

MKy4n6

December 1, 2020

Dear Forensics Family:

Welcome to the annual Murray Middle School Invitational Speech Tournament hosted by Murray High School! We look forward to having you join us ONLINE the week of Sunday, January 3rd through Saturday, January 9thth. Our tournament normally takes place on the campus of Murray High School in Murray, Kentucky. Out of an abundance of caution for the safety of our participants because of the COVID-19 global pandemic, the Murray Middle School Invitational Speech Tournament will be held ASYNCHRONOUSLY online through Tabroom.com. We look forward to welcoming you back to the Murray High campus in the fall of 2021.

EVENTS

The tournament will host the following twelve Forensics events and will follow the Kentucky High School Speech League (KHSSL) rules for competition:

- [Broadcasting](#)
- [Declamation](#)
- [Dramatic Interpretation](#)
- [Duo Acting](#)
- [Extemporaneous Speaking](#)
- [Humorous Interpretation](#)
- [Impromptu Speaking](#)
- [Improvisational Duo](#)
- [Oratory](#)
- [Poetry](#)
- [Prose](#)
- [Storytelling](#)

Click on the event name for a ballot that explains competition rules. More information about competition guidelines can be found in the [Kentucky High School Speech League handbook](#) and at [the official KHSSL website](#). Also, please take time to review the [KHSSL ratings guidelines](#) as you prepare both your students and judges for competition.

Limited Prep Events

Limited Prep prompts will be released to coaches on Sunday, January 3rd at noon CST. Registration and links to performances are due by Monday, January 4th at 5pm CST. Students and coaches should respect the integrity and prep time rules for all events. Limited prep performances should be recorded once and utilize only the amount of prep time reserved per event rules. Impromptu and Improv Duo prep must be recorded. Extemp prep should NOT be recorded. Broadcasting will be competing using a prepared script for round two (see the Broadcasting ballot above for more details). All of those same performances from prelims will be judged in finals. With the exception of Broadcasting, student recordings should include the entire view of the student (as possible) with good sound and lighting in the performance. The recording device should be stationary for the entire performance. The link can be shared by pasting the link in the 'Link' section of their entry when you register them in Tabroom.

Recorded Video Special Note

If a student is reading their speech or script on their video screens in any event other than Broadcasting, they risk being dropped in rank or disqualification. Broadcasting is the only event where students are permitted to read from a phone, laptop, or video screen.

ENTRY FEES

Noting how the COVID-19 global pandemic has affected many programs, we have decided to adjust entry fees this year to help our fellow Forensics families. Each school will be charged the lesser of these two options: a school fee of \$100 **OR** individual entry fees. **HOWEVER, IF A TEAM DOES NOT PROVIDE ALL OF THEIR REQUIRED JUDGES OR THEIR JUDGES ARE UNABLE TO FULFILL THEIR OBLIGATIONS AS ASSIGNED, THAT TEAM WILL NOT BE ABLE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE \$100 ENTRY FEE CAP.** The cost for students to participate in individual events is \$6, with Duo Interpretation and Improvisational Duo charging \$12. Students may enter into as many events as they wish. This will be an ASYNCHRONOUS tournament and coaches must work to ensure that links are properly placed, working, and available for judges so that their students may be allowed to compete. We will work together to keep the tournament running smoothly and on time.

DEADLINE for entries is 5pm Central on MONDAY, JANUARY 4th, 2021.

JUDGES

Teams are required to provide 1 judge for every 6 entries into the competition. 6 entries = one judge, 7 entries = 2 judges, etc. Remember that Duo Interpretation and Improvisational Duo count as 1 entry here. **We need your judges!** Any judge drops will be charged \$50 each. Judge substitutions are free. Your judges should be familiar with KHSSL rules and ballots and are expected to be available to pick up a round of competition if another judge drops their round (up to three prelim rounds and one final round). ***Please email me at***

michael.robinson@murray.kyschools.us if you have judges with special concerns. This will help with overall flow of the tournament. Remember, all judges will be considered for all events and should be prepared for competition accordingly. **ALL JUDGES MUST HAVE A TABROOM.COM ACCOUNT IN ORDER TO BE PLACED TO JUDGE.**

Speech Prelim rounds will be held asynchronously and judges may complete them anytime between January 5th through 7th. Prelims ballots should be completed by 5:00pm CST on Thursday, January 7th. Finals for speech events will be announced on Friday evening via Tabroom. Judges may begin watching those final rounds as soon as they are released and they must be completed by Saturday at noon CST.

AWARDS

During a traditional in-person tournament, our school would give students medals and/or trophies as awards for placing in the top six. Taking into consideration the cost for shipping and how the pandemic has affected many facets of our daily lives, we will be awarding **certificates** for the top six performers in each event. Also, the top three schools will be recognized in overall sweepstakes competition. The awards ceremony will be held Saturday evening to accommodate students and parents so they may have time to eat dinner and share in the awards experience together. Get everyone around the computer to watch awards! Make some popcorn! Celebrate as a speech community and with your family in the safety of your home!

PLATFORM

We will be using Tabroom.com for competition. All competitors and judges will need to have registered Tabroom.com, NSDA accounts, and have technology available to effectively compete in or judge rounds. The tournament will be **ASYNCHRONOUS**, so students need to record their presentations as assigned and judges need to have the proper technology available to them to watch and score the round.

DROP FEES

Teams will be assessed a drop fee of \$10 per entry after Monday, January 4th at 5pm central. If a team adds an entry to the tournament after Monday, January 4th at 6pm, they will be assessed a \$10 add fee per entry in addition to their entry fee. Any adds or drops on the day of the tournament will result in a \$20 fine per entry. As noted above, any judge drop will result in a \$50 fine.

SCHEDULE

Sunday, January 3rd - Limited Prep Topics will be released at NOON CST

Monday, January 4th - ALL entries and video links are due at 5pm CST

Tuesday, January 5th - Prelims rounds will be released to judges in the morning

Wednesday, January 6th - Prelim judging continues

Thursday, January 7th - All prelim rounds will end at 5pm CST

Friday, January 8th - Final rounds will be announced and rounds released to judges

Saturday, January 9th - Final rounds will end at noon CST. Awards will be held Saturday evening

HOW TO ENTER

Please register online at www.tabroom.com. Select the KY league, register your school, then register for our tournament. Registration is OPEN! If you have any questions regarding the process, please let me know. Hope to see you ASYNCHRONOUSLY January 3rd through the 9th!

Thanks,

Michael Robinson

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Murray High School

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