Judge Affiliation Criteria:

The AIA / FLA Speech and Debate Committee understands that there are many times when a school acquires a judge to meet their required judge quota for a tournament, but the judge has no affiliation with the school or its team, and therefore should be designated as Unaffiliated. A school may enter a judge as unaffiliated, but still count that judge toward the school’s quota, if the judge meets the following criteria:

1. If the judge is an alum of the school, the judge must have graduated at least 5 years previously.

2. The judge is neither a blood relative of, nor can reasonably be identified as the significant other of any member of the school’s team or coaching staff.

3. The judge has not been a member of the school’s coaching staff for at least 5 years.

4. The judge must agree not to act in a coaching capacity at that tournament. (This would include, but not be limited to: sharing flows; critiquing IE performances; critiquing rounds in debate events over and above the normal extent of critique in that event.)

5. The judge does not meet the above criteria for any other school at the competition. (It is the judge’s responsibility to disclose any affiliations within the last 5 years to the tournament staff, so the judge may be properly blocked from judging a school or an individual competitor for which they do not meet the above criteria).

If a reasonable doubt exists as to whether a judge should be considered unaffiliated, the default course of action is to affiliate the judge.

It is the responsibility of a team’s head coach to make clear to unaffiliated judges their responsibilities under (4 and 5) above.

Statement of Affiliation:

The judges who have been identified as unaffiliated must sign the affidavit below attesting to the fact that they indeed meet the above criteria.

Judge Name:____________________________  School:____________________________

I, ______________________________, have read and understand the above criteria and can attest to the fact that I meet the above criteria to be qualified as an unaffiliated judge.

___________________________________
(Signature)