

**C& J Report – Spring HOD 2026**

Although it is uncommon for a sitting President to also serve as the Contest & Judging Vice President, I am confident that my recent involvement in Society initiatives, district operations, and the judging system equips me to successfully fulfill both roles for the remainder of the term.

Our current single-convention format combines the District Quartet Championship and International Qualification into one contest session. Under this structure, the Bagley Rule—originally intended for a two-convention system—no longer functions effectively.

Last year, the rule required all 13 district quartets to advance to the finals, resulting in **16 total finalists**. This created an overly long finals session and delayed judges' evaluations late into the evening.

To prevent similar issues, the board proposes **removing the Bagley Rule**.

Under the updated system:

Top 10 quartets advance to the finals

11th-place quartet serves as mic tester

Exception: Out-of-district quartets achieving the Society's minimum qualifying score must be included, even if this exceeds 10 finalists

This change modernizes our process, improves contest flow, and creates a more efficient and predictable experience for competitors, judges, and attendees.