NEW YORK STATE FORENSIC LEAGUE
HUMOROUS INTERPRETATION BALLOT

**Code** _____**Round**_____ **Room**_____ **Rank** _____ **of** _____

**Title:**_____

**Judge's Name:** _____ **Judge Affiliation:** _____

Judges:
1. The best speaker should be given the rank of 1.
2. No two speakers may be given the same rank.
3. Time Limit: Maximum of ten (10) minutes with no minimum. There is a mandatory thirty (30) second grace period during which time no penalty may be assessed. Speakers that exceed this grace period may not be ranked first in the round.
4. Selections must be accurate cuttings from published plays, novels, short stories or poems. Adaptation may be for the purpose of continuity only. Speakers, as part of their presentation, must name the author and source from which the cutting was made. Selections should be judged on their appropriateness as contest material and their suitability to the particular speaker using them. Coaches are encouraged to guide their students in the direction of literary awareness.
5. The presentation must be from memory. No scripts, props or costumes are permitted.

This is a contest in interpretation. Speakers should be evaluated on: poise, vocal quality (inflection, emphasis, enunciation, pronunciation, diction, phrasing), and especially the ability to accurately and consistently interpret character(s) and the piece of literature as a whole. While the presentations are clearly intended to have impact on the audience, the extent to which the audience responds should not be a prime consideration in making a judgment. Humor may take many forms, and the invoking of laughter is but on manifestation of successful humorous interpretation. The overall effect should be comical, ranging from smiles to belly laughs. The final test of good interpretation is the ability of the speaker to employ all of these elements so successfully and unobtrusively that the audience for gets that this is a contest and carried away to the time and place of the scene.
**Please use the back for extended commentary.**