

## **General Speech Rules** **(based off of NCFCA)**

1. Speeches must be prepared by the student and must be delivered during the current competitive season only.
2. Plagiarism is prohibited. In both content and delivery, the speaker(s) must present original work
3. Content for all speeches must be in keeping with the GICAA mission to glorify God. Discretion should be exercised when determining material for competition.
  - Humor is permitted as long as it is in good taste.
  - Opinions contrary to those of the judge may be expressed.
  - Dark material is permitted only if it includes a redemptive element.
  - Potentially intense or sensitive speeches should be preceded by the verbal disclaimer, "This speech contains potentially intense or sensitive material."
  - Vulgarity is not permitted. Vulgarity includes inappropriate, obscene, or profane language or gestures.
4. Gymnastics are not permitted. Gymnastics includes acrobatic type blocking such as flips, cartwheels, "leap frog," etc.
5. Only feet are permitted to touch the floor at any time in all speech events.
6. Costumes are not permitted. Costumes include part or all of the speaker's attire worn to enhance the speech.
7. Lecterns may not be used.
8. Audience members, including judges, may not prompt the speaker.
9. Requesting participation from audience members, including judges, is not permitted.
10. A pre-show is not permitted. A pre-show refers to rehearsed blocking or additional performance added to the beginning of the submitted, scripted speech.
11. All speeches should take place center stage, and speakers should not infringe on the judges' personal space.
12. Prescribed penalties for the following rule violations will be applied by tournament administration and should not be reflected in the judge's original rank:
  - Exceeding the maximum speech time by more than 15 seconds for any speech category will result in a 5-point deduction.
  - Script or note use during platform speeches will result in a 5-point deduction.