



Colleagues,

Thank you for your interest in the 2020 Spring High School TFA/NIETOC Invitational Qualifying Tournament. In addition to being a qualifier towards TFA State, we are pleased to offer qualification in all relevant events for the National Individual Events Tournament of Champions!

We are excited to venture into the world of online tournaments this year. All individual events (except for extemporaneous speaking) will be asynchronous, with Synchronous final rounds. Video links will need to be submitted on Tabroom.com by Tuesday, November 3, 2020 by 9pm. Asynchronous prelims will run on Wednesday and Thursday will all ballots assigned due by Thursday at 7 pm. Semifinals will be asynchronous on Friday, with ballots due by 7pm. Finals will be synchronously judged on Saturday. Extemporaneous speaking will begin and end on Saturday. Congressional Debate will begin on and end on Friday. Debate will begin on Friday and end on Saturday. We are excited to offer every TFA speech and debate contest, Prose, Poetry, and extemp for your novice competitors.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have additional questions or concerns.

Our students and I look forward to hosting you!

Sincerely,

Marilyn Ocker

Spring High School Speech and Debate

Lion Players Theatre Company Theatre Director

mockers@springisd.org

Cell: 281-701-4154

Information/Fees

Platform: Classrooms.Cloud

Entries: Entries will be accepted until our spaces are filled. We have a limited number of rooms, so plan on entering early! All entries dropped after 5:00 pm on November 2, 2020 will lose their original entry fee. We reserve the right to charge nuisance fees for drops that are not communicated with us in a timely fashion.

Judges:

- Policy Debate – One judge for every two entries, or portion thereof. YOU MUST PROVIDE AT LEAST ONE JUDGE. TOTAL BUYOUT IS NOT ALLOWED!
- Lincoln-Douglas – One judge for every two entries, or portion thereof.
- Public Forum Debate – One judge for every two entries, or portion thereof.
- Congressional Debate – One judge for every eight entries.
- Extemporaneous Speaking – One judge for every six entries, or portion thereof.
- Asynchronous Individual Events (HI, DI, Duo, Duet, Prose, Poetry, Novice Oral Interp, POI, OO, Informative) – One judge for every six entries, or portion thereof.

*All judges/hire requests must be entered on the website by Monday November 2nd at 4:00pm or you will be assessed missing judge fees, which will be set. We need to get an accurate idea of how many judges to hire. Provided judges are always preferred to fees. Schools of judges who are scheduled to judge rounds and do not pick up ballots will be assessed a fee of \$25 for every missed round. Committing to a judge and then not providing that judge will result in a missing judge fee assessed on the day of the tournament.

Debate Event Topics:

- Cross-Examination Debate – NFHS Topic
- Lincoln-Douglas Debate – November/December topic NSDA Topic
- Public Forum Debate November/December NSDA Topic
- Congressional Debate – The current TFA docket will be used.
 - Specifically, we will run items #16-20 in prelims, items #11-15 in semifinals and items #21-25 in finals.

Fees:

- Missing Judge (IE/Debate) - \$150
- Individual Event, Duo/Duet Entry - \$15
- LD, Congress Entry - \$25
- PFD - \$30
- CX Entry - \$50

Payment of Fees: Schools should mail a check payable to Spring High School Speech and Debate to cover all fees. While we understand that COVID-19 has created some delays of payment, we would appreciate if you can have a Purchase Order or proof of payment (emails with business offices would suffice) by the start of the tournament. If you are unable to do this, we understand, but will require that

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all accounts be paid in full within 30 days after the tournament. All delinquent accounts are subject to a \$100 fee.

Cross-Entering: Students may participate in one debate event. Congressional Debaters and non-advancing LD/PF debaters may enter extemporaneous speaking. There are no cross-entry restrictions in asynchronous Individual Events. We will be providing cushion for each synchronous event in the schedule, however, participants with insurmountable technological issues or with extreme tardiness could be forfeited from the round.

LD/PF/CX/WSD students who do not advance to elimination rounds of debate may enter extemporaneous speaking on Saturday.

*Novice divisions will be collapsed without sufficient entry. We will make the final call regarding novice divisions by Monday, November 2nd. Novice is defined as any first-year competitor. Competing in an event for a first time does not necessarily make a competitor a novice. Trying to manipulate this rule has an extreme negative impact on our activity. Please double-check your entry to make sure that your students are entered in the appropriate division.

Student Behavior: All competitors and judges are held to the rules and regulations of the Texas Forensic Association. A coach (or other teacher) from every school, or a parent must be immediately available online at all times while students from said school are competing. Parents/Guardians may attend the tournament with (and be responsible for) their child(ren) if a school representative is unavailable. Failure to comply with these guidelines may result in forfeiting the school from competition.

Other Notes:

- We will make every effort as a tournament to run on schedule and will attempt to accelerate when possible. We ask for your patience and cooperation in the event that this is not possible.
- We believe that oral critiques and disclosure are valuable teaching tools in debate. However, an oral critique does not replace a well-written ballot, as that is helpful communication at this time of the year between the judge and coach.
- Panels will be provided for all TFA events in semifinals.
- The third round of debate (and 4th for LD/PF) will be power-matched (hi-low).
- Please pay attention to the TFA Constitution as it will govern this tournament. Of particular note is the difference in the Super Congress. From the Constitution: "In Super Congress, Speeches are four minutes, with two-minute questioning of speakers introducing legislation as well as the first negative, and one minute of questioning for subsequent speakers. Each questioner has 30 seconds within the one or two minutes to engage in direct questioning with the speaker. During direct questioning, all questioning periods are broken into 30-second segments, with one questioner per segment, who may ask multiple questions of the speaker during that segment. The Presiding Officer must track and select questioners based on recency the same way speakers are recognized. Recency for speaker should be tracked independently of questioners."
- Questions should be directed to Marilyn Ocker mockers@springisd.org or Ryan Hennessey ryan.hennessey@cfisd.net.

Schedule

Asynchronous IEs:

Wednesday 9am – Ballots/sections for Asynchronous IE Prelims released.

Wednesday 9pm – Asynchronous IE Prelim ballots due.

Thursday 9 am – Ballots/section for semis release

Thursday 9pm - Ballots due back by 9 pm

Friday 9am – Pairings will be released for synchronous IE Finals on Saturday.

Friday

3:15

CX Round 1

Congress Prelims (3:15-6:15)

LD/PF Round 1

WSD Round 1 (Prep)

4:15

WSD Round 1

5:00

LD PF round 2

5:30

CX Round 2

6:15

Worlds Round 2

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7:00

Congress Finals

LD/PF Round

8:00

CX Round 3

8:15

WSD 3

9:00

LD/PF Round 4

Saturday

9am

LD/ PF Octos

CX Quarters

Worlds Quarters Prep

Extemp Prelims - Draw

10:00

WSD Quarters

11:30

PF/LD Quarters

12: 00

Extemp Semis Draw

CX Semis

IE Finals

12:30

WSD Semis

1:30

PF/LD semis

3:00

WSD Finals Prep

3:00

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CX Finals

Extemp Finals - Draw

3:30

LD/PF Finals

4:00

WSD Finals

NOTE: Rounds will be accelerated if possible. Unnecessary elimination rounds (based on TFA IQT points numbers) will be removed from the schedule and rounds bumped up. Brackets will not be broken.

Sweepstakes

The top three schools will be honored for overall sweepstakes.

Individual Events, Duet Acting and Duo

3 points for all non-advancing semifinalists

5 points for each non-placing finalist

10 points for 3rd place

15 points for 2nd place

20 points for 1st place

Congress

1 point for non-advancing semifinalists* if held

3 points for non-placing finalists

5 points for 4th, 5th, and 6th place

10 points for 3rd place

15 points for 2nd place

20 points for 1st place

Debate

1 point for each prelim win

3 points for non-advancing Octafinalists *if held

5 points for non-advancing Quarterfinalists

10 points for non-advancing Semifinalists

15 points for 2nd place

20 points for 1st place