

All rules in Section 209 apply to this contest.

- A. NATURE OF THE CONTEST. Each participant member school must enter three consecutive newspapers.
1. *Purpose.* The purpose of this contest is to evaluate journalistic skills included in newspaper production.
 2. *Submissions.* The newspaper to be presented must be 3 consecutive newspapers from the current year or prior year with authorization from the State Office.
- B. AUTHORSHIP. The paper presented must be the work of the students on the newspaper staff.
- C. CONDUCTING THE CONTEST.
1. *Judging Criteria.* The following categories will be used to evaluate each newspaper:
 - a. *Layout and Design:* 20 points maximum.
 - b. *Headline Writing, including masthead:* 20 points maximum.
 - c. *Story Content and Leads:* 20 points maximum.
 - d. *Grammar and Punctuation:* 20 points maximum.
 - e. *Photography and Captions:* 20 points maximum.(Rubric and Judging Criteria found in TAPPS Forms Manual, Academic Forms pg. 16-17)
 2. *Identification of Newspapers.* Make sure the school name, newspaper name and school classification are affixed to the newspaper.
 3. *Scoring.* Rank according to total points.
 4. **Ties. There are no ties. Judges preference will be used to break all ties.**
- D. **Newspapers qualifying for the State Contest must be delivered to the TAPPS office prior to the Deadline in order to be judged. Newspapers that arrive late or incomplete will not be judged.**