



**Steve
Sparks
Memorial**

Eau Claire North High School Forensics
1801 Piedmont Road, Eau Claire, WI 54703



**Forensics
Tournament**



**February 8
2020**

Dear Coach,

We are excited to invite you and your students to celebrate Valentine's week by participating in the thirteenth annual *Steve Sparks Memorial Forensics Tournament* at Eau Claire North High School on Saturday, February 8, 2020. This tournament is both WFCa and WHSFA friendly, and students may double or triple enter. The Valentine's theme is a reflection of our love for our students, the activity of forensics, and all our dear friends involved and especially for the memory of Steve Sparks.

We will be handing out LOTS of awards!!! There will be awards for all finalists, qualitative sweepstakes awards for the top two small teams (5 – 20 entries), and sweepstakes awards for the top three large teams, based on the top 25 entries from each school.

Continuing this year, we are excited to offer the following additional awards:

- Best Double-Entry: Top 3 (based on prelim totals)
- Best Novice Entry: Top 3 (based on prelim totals – will use best category if double entered)

The entry fee will be \$8.00 per entry and \$12.00 per group. Please bring one judge for every 5 entries with a maximum of 5 affiliated (non-clean) judges per school (contact us for possible exceptions for affiliated judges). Hired judges will be available for \$15.00 per uncovered entry.

The deadline for registration will be at 4 pm Friday, January 31. Drops after this time will not reduce your fees nor reduce your judging requirements. Checks are payable to: *North High School*.

Feel free to call us if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Krisany Blount
Head Coach
715-271-3245
kblount@ecasd.us

Assistant Coaches:

Scott Peterson
608-345-4556
scott.forensics@gmail.com
(tournament entries/scheduling)

Chloe Ackerman
Chelsea Ennen
Max Haslow

Tournament Schedule for February 8

The North High School main parking lot and entry doors are on the north side of the building facing Piedmont Road. Look for the giant husky dog on the roof.

Time	Event
5:00 / as soon as possible	Report drops or changes to Scott Peterson 608-345-4556
7:45 - 8:15	Registration in Foyer under Husky
8:30	• General Meeting in Auditorium for all contestants and judges (except Radio Announcers and Extempers) • Radio Announcers and Extempers report to Draw/Prep in IMC
9:00	Round One
10:15	Round Two
11:30	Round Three
Yummy concessions will be available for sale in the commons. After a brief break for lunch, the approximate times are:	
1:30	Posting of Results in Commons
1:45	Final Rounds
3:15	Awards in the Auditorium

Tournament Guidelines

We welcome WFCFA *and* WHSFA schools, and to facilitate the slight differences in rules we have a basic overall philosophy: rules from either organization will be honored. If an element of a performance is allowed in either WFCFA or WHSFA, it will be allowed at this tournament. Some examples of blending the rules include:

1. Two speakers will be allowed in Demonstration Speaking. The entry fee for Demonstration will be the same price as other individual entries regardless of a Demonstration entry having one or two speakers. If there are two speakers under one entry, provide the names of both when submitting your roster.
2. Internet use will be allowed in the Extemporaneous Speaking preparation room.
3. Group Interpretive Reading and Play Acting will have 12 minute time limits.
4. One 4x6 note card will be permitted in Oratory. For other categories that allow a 4x6 note card, notes instead will have no specific limits, formats, or dimensions.
5. There will be no separate Public Address event, but students in Public Address can be entered in Oratory, and the judges will be alerted to this.
6. Chairs, etc. MAY be used in Solo and Group Interp. Optional speaker's / reader's stand may be used in the categories involving scripts or notes.
7. We will NOT be separating Solo Acting Humorous and Solo Acting Serious.
8. Storytelling: the order of the stories will be set by random draw the morning of the tournament at the opening meeting. For each round, everyone will be presenting the same story category.
9. A printed list of works cited does not need to be presented to the judge, but sources should be cited contextually during the speech.

*For the WFCFA rules, go to <https://wfcaforensics.org/>

*For the WHSFA rules, go to <http://whsfa.org>

*For Oratorical Declamation rules, open to freshmen & sophomores only, go to <http://ncfl.org>

Registration limitations:

- Unlimited number of entries are allowed in each category.
- Double or triple entries *are* allowed (students may compete in multiple events).
- Please report how many of your judges are *clean* (have no school or team affiliation other than you hiring them to judge) versus *dirty* (coaches or others close to your team). This will give us more options for scheduling judges. Each school may bring a MAXIMUM of 5* dirty judges; schools with more than 25 entries will be required to fulfill their judging quota by bringing clean judges or hiring clean judges from us. If you have extra *clean* judges, you may contact us and we may hire them.

*Depending on tournament size we might allow more than 5 dirty judges.

Remember:

- The deadline for registration is 5 pm Saturday, February 1.
- Drops after this time will not reduce your fees nor your judging requirement.
- PLEASE submit a roster with your registration. This should list the names of your students in each category. For the Best Novice Award, indicate which of your students are in their first year competing at the high school level.

Important:

Please keep us informed about registration changes as soon as you know about them so that the tournament schedule can be balanced. One student drop might mean an entire section and judge slot can be eliminated. We would rather have multiple emails or phone calls throughout the week rather than one summary message.

Tournament day drops MUST be called in on Saturday morning before your team departs for North. If you have valuable information about which students are missing that morning, we need to know prior to your arrival so that the schedules can be adjusted to balance round sizes and make the tournament run smoothly. Schools whose students are not transported as a team are exempt from this request. (i.e. nearby schools like EC Memorial, Regis, etc.) REPORT ANY KNOWN CHANGES to 608 345-4556.

Radio Announcing Supplemental Rules
Use of computers for source material and script preparation

Steve Sparks Memorial Tournament at Eau Claire North High School
February 8 2020

Modern newsrooms for radio, television, and other media receive much of their information electronically, and news scripts are prepared on screens rather than paper. With that in mind, our tournament is experimenting with the idea of going beyond paper packets as source material for Radio Announcing and is offering contestants the chance to utilize computers to receive and prepare their material.

1. Contestants will have access to a computer lab to receive the radio packet materials, to arrange the script to include the content material, and to print the script to be taken to the competition performance. Microsoft Word will be available for copying, organizing, and annotating the source material. The standard 30 minute preparation period will be used.
2. Preparation at a computer is optional. Paper packets will be available to everyone including those utilizing a computer. The electronic and paper packets will have identical content.
3. At each contestant's regular draw time, the contestant may pick up a paper packet if desired and may then use the assigned computer which will already have the source material on it.
4. Internet connectivity may be used for research but not communication with people. Contestants primarily using a paper packet may also use internet connectivity for research. Research is not meant for adding material to the packet, but instead is to help the contestant have a better performance by verifying pronunciations, geography, or other supplemental facts.
5. All other rules of Radio Announcing are in effect.

Steve Sparks Memorial Forensics Tournament Registration

Eau Claire North High School - Saturday, Feb. 8, 2020

We are using tabroom.com this year for registration.
Please attempt to register there first, but if that isn't working, email the following information to scott.forensics@gmail.com

*** Registration Deadline is Saturday, Feb. 1, at 5 pm***

School _____ Phone _____

Coach _____ Phone _____

Email address _____

of Entries per Category

_____ Demonstration	_____ Oratorical Declamation (9/10 grade only)
_____ *Duo Interp	_____ Oratory
_____ Extemporaneous	_____ *Play Acting
_____ Farrago	_____ Poetry
_____ *Group Interp	_____ Prose
_____ Impromptu Speaking	_____ Radio
_____ Informative Speaking	_____ Solo Acting
_____ Moments in History	_____ Special Occasion
_____ Oral Interp of Literature	_____ Storytelling

Number of Individual Entries _____ x \$8.00 = _____

*Record Demonstration as an
Individual Entry even with two speakers*

Number of Groups (*) _____ x \$12.00 = _____

Duo Interp, Group Interp, Play Acting

Total Number of Entries _____

Number of Dirty Judges (max 5) _____

Number of Clean Judges _____

Number of Uncovered Entries _____ x \$15.00 = _____

(Please provide one judge per 5 entries)

Total \$ Due _____

Please email your entry (either a copy of this sheet or the same information typed out) to Scott Peterson: scott.forensics@gmail.com

*Make checks payable to **North High School** and deliver to the tournament or mail to: **Forensics - Krisany Blount, 1801 Piedmont Rd., Eau Claire, WI 54703***

Please submit a roster with your registration. This should list the names of your students in each category. For the Best Novice Award, indicate which of your students are in their first year competing at the high school level.

A word about Steve Sparks . . .

Steve was our assistant coach and an alumnus of the North High School Forensics program. Steve died unexpectedly on August 2, 2007, due to a pulmonary embolism at the age of 26. He had been planning to attend law school.

He came in every day, Monday through Friday, for seven months out of the year to coach for us. For three years, he was a volunteer - we paid him almost nothing. He was the gentle giant who ran our radio and extemp draw. He also judged for us and traveled with us on all of our trips.

It is in honor of our dear friend, mentor, coach, and colleague that we have decided to name our tournament the Steve Sparks Memorial Forensics Tournament. If you knew Steve at all, then you know what we have lost and you understand how lost we are without him.

