

---

## RECOMMENDATIONS FROM TOURNAMENT MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

The topic of tournament management proved to be very broad in scope. Papers and subsequent discussion dealt with a wide range of issues. Considerable discussion focused on the establishment of an interface between wellness concepts and the forensics community, and the important role which tournament managers can and should play in providing a supportive environment at their tournaments. Considerable support was expressed for the development, dissemination, and use of computer programs in tournament management. Finally workshop participants agreed that it is healthy and productive for the forensics community to continually examine existent and new tournament practices.

- I To encourage the implementation of wellness principles in planning and scheduling and tournaments.
- A. To create a shared vision of what a tournament experience should include for healthy competition (i.e. well scheduled, well managed).
  - B. To enhance awareness of the stressful nature of forensic tournaments and provide guidance through information for stress reduction and management.
  - C. To provide information to the forensic community on the wellness approach to forensics by having all national organizations promote programs on that orientation.
  - D. To encourage tournament hosts to analyze and meet the needs of the forensic community even if it places more demands on the host
- II To encourage the further use of computers in tournament management.
- A. To continue providing training sessions in using computers in tournament administration (i.e. SCA short courses)
  - B. To insure that the forensic community become aware of the various computer programs available to assist in tournament administration and individuals to contact for information on cost, compatibility, and scope.
  - C. To continue research and development in the area of computerization in tournament administration.

- III To encourage improved and expanded audience for tournament competition rounds.
- A. To encourage students double entered in tournaments to remain in the round for at least one additional performance.
  - B. To have coaches instill in their competitors good audience behavior.
  - C. To encourage tournament hosts to provide audiences for tournament events (i.e. beginning oral communication students).
- IV To suggest that the Council of Forensic Organizations or another professional forensic organization undertake creating a booklet for distribution to the forensic community that outlines how to plan and execute a contemporary forensic tournament (including a timetable and available computer assistance programs.)
- V To ask the Council of Forensic Organizations to conduct an analysis of "standard" events and descriptions of those events to enable the forensic community to be better informed of distinctions and variations.
- VI To encourage the Forensic Community to be open to and attend to new tournament mechanisms.
- A. To encourage alternate tournament models by formulating a committee to consider such options as double elimination tournaments and telecommunications tournaments.
  - B. To encourage the creation of innovative mechanisms for managing large national tournaments.
  - C. To consider alternatives to individual and school sweepstakes models to stress quality competition rather than quantity of competitors (i.e. dividing the number of points by the number of events entered).
- VII To recognize that National Tournaments serve as models for the forensic community.