

# S C District Tournament Registration

March 19 & 20, 2021

February, 2021

Dear South Carolina Coaches,

It's time to start thinking about the District National Qualifier Tournament. The District Committee and I are looking forward to hosting your team at this SC only tournament to be held VIRTUALLY for 2021. By the way, the National tournament will also be virtual in June.

**The SC District will host all events SYNCHRONOUSLY except for DUO which will be ASYNCHRONOUS.** Duo recordings must follow the social distancing rules of each individual school. This means the event can be recorded split screen or partners in the same room depending on the school requirements. But, please note that nationals will have very specific rules which will have to be followed if different from the district.

As in previous years, the District Qualifier Congress will be held apart from the other events. The District Congress event took place Feb. 6 at the Eastside tournament.

Enclosed you will find directions for the online registration forms and pertinent information. **Please pay close attention to deadlines as many of the due dates are absolute. We want all of our SC NSDA schools to participate!!** This year we will be able to qualify many more students if we fill our events. Please help with your participation!

**Questions:** If you have questions, please email or call  
Gail Nicholas (SC district chair):

Cell phone 864-270-8556 or email at [nickfam@charter.net](mailto:nickfam@charter.net)

**Important Reminder:** *You are responsible for reading – prior to the District tournament – the entire 2021 NSDA High School Unified Manual at*

<https://www.speechanddebate.org/high-school-unified-manual/>

The 2021 (dated January 5, 2021) manual contains new and updated materials concerning the tournament and the events.

Please make sure your judges read the event descriptions  
as given by the NSDA in the  
**2020 Competition Events Guide at**

<https://www.speechanddebate.org/wp-content/uploads/Combined-Competition-Events-At-A-Glance.pdf>

**REGISTRATION:** Our district qualifier tournament for all events (except Congress) will be held March 19-20 **virtually** on Tabroom.com. Registration for that tournament will be at [southcarolina.tabroom.com](http://southcarolina.tabroom.com). For all non-congress events, we will be using the standard version of the NSDA Unified Manual (not any pilot versions), with the link on the page above.

**This is a BIG change from previous years. Check your email for Tabroom.com registration instructions that I will send to everyone.**

**Due March 12** – Registration at <http://southcarolina.tabroom.com>– students and judges. Initial registration needs to be done by this date (7 days in advance of the tournament). You will have until Wednesday, March 17 at 8:00 pm to make changes without charges. After that time, any changes must be emailed to Gail Nicholas. Please read the rules about substitutions and drops.

**No changes except drops may be made within a 48 hour window of the tournament.**

We look forward to seeing all of our SC schools at the District  
Tournament!

Gail Nicholas, SC District Chair

Committee Members:

David Dejesa, Riverside HS

Jonathan Dorn, Eastside HS

Chuck Nicholas, Bob Jones Academy

Coralie Watkins, Greenville Tech Charter School

**IMPORTANT ONLINE information in the NSDA manual is located on page 70-72.**

### **More District tournament information:**

**Proof of membership:** Due to the nature of school entry limits, we ask that you update your students' NSDA points through the NSDA's Point Application at least 10 days prior to the tournament. Students must have a minimum of 25 NSDA points on record, as well as be registered individually through the NSDA website to be eligible to compete at the District Tournament. Tabroom.com will have a list of your eligible students.

**Number of entries:** No team is allowed to enter more than **four** in any one category except congress. Total number of entries for each school is determined by the number of degrees the school has on record seven days prior to the tournament. To determine the number of entries your school may bring, refer to the **chart on page 66** of the District Tournament Operations Manual. The NSDA rules count duo teams, PFD teams, and policy teams as ONE entry.

1. Each school is permitted up to **four entries** in each event as long as the entries do not take you over your allotment quotas.
2. Our district will qualify at least two students to Nationals in all events since we are the Level 2 status (page 64) with school membership.  
But for the 2021 our opportunities are greater:

**4 entries in an event (at least 2 different schools) = 2 qualifiers**

**10 entries in an event = 3 qualifiers**

**20 in an event = 4 qualifiers**

3. **Each interp contestant must submit the Bibliography form for all pieces done in the performance.** This is done directly into Tabroom.com and does not require a printout. The original sources (as well as a marked copy with highlighted lines) should also be available at registration as well as throughout the entire tournament. Any challenges will require that the original sources be shown.
  4. Each interp contestant/coach must have the **Script Verification Cover Sheet** filled out and submitted in your Tabroom.com registration.
- D. **All Informative and Oratory contestants must have available throughout the entire tournament their written speech with bibliography.**

**NEW in 2013-14:** There must be 2 schools entered in all speech and debate events in order for the event to be valid.

**Double Entries:** Read page 68 of the Tournament Manual. The District committee has voted to use the rules found under “Double Entry” districts. Remember that no doubling is allowed at Nationals. Each double entered student must complete a [single entry letter of intent](#) signed by all required parties BEFORE the tournament begins. This form is located in the southcarolina.tabroom.com registration site. Congress participants will be allowed to take part in the District tournament as well as the Congress tournament. All students who participate at the District Congress, must fill out the single entry intent form if competing at the District tournament.

In addition to the doubling information found in the NFL manual, the district committee has agreed on the following rules:

1. Contestants may double between the 2 Extemp (IX/DX).
2. Contestants may double between one debate event and one Extemp.
3. Students may NOT double in LD and PFD.

**Student Codes:** Your students’ codes will **eventually show up in the Tabroom.com registration of your school.**

**Drops and Substitutions:** Email ([nickfam@charter.net](mailto:nickfam@charter.net)) or by overnight mail. **No changes will be accepted by telephone.** If you have questions about the process, please feel free to call (864) 270-8556 which is Gail’s cell and voice mail. **No changes except drops may be made within a 48 hour window of the tournament.** If you need to make last minute drops on the day of the tournament, you can reach Gail Nicholas at BJA on her **cell phone at 864-270-8556. Texting is another way to reach Gail.**

## **Awards:**

Students making the final round in each event will earn South Carolina Awards.

The 2-4 qualifying students in each event will also earn NSDA Awards.

The NSDA also provides Sweepstakes awards.

**Observers:** In order to make the tournament as fair as possible for all competitors, everyone is asked to follow these policies about observing:

1. No competitors or judges may observe debate rounds until the FINAL round.
2. No competitors may observe speech rounds until they are out of the competition (in other words, until semis and finals).
3. Judges may not observe until they are dismissed from the pool. All judges are obligated through finals if needed.
4. Note that with the virtual format of the tournament, it is very possible that observations will be not happen in 2021.

## DISTRICT CHECKLIST

**March 12, 2021** District entries must be **registered online with Tabroom.com** - more specifically at [southcarolina.tabroom.com](https://southcarolina.tabroom.com)

The full registration forms (with your principal's signature) are **no longer required** for registration at Districts. You only need to download and sign the School Consent Form and Single Entry letters located in the "nsda forms" tab in the tabroom registration.

**March 17, 2021** Changes may be made to district entries without charges until 5 pm on this date. ([southcarolina.tabroom.com](https://southcarolina.tabroom.com))

**March 19, 2021** (FINAL REGISTRATION – more info later on where/how)

**1. Typed original orations/informative speeches should be available at the tournament both days.**

- a. All quoted words should be highlighted, counted and totaled
- b. Include the following statement with the coach's and student's signatures: "This is the original work of this student and no more than 150 words are quoted."

- c. All orations/informatives must include a **Works Cited Page** in APA or MLA format – see pages 44-45 of manual.

2. **Single Entry Intent Forms** completed (by all students double entered and by all students who participated in the District Congress tournament). This is located in Tabroom.com.
3. You will be asked to sign a **Judges' registration form** acknowledging commitment through final rounds. (Remember- **you must provide sufficient qualified judges**)
4. **Proof of payment of all fees** (PLEASE!!! This is important.)
  - a. **Payment of NSDA dues** still owed (make separate check to the NSDA)
  - b. 2021 will not require a Judge Bond check, BUT if your judges cannot be found to judge assigned rounds, your school will be fined \$200.
  - c. Home and cell telephone numbers – contact numbers for the tournament days.
  - d. Email address

## **Fees:**

**Make all checks payable to the South Carolina National Forensic League (SC NFL).**

Fees for the District Tournament will be **\$20 per entry**.

Remember that a CX team or a PFD team or a Duo team counts as two entries for fees - \$40.

**You must pay for each person who is on your registration as of 5 pm March 17. Plans for the tournament are made based on original registrations.** There will be no charge for substitutions; however, substitutions may only come from your NSDA membership.

**\$20** for each individual student entry (speech and debate)

**\$200** for each judge dropped (and not replaced) after registration is received.

**\$35** School fee (all schools)

**\$200** penalty for missing judge on Friday and Saturday of the tournament. We will make every effort to find your judge or allow you to offer a replacement before this fee is charged.

**PLEASE NOTE: For liability reasons, each school must have an adult present online for the duration of the tournament. We cannot accept independent entries per NSDA rules. ONLY the faculty coach of record can register the team online and fill out the hard copy paperwork. Please adhere to this very important rule.**

**Judges:** In order to ensure the best competitive environment for our students, we ask that you provide quality judges for the tournament. At this point we plan to run the California plan - the method whereby two judges are used beginning with Round 1. The judging requirements are as follows:

- One judge for EACH LD Debater
- One judge for EACH PFD and/or CX/Policy Team
- One judge for every 4 Speech entries or fraction thereof.
- Failure to provide judges will require teams to cut their entries or pay \$200 per missing judge.
- Each school will be allowed 2 judge strikes from our district which must be completed before the end of registration. Strikes will be honored as long as the judge pool is full and overflowing. Because of the strike policy, it is very important that your judges are registered BEFORE final registration opens.

**There are no judges for hire.** A judge obligation is for 2 days for this tournament. (Friday only is considered half a judge and requires another half judge for all day Saturday and vice versa).

Since the District tournament is SC only this year, we will need to bring more UNAFFILIATED judges in order to fill the pool. Please work hard to find such judges.

The local pro bono pool is used to fill out rounds where school conflicts create impossible situations for us. Please start working on judging commitments soon. REMEMBER, ALL OF YOUR JUDGES ARE REQUIRED TO BE ON TIME TO ROUND I and ARE COMMITTED THROUGH FINAL ROUNDS. Coaches must sign the judges' entry form acknowledging that their (Saturday) judges are committed through Finals. Each year we have teams/judge who want to leave because their students are eliminated. This creates an impossible situation for those students remaining in the competition since judges from their schools cannot be used in a round where the school is represented. A judge's failure to report for a round will result in the loss of that school's judge bond. Judges will be asked to stay in the online judges lounge during rounds when not judging. The ability to find them quickly will be facilitated. Judges are asked NOT to observe rounds in which they are free since they may judge that particular event in a later round.

**A final note about judges:** Of all the tournaments in the course of the year, the district qualifier tournament is the most important to our students in that it offers them a chance to go to Nationals. We MUST provide QUALITY judges for them. Please DO NOT bring INEXPERIENCED JUDGES! Please advise your judges on proper decorum. It is unethical for a judge to come out of a round and coach his students about the competition he/she has just seen. Please caution them about innocent remarks. All judges are expected to

be on time to their rounds and to stay through the end of the tournament. They MUST be available for ROUND I; we cannot start without judges. **College Judges:** Freshmen and Sophomores will not be used in final round panels. They will also not be allowed to judge events in which they competed while in high school (this will be as best we can control this). When registering college judges, please write their HS event in the notes section as well as their year in college.

## **Tentative Schedule**

**Please check this schedule closer to March 19 for any updates.**

### **Friday, March 19, 2021**

**Online Tournament Day Registration process: 12:00 – 2:00 pm**

There will be more information about this process closer to the event.

This is for HEAD coaches only.

Friday Online Technical check: 3:15 PM

There will be squad rooms for each team. There will also be “rooms” for judges to be for judge call.

Extemp Draw begins at TBD.

Rounds will be posted in Tabroom.com as they are ready both Friday and Saturday. Due to the double elimination nature of debate events, we cannot predict the number of rounds needed in each event at this time. Competition continues into Saturday until NSDA qualifying conditions are met in each event.

### **Saturday, March 20, 2021**

**7:45 am - Judges Check in online**

**8:00 am - Rounds all events - continue as needed throughout day.**

Our goal is to have awards by 7:30 PM. However, this time may be moved forward or backward as needed based on the number of rounds needed to complete the tournament. (See note below.)



***NOTE: Any schedule in this invitation is considered tentative. Starting times on Friday and Saturday are set. Rounds will be posted at [Tabroom.com](http://Tabroom.com) as they are paired. All contestants and judges are expected to remain on the tournament site at all times in anticipation of postings. Once rounds are posted, contestants and judges will have 15 minutes to arrive in the posted rooms and “start” their rounds in Tabroom.***

## **World Schools Debate Team for Nationals**

### **PAGE 126 in District tournament manual**

**South Carolina WORLD DEBATE TEAM:** The South Carolina NSDA District will select FIFTEEN District tournament competitors to compete as **3 teams** in the "World Debate" category at NSDA Nationals this year. To be **eligible, coaches must express an interest on behalf of their students by registering them with Gail at the Friday registration. Those students must enter at least one main event at the South Carolina tournament (including the Congress event held Feb. 6)** to be eligible for consideration. There will be no World Debate competition at Districts. Instead, the district committee will choose the 15 South Carolina team members for nationals from the list of students who were registered by their coach at the final registration but did not qualify in a main event at the district tournament or decided to forgo their qualification for WSD. The committee will attempt to choose a team that represents a diverse group of schools in the district while also attempting to choose those students who will be most competitive at nationals. Students chosen must be committed and available to prepare and practice as a team. Students expressing an interest in being on the South Carolina World Schools Debate team might be asked to fill out an application or participate in a selection committee interview. **The committee will only consider students who are registered for consideration. If a student compet**

**ed in the Congress and will not compete in the March 19-20 district event, the coach should email Gail Nicholas with the student name to add to the list to be considered for the team.**

**NEW IN 2015-2016:** Students do not have to be a non-qualifying entry from districts to be selected to compete for the district World Schools Debate team. Students who attend the district tournament and qualify in a main event for the 2018 National Tournament may forgo their qualification and participate in the 2019 USA World Schools Debate Invitational, if they are selected for the team by their district and have preferred it on the Single Letter of Intent prior to the District Tournament Series.

**Please make sure that your students expressing interest in WSD are committed to the team if chosen!**

Please note that we will need adults to serve as judges at the national tournament. If you are interested in this position, please contact Gail Nicholas.

## **Events Information:**

### **Extemp:**

1. Extemp topics are provided by the NSDA.
2. More than likely there will not be 7 rounds of extemp. The semi final and final round topics will be the next round of topics scheduled.
3. The 2020 Topics will be the following (Listed in round order):  
The IX topics will be: TBD  
The US topic will be: TBD
4. **Computers will be allowed in the Extemp Prep room. Each coach and student is responsible to read the NSDA rules concerning computer usage and to comply with them. These rules are found on page 52-53 in the High School Unified Manual.**

**Interp manuscripts:** Each student is required to have the original, uncut source of his/her selection at the tournament. However, if the cutting comes from many different pages within a work, please, in addition, photocopy all pages used for a particular cutting and highlight the lines for easy reference. Please be aware that any student qualifying for Nationals must include publisher address and ISBN number with his national registration. **Please read the NFL manual concerning all interpretation rules on pages 44-49.** Webpage standards are included in these pages.

**Debate Resolutions:** The District tournament will use the March resolutions for Public Forum and Lincoln Douglas debate. Check the NSDA Website – the resolutions are already available.

**Use of Laptops in Debate Events:** Laptops will be allowed in all debate events (including Congress), but the NSDA guidelines must be followed. Read page 28-29 of the District Tournament Manual for the New Guidelines.

**IE Tournament plan:** Last year we successfully used the California Plan on pages 85-88 of the NSDA manual for speech events. As long as each school meets its judge requirements, we plan to follow this plan again. Otherwise, we will have to use the Up/Down IE plan described on pages 82-84 of your NSDA manual. The plans calls for two downs, and the student is out. The first two rounds of IE are randomly paired.

Subsequent rounds are paired according to the NSDA guidelines. Three judges are used beginning with round three.

**Debaters** advance until they have two losses. The first two rounds are randomly paired with numbers assigned by the computer. Later rounds are straight power. Three judges will be used when there are eight or fewer teams left. If there are enough judges, we will use three judges beginning with round one. Read pages 73-76 of the NSDA manual.