



Competitor Invitation Packet

What is Summer Showdown-Congress?

Summer Showdown- Congressional Debate is an online debate tournament being held on August 15th and 16th!

You can find our legislation packet [here](#)!

Register using this link: [here](#)!

In order to give back to our societies, **ALL** proceeds from the Summer Showdown tournament will go directly to the **Innocence Project**, a group that works to exonerate the wrongly convicted through DNA testing and reforms the criminal justice system to prevent future injustice.

The **Innocence Project's** mission is to free the staggering number of innocent people who remain incarcerated, and to bring reform to the system responsible for their unjust imprisonment. In order to learn more about the Innocence Project, click [here](#).

Especially during times like these, it is important we give back to organizations like the Innocence Project in order to promote fairness and equality in our societies. Click [here](#) to donate to our cause.

Congressional debate provides a distinctive forum to openly express what matters most to us and communicating our narratives has never been more relevant in these unparalleled moments, we hope that you'll join us!

We are on Tabroom!

Please keep in mind: this tournament is not affiliated with the NSDA, FFL, NCFL, or any other tournament league!

Rules

1. General Round

- a. Competitors will be referred to as “senators”.
- b. Competitors will not be required to call for a point of personal privilege to exit the chamber, simply turn off your camera!
- c. Placards will be needed throughout the entirety of the tournament.

2. Attire

- a. Business Attire is strongly recommended, but not mandatory. Competitors will not be scored based on attire.

3. Amendments

- a. Amendments will not be permitted throughout the progression of the tournament.

4. Internet usage

- a. Internet usage is allowed in round!
- b. Please do not use the internet to communicate with others in round.

5. Speaking Order

- a. Speakers will be called in random order. Once an order is established, they will be called using precedence and recency.
- b. Speaking order will not carry over between sessions.

6. Presiding

- a. Presiding officers will follow standard NSDA gavelling procedure.
- b. For preliminary rounds, students may preside. For outrounds, the Summer Showdown team will provide a presiding officer.
- c. Presiding officers will use note cards in order to show timestamps. These cards will go as follows: one for: 2:00, 2:30 and at 2:55. At 3:00, he or she will count the speaker down from 10 fingers, and at 3:15, he/she will mute the speaker.

7. Questioning Procedure

- a. All rounds will utilize direct questioning. Each “questioning block” will be thirty seconds long. Author/sponsors and 1st negation speeches will have 4 30-second blocks.
- b. Prefacing (bringing up new specific information) is not allowed.
- c. Questioning will be based on precedence.

8. Attire

- a. Business Attire is strongly recommended, but not mandatory.

9. Other

- a. Any rules not mentioned in the packet will default to NSDA rules.
- b. The Summer Showdown FINAL round will be a scenario legislation. The scenario will be announced after semifinals!
- c. Once in the discord, please change your nickname to your full name.

Participant Eligibility

Any student currently enrolled in high school or middle school is eligible to compete as long as they have:

- ❖ A functioning Discord account
- ❖ A functioning Zoom Account
- ❖ An email
- ❖ A functional mic/speaker and webcam
- ❖ Any form of technology for communication (computer, phone, tablet, etc.)
- ❖ A placard to be used for identification

Register using this link: [here](#)!

After you register, please make sure to join our discord account, which can be found [here](#)!

Judge Eligibility

Anyone who has GRADUATED high school is eligible to judge as long as they have:

- ❖ Competed or Coached in Speech & Debate (NSDA) or have general knowledge and experience when it comes to Congressional Debate
- ❖ A functioning Discord account
- ❖ A functioning Zoom Account
- ❖ An email
- ❖ A functional mic/speaker and webcam
- ❖ Any form of technology for communication (computer, phone, tablet, etc.)

If you'd like to judge, please apply [here](#)!

Schedule!

Please keep in mind; all times are in EST.

Saturday, August 15th:

Judge Call	11:30 AM
Preliminary Session 1	12:00PM - 1:30 PM
Preliminary Session 2	1:45PM- 3:45 PM
Semifinal Round	4:30-6:00 PM

Sunday, August 16th:

Final Session	12:00 - 2:30 PM (Estimation)
Awards	About 10min after the final round!

Special Thank Yous!

Additional to our amazing judges and competitors, thank you to the following people, this tournament truly couldn't have happened without them!

Tournament Directors/Tab	Presiding Officers	Legislative Team
Jasmine Morales	Ashish Saathya	Jasmine Morales
Rebecca Gomez	Kaavya P.	Rebecca Gomes
Reva Adi	Samanta Briceno	Reva Adi
Kaavya P.	Rebecca Gomez	Samanta Briceno
Adeline Rodriguez		Kaavya P.
Samanta Briceno		

And especially, Ms. Kelly Schwab! Thank you for all you do!

Please note: If you are viewing the invitation on Tabroom, you will not be able to access the links by clicking. Instead, we have provided you the links on the general information tab on Tabroom. Thank you so much! See you in August!

- The Summer Showdown Team