Voter Services/Moderating

Main focus is on moderating today, but briefly touch on registration and policies

Voter Reg – use to register and to get voter info out
- Use marches to register kids
- Use SIA students to get into the schools
- Use colleges – know about college students’ rights – and absentee ballots
- OD wants to focus on high schools – need to update from NYAD on what we’re doing
- VG Part I coming out by May – Part II in late Sept after primaries – will have state races
- Collaborate with other organizations, companies, etc and offer to come register
- State Fair – will need volunteers to help
- Great way to engage new members – one time assist at reg drive

Voter Service Policies
- All board should adopt – and readopt each year
  - Nonpartisanship policy – at min, Pres and VS Chair, but many whole board
  - Voter Service policies
- New state board policies – empty chairs and primaries
  - Rationale for empty chair and what can do to avoid empty chairs
- Videotaping policy
  - Strength of policies – still get criticized, but can say it’s not partisan as you have a written policy concerning that decision

Moderating
- Ensure that all cands on ballot were invited (no write ins rec) and procedures should be agreed to and signed by candidates – can have separate form or in invitation letter
- How to pick a moderator – from area outside of races in cand forum – use other Leagues
- Moderator training offered
- Moderator in charge
  - Introduce yourself, League, other members working, and what candidates have agreed to (schedule, no videotaping by campaigns, etc)
  - Have to cut off candidates if overtime – politely but firmly
  - Index cards vs open mic issues – Red cards (Saratoga)
    - Comments instead of questions, close mics if too long
  - Shorter answers allow for more questions so encourage cands to answer in less time
  - Warn if see a camera taping and be willing to stop forum if taping continues – remind that candidates agreed to no taping
  - Page on unruly audiences in handout