

The Fall 2020 Stephen Stewart Memorial Middle and High School Invitational

Dearest High School Forensics Enthusiasts!

You are cordially invited to take part in the Stephen Stewart Memorial Middle and High School Invitational at Milpitas High School. This event will take place Friday, September 25th, through Sunday, September 27th, 2020. We welcome all competitors in grades six and up.

We are pleased to announce that the Semi-Finalists in Varsity Public Forum will earn a Gold Bid to the Tournament of Champions in Kentucky. Quarter-Finalists in Varsity Public Forum will earn a silver bid. NPDL bids to Parli TOC are allocated based on size of entry. In addition, bids to NIETOC will be available in DI, HI, DUO, POI, Informative, and OO.

This speech and debate competition will be held on the NSDA Campus integrated into Tabroom.com. We are committed to providing you with a professional atmosphere and a spirited competitive experience. As we have moved online due to the medical emergency, EVERY participant and judge must have a device with a webcam, microphone or headset, and a Tabroom.com account linked to their email.

We will be using the online entry system available at www.Milpitas.Tabroom.com. Registration will open on August 15th (5pm PT). Due to limited space, we urge teams to register ASAP. All entries will be initially waitlisted to ensure equal access to the tournament. There are many affordable hotels on the website that offer you choices in accommodations. Hotel information will be available one month before the tournament. Food will be available on campus during the weekend so that your students, coaches, staff, family, and friends will not have to leave the tournament.

We encourage early registration, so that you may take advantage of this opportunity and ensure your attendance to the tournament. Unfortunately, Varsity entries are limited; therefore, we will have to turn away entries once our room capacity is met. Varsity debates and JVPF I intend to cap at 100 to ensure deserving teams break to Double-Octofinals. The deadline to register is Monday, September 18th at 5:00 PM. Teams may be added after the deadline, depending on space availability. We will pull entries from the waiting list as spots become available. We will offer some fee discounts/waivers, particularly to UDLs, on a limited basis. We want as many people to attend as possible, but this tournament constitutes almost our entire budget to hire coaching staff.

On behalf of the coaches, students, and parents of Milpitas High School Speech and Debate Team, you are encouraged to join us and we look forward to experiencing the Stephen Stewart together!

Sincerely,

Charles Schletzbaum

Director of Forensics

Online Rules

Please maintain proper decorum and dress, and ensure your backgrounds are appropriate, and remember to conduct proper communication between competitors and judges. Students will not ask questions about decisions until the judge has submitted their ballot. Judges will not ask questions about arguments, with the exception of asking to see evidence links in the chat until after decisions are submitted and confirmed.

All competitors must have an adult chaperone present at the tournament.

Supervision Requirements

Each school must be accompanied by a qualified adult supervisor. No unaffiliated or unaccompanied entries will be permitted. I strongly urge you to bring separate judges for each pattern, or your judges covering both Debate and Speech entries would have NO break between rounds.

All schools and programs must be accompanied by an adult and must remain under adult supervision throughout the tournament. No exceptions! If your student(s) are unsupervised, we reserve the right to remove your entries from the tournament for liability reasons with no refund.

Events / Divisions

In debate, we offer an Open division of Congressional Debate, and both Novice and Open divisions in Lincoln-Douglas, Parliamentary, and Novice, JV and Varsity Public Forum. We will use the Sept./Oct. LD topic and the Sept./Oct PF topic. Open debate events will make every attempt to break all winning records up to a full double-octofinal round. We reserve the right to add a novice congress division if national entries make one division untenable.

In speech we offer Open divisions in all CHSSA events including: Dramatic Interpretation, Humorous Interpretation, Oratorical Interpretation, Thematic Interpretation, Duo Interpretation, Original Oratory, Original Advocacy,

Expository/Informative, Original Prose & Poetry, Impromptu, Domestic Extemporaneous and International Extemporaneous.

Speech will break to two Festival finals chambers if there are thirty-five or more entries; in some events we may have more Festival final sections. Fewer than thirty-five entries will break directly to Finals. Awards will go to the top 7 cumulative ranked entries after the Festival Finals round.

Eligibility / Novices

Divisions and eligibility

PUBLIC FORUM:

Open/TOC event: Open to all HIGH SCHOOL competitors (Restricted to HS competitors only).

Junior Varsity: Open to ALL competitors

Novice: Open to all competitors who are debating their first year in the type of event (Speech/ Debate) they are entered in. In Teamed events, BOTH team members must meet this qualification. Any competitor in 7th and 6th grade, can compete novice. 8th grade in their second year or less can debate novice. Any student in their third academic year of forensics or higher must go Junior Varsity or higher. Entries younger than 6th grade will not be allowed.

ALL OTHER DEBATE EVENTS:

Open: Open to all competitors.

Novice: Open to all competitors who are debating their first year in the type of event (Speech/ Debate) they are entered in. In Teamed events, BOTH team members must meet this qualification. Any competitor in 7th and 6th grade, can compete novice. 8th grade in their second year or less can debate novice. Any student in their third academic year of forensics or higher must go varsity. Entries younger than 6th grade will not be allowed.

Waitlist and Confirming Registrations

Fees paid in advance will move your registration from “wait list” to “confirmed” status. Please mail your checks by Monday, September 14th, 2019. If you cannot mail a check by this time I will have an online payment mechanism from my district soon. . Teams are welcome to bring checks to registration, but priority will be given to teams

who mail in payment ahead of the tournament. **If you intend to bring a check to the tournament, teams will move off the waitlist when you enter judges to cover your entry.**

Dates / Deadlines

Add Entries: September 18, 2020

Fees Frozen: September 20, 2020

Manual drop deadline: September 24, 2020

Judge Entries by: September 23, 2020

Change and drop fees: September 23, 2020

Adds: We operate on a “first come, first serve” basis until September 23rd and we will probably fill all space at the tournament. As a result, each school should send in its entries as soon as possible.

Drops: The deadline to drop without penalty will be Monday, September 20th at 9:00 PM. Drops after this point will be charged the regular entry fee due to our commitments to Ordering virtual rooms.

You may continue making drops online until 5:00 PM on Friday, September 27th. This helps us save time at registration.

Judges: The deadline to register judges is also Wednesday, September 25th at 5:00 PM.

Judging Obligations

School Judges: Please register judges accurately. Because we will be using entirely electronic ballots in debatead using tabroom based “rooms” it is important that judge registration be accurate. Any attempts to circumvent judge registration processes will result in your team being waitlisted and those spots being given to other teams.

The deadline to register judges is also Wednesday, September 23rd at 5:00 PM. If you do not have judges registered by this deadline, you will be charged for missing / hired judges regardless of whether you bring additional judges to the tournament. We will need a week to finalize contracts with our hired judges. Saturday and Sunday judges need to me indicated on tabroom. **There will be no AM/PM judge split. Varsity PF/LD needs 1 judge per 2 teams/entries. Parli needs 1 judge for each 2 teams. Parli will be single-flighted. Speech needs 1 for every 5 entries.**

All judges must be qualified to judge the division which they are covering. Novice LD, Open and Novice Public Forum and Open and Novice Parli, and congress may be used in other events. Speech judges will be used in all speech events.

Hired Judging: The tournament will also have a limited number of hired judges. If you wish to hire judges from the tournament, please submit hire requests on Milpitas.tabroom.com as soon as you are aware of your need. Hire requests must be in by Friday, September 13th at 11:55 PM. Please note that hired judge fees cannot be refunded after this point as we will have made payment commitments to our hires.

\$200 covers 1 entry for varsity or JV debate. 100\$ covers 1 novice entry No hired judging fees will be refunded, even if you drop the entry/entries that the hired judge is covering.

Part Time Judges: If you will be having different judges on different days, please register all judges, and mark each one as Unavailable for the day that they will not be in attendance.

Elim Commitment: All speech/Congress judges are committed for all speech/Congress rounds.

In regards to Varsity Debate elimination rounds, all judges are obligated to judge the first elimination round AND one round beyond their last school's best competitive finish. Whichever requirement is later will apply. For example, if your school has a competitor in the octafinals, then your school's judges are all obligated through the quarterfinals. This rule is necessary to ensure the best panels for elimination debates. Please make appropriate logistical arrangements that honor these requirements.

Judge Prefs and Strikes

Judge Philosophy Guidelines. All Varsity judges should have a judge philosophy posted on their Tabroom.com account. Judgephilosophies.wikispaces.com is no longer available due to the shutdown of wikispaces.com

*All varsity judges must be entered and have judge philosophies posted at this point for a school to have the privilege of judge preferences/strikes for ALL of their varsity competitors. Failure to have a tabroom paradigms for all your judges results in preferences / strikes being ignored.

Varsity Teams will be allowed up to a maximum of 5 strikes in each division.

Preferences/ strikes will be available at Milpitas.tabroom.com on Tuesday, September 22nd, 2020. Prefs and strikes will close on Friday, September 24th at 5:00 PM.

Financial Information

Fees may be paid by mail or on our district website when it is set up. All fees should be in the form of cash or a check made out to Milpitas High School. **School checks** and **cash** are the only acceptable forms of payment without prior approval.

Please mail checks to:

Milpitas Debate

C/o Mr. Charles Schletzbaum, Milpitas High School

1285 Escuela Parkway

Milpitas, CA 95035

And make the check to "**MUSD**"

Entry fees on drops will be refunded fully as long as drops are made by September 24th. Note: processing refunds through the Milpitas Student Bank is likely to take a painfully long time. Please note Entry Fees include lunch.

School Fee	\$50/school
Varsity LD	\$55/entry
Novice LD	\$45/entry
Varsity Public Forum	\$80/entry
Varsity Parlimentary	\$70/entry
Novice PF / Parli	\$60/entry
Congress	\$25/entry
Novice Congress	\$25/entry
IEs	\$25/entry
Duo	\$50/entry

Non-refundable Fees:

Varsity Debate Hired Judge Fee - \$200 / per uncovered Varsity Entry

Novice Debate Hired Judge Fee - \$100 / per uncovered Novice Entry

Speech / Congress Hired Judge Fee - \$50 / per uncovered Entry

Missing Judge Penalty - \$50/per judge per missed round

Nuisance Penalty - \$10 (any changes to entry after 9/23/17 at 5PM (PT))

Entry fees must be paid at registration.

Make checks payable to: MUSD

Entry Caps

Due to number of elimination rounds in the schedule, we are capable of accommodating a large, but not unlimited number of competitors. Initially, Schools will be restricted to 6 entries in each division of debate and 6 entries in each IE event to allow for maximum diversity of schools at the Stephen Stewart Invitational. We will waitlist additional entries and allow them in as room availability allows. Novice will be restricted to max 10% of the field. Initial cap will be 100 in each Varsity event to ensure most winning records break to Doubles. If the waitlist grows too large, we will try our best to accommodate one more elim round, that may be double flighted.

Please do not enter debaters just to hold slots; be mindful of the needs of other schools.

Teams and individual entries are only officially entered after the tournament administrator has removed them from the waitlist. Registration in each division will close when we reach our room capacity, so waitlist and pay/enter judges early.

Independent Entry Policy

Independent entries that meet the criteria listed in the section titled "Independent Entries." Any independent entry that fails to meet the deadlines or criteria listed will not be allowed to enter or compete in the tournament. Any payment made by any independent entry that drops or fails to meet the set deadlines or criteria will not be refunded. Private Academies need to contact the tournament director for approval.

All registration, entry, and tabulation will be done via tabroom.com. Please make sure that any judge accompanying your team has a Tabroom account set up and linked.

All students are expected to abide by Milpitas High School's code of conduct, to respect MHS officials and tournament staff, and generally to behave responsibly.

Debate: Starting with Round 3, all prelim rounds will be power-matched. The 16 individuals/teams with the best win-loss record will advance to the Octofinal

elimination round. **Brackets will not be broken in eliminations.** If entries warrant, a double octofinal will be held to break the maximum amount of winning records. In the event the entry/waitlist approaches 180 we will announce a double flighted round of 64, but ONLY for winning records.

Tournament Committee: The tournament committee will consist of the tournament director and two directors from other events. The committee will adjudicate any disputes and interpret all rules. Decisions made by the tournament committee are final.

Technology: Given the Covid-19 reality, all teams must use technology, but **MUST NOT** communicate with coaches or team members outside the round.

A school may enter a maximum of four (6) teams in the varsity division. We have space for approximately 100 varsity teams.

Penalty for Missing Rounds

Please note there is a \$50 per round penalty for any judges that miss their rounds. Please advise your judging staff that the team will be charged if they do not attend their debate rounds. We prefer not to charge any teams for missing debate rounds and this nuisance fee is only assessed to discourage judges from missing debates to ensure a high quality experience for all competitors.

Hired Judging for Policy Debate

There will be a limited number of LD available for hire. Note that once you hire a judge, you are liable to pay for that request **EVEN IF** you find you do not need it as the tournament approaches. This rule applies even in the event your school decides not to attend the tournament at all; your school will still be responsible for any judge hire and relevant drop fees. You must email Charles Schletzbaum at mrschletz@gmail.com by September 14, 2019, at 11pm (PT) to hire judging.

Double Entry

Novice Students may enter up to three events; consisting of one debate event and two speech events. Please note that double entry **IS AT YOUR OWN RISK**.

Exceptions:

1. A student entering Extemp, may only single enter in the speech events; but may still enter one debate event.

Varsity Students may enter one debate event and up to 2 speech events. Exceptions:

1. A student entering Extemp, may only single enter in the speech events; but may still enter one debate event.

2. Students may enter both Parliamentary and Extemp, but additional prep time will not be given if one of the patterns is running behind.

Please keep in mind that Round 1 of Speech is concurrent with the last preliminary round of Varsity competition. Double-entered varsity competitors will be placed in Flight B of their last preliminary debate, and placed early in their speech round for round 1. Double entered students should compete in their speech event, and then proceed to their debate round.

The coach of a competitor who qualifies to advance in a varsity Debate may be required to choose the event in which the competitor will continue if they are double-entered in speech as well. We will do our best to accommodate these students so long as we can remain on schedule.

Students who double enter are responsible for getting to their rounds on time.

Speech

Speech & Congress: NSDA rules will be followed as closely as possible for all NSDA events; CHSSA guidelines will be used for the remaining speech events, subject to review by the tournament committee. One notable exception – final placement in speech and congress will be determined by total cumulative score for the whole tournament. Exceptions will be made for out of state teams entered in CA events. In the Speech events we will break the top 7 to finals in events that have up to 35 entries. Divisions with more than 35 entries will have the top 12-14 advance to Festival Finals, divisions with more than 55 entries will have three sections of festival finals with 18-21 competitors advancing. We will award the top seven in all speech events.

Congress

One notable exception – final placement in speech and congress (Varsity and Novice) will be determined by total cumulative score for the whole tournament. We will advance at least 12 competitors to Congress Finals. There will be no presiding officer contest in Congress. Presiding officers will be elected from the chamber and be given speaking priority in line with NSDA guidelines. Please send Congressional legislation to Charles Schletzbaum at the tournament contact email address.

LD

Varsity LD and PF rounds will not be flighted, unless we add a round of 64.

The Lincoln Douglas debate topic will be the Sep/Oct NSDA topic for BOTH Varsity and Novice divisions. We DO NOT use the NSDA novice topic.

Lincoln-Douglas will include varsity and novice divisions, with NSDA rules and time limits.

There will be five preliminary rounds in varsity LD. Varsity LD will break to double octafinals; novice LD will have five rounds, and awards to winning records.

Varsity Judging: We encourage you to bring experienced LD judges to judge in the varsity division. "Experienced" is defined as at least a high school graduate who has competitive or coaching experience with LD debate or has significant LD judging experience. Inability to provide experienced judges may limit a team's entry and/or require a team to hire judges to fulfill their obligation. All varsity judges are required to post their judge philosophies on tabroom.com by the preferences deadline. We would like every school that wants to participate to do so; however, we require the best possible judging to ensure students have a positive competitive experience. If a school does not have experienced judges to fulfill their commitments, please contact Charles Schletzbaum at mrschletz@gmail.com.

Novice Judging Requirements

Adults as well as HS Seniors who are 3rd or 4th year varsity debaters are eligible to judge in the novice divisions. Coaches/Directors are responsible for ensuring that any varsity debaters are knowledgeable and responsible enough to fairly assess a novice debate round.

Penalty for Missing Rounds

Please note there is a \$50 per round penalty for any judges that miss their rounds. Please advise your judging staff that the team will be charged if they do not attend their debate rounds. We prefer not to charge any teams for missing debate rounds and this nuisance fee is only assessed to discourage judges from missing debates to ensure a high quality experience for all competitors.

Hired Judging for Lincoln-Douglas Debate

There will be a limited number of LD and policy judges available for hire. Note that once you hire a judge, you are liable to pay for that request EVEN IF you find you do not need it as the tournament approaches. You must email Charles Schletzbaum at mrschletz@gmail.com by September 14th at 11pm (PT) to hire judging. Judging is available for \$200 / entry.

PF

Public Forum: Will use the Sep/Oct topic. We do NOT use the NSDA novice topic.

All PF will flip for side and speaker order in both Prelims and Elims.

NSDA pilot rules and time limits will be utilized. (3 minute summaries, 3 minutes of prep.

Only HS debaters in their first year of competition, eighth graders in their 1st or 2nd year, and any 6th or 7th grader, may enter the novice division.

Parli

Parliamentary: Internet Prep will be allowed, but competitors may not consult with anyone other than their partner. There will be no coach prep.

Topics for Extemp, Parli, Imp, and Congress Legislation

- We will be using the Sept./Oct NSDA Topic for Lincoln-Douglas Debate for ALL divisions
- Public Forum will debate the Sept./Oct. NSDA topic.
- Parli topics will have topic areas announced 2 weeks prior to the tournament
- Congress Legislation will be posted 3 weeks prior to the tournament

We invite the community to submit potential topics or topic areas for consideration and integration to the tournament. All topic selection decisions will be made by the tournament director. If you or your students would like to create congress resolutions, suggest Extemp topic areas, or submit Parli resolutions, please email all ideas to (mrschletz@gmail.com). Congress legislation must be received by September 6th, 2020 so that the congress bills can be posted online three weeks prior to the tournament. The deadline for Parli Topics and Extemp Topic Regions will be September 14, 2020. Legislation packets will be posted on the tabroom page by September 10th, 2020.

Awards

Individual Awards: Individual awards will be presented to all debaters advancing to the Octofinals in debate events. Top 7 finalists in speech events and all finalists in Congress will be presented awards. If applicable. Novice will receive Trophies for 5-0, and medals for 4-1 records.

Speaker Awards: We will also award speaker awards for debaters. Top 5 speakers in each debate event will receive awards from the tab room.

Awards will be given to up to the top 7 Speech competitors and all Congress finalists. All octo-finalists and higher in the debate events will receive awards

Results

Results for each varsity round will be posted each round starting after Round 3. Please do not request to see results at the tab room unless you question the posted results. Novice results will be published after awards.

Schedule

ALL TIMES ARE Pacific Standard Time Zone

Friday:

Noon: digital check in.

4PM: Varsity and JV round 1, and Parli topic release

6PM: Varsity and JV Round 2, and Parli topic release

Saturday:

8AM R1 Novice Debates. R3 JV and Varsity

Congress R1: 9:00am

10AM R2 Novice Debates. R4 JV and Varsity

12:30PM R3 Novice Debates. R5 JV and Varsity

Congress R2: 1:00 PM

3PM R4 Novice, Double Octos JVPF, VLD and Vpar. R6 VPF,

5:PM Congress Finals

6PM R5 Novice, Octos JVPF, VLD, Vpar, Doubles VPF

Novice Awards and congress: 8PM

Sunday:

IE R1 : 8:00am

Quarters VLD, JVPF, Vpar, Octos VPF: 8:00am

IE R2: 10:00am

11AM Semis VLD, JVPF and Vpar, Quarters VPF

IE R3: 1:00pm

1:30PM Finals VLD, JVPF and Vpar, Semis VPF

IE Elim: 3:30pm

4PM VPF Finals. Start time of finals for LVD, Vpar IF round of 64 added

6PM start time of last PF if round of 64 added

Independent Entry Form

Parent Letter authorizing participation by independent entries

(template--copy/paste the text and fill in the blanks as appropriate):

Date _____

Dear Milpitas High School:

This letter is to inform you that we would like our child, _____, to attend The Stephen Stewart invitational from ,September 28-29 2019 and that she / he does so with our full consent and permission. We have arranged for our child to be fully chaperoned and for transportation to our satisfaction, and accept full responsibility and liability for our child during the entire course of the event. We understand and agree that Milpitas High School, its employees, and its agents provide no chaperones for the event, and further agree that Milpitas High School, its employees, and its agents are hereby relieved of any responsibility or liability of any sort for the supervision of our child.

The following person will be chaperoning our child:

Name: _____

Cell phone: _____

Relationship to our child: _____

By signing this we are certifying that we are in fact the legal guardians of the listed child, and have full legal authority to act on the listed child's behalf.

_____	_____	_____
Parent Name	Parent Signature	Date

Parents' contact information:

_____	_____
Cell phone	Email

Child's insurance # _____ Medical Provider _____