

 <p><b>THUNDERING WORD</b></p>	<p><b>48th Marshall University John Marshall Speech and Debate Tournament</b></p> <p><b>Huntington WV 14-15 February 2020</b></p>
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Dear Colleagues:

It is my pleasure to invite you to attend the 48th Marshall University John Marshall Speech and Debate Tournament to be held on Friday, 14 February 2020, and Saturday, 15 February 2020, at Marshall University, Huntington, West Virginia.

**EVENTS AND ENTRIES**

This year we will offer competition in 14 different speech and debate events. The events are:

<b>Speech Flight A</b>	<b>Speech Flight B</b>	<b>Debate</b>
Broadcasting Dramatic Interpretation Extemporaneous Speaking Informative Speaking Programmed Oral Interpretation Prose Interpretation Improvisational Duo	Duo Interpretation Humorous Interpretation Impromptu Speaking Original Oratory Poetry Interpretation Declamation Storytelling	Lincoln-Douglas Debate Public Forum Debate Congressional Debate

**STUDENT ENTRIES**

A school may have unlimited student entries in each event, except Congressional debate. A school initially may enter up to 6 students in Congressional debate but may add more students to a wait list, from which they may be pulled if there are two or more Houses.

Students may enter up to seven events subject to the following restrictions:

- Any student may enter Congressional Debate, which will be held Friday morning before the remainder of the tournament starts.

- No student may enter both broadcasting and extemporaneous speaking.
- A student competing only in speech events may enter up to three events in Flight A.
- A student competing only in speech events may enter up to three events in Flight B.
- A student competing in Lincoln-Douglas Debate and Public Forum Debate may also enter Extemporaneous Speaking OR Broadcasting OR one additional speech event in Flight A and one additional speech event in Flight B.
- A student competing in Public Forum Debate, but not Lincoln-Douglas Debate, may enter up to three additional speech events in Flight A and one additional speech event in Flight B.
- A student competing in Lincoln-Douglas Debate, but not Public Forum Debate, may enter up to three additional speech events in Flight B and one additional speech event in Flight A.
- A student may be entered in two duos in Duo Interpretation as long as the partners and pieces are different.

Students from two different schools may compete together in Improvisational Duo.

### **JUDGING ENTRIES**

One judge is owed for each six speech entries. One judge is owed for each two Public Forum Debate and Lincoln-Douglas Debate entries. No judges are owed for Congressional Debate entries.

All judges must be knowledgeable of tournament and event rules and may not have graduated high school last year.

All judges must be made available to judge until the ballots for the last final round have been distributed. All debate judges must be qualified to judge both Public Forum Debate and Lincoln-Douglas Debate.

## REGISTRATION

You may register for this tournament at <http://mujm.tabroom.com>.

The registration deadline is Tuesday, 11 February, at 5:00 PM, but you are encouraged to register earlier so we can better prepare. You may make changes through Thursday, 13 February, at 12:00 PM without any nuisance fees applying.

## DEADLINES

Congressional debate bills/resolution submission: 7 February at 12:00 PM (Each school may submit two primary bills and an unlimited number of secondary bills. A docket and all bills/resolutions received will be posted online by 5:00 PM.)

Student entries: Tuesday, 11 February at 5:00 PM

Judges entries: Tuesday, 11 February, at 5:00 PM

Fees & obligations freeze: Thursday, 13 February, at 12:00 PM

Online drops & name changes: Thursday, 13 February, at 12:00 PM

Nuisance fees apply after Thursday, 13 February, at 12:00 PM

## FEES

### ENTRY FEES

Hospitality:	\$5.00 per person
Speech individual events:	\$6.00 per entry
Speech duo events:	\$12.00 per team
Congressional debate:	\$6.00 per entry
Lincoln-Douglas debate:	\$12.00 per person
Public Forum Debate:	\$18.00 per team
Individual sweepstakes:	\$6.00 per entry

### JUDGING FEES\*

Hospitality:	\$5.00 per person
Uncovered speech entries:	\$8.00 per entry
Uncovered debate entries:	\$24.00 per entry

\*The designation of any judge as both a speech and a debate judge will result in a discount on uncovered entries.

### STUDENT ADD/DROP FEES

Thursday, 13 February (after 12:00 PM)	\$10.00 + entry fee
Friday, 14 February (before 9:30 AM)	\$15.00 + entry fee
Friday, 14 February (after 9:30 AM)	\$25.00 + entry fee

### JUDGE DROP FEES

Thursday, 13 February (after 12:00 PM)	\$50.00
Friday, 14 February (after 9:30 AM)	\$100.00

To avoid high drop fees on the day of the tournament, call or text Clara Adkins with any drops no later than 9:30 AM.

### INVOICE/PAYMENT

You can print your invoice through [tabroom.com](http://tabroom.com). Make checks payable to MU Speech and Debate. Cash is also accepted.

## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

### Friday, 14 February

8:00 AM to 12:00 PM – Registration  
8:30 AM to 10:00 AM – Congress Session I  
10:10 AM to 11:40 AM – Congress Session II  
12:00 PM to 1:00 PM – PF Debate Rd 1  
12:30 PM – Extemp Draw  
1:00 PM to 2:30 PM – Speech Rd 1, Flight A  
1:30 PM to 2:30 PM – LD Debate Rd 1  
2:30 PM to 4:00 PM – Speech Rd 1, Flight B  
2:30 PM to 3:30 PM – PF Debate Rd 2  
3:30 PM – Break  
4:00 PM – Extemp Draw  
4:15 PM – Broadcasting Draw  
4:30 PM to 6:00 PM – Speech Rd 1, Flight A  
5:00 PM to 6:00 PM – LD Debate Rd 2  
6:00 PM to 7:30 PM – Speech Rd 2, Flight B  
6:30 PM to 7:30 PM – PF Debate Rd 3

### Saturday, 15 February

8:00 AM – Extemp/Broadcasting Draw  
8:30 AM to 10:00 AM – Speech Rd 3, Flight A  
9:00 AM to 10:00 AM – LD Debate Rd 3  
10:00 AM to 11:00 AM – PF Debate Rd 4  
10:00 AM to 11:30 AM – Speech Rd 3, Flight B  
11:00 AM to 12:00 PM – LD Debate Rd 4  
11:00 AM to 12:30 PM – Lunch  
11:30 PM – Extemp/Broadcasting Draw  
12:00 PM to 1:30 PM – Speech Elims A  
12:30 PM to 1:30 PM – PF Semifinals  
1:30 PM to 2:30 PM – LD Semifinals  
1:30 PM to 3:00 PM – Speech Elims B  
2:30 PM to 3:30 PM – PF Finals  
3:00 PM – Extemp/Broadcasting Draw  
3:00 PM to 4:30 PM – Speech Elims C  
3:30 PM to 4:30 PM – LD Finals  
5:30 PM – Awards

## SPEECH EVENTS

### **DIVISIONS**

Speech events may be divided into novice and varsity divisions or a novice final round may be held if there are at least 12 novice contestants.

### **EVENT RULES**

The tournament follows National Speech and Debate Association (NSDA) high school rules for the following events: Dramatic Interpretation, Duo Interpretation, Humorous Interpretation, Impromptu Speaking, Original Oratory, and Programmed Oral Interpretation. *See* <https://www.speechanddebate.org/wp-content/uploads/High-School-Unified-Manual-2016-2017.pdf>.

The tournament generally follows NSDA high school rules for Extemporaneous Speaking, except “PILOTED GUIDELINES for Laptop Use in Extemporaneous Speaking” will be used, and there will be no cross-examination in the final round.

The tournament follows National Catholic Forensic League (NCFL) rules for the following events: Prose Interpretation (Oral Interpretation), Poetry Interpretation (Oral Interpretation), and Declamation (Oratorical Declamation). Declamation is limited to middle school students, freshmen, and sophomores. *See* <http://www.ncfl.org/competition-events>.

The tournament rules for other events are as follows:

**Broadcasting** – The tournament follows West Virginia Speech and Debate Association (WVSDA) rules (see <http://wvsda.org>) for this event, except that all rounds are TV news. Contestants are judged not only on what is heard, but also how it is presented. Judge eye contact, facial expression, and body movement.

- Round 1 (prepared TV news): No preparation time; contestants report to round. Contestants will prepare a news script using up-to-date material. An introduction, sign-off, and brief commercial (15 seconds suggested length) must be included in the broadcast. Contestants must give a copy of the script to the judge and present all copy as it appears in the script. Maximum time limit: 3 minutes with 30 second grace period both above and below the time limit.
- Round 2 (verbatim TV news): 15 minutes prep time; contestants report to prep room. Contestants are given a news script and must deliver it verbatim with the following exceptions: An introduction and sign-off are required, and transitions may be used. There is no time limit.
- Round 3, semi-finals, finals (cut TV news): 30 minutes prep time; contestants report to prep room. Contestants must edit the copy given to them and include an introduction, impromptu commercial, and sign-off within a five-minute time frame. During the round, contestants may use a stopwatch as judges will not give time signals. Maximum time limit: 5 minutes with no grace period.

**Improvisational Duo** – Competitors enter in pairs, are given the same topic, and must perform a scene based on that topic. Competitors are limited to two characters and may include a brief introduction. The ideal improvisational duo tells a story that has an initial situation with a rising conflict and ends with resolution. No make-up, costumes, props, or lighting are permitted, but a table and/or chair may be used. Doors and walls are considered props and must not be used. Criteria for judging include clarity of scene, story development, consistent characterization, creativity and comedic or dramatic timing. Maximum prep time: 3 minutes; maximum presentation time: 6 minutes with 30 second grace period. The judge must provide contestants with time signals.

**Storytelling** – Each contestant will present a single published, printed story, anecdote, tale, myth or legend which must be retold without props. A book or script may be used but is not required. The contestant must not materially change the content of the story. Contestants may sit on the floor, stand and/or use a limited amount of room for movement. No chairs may be used. Original introductory remarks are permitted. Maximum time limit: 10 minutes with 30 second grace period.

### **TIMING AND TIME LIMITS**

With the exception of extemporaneous speaking (7 minutes with 30 second grace period), impromptu speaking (7 minutes with 30 second grace period for both prep and speaking), improvisational duo (6 minutes with 30 second grace period for both prep and performance), and broadcasting (time limits vary by round), the maximum time limit per event is 10 minutes with a 30 second grace period. **There is no minimum time for any event at this tournament.**

Judges must time all events. Judges, however, are required to give contestants time signals only in extemporaneous speaking, impromptu speaking, and improvisational duo.

## **ROUNDS**

There will be 3 preliminary rounds and either one or two elimination rounds for each speech event unless the event has fewer than 10 contestants in which case there will be no elimination rounds. If a speech event has 25 or more contestants/teams, the event will break to two or three sections of semi-finals and then to finals. If the speech event has 10 to 24 contestants/teams, the event will break only to finals. Preliminary rounds will have one judge and elimination rounds will have at least three judges.

## **BREAKING TIES**

The following is the order for determining advancement from preliminary rounds: total ranks, reciprocal fractions, total speaker points. If a tie remains, all tied contestants advance.

The following is the order for determining placement in elimination rounds: total ranks, judges' preference, total speaker points, highest seed after preliminary rounds.

## **AWARDS**

Awards will be given to semi-finalists and finalists for all speech events that break to semi-finals then finals. Awards will be given to finalists for all speech events that break to finals. For speech events that do not break to finals, awards will be given to no more than half of the contestants. For any event that does not have a novice division, a top novice award will also be given.

# DEBATE EVENTS

## **RULES**

The tournament follows NSDA high school rules except as follows:

**Congressional Debate** – To promote efficiency: (1) Each school may enter a maximum of six students. (Additional students may be wait-listed and will be added if we have multiple Houses.) (2) Each school may designate up to two students as potential presiding officers. (3) Tournament hosts will randomly select the two presiding officers – one for Session 1 and one for Session 2 – from among the schools' designees and notify schools in advance of who the presiding officers will be. (4) Each school may submit two primary bills/resolutions and any number of secondary bills/resolutions. (5) Tournament hosts will establish a docket, which will control the order in which bills/resolutions may be taken up. Primary bills/resolutions will appear in front of secondary bills/resolutions on the docket. (The Senate/House may table consideration of a bill/resolution but may not reorder the docket.) (6) The number of speeches per bill/resolution will be limited to nine so more bills/resolutions may be considered.

**Public Forum Debate** - This tournament will follow new time limits, including 3 minutes per summary speech and 3 minutes prep time per team and "PILOTED GUIDELINES for Laptop Use in Debate Events."

**Lincoln-Douglas Debate** - This tournament will follow "PILOTED GUIDELINES for Laptop Use in Debate Events."

## **DIVISIONS**

Lincoln-Douglas Debate and Public Forum Debate events may be divided into varsity, junior varsity, and/or novice divisions if there would be at least 10 teams from a cross-section of schools in each division. (In recent years, the tournament has had enough entries to break to semi-finals in one division.)

## **TOPICS**

The Lincoln-Douglas Debate and Public Forum Debate topics will be the NSDA topics for February 2020.

## **ROUNDS**

For Lincoln-Douglas Debate and Public Forum Debate, there will be 4 preliminary rounds and two elimination rounds for each debate event if the event has 8 or more entries. If a debate event has 6 or 7 entries, the debate event will have only a final round. If the debate event has 5 or few entries, round-robin format will be used. Preliminary rounds will have one judge, and elimination rounds will have at least three judges.

## **PAIRINGS**

Unless a round-robin format is being used, students from the same school will not debate one another in preliminary rounds. Students, however, may debate one another in elimination rounds. In such a case, the coach will make the decision whether the two competitors or teams debate.

Unless a round-robin format is used, Round 1 will be preset and Rounds 2, 3, and 4 will be power matched.

The default semi-final pairing will be 1 vs. 4 and 2 vs. 3, but 1 vs. 3 and 2 vs. 4 may be used if doing so will prevent debaters from the same school from hitting one another.

## **BREAKING TIES**

The following is the order for determining advancement from preliminary rounds: win-loss record, head-to-head outcome, speaker points, speaker points except best and worst, judge variance, and coin flip.

## **AWARDS**

Awards will be given to the top six Congressional debaters and the best presiding officer in each House.

Awards will be given to semi-finalists and finalists for all debate events that break to semi-finals then finals. Awards will be given to finalists for all debate events that break directly to finals. For events that do not break to finals (e.g., operate using a round-robin format), awards will be given to the top two debaters or debate teams.

Awards will be given to the six best speakers across debate events based on speaker points in preliminary rounds. Ties will be broken based on speaker points except best and worst, head-to-head score, and win-loss record.

For any event that does not have a novice division, a top novice award may also be given.

## JUDGING

Judges are encouraged to use online speech and debate ballots but are not required to do so.

A judge may seek clarification concerning whether a rule violation has occurred from tournament hosts. But it will be the responsibility of the judge, not tournament hosts, to determine the appropriate penalty for a rule violation.

## NOVICE, JUNIOR VARSITY, VARSITY STATUS

A novice is someone in their first year of competition OR in middle school regardless of whether they have finalized the event. Tournament directors will use your student coding to determine if a student is a novice.

A junior varsity student is a debater who is in their second year of competition.

A varsity student is one who is not a novice or junior varsity student.

## SWEEPSTAKES

### **SCORING SYSTEM**

If you want information about the sweepstakes scoring system used, please contact the tournament director.

### **INDIVIDUAL SWEEPSTAKES**

The six students who earn the most sweepstakes points will receive awards. To be eligible for individual sweepstakes, a student must enter at least three events.

### **TEAM SWEEPSTAKES**

The six schools that earn the most sweepstakes points across all events will receive awards. Only a school's top three entries in an event count toward team sweepstakes.

Depending on the size of the tournament, separate team sweepstakes awards may be given in speech and debate, among middle schools, and among schools with small entries.

### **TRAVELING TROPHY**

The tournament presents a traveling trophy to the team with the highest number of sweepstakes points over the years. Once a school wins, its total points go to zero.

Congratulations to last year's winner: Rowan County High School!



The top ten schools going into the tournament are: (1) Parkersburg South High School – 1,295 points; (2) Parkersburg High School – 1,195 points; (3) John Marshall High School – 1,194.5 points; (4) Fairmont Senior High School – 1,038.5 points; (5) Capital High School – 958.5 points; (6) Mount Vernon High School – 947 points; (7) George Washington High School – 909 points; (8) Point Pleasant Jr./Sr. High School – 848.5 points; (9) Braxton County High School – 791.5 points; and (10) Preston High School – 754 points. A team must be present to win.

## FOOD

On Saturday, we will provide lunch for tournament participants. Additionally, many food options are available close to the tournament site.

## LODGING

**DoubleTree Hotel (Hilton)** – 1001 Third Avenue, Huntington, WV 25701  
+1 877-214-6725

- Newly renovated
- 0.7 miles west of campus

**Delta Hotel (Marriott)** – 800 Third Avenue, Huntington, WV 25701  
+1 888-890-3222

- Newly renovated
- 0.9 miles from campus
- Indoor swimming pool

**Hampton Inn** – 77 Kinetic Drive, Huntington, West Virginia, 25701  
+1 304-523-8001

- 2.6 miles from campus
- Complimentary continental breakfast

**Ramada** – 33094 16th Street Road Huntington, WV 25701  
+1 304-523-8308

- 2.6 miles southeast of campus
- Complimentary continental breakfast
- Indoor swimming pool

**Fairfield Inn & Suites** – 536 Kinetic Drive, Huntington, WV 25701  
+1 304-696-8777

- 2.6 miles from campus
- Complimentary continental breakfast
- Indoor swimming pool

**Super 8** – 3090 16th Street Road, Huntington, WV 25701  
+1 304-525-1410

- 2.6 miles southeast of campus

- Complimentary continental breakfast
- Indoor swimming pool

If you have any questions, please contact me. We look forward to seeing you this winter!

Sincerely,

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