



# Drama Festival

## Tips for Working with Your Group

### Middle School or High School



#### REMEMBER . . .

Primary communication with Coaches and Sponsors is done through e-mail provided with the School/Group Registration done online. If a coach or sponsor is not receiving e-mail information about the contest, he or she should check Spam/Junk folders on the computer and contact Academic Rodeo for assistance with getting the current information.

Deadlines exist for a reason. Please be aware of them and follow them. There is an **Academic Rodeo Calendar** in a true calendar format on the Getting Started and General Info pages. The **Drama Festival Timeline** is on the Drama Festival page. If you have a problem with a date or deadline, please contact Academic Rodeo, realizing that usually it is not possible to make a change or give "grace" for deadlines. To be sure your students get to participate, follow the deadlines.

#### One other item related to deadlines . . .

Each year groups register, a schedule is set, and trophies are ordered based on the group registrations. It is only after numerous attempts to get Student Registrations when the deadline has passed, that a group may suddenly announce that it will not participate. Emergencies and unavoidable situations may occur that prevent the group from performing, and these are certainly understandable. However, groups which decide they will not perform, but do not take the necessary steps to drop from the Festival create problems in the schedule and ordering of unnecessary awards. So . . . PLEASE drop, if you must, by the **Drop Deadline**. Otherwise, we will be expecting your student registrations to come in by the deadline and to see you perform at your scheduled time.

Please read the Information and Responsibilities for all Coaches and Sponsors.

Please provide scripts by the deadline posted, to allow the Judge ample time to become familiar with the work. These must be delivered to the Academic Rodeo Office at the ETSF Fairgrounds or mailed to arrive by the deadline.

#### Other things to note for One Act Play:

- Take advantage of, but do not exceed, the allowed number of cast members and understudies that may be registered for the One Act Play portion of the Festival and/or the number of entries allowed in the Dramatic Interpretation portion of the Festival.
- Be sure your students understand the format of their performances, and that they are competing from the moment they walk in to begin set-up until the last item has been removed from the stage and "Clear" has been called.
- Often a Back-Stage Award is voted on by Festival Volunteers and presented to recognize those groups that are exceptional to work with in rehearsal time and in dressing room areas.
- Remember that the entire Middle School One Act cast is invited to attend the Awards Celebration to accept the award for your group. Please RSVP with the names of those who will attend when requested to be sure that a seat is reserved for each of them.

#### Other things to note for All Performances:

- When possible, take advantage of the opportunity to watch performances of other schools.
- The Drama Festival brings high energy and enthusiasm to Academic Rodeo. Help students channel this energy appropriately and maintain respect for facilities and other performing groups.