - Developing: Inconsistent physical control or poise. Moments of distracting movements with the face, hands, body, or use of space.
- 3 - Capable: Poised, effective use of body and space. Good posture and energy. Generally appropriate gestures, eye contact, and facial expressions.
- 4 - Proficient: Confident, professional control of posture, gestures, eye contact, and facial expressions to engage the audience.
- 5 - Excellent: Compelling, masterful use of space, movement, gestures, and expression that enthrall the audience.

**Impact:** *Consider mind, emotion, relevance, connection, speaker*

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- 1 - Beginning: Speaker attempts to build audience connection or credibility through relevance of the topic, well-reasoned analysis, or sincere conviction.
- 2 - Developing: Speaker builds some audience connection and credibility through relevance of the topic, well-reasoned analysis, or sincere conviction.
- 3 - Capable: Speaker builds consistent audience connection and credibility. impact through relevance of the topic, well-reasoned analysis, or sincere conviction.
- 4 - Proficient: Speaker establishes meaningful audience connection and credibility through relevance of the topic, well-reasoned analysis, or sincere conviction.
- 5 - Excellent: Speaker establishes profound audience connection and credibility through relevance of the topic, well-reasoned analysis, or sincere conviction.

# Sample Ballot for Impromptu

[See Rubric](#)

## Ballot - Impromptu, Room #

Competitor:

Judge:

Topic

Speech Length

:

Timer Issue

Y / N

Scripts or Notes Used

Content

1 2 3 4 5

Organization & Citations

1 2 3 4 5

Vocal Delivery

1 2 3 4 5

Physical Delivery

1 2 3 4 5

Impact

1 2 3 4 5

Comments

Rank

Total Score

# Speech Ballot Sample

Judges will see all speech competitors' ballots simultaneously.

**Ballot - Digital Presentation, Room # M123**
Verify & Submit

Competitor Topic	1st Speaker / Time	2nd Speaker / 10:15	3rd Speaker / 10:30	4th Speaker / 10:45
Competitor	Competitor	Competitor	Competitor	Competitor
Topic	Topic	Topic	Topic	Topic
Speech Length MM:SS	Speech Length MM:SS	Speech Length MM:SS	Speech Length MM:SS	Speech Length MM:SS
Timer Issue	Timer Issue	Timer Issue	Timer Issue	Timer Issue
Scripts or Notes used	Scripts or Notes used	Scripts or Notes used	Scripts or Notes used	Scripts or Notes used
Category 1	Category 1	Category 1	Category 1	Category 1
Category 2	Category 2	Category 2	Category 2	Category 2
Category 3	Category 3	Category 3	Category 3	Category 3
Category 4	Category 4	Category 4	Category 4	Category 4
Category 5	Category 5	Category 5	Category 5	Category 5
Rank	Rank	Rank	Rank	Rank
Total Score	Total Score	Total Score	Total Score	Total Score
Comments	Comments	Comments	Comments	Comments

  

Competitor Topic	5th Speaker / 11:00	6th Speaker / 11:15	7th Speaker / 11:30	8th Speaker / 11:45
Competitor	Competitor	Competitor	Competitor	Competitor
Topic	Topic	Topic	Topic	Topic
Speech Length MM:SS	Speech Length MM:SS	Speech Length MM:SS	Speech Length MM:SS	Speech Length MM:SS
Timer Issue	Timer Issue	Timer Issue	Timer Issue	Timer Issue
Scripts or Notes used	Scripts or Notes used	Scripts or Notes used	Scripts or Notes used	Scripts or Notes used
Category 1	Category 1	Category 1	Category 1	Category 1
Category 2	Category 2	Category 2	Category 2	Category 2
Category 3	Category 3	Category 3	Category 3	Category 3
Category 4	Category 4	Category 4	Category 4	Category 4
Category 5	Category 5	Category 5	Category 5	Category 5
Rank	Rank	Rank	Rank	Rank
Total Score	Total Score	Total Score	Total Score	Total Score
Comments	Comments	Comments	Comments	Comments