

MERCER HIGH SCHOOL SPEECH

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November 12, 2019

Dear NCFL Colleagues:

You are cordially invited to attend the third CFL of Erie League Tournament of the season to be held at Mercer High School on **Thursday, December 12, 2019**. We will meet in the high school cafeteria (follow the posted signs as you enter the school) for **registration from 3:15-3:45 p.m.** The opening meeting will begin at 3:45 p.m. We hope that Round 1 of debate will begin at 3:45 p.m. and Extemp draw can begin at 3:55 p.m.. We plan to start Round 1 of speech events at 4:00 p.m. with Round 2 scheduled for 5:15 p.m. Results will be announced at 7:00 p.m., if not sooner, and we hope to have you back on the road by 7:20 p.m. **NOTE: Despite Mercer's late dismissal time (3:15), we hope to adhere to the above schedule.**

Topics for the debates and legislation for congress are posted on the tabroom website.

Judging quotas are as follows:

****Speech:** 1 judge for every 5 contestants or fraction thereof;

****Congress:** One (1) capable scorekeeper or trained parliamentarian for every 10 students entered (or fraction thereof). If you have only one congress entry, please bring an adult who can serve in either role.

****Debates:** 1 judge for every 2 contestants or fraction thereof (this includes Policy Debate, Lincoln-Douglas, and Public Forum.

A training workshop for new Speech judges will be held, if needed, during Round 1. Remember that you must bring the required number of qualified judges in addition to the new ones to be trained. Please indicate on your registration those adults who will need the training.

Mercer will conduct online balloting (and those who know me well understand that I will allow two of my technologically capable assistants to do so with continuing trepidation!). Please make sure your judges have tabroom.com accounts as well as access to a smart phone (which is OK, but not great), a tablet (a much better option), or a laptop (which is best).

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Pizza, other light food items, and drinks will be sold to students and adults beginning at 3:30 p.m. as well as throughout the competition. **This is a fundraiser for the Mercer Speech Parents' Booster Club, so we would appreciate your support.** Complimentary light refreshments will be provided by the Mercer speech coaches for all coaches and judges in the faculty dining room of the cafeteria.

All registration needs to be submitted on www.tabroom.com by 3:00 PM on Tuesday, December 10th. You can e-mail any late changes in registration, to me at my home e-mail address which is hpr@zoominternet.net up to 12:00 NOON on Thursday (12/12). For drops after 12:00 NOON on Thursday, please call my cell phone...724-699-2390.

NOTE WELL: WE WILL PRELIMINARILY SCHEDULE THIS TOURNAMENT ON WEDNESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 11TH. PLEASE MAKE CERTAIN YOU MEET THE TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10TH 3:00 PM DEADLINE. ONLINE REGISTRATION RECEIVED AFTER THE 3:00 PM TUESDAY DEADLINE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

****PLEASE REMEMBER...CFL OF ERIE HAS A HARD AND FAST RULE REGARDING DROPS AND ADDS...DROPS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED AS SOON AS THEY ARE KNOWN (see procedures outlined below) AND NO ADDS ARE PERMITTED AFTER THE TUESDAY 3:00 PM REGISTRATION DEADLINE.**

We look forward to seeing you in Mercer on December 12th.

Sincerely,

Hugh Ringer
Director of Forensics

***NOTE: IF YOU HAVE LATE CHANGES IN REGISTRATION ON TUESDAY EVENING, ON WEDNESDAY, OR BEFORE NOON ON THURSDAY, E-MAIL ALL CHANGES TO HUGH RINGER...**

(hpr@zoominternet.net) (I will verify all received messages!)

****AFTER NOON ON THURSDAY (12/12) – CALL MY CELL PHONE 724-699-2390 UP TO 3:45 P.M WITH LAST-MINUTE ADJUSTMENTS.****

REMINDERS:

- 1) Selections used in previous years cannot be used during the 2019-20 season by the same student.**
- 2) If a conflict exists with a judge and any registered student, please indicate that specific conflict on the registration form.**

