



NCA Convention: Denver, CO
International Forensics Association
Business Meeting – November 22nd 2025

1) Call to Order

- Roll Call
 - IFA Executive Committee: all present
 - Via in person: Bradley, Las Positas, Hofstra, TSU, Colorado, Grossmont, Ottawa University, University of Texas at Dallas
 - Via Zoom: UOL, Mt. Sac, SD Mesa, SMSU, SDSU, CSUF, PCC

2) President's Report (Michael McHan)

- a. Welcome, thank you, and recognition for IFA EC team
- b. Updates for Athens, Greece (site visit)
 - We did a whole hotel buyout for the tournament hotel
 - The 2nd overflow hotel is a sister hotel right across the street
- c. IFA 26 Athens Room Block
 - All the room blocks in the tournament hotel are filled
 - The 50 room blocks in the sister hotel are filled
 - Working on more room blocks in the sister hotel
- d. Potential Sponsors for IFA
 - Future goals:
 - To host a banquet (plus a food beverage purchase at the hotel can make the hotel cheaper)
 - Looking for sponsors: can any colleges sponsor, or does anyone have connections to potential sponsors? Please contact EC team!

3) Treasurer's Report (Sarah Hinkle)

- a. South Korea expense total and current account balance
 - Ireland 46 schools entered, Korea 27 schools entered
 - Current international forensics account and scholarship funds balances
 - New program to IFA? Ask about our Clark Olsen Scholarship!
 - Everyone - please pay fees via FTN or checks. NO cash payments allowed.

4) Vice President's Report (Bryan Malinis)

a. Updates for Tournament

- We are back to Mon/Tues competition schedule
- Debate one day and IE one day
- There'll be a 30-minute lunch break each day.
- The hotel has eateries for judges and students to grab a quick bite
- Danny Cantrell working tab – thank you!
- Judge buyout will not be permitted.
- Due to overflow, rounds might happen at both hotels
 - But the sister hotel is right across the street from tournament hotel
 - Aiming to set up round locations based on event categories to make it easier
- Please let us know anything that can help! Such as:
 - Email problems, text problems, WIFI problems, etc.
 - This can be from past experience or concerns moving forward – the EC team wants to help address, be best prepared, and provide a great tournament experience.

b. Opening Banquet

- Registration
 - There will be a reception for coaches at the Athens Grand rooftop.

c. Student Event – Amazing Race

- Also, during registration: There will be a scavenger hunt for students

5) International Liaison (Trendi Nguyen)

a. Estimated date for sharing a guide for Athens

- IFA Travel Guide Brochure: do's, don'ts, medical to knows, travel recs, etc.
- Hard copies of the travel guide brochure will be provided for teams at the tournament
- Aiming to have the travel guide brochure on the IFA website by December 15
- Working on securing excursion discounts for IFA attendees
- Planning IFA wide excursion days together
- Audience Comments:
 - Can we add dietary restriction considerate options to the brochure? Yes.
 - Let's consider excursion dates in consideration of flight prices (pre or post)
 - When's entries deadline and cut off? EC Team will send out later!

b. International Universities Outreach

- Looking into speaker programs to bring a speaker to our tournament

6) Secretary's Report (Jacqueline Yu)

a. Minutes for the business meeting will be available on IFA

- Tell your students to follow IFA socials to stay up to date and connected

b. Reminder for panel on Saturday, to follow business meeting - IFA: Elevating Communication

Panel Discussion – 1:00-2:00pm, Willow Lake 05

7) New Business

a. Future of IFA attending NCA conventions

- NCA expense and other concerns
- Ideas: Do we have our business meeting via Zoom? Or continue presence at NCA?
- Audience Comments:
 - A lot of chatter across the board of all forensics groups at nca – few groups are considering leaving nca due to lack of nca prioritization
 - Maybe instead of leaving, we advocate for better forensics inclusion? Since we should encourage more forensics scholars.
 - It's nice to be able to bring our students to present at these panels.
 - Maybe business meetings do not need to be held at nca. We can still go to nca, bring students, push forensics research and panels.
 - Idea to unite the forensics groups and form a separate conference – there's talks of a forensics development conference – first one will be virtual
 - Until we have our venues sorted, let's stay at nca, but maybe instead of a business meeting as one of the two slots, let's have both be forensics research ones
- b. Including LD for future IFA tournaments (John Loo)
 - DOF SDSU - Idea stemmed from LD community discussions
 - Audience Comments:
 - Concern over estimate for rooms, judges, etc. But EC clarified that the tournament allows for just 1 debate entry – so it'll be about the same estimate
 - Concern over judging pool
 - Concern that it'll water down other debate event entries
 - Historical Context: in the past, when adding an event, it ends up needing its own slot (LD and IPDA were proposed as IE and now have their own slots)
 - Maybe we can't be all things for all people
- c. Site Committee Update – 27/28 Tournament Locations (Trent Webb)
 - Shoutout to site committee and Trent – progressive discussions on logistics and solutions
 - Few locations being presented for 2027 and 2028 (we will vote in Athens)
 - Lisbon, Prague, Argentina, Warsaw
 - But still in the process of bids
 - Maybe revisit Mexico City? And there's preliminary interest in exploring Thailand
 - Audience Comments:
 - What about a variety of continents, such as Africa? The committee did try, it was actually a first priority, but the bid costs were impossible.
 - Moving forward, planning 2 years out
 - Bids will be sent out in advance for people to review before the vote
 - Audience Comments:
 - Audience is a big fan of this to help prep schools, travel, etc.
- d. IFA Constitution (Bryan Malinis)
 - New Rules/Procedures Committee to create a stronger foundation to the constitution
 - Volunteered: Bryan Malinas, Kim Perigo, Jim Dobson, Collette Blumer
 - Please contact the EC Team if you're interested to help
 - Audience
 - What's the process look like to make amendments? Answer in article 8!
 - Concern of over legislation

8) Meeting Adjourned