

S C District

CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE

Registration

February 8, 2020
Eastside High School
Greenville, SC

January, 2020

Dear South Carolina Coaches,

It's time to start thinking about the **District Congressional Debate** Tournament. The District Committee and I are looking forward to hosting your team at the District Congressional Debate Tournament to be held at Eastside High School in Greenville. **The District Congress will be held in conjunction with the Eastside Invitational.** Students participating in the District Congress will not be eligible to compete in the Eastside tournament.

Remember that we must have 8 schools in the Senate in order to qualify 2 from that chamber. In order to have 2 House chambers we need 31 students entered. This year we will qualify TWO from EACH House chamber! This gives us 6 spots for Nats if we meet the requirements.

The NSDA has combined all information into a "Unified Manual" (dated January, 2020). Congress rules can be found starting on pages 34-42 and 73-77. Entry eligibility and limits are found on pages 62-63 and 65.

This letter directs you to registration located at Tabroom.com and pertinent information.

There are no longer any forms to print out and turn in to me. Everything is done directly in Tabroom.com!!

The website form can be filled out directly on your computer. The Tabroom registration form requires you to assign your team into groups for the different chambers.

Please pay close attention to deadlines as many of the due dates are absolute.

DISTRICT CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE CHECKLIST:

_____ **January 5, 2020** The NSDA will publish **JANUARY** Congress legislation which can be found at **<https://www.speechanddebate.org/topics/>**. The legislation for the qualifier tournament is already posted for this tournament at Tabroom.com.

_____ **February 1, 2020** District Congress registration must be complete in [Tabroom.com](https://www.tabroom.com).

1. NO FAXED ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED. PLEASE MAKE SURE

YOU register completely in Tabroom.com by February 1:

2. All students wishing to participate in the District Congress Tournament must be recorded as members of the NSDA with the National Office seven days prior to the tournament. Your school's apportionment for the Congress is located on the NFL website under your login and membership list or page 60 of the manual.
3. The rules covering the **presiding officers can be found on pages 34 and 75 of the manual.**
4. Your entry must include Judges' registration

(Remember- **you must provide sufficient qualified judges**). Your **Congress judges cannot be double registered for the Eastside tournament**. Also, we must have judges that are not affiliated with the schools in each chamber. If your school enters enough to have students in the senate and in the two house chambers, please make every effort to find independent judges for your judges requirements. Thank you!!

_____ prepayment of all fees (PLEASE!!! This speeds up registration.)

_____ Home telephone number and cell phone number

_____ Email address

JUDGES

- One judge for every **4 Congress** entries or fraction thereof.
- Please note any Parliamentarians in the notes section.

- Congress judges/parlis **MUST** be available at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday until 5 p.m. on Saturday.
- Our district must provide 3 unaffiliated Parliamentarians and at least 6 unaffiliated judges.
 - When registering Congress judges, please write in the "notes" other events they can judge if not assigned to a session. Tabroom should allow Congress judges to check a second category to judge (in the Eastside pool) if not used the entire Congress time.
- **We really need each school to find unaffiliated judges. The cost for a missing judge will be \$100.**
- Please note in the judges registration parents of students competing and college students.
- **NOTE:** Judges may not be registered for the SC District Congress **and** also for the Eastside tournament. Judges may only fulfill requirements for one or the other tournament but not both tournaments. (with this in mind, though, remember that a registered district congress judge might also be used for the Eastside tournament.)
- All judges must have logins on Tabroom.com and must bring a computer to the tournament to use for judging.

Entry Limits

1. All entered students must be paid members of the National Speech and Debate Association seven (7) days before the district tournament.
2. In Congressional Debate, the number of entries allowed is dependent upon the number of active members and degrees on record with the NSDA National Office at 4:00 PM CST seven (7) days before the district tournament. The following chart details the number of student congress entries allowed per school. You may also check to see the number your school is allowed when you log into the [NSDA points recording website](#). Click the radio button near the top of the page that says "District" and then select "South Carolina" from the dropdown menu. Look for your school in the list and your allowed number of entries should be there. Note: All schools get two senators regardless of size. Only the number of house entries varies.

Degrees	Senate	House	Degrees	Senate	House
1-20	2	2	151-200	2	8
21-35	2	3	201-250	2	9
36-55	2	4	251-300	2	10
56-75	2	5	301-350	2	11
76-100	2	6	351-400	2	12
101-150	2	7	401-451+	2	13

Entry Fees

1. An entry fee of \$25.00 per participating student in Congressional Debate. **This fee may be deferred until the district tournament for all other events on March 20-21 and added to your invoice for that tournament. You will owe nothing at Eastside (for the NSDA Congress tournament) if you plan to attend the March district tournament.**
2. A "missing judge" fee of \$100 per judge will be charged if you do not provide your quota of qualified judges.
3. Any drops on or after Saturday, February 1, will result in a loss of entry fee. Drops on or after Friday, February 7 will result in the loss of entry fee plus \$50 (total of \$75). **Substituting an eligible alternate will waive the drop fee, so if you must drop, please try to find an eligible replacement.**
4. Payment for this congress tournament is due at the regular district tournament for all other events at the district tournament on March 20-21. No payment is due at Eastside (unless you do not plan to attend the March 20-21 event).

SCHEDULE

7:30-8:00 – Final Registration (Eastside Media Center - Tab Room)

8:00-8:15 - SC Ways and Means to set docket – Room TBD

8:30-9:00 – Opening Session – Room TBD

9:00 – 12:30 – Session One

12:30-1:30 – Lunch

1:30-4:30 – Session Two

6:00 – Awards

Proof of membership: All students entered into the District Congress **MUST** be NSDA member SEVEN days prior to the tournament. This should be completed by 4pm CST. Tabroom will list only those students on your team that are official NSDA members.

NOTE: All Congress contestants may also enter the District tournament in March. A single entry letter of intent will be required to enter the District tournament in case you qualify in both Congress and another event. However, qualifying in Congress does not exclude you from participating in the District tournament.

IMPORTANT: Please print out and read the new Unified District Manual (dated January, 2020) on the NSDA website. There are always changes each year! And there are many rules not covered in this letter that your students must know.

For [directions to Eastside](#), go to the Eastside tournament information on [Tabroom.com](#).

Please note: There is only [TABROOM.com registration](#) for District Congress.

Please call Gail Nicholas at 864-270-8556 (cell) or email her at nickfam@charter.net with any questions.

LAPTOPS

The tournament will use the guidelines as stated on page 26 (A-J) for laptop usage.

NOTE: The SC District will **NOT** use the "Piloted Guidelines" for use of the internet/laptops at the tournament (as described on pages 27 and 36 C).

LEGISLATION

The SC Congressional Debate Qualifier Tournament legislation will be the complete docket from the JANUARY legislation written and published by the NSDA. This legislation is posted on Tabroom.com and also can be found at

https://www.speechanddebate.org/denied/?redirect_to=/congress-legislation-2020-january

The complete docket will be used.

PROCEDURES

Each school may enter TWO students in the Senate. The number each school may enter in the House is determined by the number of NSDA degrees a school has. For details, see page 65 of the [NSDA Unified Manual](#) or log in to the [NSDA points recording site](#) to check your school's numbers.

The South Carolina District Tournament will be using the **DIRECT QUESTIONING** method of cross examination where questioners are recognized for 30 second increments in which a series of questions are asked before moving to the next questioner. (Manual page 35 #11)

Docket Agenda: The agenda for the docket of legislation will be decided through a Ways and Means committee held by each chamber. One member from each school in the chamber will be on the committee. The Ways and Means Committees will meet at 8:00 am Saturday, February . **All schools wanting to take part in the process must be present at 8:00 am.** There will be 10 pieces of legislation.

Presiding Officers: There will be **TWO** Presiding Officers per session. No student may preside twice at Districts unless no other student is willing to preside.

South Carolina will use the Congressional Debate Evidence Rules at the District Tournament. Please refer to pages 38-42 of the Unified High School Manual published by the NSDA. **It is the responsibility of all schools participating in the District Congress to read and be ready to follow the new rules of evidence. The rules include the penalties for rule violations.**