

**Jan. 7, 2019**

**To all CFL Speech and Debate Coaches:**

The Maine CFL Diocese and Poland High School cordially invites all members of the Maine CFL organization to attend the National Qualifying Speech and Debate Tournaments: Congressional Debate on Jan. 28<sup>th</sup> at the State Tournament at Brunswick and Debate and Speech at Poland High School on Saturday, Feb. 2, 2019. **Please read through all the information in the invitation carefully** in order to facilitate a safe and speedy tournament.

**ENTRY LIMITS:**

At this time, the diocese has **three** qualifiers this year in each category so the tournament will not have entry limits. There will be qualifiers in the following categories: Congressional Debate, Lincoln Douglas Debate, Public Forum Debate, Extemporaneous Speaking, Oral Interpretation of Literature, Dramatic Interpretation of Literature, Duo Interpretation of Literature, Original Oratory, and Oratorical Declamation. There are no **novice** levels at this tournament. However, Oratorical Declamation is only opened to freshman and sophomores. Also, there is no **double entering** at this tournament. Every attempt will be made to run every category, but if a category is not full, the students who are entered into the category are the national qualifiers by default. Still, all students should be prepared to compete during the tournament. In other words, a student must be entered and present in order to obtain their spot to nationals.

**CATEGORY DESCRIPTION:**

Since CFL recognizes different competitive categories, a description of each category with differences noted follows:

**Congressional Debate:** Group assembly which debates legislation. There is not a Senate and a House designation. The students will debate the state docket.

**Lincoln-Douglas Debate:** Single individual value based debate. Uses the national resolution; Resolved:(Jan/Feb. topic) The United States ought not provide military aid to authoritarian regimes.

**Public forum Debate:** Team Debate centered on current event issues. Uses the national resolution: Resolved: (Please note that this is the Feb. topic) The United States should end its arms sales to Saudi Arabia..

**Extemporaneous speaking:** Answers a question concerning either domestic and foreign current event topics. No note cards. Seven minutes in length.

**Dramatic Interpretation of Literature:** Selection that comes from a published source either dramatic or humorous in nature. Must have introduction, 5-10 minutes in length. Memorized.

**Duo Interpretation of Literature:** Form a published printed source with two or more characters. Five to ten minutes in length with an introduction. May be humorous or dramatic in content. Memorized.

**Oral Interpretation of Literature:** A program event with alternating rounds of poetry and prose. Delivered from a manuscript. Each student will do poetry twice and prose twice. First round determined at the tournament. Each selection is 5-10 minutes in length.

**Original Oratory:** Persuasive, memorized speech. Seven to ten minutes long with citations.

**Oratorical Declamation:** A memorized speech written and publicly delivered by another individual. This event is only opened to freshmen and sophomore competitors.

**Coaches: It is the coaches responsibility to bring copies of all competitive material used by the students to the tournament in case of a challenge.**

If you have any questions or want a more detailed description of the event along with ballots and the judging criteria, please go the National Catholic Forensics' League website.

### **REGISTRATION:**

Registration must be made by **6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 23rd for Congressional debate entries and on Jan. 30th for Speech and Debate events** to in all categories via tabroom. The drop deadline for Congress is Jan. 25th at 8:00 PM and for speech and debate is Feb. 1st at 8:00 PM. Judges' names and area of expertise should also accompany the registration. Please make sure that students have their codes before they come to the tournament. Drops on tournament day result in a nuisance fee--fewer drops, fewer delays!. After 8 PM, please send drops via email to D'Arcy Robinson at [drobinson@rsu16.org](mailto:drobinson@rsu16.org). For drops on the day of the tournament please call tab phone line as soon as possible. Judge drops and questions can be emailed to D'Arcy at [drobinson@rsu16.org](mailto:drobinson@rsu16.org).

Registration will be from 8:00-8:30 in the front lobby. There will be two separate invoices—one for Congressional Debate handed out at the state meet and one for the Debate/Speech meet held at Poland. We will handle invoices during the tournament.

**Congressional Debate:** Please make sure that I have student names by Wednesday, Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup>. Schools must belong to NCFL's and have paid the qualifying entry fee in order to be part of the potential pool for NCFL qualifiers. In other words, you have to pay to play.

**Important note for Poland:** The students must be either in the café or in rounds. The tab room will be in the Information Center.

### **Debate Topics:**

**Lincoln Douglas:** Resolved: The United States ought not provide military aid to authoritarian regimes..

**Public Forum:** Resolved: The United States should end its arms sales to Saudi Arabia.

### **JUDGES:**

**Debate:** One judge per every two entries in both Public forum (a team counts as one entry) and Lincoln-Douglas or any fraction thereof. Every other judge must be unaffiliated.

- **Congressional Debate:** One judge per five entries or fraction thereof. Every other judge must be unaffiliated. Actually taken care of by StateTournament.

- **Speech:** One judge for every three entries (Duo counts as one entry), or any fraction thereof. (e.g. 7 entries requires three judges). Every other judge must be unaffiliated.

Note: you must provide the judge for all four rounds of speech and debate. If an affiliated judge departs early with no one to cover the remaining rounds, the responsible team will be penalized accordingly!

**FEES:**

All speakers-\$7.00 per entry

Hired judge-\$60.00 per judge (if available)

Drops on tournament day will be assessed a \$10.00 nuisance fee per entry. An entire school drop on the day of the tournament will incur a penalty fee of the entire entry plus the nuisance fee.

**Checks and P.O's should be made out to:**

**D'Arcy Robinson, CFL Moderator.**

**1457 Maine Street**

**Poland, Maine 04274**

**AWARDS:**

National Qualifying awards will be given to the three top contestants in each category. Two alternates will be recognized in case the national qualifier is unable to attend.

**Tentative Schedule: Be early; This is tentative because there may need to be adjustments due to the number of entries. If possible, schedule will be tightened up so please tell students and judges to be flexible.**

All students are guaranteed four rounds.

The day is scheduled as follows:

**8:00-8:30 Registration check in (get there early)**

8:45-9:00 Tournament meeting in theatre

9:15 Round One: All Events Student Congress session one

Rounds will be posted as quickly as possible. There will be a lunch break after round III.

**Lunch:** There will be lunch available for students in the café along with snacks. Coaches and judges will have lunch supplied in the coach's lounge.

**Extemp Topics:**

Topics similar to the ones used at the State Tournament.

**Directions to the School:**

Take Interstate 495 to the Gray-New Gloucester exit (60) for route 26. Take 26 North to PRHS which will be on the left side. It is just past the new Dunkin Donuts and Family Dollar and about nine miles from the exit.

One last note; Please respect the signs concerning food allergies in the building. We try to restrict peanut products to the cafe. Also, there is no food in the classrooms—water only.

We hope that we have covered all the bases. Feel free to call D’Arcy Robinson at any time if you have questions. We hope to make this a great CFL Tournament for all, and we hope that you will join us.

Sincerely,  
D’Arcy F. Robinson, CFL Moderator

