

## **Proposal to clean up and clarify Duo, Play Acting & Solo Actings**

Submitted by John Rademacher, Madison West, on behalf of the Category Committee

### **Summary:**

Eliminate words from Solo Humorous, Solo Serious, Duo, and Play Acting that reference irrelevant details.

### **Rationale:**

Currently there is confusing wording and commentary embedded into the rules. The intent of the rules is to state what the parameters are, not offer opinion on what will or will not work. References to sound and lighting need to be more specific or not present at all, as they confuse judges.

### **Proposed changes to Duo Interpretation:**

*[strike "Extreme fragmentation..." in rule 3 and "sound effects" from rule 4.]*

3. It is permissible for contestants to play more than one character or to present dramatic material consisting of a series of vignettes. However, entrants should be aware that such materials or production styles are subject to critique. ~~Extreme fragmentation of actors into multiple roles may have a severely adverse impact on the ability to develop a believable character portrayal during the limited time available.~~ The performance responsibility between both actors must be as balanced as possible.

4. Movements to suggest relationships, feelings, changes, ideas, moods, locales, etc., consistent with the offstage focus of the presentation are acceptable and subject to critique. Onstage focus (direct eye contact) and physical contact (touching) between participants is prohibited, except in the introduction. Any ~~sound effects and~~ forms of vocal music must be an integral part of the literature and incidental to the performance and should not overwhelm the presentation.

### **Proposed change to Play Acting:**

*[strike "Extreme fragmentation..." in rule 3 and "sound (including" and "and music), lighting" from rule 4.]*

3. It is permissible for contestants to play more than one character or for groups to present dramatic material consisting of a series of vignettes. However, entrants should be aware that such materials or production styles are subject to critique. ~~Extreme fragmentation of actors into multiple roles may have a severely adverse impact on the ability to develop a believable character portrayal during the limited time available.~~

4. Costumes, props, ~~sound (including mechanical or electronic sound effects and music), lighting,~~ and make-up are not allowed. Available tables and chairs may be used.

### **Proposed change to Solo Humorous & Solo Serious:**

4. Costumes, props (including tables and chairs), ~~sound, lighting,~~ and make-up are not allowed. ~~The use of a single stationary chair is not allowed.~~