



Basic Training for the New Coach

**Presented by
Jana Riggins, State Director**



Welcome to UIL

- **Your state association**
- **Oldest and largest of its kind**
- **Began in 1910**
- **Dream of Debate Coaches**
- **The University of Texas – Austin**

Who We Have Become

- **Over 1500 secondary schools**
- **3,500 elementary/junior high**
- **Student body ranges in size from**
- **9 to over 6,000**



Academic Program

- **Enrichment and extension of the classroom curriculum**
- **Sponsor 30 high school academic contests and 20 elementary/junior high events**
- **Largest Policy Debate State tournament, One-Act Play program most extensive in the world**

Scholarship Program

- Disbursed over \$32 million dollars
- Scholarships range from \$500 per year to \$20,000
- This year, will award over \$1 million in scholarships
- For more information go to:

www.tilfoundation.org

WHY COACH UIL?

- **Enrichment and extension of curriculum**
- **When students get excited about academic competition, they become more engaged in the classroom**
- **Standardized test scores are improved**
- **It challenges the bright, but underachieving, student to reach their potential**

WHY COACH UIL?

- **Develops self-esteem, self-confidence; makes students feel worthy for being intelligent**
- **Enhances every part of the state curriculum**
- **Helps students grow in self-discipline and as human beings; prepares for real world**
- **The “whole” student is developed**

WHY COACH UIL?

- **Scholarship opportunities for students**
- **UIL gives every kid a place to belong!**
- **Makes YOU a unique educator who inspires and makes a difference in the lives of your students, enriching your own career**



Speech

- **6 Events from three skill categories**
 - **2 Debate**
 - **2 Extemporaneous Speaking**
 - **2 Oral Interpretation**
 - **Plus Congress**

Speech

- **Students are permitted to enter 2 events in the speech area, plus policy debate, plus Congress**
- **Also be aware of the Academic Conflict Pattern. Some students may compete in both speaking events and academic events. Know which ones conflict.**

Know Important Dates

Congress

Region Meet: 2 sanctioned weeks

Region

November 1 – 15, 2019

Submit Intent to Participate

September 10, 2019

Legislation from Schools to Region Clerk

September 10, 2019

Submit UIL Contestant Entry Form

No later than 10 days prior to meet

Submit State Scorer

December 1, 2019

Know Important Dates

Congress

State Meet:

January 13, 14, 15, 2020

Site: University of Texas at Austin

Texas State Capital

Know Important Dates

CX Debate

District Meet: held anytime between

January 3 – February 8, 2020

State Meet: **March 15 – 17 (1-2-3A)**

March 19 – 21 (4-5-6A)

Know Important Dates

Speech: Individual Events

District Meet: 2 sanctioned weeks

District I

March 23-28

District II

March 30-31, April 1-4

Know Important Dates

Speech: Individual Events

Regional Meet : April 17 – 18, 2020

Site: 24 different colleges and university campuses in Texas

To find your regional site, access:

<http://www.uiltexas.org/academics/regional-information>

Know Important Dates

Speech: Individual Events

State Meet: May 27 - 28, 2020

Coach Conference evening prior

Site: University of Texas - Austin

Prose and Poetry

- Oral reading – not memorized
- 7 minutes – no grace period
- Prepare 2 performances: Categories A & B
- Study category requirements & restrictions
- Documentation to meet the categories required
- Read the contest handbook

Extemporaneous Speaking

- **Divisions: Informative and Persuasive**
- **Speaker draws 5 topics; chooses 1**
- **30 minute prep time; computer files allowed**
- **7 minute maximum; may complete last sentence even if reach 7 minute limit**
- **1 3x5 inch notecard allowed when speaking**
- **Know what can & can't be in prep room**
- **Read the contest handbook**

Debate

- **Cross-Examination Policy Debate**
- **1 policy topic released in January prior to the next school year – national balloting**
- **Lincoln-Douglas Value Debate**
- **2 topics released from UIL State Office**
- **Fall Topic released in mid-August**
- **Spring Topic released in mid-December**
- **Handbooks are available**

Debate

- If you qualify debaters to state in CX or LD debate, be prepared to provide a judge that is experienced to judge on the state level
- We provide judge training at this conference
- You should receive a red & white coach packet at district, if you win. If the Contest Director doesn't present it to you – don't leave the site before you ask for it! Deadlines also posted online and in contest handbook.

Congress

- sanctioned event; held fall/winter
- Individual contest in a large group setting
- Legislative assembly modeled after the U.S. Congress
- Contestants write bills/resolutions
- Debate social and political policies using parliamentary procedure

Congress

- **Regions organized by Education Service Centers, not traditional UIL districts**
- **Region Clerk selected; contact info online**
- **Intent to Participate must be filed by Sept. 10**
- **Handbook online**
- **Materials available on UIL website**

RESOURCES AVAILABLE THROUGH UIL TO ASSIST YOU

- **Constitution & Contest Rules**
- **Handbooks for all speaking events**
 - **Include contest rules as well as procedures on how the contest should be conducted**
- **Website**
- **Digital downloads available of State final rounds in Debate, Extemporaneous Speaking**

RESOURCES AVAILABLE THROUGH UIL TO ASSIST YOU

- **Speech Coach E-Mailing each year**
- **Leaguer online newspaper**
- **Capital Conference**
- **Student Activities Conferences**



Register

- **Go to Speech homepage and Complete the online Speech Coach Form to receive:**
 - **Updates**
 - **Reminders**
 - **Rulings**
 - **Clarifications**

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES TO ASSIST YOU

- **Staff Development Opportunities**
 - **Capital Conference**
 - **TSCA membership**
 - **Booth at this conference**
 - **October convention**



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES TO ASSIST YOU

– Summer Teacher Institutes

– NFHS Online Coach Training

NFHSLearn.com/NFHS.org

FIND A MENTOR

- **Regional Speech Advisory Committee**
 - Listed on homepage of UIL Speech
- **Someone within your UIL tournament circle**
 - Choose them wisely
 - Observe their integrity and honesty and fairness

Squad Criteria Packet

- **Include the following:**

Criteria for Participation

- expectations on preparation
- expectations on responsibilities
- expectations on regulations

Consequences for Violations

Squad Criteria Packet

The background features a large, semi-transparent red five-pointed star at the top center. Below the star are several large, light blue shapes that resemble stylized letters or architectural elements, including a shape on the left that contains a white outline of the state of Texas.

- **Include the following:**

FORMS

- Student commitment
- Parent commitment
- Medical Release

Recruiting Students

- **Junior High recruitment strategies**
- **Make friends with the counselors**
- **1st six weeks – Teacher Memo**

Recruitment Advice

- **Make it prestigious to be on the squad**
 - ❖ Personal invitation mailed to home
 - ❖ Signage on lockers of team members
 - ❖ Squad shirts – designated days
 - ❖ Showcase their talents to community
 - ❖ Recognize their talents

Tournament Advice

- Arrive at the site early.
- Don't "drop" entries. You will be charged additional fees and your reputation is impacted negatively!
- If you must substitute a competitor be sure you know the process.
 - Substitution Eligibility Form
 - Download from UIL website

Tournament Procedures

- If you absolutely **MUST** drop a contestant, notify tournament director as far in advance as possible.
- Don't wait until you arrive at the tournament.
- Special Need Requests should be made at least 2 weeks prior to the tournament. Application process is described in each UIL contest manual and online.

Tournament Advice

- **Be on time for Roll Call assembly or risk an alternate taking your student's place.**
- **Attend the Verification Period.**
 - Follows tabulation
 - Opportunity to review ballots, win-loss record
 - Opportunity to verify no mistakes were made
 - Once all questions are addressed, results are announced as official.
 - No questions can be raised after this.

SURVIVAL TIPS

- Dealing with stress
- Take care of yourself!
 - Physically
 - Exercise
 - Eat healthy
 - SLEEP

SURVIVAL TIPS



- **Take Care of Yourself**
 - **Emotionally**

- Carve out time for yourself as a PERSON, not a COACH!
- Participate in outside pursuits, hobbies, even subject matter. Have a life beyond forensics.
- Do not dismiss the importance of quiet time.
 - Protects you from chaos
 - Equips you to solve problems

SURVIVAL TIPS

- **Too little anxiety brings about apathy.**
- **Too much anxiety sabotages any attempt to succeed.**

Hints for New Coaches

- ✓ **Know the Rules.**

(Professional Acknowledgement Form)

- ✓ **Teach your students the Rules.**

(distinguish between the forensic circuits that you choose for your students to participate in)

- ✓ **Access the UIL website regularly.**

Hints for New Coaches

- ✓ **Attend your UIL district planning meeting.**
- ✓ **Find Prose/Poetry Documentation early.**
- ✓ **Show up on time for Contest Roll Call.**

Hints for New Coaches

- ✓ **Train your competitors to adhere to prescribed contest time limits.**
- ✓ **Attend Verification Period after each contest.**
- ✓ **Check your ballots at the appropriate time. Raise questions at that time. Don't wait.**

Hints for New Coaches

- ✓ **Learn the ranking system for tabulation and understand its diagnostic symbols. UIL software for tabulation is online and should always be used.**
- ✓ **Plan ahead to secure debate judges for State Meet and submit online forms on time!**
- ✓ **Celebrate the small successes of your team as much as the big ones. Give yourself credit, too, for a job well-done!**

Hints for New Coaches

✓ **Most importantly – BE ETHICAL.**

UIL has an Academic Ethics Code.
You will quickly build a reputation
— good or bad —
on the tournament circuit.

Hints for New Coaches

✓ **Never be afraid to ask a question.**

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