

# UNITED STATES ACADEMIC DECATHLON

## National Finals 2010

### Speech Event – Rules and Guidelines

Rules and guidelines for the **Prepared Speech** competition:

1. Students may use note cards for the prepared speech. Over reliance on note cards represents a poorly prepared speech.
2. The speech may not be read.
3. The speech must be delivered while standing before the judges.
4. The speech must be the original work of the student performing the speech, must have been used only for the 2009-2010 Academic Decathlon season, and may not have been used for any other competitive event.
5. No props may be used during the speech.
6. The speech must not be less than 3 ½ minutes or more than 4 minutes in length.

Rules and Guidelines for **Impromptu Speech** competition:

1. The student may not leave the room during the speech preparation time.
2. Following the presentation of the prepared speech, the student will be given blank note cards which he/she may use to help plan the impromptu speech. Blank note cards and pencils will be provided in the testing room.
3. The speech must be no less than 1 ½ minutes and no more than 2 minutes in length.
4. The speech must be given while standing before the judges.

Candidates should be familiar with the Speech Rules and Guidelines as outlined in the USAD Study Guide.