

CoSIDA Fred S. Stabley Sr. Writing Contest

Based upon the chill in the air and the inches or feet of snow you might have piled up outside your office window, it is time to start thinking about article submissions to the CoSIDA Fred S. Stabley Sr. Writing Contest.

In our profession, we are called upon to use our writing skills each and every day and we create tremendous stories that captivate our audience. It is a major aspect of our jobs and an aspect that we take very seriously. For all of our hard work to recognize others, are not we deserving of some recognition as well??

With that in mind, CoSIDA members are encouraged to submit entries for this year's Writing Contest. The deadline for entries is February 21, 2014 and they can be submitted online at <http://www.cosida.com/fswcontest.aspx>

Categories have changed a bit and now include the following seven:

- 1) Event Coverage
- 2) General Feature
- 3) Coach/Administrator Profile & Historical Feature
- 4) Athlete Profile
- 5) Blog/Interview
- 6) Season Preview/Recap
- 7) Story With Video (cannot be from outside of office, send script if one available)

I encourage you to submit as many stories as possible with the **maximum of three (3)** per category. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Best of luck!

Wade Steinlage
Writing Contest Chair
William Penn University

The Contest

The CoSIDA Fred S. Stabley Sr. Writing Contest is open to all members of CoSIDA and is the only contest sponsored by CoSIDA that does not discriminate because of budget, athletic competition level, or size of staff. All entries are considered to be on a level playing field.

Entries

1. All dues-paying members of CoSIDA are encouraged to enter the contest. Non-members of CoSIDA who work in a sports information/media relations capacity (graduate assistants, interns, student assistants and volunteers) are invited to submit stories as long as each entry is sponsored by a dues-paying member of that office.
2. Entries must come from a campus publicity office, a conference office, or a sports governing body that deals directly with college athletics. The stories must have been generated through the normal daily role of the office.
3. **Entries must be sent in no later than February 21, 2014 (again, members may submit up to THREE entries per category). Entries must have been written/published between January 1, 2013 and December 31, 2013.**
4. Online submissions are available at <http://www.cosida.com/fswcontest.aspx>

5. Entries must be in prose form. No game notes, fact sheets, etc., may be submitted.

Judging

All entries will be forwarded to a district representative, who will gather a panel of three judges. The stories will be judged by category only, with the top story in each category at the district level being forwarded to a national panel of judges.

Judging will be based equally on the following criteria:

- Flow/Organization**
- Grammar/Punctuation**
- Interesting/Original**
- Focus/Clarity of Subject**
- Video/Story Correlation (Video Category Only)**

District coordinators reserve the right to re-classify an entry if it is not submitted for the proper category.

Awards

Winners at the district and national level will be emailed a PDF certificate.

Questions

Wade Steinlage, Contest Chair

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or

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Where to Send Entries

District 1 (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and Quebec)

District 2 (Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia)

District 3 (Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia)

District 4 (Alabama, Kentucky, Michigan, Ohio, and Tennessee)

District 5 (Illinois, Indiana, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Manitoba, and Ontario)

District 6 (Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas)

District 7 (Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming, Alberta, and Saskatchewan)

District 8 (Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington, British Columbia, and Yukon)