

I. TOURNAMENT ENTRY AND PROCEDURES

A. Entry format

All entries must use the Website entry form or its equivalent.

B. Judges

1. Commitment

- A. Judges must be qualified educators, coaches, graduate students, or experienced former competitors (three semesters removed from college competition). Judges without a bachelor's degree must be approved by a Director of Forensics.
- B. All judges must be available to judge all events (speech and debate) at all times.
- C. For I.E. events, one judge covers 5 I.E. events per pattern.
- D. For debate events, (NPDA & IPDA) One judge covers 1.5 debate entries (For example, 1 judge is needed for 1 debate entry, 2 judges are needed for 2 debate entries, and 2 judges are needed for 3 debate entries, 3 judges for 4 debate entries and so on).
- E. BP Debate judges are based on entry size. You must provide "n-1 judges" where n equals the number of teams entered, e.g., 3 teams= 2 judges, 4 teams= 3 judges, etc. BP judges are committed through finals. Each school with BP entries must provide a minimum of one BP judge.
- F. Every school is required to provide at least one judge.

C. Entries

1. A school may enter a maximum of 10 students and/or teams per event.
2. Students may enter a maximum of 2 events per pattern (4 total) PLUS debate: NPDA, BP or IPDA. A student may only be entered in one debate event.
3. Individual Event Patterns
 - a. Pattern A: Duo, Prose, Informative, Impromptu, Rhetorical Criticism
 - b. Pattern B: Poetry, Drama, Persuasion, ADS, POI, Extemporaneous

D. Tournament Qualifications:

1. Tournament participants in all events other than tournament nuance events must be undergraduate college students in good standing at their respective institutions. Students are allowed to participate in a maximum of four IFA tournaments as a student. Specific tournament requirements may also be addressed in the tournament invitation.

E. Room Needs

A. Rules for entering Championship tournaments as follows:

1. For Individual Events: 1-10 entries require 1 hotel room for competition; 11-20 requires 2 rooms; 21-30 requires 3, etc. Competition rooms need to be available at all times for all events.
2. For Debate Events: 1-2 entries require 1 hotel room for competition; 3-5 requires 2 rooms; 6+ requires 3 rooms. Competition rooms need to be available at all times for all events.

II. DEBATE PROCEDURES

1. Types of Awards

- A. Recognitions will be given to all out-round participants in all debate events.

2. Elimination Round Procedures (All Debate Events)

- A. Brackets WILL NOT be broken in elimination rounds. In the event opponents from the same school meet, the tab room will advance the higher seed.
- B. Traditional quarterfinals, semifinals, and final rounds will take place for debate events where

warranted by total entries. If necessary, the tab room may use only one judge in the quarterfinals
C. In the event there are more than 70 entries in a debate event, the tab room may change the schedule, flight elimination rounds, or alter the number of judges in an elimination round to facilitate clearing more contestants. Any changes to facilitate numbers will be announced at the business meeting prior to the tournament.

3. Forfeit Rule: Any contestant who is late five (5) minutes past the posted starting time of the round is subject to forfeiture at the discretion of the tournament director.

4. Regulations for Appeals & Protests: All appeals & protests cannot be made until after the round has completed.

5. IPDA DEBATE

A. Contestants will debate 4 preliminary rounds, two each as affirmative and negative. Topics will be decided in the round and 30 minutes of prep time will be allotted. Time limits Affirmative constructive=5, Negative cross ex=2, Negative constructive=6, Affirmative cross ex=2, Affirmative Rebuttal=3, Negative Rebuttal & Summary=5, Affirmative Summary=3 (5-2-6-2-3-5-3).

B. Preliminary round pairings and teams advancing to elimination debates will be determined based on the following criteria:

- 1. Win/Lose (Low Point Wins Allowed)
- 2. Adjusted Speaker Points
- 3. Total Speaker Points
- 4. Z-Score
- 5. Random Number

C. The number of teams that will advance to elimination rounds will be based on the following parameters:

- 1-7 Entries- 2 Entries Advance
- 8-15 Entries- 4 Entries Advance
- 16-31 Entries- 8 Entries Advance
- 32+ Entries- 16 Entries Advance

D. Only winning records shall advance.

E. Under no circumstances shall more than half the field be advanced.

6. NPDA DEBATE

A. Two-person teams (mavericks not allowed) will debate four rounds, two each as government and opposition. Twenty minutes of preparation time will be allotted once the topic has been announced at the central announce area (to be identified at the tournament). No group preparation will be permitted. Electronic devices may not be used for flowing in the round. Time limits are 7-8-8-8-4-5 with points of information permitted and highly encouraged. No flex time will be used. Topics will vary by round and will focus on issues related to the host country.

B. Preliminary round pairings and teams advancing to elimination debates will be determined based on the following criteria:

- 1. Win/Lose (Low Point Wins Allowed)
- 2. Adjusted Speaker Points
- 3. Total Speaker Points
- 4. Z-Score
- 5. Random Number

C. The number of teams that will advance to elimination rounds will be based on the following parameters:

- 1-7 Entries- 2 Entries Advance
- 8-15 Entries- 4 Entries Advance
- 16-31 Entries- 8 Entries Advance
- 32+ Entries- 16 Entries Advance

B. Only winning records shall advance.

C. Under no circumstances shall more than half the field be advanced.

7. BP DEBATE

- A. Two-person teams will debate four rounds, two each as government and opposition. Fifteen minutes of preparation time will be allotted once the topic has been announced. WUDC rules regarding prep restrictions (no internet, no coaching during prep, etc.) will be observed. Each speech will be 7 minutes in length.
- B. Preliminary round pairings and teams advancing to elimination debates will be determined based on the following criteria:
 - 1. Points
 - 2. Ranks
 - 3. Speaker Points
 - 4. Adjusted Speaker Points
 - 5. Random Number
- C. The number of teams that will advance to elimination rounds will be based on the following parameters:
 - 1-16 Entries- 4 Entries Advance
 - 17-32 Entries- 8 Entries Advance
 - 32+ Entries- 16 Entries Advance

III. INDIVIDUAL EVENTS PROCEDURES

1. Types of Awards

- A. Recognitions will be given to all out-round participants in all individual events.

2. Events

- A. **DRAMATIC DUO** A cutting from a play, humorous or serious, involving the portrayal of two or more characters presented by two individuals. This is not an acting event. Thus, costumes, props, etc. are not permitted. Presentations must be from a manuscript and the focus should be off stage. Maximum time is 10 minutes.
- B. **PROSE INTERPRETATION** Each contestant will present a 10-minute maximum program of prose literature including original introductory and transitional remarks. The program may consist of single or multiple selections. Plays are not eligible. Use of manuscript is required.
- C. **INFORMATIVE SPEAKING** The contestant will deliver an original factual speech on a realistic subject to fulfill a general information need of the audience. Visual aids that supplement/reinforce the message are permitted. Maximum time is 10 minutes.
- D. **IMPROMPTU SPEAKING** Contestants will receive prompts related to the host nation and have seven minutes to divide between preparation and speaking. All contestants in the same section will speak on the same topic.
- E. **EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING** Contestants will construct and deliver a speech not to exceed 7 minutes after choosing from among three questions on current events, with 30 minutes of preparation. The use of limited notes is allowed. Electronic methods of resource material may be used, and students should be able to retrieve cited material upon judge request. The IFA is not responsible for providing for any electronic storage or retrieval methods.
- F. **RHETORICAL CRITICISM** Contestants will deliver an original critical analysis of any significant rhetorical artifact. The speaker should limit the quotation of, paraphrasing of, or summary of, the analyzed artifact to a minimum. Any legitimate critical methodology is permissible as long as it serves to open up the artifact for the audience. Visual aids that supplement/reinforce the message are permitted. Maximum time is 10 minutes.
- G. **POETRY INTERPRETATION** The contestant will present a program of poetic literature. Original introductory comments and transitional remarks are permitted. Programs may consist of single or multiple selections. Use of manuscripts is required. Maximum time is 10 minutes.
- H. **DRAMATIC INTERPRETATION** The contestant will perform dramatic literature, humorous or serious, that represents one or more characters from material of literary merit. This material may be drawn from stage, screen, or radio. Programs may consist of single or multiple

- selections. Use of manuscript is required. Maximum time is 10 minutes.
- I. PERSUASIVE SPEAKING A speech to convince, to move to action, or to inspire on a significant issue, delivered from memory. Visual aids that supplement/reinforce the message are permitted. Maximum time is 10 minutes.
 - J. AFTER DINNER SPEAKING Each contestant will present an original speech whose purpose is to make a serious point through the use of humor. The speech should reflect the development of a humorous comedic effort, not a standup comedy routine. Visual aids that supplement/reinforce the message are permitted. Maximum time is 10 minutes.
 - K. PROGRAM ORAL INTERPRETATION Contestants will deliver a program of thematically-linked selections of literary merit, chosen from two or three recognized genres of competitive interpretation (prose/poetry/drama). A primary focus of this event should be on the development of the theme through the use of narrative/story, language, and/or characterization. A substantial portion of the total time must be devoted to each of the genres used in the program. Different genre means the material must appear in separate pieces of literature (e.g., A poem included in a short story that appears only in that short story does not constitute a poetry genre.) Only one selection may be original. Use of manuscript is required. Maximum time is 10 minutes.
 - L. NUANCE EVENT: To be decided by the tournament director before/or at the NCA Business meeting. NOTE: This is a non-sweepstakes event for students that is designed to honor the host nation.
3. Visual Aids in all events cannot exceed 8½" X 11" in size.
 4. Elimination Procedures:
 - A. There will be 2 preliminary rounds of competition followed by a final round in each of the following patterns.
 - B. Semifinal rounds will take place in events which have 37+ entries.
 - C. Maximum Ranks in preliminary rounds will be set to 5. Semifinal AND Final rounds will be set to the total number of speakers in the section.
 - D. Elimination round pairings will be determined based on the following criteria:
 1. Ranks
 2. Decimal Conversion
 3. Speaker Points
 - E. Semifinal rounds will advance the top 3 in each section. In the case of a super semifinal, the top 2 speakers in each of the three sections will advance.
 - F. Final round placings will be determined based on the following criteria. (Ranks must be set to total number of speakers.)
 1. Ranks
 2. Judges Preference
 3. Decimal in Elim
 4. Total Rank in Event
 5. Points in Elim

IV. SWEEPSTAKES AWARDS

1. Awards will be presented to the top six overall schools, the top three community colleges, and the individual speaker who accumulates the most sweepstakes points as follows:
 - A. Open Sweepstakes: *Dr. Harry Strine Award* - Top 6 schools overall.
 - B. Community College Sweepstakes: *Prof. Barbara Baron Award* - Top 3 Community College schools.
 - C. Individual Sweepstakes: *Dr. Clark Olson Award* - Given to the student that earned the most sweepstakes points.
2. Sweepstakes points will be awarded based on the following formula
 - A. Individual Events: 6-5-4-3-2-1 points for finals (with .5 points for semifinalists)
 - B. Debate Events: 1st-6 2nd-5 Semifinalist-4 Quarter Finalist- 2 Octo Finalist- 1

V. TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR

A. Personnel

1. The tournament director shall select and appoint tab room staff. Whenever possible, the Tournament Director shall appoint tab room staff representing 2- and 4-year schools, as well as various national regions.
2. The Tab staff can NOT consist of multiple people representing the same school.
3. The tournament director shall select a tabulation "leader" for Individual Events AND a tabulation "leader" for debate. The tournament director will be the final say on all decisions. Under this format, no less than 3 people shall be working in tab.

- B. Distribution of Results:** The Tournament Director shall post all tournament results on the entry system used within 48 hours of conclusion of tournament.