



Tarheel East District Speech & Debate Tournament

On March 13th & 14th, the Tarheel East District will be holding the second portion of the NSDA District Tournament. We will be hosting the Speech & Debate Qualifier online via NSDA Campus & Tabroom.com. This tournament determines who competes in all Speech and Debate from our district at the NSDA National Tournament held June 14th through 18th, 2021.

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.

Additionally, all fees must be paid with the NSDA prior to competing at the tournament. Any school with outstanding NSDA fees will not be allowed to compete until those fees are paid in full.

Registration will be held Friday evening via "Onsite Confirmation" and Zoom. This is in order to confirm that we have the most accurate representation of your competitors and judges. All of your paperwork will need to be organized and signed. Please help us begin on time by having this done ahead of time. (Paperwork is discussed in detail later in the document)

Each school must complete a District Tournament Registration Form. This form is automatically completed for you after you enter and complete your registration on Tabroom. This form must be fully completed, printed, signed, and turned into Crawford Leavoy by March 13th, 2021 (per NSDA rules).

Please send to:

Crawford Leavoy
103 Nuttree Way
Durham, NC, 27713

In accordance with new rule changes, we will permit changes to registrations after the seven day deadline, but the registration must be received by the March 12th date to insure entry into the tournament. All students and judges must be concurrently registered for the tournament on the Tabroom website as well. We must have both the electronic and hard copy version of your registration.

Please be sure to read the information on this website to ensure that you properly register.

Cordially,
Crawford Leavoy, District Chair - Durham Academy
Michelle Boswell - Cumberland Polytechnic HS
Patrick Jessee - Cary HS
Brittanie McNeil - Massey Hill Classical HS
RJ Pellicciotta - Cary Academy



Schedule

Saturday, March 13th, 2021

	SPEECH	DEBATE
8:30AM	Judge Meeting	Judge Meeting
9:00AM	USX - Extemp Draw	
9:30AM	USX - Round One	Debate - Round One
10:45AM	IX - Extemp Draw	
11:15AM	Speech - Round One	
1:00PM	USX - Extemp Draw	Debate - Round Two
1:30PM	USX - Round Two	
2:45PM	IX - Extemp Draw	
3:15PM	Speech - Round Two	
4:30PM	USX - Extemp Draw	Debate - Round Three
5:00PM	USX - Round Three	
6:00PM		
6:15PM	IX - Extemp Draw	
6:45PM	Speech - Round Three	
8:45PM		Debate - Round Four
9:15PM	<i>Speech Semifinalists Posted</i>	



Schedule (continued)

Sunday, March 14th, 2021

	SPEECH	DEBATE
8:00AM		Debate - Round Five
8:30AM	Speech Events - Semifinals	
9:30AM		<i>Clearing Entries Posted</i>
10:00AM	USX - Extemp Draw	Debate - Elimination Round One
10:30AM	USX - Finals	
11:00AM		
12:00PM	IX - Extemp Draw	
12:30PM	Speech Events - Finals	Debate - Elimination Round Two
2:00PM		Debate - Elimination Round Three
3:30PM		Debate - Elimination Round Four
5:00PM		Debate - Elimination Round Five

- Awards will occur on Sunday evening as we finalize all events and audit results.
- The District Committee will post updates throughout Sunday as that time becomes known.
- This schedule is subject to change
- **All judges are obligated throughout the tournament.**



Rules

The debate portion of the District Qualifier will follow the guidelines that are in the Pilot District Tournament Operations Manual. The tournament guidelines can be found on pages 3 through 9 of the Pilot District Tournament Operations Manual. The Event guidelines can be found on pages 23-34 of the Unified High School Manual.

The speech portion of the District Qualifier will follow the guidelines that are in the Pilot District Tournament Operations Manual. The Tournament guidelines can be found on pages 10 through 12 of the Pilot District Tournament Operations Manual. The Event guidelines can be found on pages 44 through 53 of the Unified High School Manual.

School Fee

There will be no school fee for the 2021 District Tournament.

Double Entry Guidelines

- Students may double enter in any two of the speech events they desire.
- Students may enter one speech event and one debate event if they choose.
- USX will run in the same time slots as debate events. **Therefore, the District Committee does not suggest double entry between debate events and USX due to the possibility of missing rounds.**
- Any student who wishes to double enter in more than one partner event must have the same partner for both events (This applies to Public Forum, Policy and Duo).
- Students may enter two events in addition to Congress, but no student may compete in more than 2 events if one is not Congress, and no student can compete in more than 3 events under any conditions. *This provision does not include Big Questions debate or applying for World Schools.*
- Students may not enter both Public Forum and Policy debate.

Rules Concerning Judges

1. Judges must have graduated from high school. First-year out judges may be registered, but are free strikes.
2. Judges must be aware of all NSDA rules regarding event procedures, scoring, and requirements of the event you have placed them in. If a judge is unfamiliar with the rules and regulations, or unfit to judge (as determined by the District Committee) your judge will be removed from the tournament and the school charged for a missing judge.
3. Judges need to be available throughout the tournament. They should not leave the tournament until all rounds are completed. This is necessary because the elimination rounds require multiple judges and we cannot use “dirty” judges.
4. Judges may be in both the Speech pool and Debate pool
5. Each judge must register for a minimum of 1 pool in each event (Debate - LD, PF, CX; Speech - Platform, Interpretation)

Judge Ratios

Every school must supply judges in the following ratios:

- In Speech Events, 1 judge per 5 entries; \$100 for missing quota
- In Lincoln-Douglas Debate, 1 judge per 2 entry; \$100 for missing quota
- In Public Forum Debate, 1 judge per 2 entry; \$100 for missing quota
- In Policy Debate, 1 judge per 2 entry; \$100 for missing quota



Judge Bond

There is no judge bond for the 2021 District Tournament. In the event that your judges do not appear for all assigned rounds, a \$50 fine will be assessed for each round missed.

Judge Strike System

On March 10th, each school will be given the opportunity to strike two judges in the tournament. These are universal strikes. Therefore, you can strike Sam Higgins from judging your school in every event, but you cannot only strike Sam in LD, but not Extemp.

In the event that the District Committee has to add a judge to the judging pool after the list of judges is published, we will offer them to you as a free strike. This means that you can strike them whether you have used your strikes or not.

Strikes must be submitted by 8:30 AM on Saturday, March 13th, 2021.

Scripts & Manuscripts

This year, we will be not collecting scripts & manuscripts for all scripted speech events per NSDA requirements. **However, it is the expectation of the District Committee that every manuscript in Interpretation, Oratory and Informative is available within 20 minutes of being requested. These scripts and manuscripts should be in your possession and transmittable to the District Committee.**

For all Interpretation events, each entry should have:

- The original book/manuscript/play in which each page being used in competition is clearly marked.
- Each page should also be copied, and words actually spoken should be highlighted while each word not being used is clearly crossed through.
- Any transitional phrases should be written where they appear in the text and the introduction should also be included.

For Informational Speaking and Original Oratory, each entry should have:

- The student's original speech with correctly formatted MLA citations for all sources should be included.

For any electronic sources that can not be printed, the coach should have the source on an electronic device during the days of the district competition.

Please note, the only reason a script/manuscript will be requested is if there is a challenge to a competitor's piece. If requested, the competitor/coach must produce the script or manuscript in a timely manner. If the competitor/coach cannot produce the script or manuscript in a timely manner, the protest will be upheld.



Topics & Topic Areas

Extemporaneous Speaking Topic Areas

The National Office of the NSDA will be providing questions for both the United States and International Extemporaneous Speaking divisions.

These topic areas will be announced the Monday prior to the tournament.

Lincoln-Douglas Debate Topic

Resolved: The United States ought to guarantee universal child care.

Public Forum Debate Topic

Resolved: On balance, the benefits of creating the United States Space Force outweigh the harms.

Policy (CX) Debate Topic

Resolved: The United States federal government should enact substantial criminal justice reform in the United States in one or more of the following: forensic science, policing, sentencing.



Pilot Speech Rules

The 2021 Tarheel East NSDA District Tournament will utilize the new Pilot Rules for District Tournament in speech. The Tournament guidelines can be found on pages 10 through 12 of the Pilot District Tournament Operations Manual. The Event guidelines can be found on pages 44 through 53 of the Unified High School Manual.

General Rules

1. Minimum Rounds - At least three preliminary rounds must be held in all speech events.
2. Number of Judges - One, two or three judges may be used in preliminary rounds, as determined by the District Committee. All sections of an event must have the same number of judges as all other sections in a round throughout the tournament. Elimination and final rounds must use three or more judges per section. All elimination round judge panels must consist of odd numbers of judges, and no elimination or final round may use fewer judges per section than any previous round.
3. Judges - should rank each entry in order, best to worst, 1-7. Ties are not permitted; points are not necessary

District Committee's Stipulations

- 1) We will hold 3 preliminary rounds in all speech events
- 2) We will utilize 2 judges in each preliminary round in speech.

Preliminary Rounds

Preliminary rounds sections are assigned with at least four and no more than seven entries each; the ideal is sections of six. The priorities for paneling these rounds, in order, are:

- 1) Avoid entries from the same school in the same section
- 2) Avoid entries competing against each other multiple times
- 3) Avoid schools competing against each other multiple times

Speaker order is varied within preliminary rounds so that every entry's average speaker position is as equal as possible to all other entries in the same event. Each entry should speak early in a round (first 2 speakers) and late in a round (last two speakers) at least once during preliminary rounds. **In all cases, the computer should be primarily used to create pairings to ensure impartiality and true randomness where necessary; however, the speech tabulation staff should check the computer to ensure pairing priorities are correctly followed.**

Preliminary Round Break

After the preliminary rounds are concluded, the entries are ordered by rank total, lowest being best. If each entry is given four or more scores (if there are four prelims with one judge, or three prelims with two judges each, etc.) then the worst (highest) rank score is dropped from their rank total.

Preliminary Round Break (continued)

Any event with eight or more entries must break to elimination rounds. If there are between 8-16 entries in an event, a final round of at least four entries must be held. The break point for elimination rounds is determined based on the total count of entries at the start of the tournament. 25% of that entry total rounded up to the nearest whole number, or a minimum of four entries, advance to elimination rounds. All entries whose rank totals are tied with an advancing entry also advance. For example, if the target to advance is six, but a rank total tie exists between sixth and seventh, the top seven entries advance.

<u>Event</u>	<u>'19 Entries</u>	<u>Elim?</u>	<u>1st Elim</u>	<u>25%</u>
DI	38	Yes	Semi	10
DUO	14	Yes	Final	4
HI	18	Yes	Final	5
INF	19	Yes	Final	5
IX	14	Yes	Final	4
OO	38	Yes	Semi	10
POI	12	Yes	Final	4
USX	19	Yes	Final	5

These are the 2019 Tarheel East District Numbers as a reference of what the 1st Elimination Round would be and how many people would make that round.

Elimination Rounds

If more than seven entries advance, section a quarter or semifinal round. Sections should have no fewer than four and no more than seven entries. If more than 21 entries advance, quarterfinals must be held. If 15-21 entries advance, semifinals in three sections are held unless the District Committee has set and communicated a lower threshold for quarterfinals.

Elimination rounds are snaked: the top placing entry is placed in the first section, and then the next entries are assigned in order by the rank totals going into the round until the number of sections is exhausted. The next entry is placed in the last section and the rest filled in up to the first section. Then, the next entry is placed in the first section and filled in to the last, and so on. Sections are then adjusted by swapping entries with the same rank total to avoid entries from the same school competing in the same section, where possible. Speaker order in elimination rounds is determined by totaling the entries' past speaker orders and ordering the section by the reverse of their previous speaker position totals, so the entry with the highest total of past orders speaks first, the next highest speaks second, and so on. Speaker order may be adjusted to accommodate double entry.

Advancing from Elimination Rounds

After each elimination round, placement order is determined first by lowest total ranks in all preliminary rounds, dropping the worst (highest) preliminary round rank for each entry whether or not each entry received four or more scores in prelims. Then add the total of all ranks earned in elimination rounds multiplied by two. Ties are broken by the lowest rank totals from the last elimination round only.

Six entries advance out of a semifinal round (an elimination with two or three sections), together with any extra tied with an advancing entry on both overall rank total and ranks in the previous elimination round. Twelve entries should advance out of a quarterfinal, together with any entries tied with an advancing entry on both overall rank total and ranks in the last elimination round. Advance the top overall entries, not equal numbers from individual sections. If more than seven entries are tied to advance to finals from semifinals, or more than 14 are tied to advance from semifinals from quarterfinals, then all entries tied for the last spot on both scores are excluded from advancing.

Final Round

If the number of entries clearing to finals is equal to or lower than the number of slots the district will send to Nationals, it may be skipped; otherwise, finals must be held. Speaker order in finals is determined by the same method as elimination rounds. Final round judge panels should consist of an odd number of at least three judges and should never be smaller than the number of judges used in any previous round of that event.

Determining National Qualifiers & Alternates

Qualifiers are determined by the cumulative scores of finalists based on the factors below. After finals, the order of placement overall is determined by, in order:

- 1) The last round competed in.
- 2) Lowest total overall ranks score, dropping the worst prelim rank and multiplying elimination and final round ranks by 2.
- 3) Highest total reciprocal of all ranks, dropping the worst prelim rank, and multiplying elimination and final reciprocals by 2.
- 4) Lowest total ranks in the final round.
- 5) Judges preference (head to head) in the final round
- 6) Highest total reciprocal of ranks in the final round
- 7) Judge's preference (head to head) in elimination round(s)
- 8) Judge's preference (head to head) in prelim round(s)



Debate Rules

The following rules apply to Lincoln-Douglas, Policy and Public Forum debate events at the district tournament. The district tournament is a double elimination contest. Entries who receive their second loss are eliminated from the tournament.

General Rules & Instructions

- 1) No debate is valid if started after 9:30PM unless it is the final day of the tournament.
- 2) At least four preliminary rounds are held in debate contests unless only four entries compete. If only four entries compete, three preliminary rounds may be held.
- 3) One or three judges may be used in preliminary round debates, as determined by the District Committee. All debates must have the same number of judges as all other debates in a round throughout the tournament. Elimination rounds must use three or more judges per round. All judge panels must consist of odd numbers of judges, and no elimination or final round may use fewer judges per panel than any previous round.
- 4) College-age judges are permitted at the discretion of the District Committee. Current high school students may not judge any portion of the district tournament series.
- 5) If a judge fails to fulfill a judging assignment, a fine may be assessed at the discretion of the District Committee. (Each separate penalty is a \$50 fine)
- 6) Judges assigned by the tournament committee are final unless protested before the beginning of the tournament. If a judge is added to the pool after the tournament begins, any protest must be made prior to the round in which that individual is assigned to judge. If protested, the District Committee will hear the protest, and its decision is final. If a member of the committee is involved in the protest, they should be recused.
- 7) The District Committee may permit a judge strike policy at the district tournament
 - a) Districts are encouraged to solicit opinions of all schools in the district when determining whether a strike system will be used, and if so, what type of system. The decision of the District Committee is final.
 - b) If a District Committee chooses to implement a judge strike system, the chair must submit a complete description of the proposed strike procedure to the national office for the approval. The description must be approved at least seven days prior to the beginning of the tournament.
 - c) The system used must be maintained throughout the entire district tournament.
- 8) Permission to use laptop computers in any event shall be autonomous decision of the District Committee. Granting usage subjects debaters to the guidelines contained in the rules section of this manual. ***The Tarheel East District Committee has decided to utilize the Internet Rules 2020-2021 for Extemporaneous Speaking, Lincoln-Douglas Debate, Public Forum Debate and Policy Debate.***
- 9) Debaters who are 15 minutes late forfeit the round, but the District Committee may waive the penalty. If there are multiple judges, all judges must agree that the student was 15 minutes late.
- 10) In the case of a disqualification, all previous decisions will stand and no revision of decisions will occur unless dictated by a specific protest procedure (eg. evidence violation).
- 11) Harassment in any form at any contest is prohibited and is grounds for disqualification.



General Rules & Instructions (continued)

- 12) Scouting is strongly discouraged.
- 13) The District Committee or tournament committee appointed by it has the full power to adjudicate disputes or interpretation of rules but may not change the rules. The District Committee is authorized to determine how a rule is to be interpreted or applied in a specific situation. In a case of a serious dispute or critical question of procedure, which the District Committee cannot resolve, the national office or acting tournament referee must be phoned for a ruling. Please consult the national office to determine the referee for your event.

Pairing and Tabulation Rules

Rounds 1-2 are randomly preset, and any subsequent rounds must be powermatched.

Pairing Presets (Round 1-2)

Preset rounds are sectioned with the following priorities in order:

- 1) Avoid two entries from the same school debating each other.
- 2) Avoid entries debating each other more than once
- 3) Avoid any entry in CX and LD debating on the same side of the topic more than once.
- 4) Avoid any entry drawing a bye (due to uneven numbers) more than once
- 5) Avoid any entry debating more than one opponent from the same school
- 6) Avoid any school drawing a bye (due to uneven numbers) more than once.

Pairing Powermatched Rounds (Preliminary Rounds after Round 2)

After Round 2, entries are ordered or seeded by the following:

- 1) Highest number of rounds won
- 2) Highest total entry speaker points with highest and lowest ballots' scores dropped (drop the highest and lowest total team score in CX and PF, not the lowest score of each speaker)
- 3) Highest total entry speaker points
- 4) Lowest average opponent seed
- 5) Coin flip/random number

Debates are assigned within brackets. All entries with the same win count are grouped in the same bracket.

Pull Ups

Begin with the top bracket (the most wins). In a non-side-locked round, which is all rounds in PF, and odd numbered rounds in LD and CX, pull ups are required either if numbers are uneven or there is no way to avoid scheduling a debate between entries from the same school or entries that have previously debated. In side-locked (even rounds in CX or LD), pull ups are also required if the number of teams due to debate affirmative is not equal to the number due to debate negative. Until these conditions are met, pull up an entry or entries from the brackets below according to the following priorities in order:

- 1) Pull entries up only if they are due to debate the short side in a sidelocked round
- 2) The pull up should not force a debate between entries in the same school
- 3) The pull up should not force a debate between entries that have previously debated
- 4) The pull up should come from the nearest bracket possible
- 5) The pull up should have the worst (highest) average opponent seeding

Do not avoid pulling an entry up because they have been previously pulled up. Pull ups are re-seeded into their new bracket as they would be based on the tiebreakers other than win/loss. For example, if a pull up has the eighth best high/low speaker points out of 12 entries in a bracket, they are given the eighth position despite having fewer wins.

Pairing

Once the bracket has an even number of entries, schedule entries such that the entry with the best (lowest) SOP score debates the entry with the worst (highest) SOP score. Then the second best debates the second worst, and so on. The following priorities should be used in pairing powermatched debates:

- 1) Avoid two entries from the same school debating each other
- 2) Avoid entries debating each other more than once
- 3) Avoid any entry in CX and LD debating on the same side as a previous round in sidelocked rounds.
- 4) Pair entries according to their position in the bracket as determined by SOP scores

SOP (Seed + Opponent Seed) scores are calculated by adding the seeding of the entry together with their average opponent seed up to that point in the tournament. The top seeded debaters might end up lower in the bracket than worst seeded debaters if they debated against worse opponents. The goal of SOP is to even out the difficulty of the brackets over the course of the tournament.

Break this pattern of SOP as minimally as possible to avoid higher pairing priorities. In an event with an uneven number of entries, the bye goes to the entry with the worst SOP score overall that has not yet been awarded a bye. If two entries must debate against each other a second time in either preliminary or elimination rounds, in LD and CX, the second debate must have sides reversed from the first debate, in PF, the coin flip is still used.

In all cases, the computer should be primarily used to create pairings in preset and powermatched rounds to ensure impartiality and true randomness where necessary; however, the debate tabulation staff should check the computer to ensure pairing priorities are correctly followed.

Elimination Rounds

After preliminary rounds, the entries should be ranked in order based on the same seeding rules used for powermatching. The District Committee may choose either to advance all entries with a winning record or only advance all entries with one or zero losses.

Double Elimination Bracket

The Tarheel East District Committee has elected to use a double elimination bracket for the elimination rounds of their district debate tournament. A double elimination bracket requires that any entry must lose two debates in elimination rounds before they are eliminated from the tournament. This method requires more elimination rounds than a single-elimination bracket. Tournaments using a double elimination bracket will use the same rules as a single elimination bracketed tournament for preliminary rounds and determining which entries will clear to elimination rounds. The first elimination round will also be conducted according to the same rules as the single elimination bracketed tournament. The best seeded entry debates the worst seed, the second best seed debates the second worst, and so on. If the number is not a power of two, then the twop seeded debaters are given byes until the bracket is complete.

Pairing Elimination Rounds

After the first elimination round, a double elimination format bracket is divided into a “winner’s bracket” of debaters who have not lost in elimination rounds, and a “loser’s bracket” of debaters who have already lost one debate in elimination rounds. The winner’s bracket operates exactly like a single elimination format bracket, except that when an entry loses, they are moved to the loser’s bracket instead of eliminated from the tournament. The loser’s bracket is paired among teams with one loss. The loser’s bracket teams are ‘seeded’ with either a) the better seed of the last loser’s bracket debate they won, or b2) the worse seed of the last winner’s bracket debate they won. For example, the loser of a winner’s bracket debate between the 1 and 8 seed is seeded 8 going into the next loser’s bracket debate. The winner of the loser’s bracket debate between the 5 and 11 seed in the loser’s bracket is seeded 5 going into the next loser’s bracket debate.

Each loser’s bracket round must have a number of entries equal to a power of 2 (powers of 2 are 2, 4, 8, 16, 32, etc.). If there are more debaters than that, give byes to the best seeded debaters until there is a power of 2 number of rounds. For example, if there are five entries in the loser’s bracket, one will receive a bye and the bottom four seeds will debate. If there are 13 entries in the loser’s bracket, five will receive byes and the bottom eight seeds will debate. IF there are six entries in the loser’s bracket seeded 5, 6 ,7, 8, 10, and 11, byes are given to the 5 and 6 entries. Pair the debaters in the loser’s bracket so that the average total seed of the two debaters competing against each other is the same as all other debates in the loser’s bracket. Using the above example, the 7 and 11 seeds would debate (sum 18) and the 8 and 10 seeds would debate (sum 18). Debaters may debate the same opponents that have already faced in preliminary rounds, but they may not debate twice in elimination rounds. When the seeding schedules two entries to debate for a second time in elims, flip one half of the opponents such that the seed total of all debates are as close as possible to each of the others while avoiding repeat debates. In these cases, the “worst” seed sums will be 2 higher than the “best” seed sums. Using the above example, imagine the 8



Pairing Elimination Rounds (continued)

and 10 seeds had already debated in elims. Instead of keeping each seed sum at 18, the 7 and 10 seeds would debate (sum 17) and the 11 and 8 seeds would debate (sum 19).

Rounds between entries from the same school may either be debated or decided at the coach's discretion; do not break brackets to avoid same-school debates.

Determining National Qualifiers

Qualifying spots are always determined by wins in elimination debates. A district which qualifies three entries must conduct a debate between the two non-advancing entries that were eliminated in the round before the final round, one from the winner's bracket and one from the loser's bracket.

Determining Alternates

Alternate placement is determined by one of two methods. By default, the preliminary round seeding method is used; District Committees that opt for run-offs must publicize that decision before the start of round 1 of each event.

Protests & Decorum

We ask that you remind your judges and students that due to the nature of the District Tournament, emotions are typically high, and tempers short. We ask that students, judges and coaches work to maintain proper decorum throughout the tournament.

We ask that you are very aware of all rules in the NSDA Unified Manual. You should submit a protest only when you are sure that a rule has been violated. We will respond with serious attention. Protests are accusations. We want everyone to feel respected and honored as we conduct this tournament. Please handle the protest with tact, discretion and dignity. Do not involve a student in an unnecessary dispute.

Some notes from the manual:

- **Harassment:** Harassment, in any form, at any contest is prohibited and is grounds for disqualification.
- **Disputes:** The District Committee has the full power to adjudicate disputes or interpretation of rules, but may not change the rules. The District Committee is authorized to determine how a rule is to be interpreted or applied in a specific dispute or critical question of procedure. If the District Committee cannot resolve, the National Office or acting Tournament Referee must be phoned for a ruling
- **Protests:** Judges assigned by the tournament committee shall be final unless protested before the tournament has begun. If a judge(s) is added to the judge pool after the tournament has begun, any protest must be made prior to the session in which that individual(s) is assigned to judge. If protested, the District Committee shall hear the protest, and its decision will be final. Members of the District Committee involved should recuse themselves.
- **Protest Committee:** If a member must recuse themselves, the coach will be replaced by a District Chair from outside of the District, if present at the tournament.
- **Proxies for Tab Officials:** Due to their nature as tabulation officials, members of the District Committee may not file protests at the District Tournament on behalf of their students. They must appoint a proxy prior to the beginning of the tournament with the District Chair who will file all protests on their school's behalf.



Awards & Recognition

District Student of the Year

With the level of integrity, intellect and character that is among the student population in each district, the NSDA is proud to announce the implementation of the NSDA District Student of the Year award.

Each coach may nominate one student who exemplifies the leadership practices and positive qualities set forth by the National Speech and Debate Association.

The award will be based on coach nominations only. Nominations should be in the form of a 500-word (or fewer) essay about the nominee and his or her service, passion and dedication to the district, the NSDA, and the activity of forensics. Nominations will be collected and reviewed by the District Chair and his or her committee. Whoever receives the strongest nominations for the award should receive the award.

The winner of the District Student of the Year award will receive a plaque from the National Speech and Debate Association during the Awards Ceremony of the District Tournament. His or her District Chair will present the award.

To nominate, each nominee should reflect the following standard:

- A nominee must be an NSDA member in his or her senior year of high school.
- The nominee should uphold the NSDA Code of Honor.
- The nominee should demonstrate strong academic standards.
- The nominee should demonstrate participation in a wide array of community involvement and service.
- The nominee should exhibit dedication and commitment to the NSDA and forensics.

The nomination form can be found here:

<https://www.speechanddebate.org/student-of-the-year-nomination-form/>

To be considered, your form must be submitted by March 14th.



Awards & Recognition (Continued)

All Nominations Need to Be Submitted Prior to March 14th

District Coach of the Year

“The function of a coach is to educate students through participation in speech and debate. Students should be treated with the utmost respect, and their welfare should be considered in decisions by coaches at all times.” The Nomination Form can be found here:

<https://www.speechanddebate.org/high-school-coach-of-the-year-nomination-form/?fbclid=IwAR30sk25D3R1zvpoXTibAUer4aYjdHjd-TzGBHv3nlHb6CiT4CShMWr6G9I>

Alumni Achievement Award

"The Alumni Achievement Award showcases a speech and debate alumni from your district who has utilized their speech and debate talents to achieve success for themselves and the speech and debate community. "

Please send a letter of nomination to tarheeleastdistrict@gmail.com by March 14th.

Administrator of the Year

“The National Speech and Debate Association annually recognizes outstanding high school administrators who have succeeded in providing high-quality opportunities for students in speech and debate programming as well as demonstrating exemplary contributions to the profession.” The Nomination Form can be found here:

https://www.speechanddebate.org/high-school-administrator-nomination-form/?fbclid=IwAR2ninJl-jKTYRU-HmgLIHkAIK7OY8Wq_vBaZTTqNFwGwZiDD5--HW3yIB4

New Coach of the Year

“Each District Committee may award a District New Coach of the Year to a deserving member coach in their district, and from those district-level award winners, a National New Coach of the Year is selected.” The Nomination Form can be found here:

<https://www.speechanddebate.org/new-coach-of-the-year-nomination-form/>

Assistant Coach of the Year

“Each District Committee may award a District Assistant Coach of the Year to a deserving member coach in their district, and from those district-level award winners, a National Assistant Coach of the Year is selected.” The Nomination Form can be found here:

<https://www.speechanddebate.org/assistant-coach-of-the-year-nomination-form/>

Volunteer of the Year

"The Volunteer of the Year Award showcases a speech and debate volunteer from your district who has utilized their talents to assist the speech and debate community in an exceptional manner. "

Please send a letter of nomination to tarheeleastdistrict@gmail.com by March 14th.



Fees

Please pay all outstanding NSDA fees prior to March 13th. You must pay the remaining balance at registration in order to be allowed to compete. You will not be able to compete without paying.

Each student will incur a fee of \$30.00 for the District Tournament, regardless of the number of events that they enter. This must be paid for all students at this tournament; if your student is competed at the Congressional Debate portion of the NSDA District Tournament in February, there will not be an additional registration fee for that student.

There will be no entry fees for students representing a new NSDA school.

Limits

A school's entry to the District Tournament is based around their **degree strength** on file with the NSDA. Tabroom will automatically show you the number of allowed entries based on strength.



Paperwork to Submit

The following items need to be turned in to the appropriate listed person by their respective due dates.

1. Tabroom Registration - **Due March 6, 2021 at 4PM**
2. District Tournament Registration Form
 - This is a form generated by Tabroom after you complete your registration.
 - Must be completed, printed, and signed by the coach.
 - Any potential alternate who may replace a student who drops must also be an NSDA member at the school for which they are entered for at least seven days prior to the District Tournament.
 - Alternate substitutions must meet all qualifications as those originally entered on the form.
 - No student may compete that is not on that form. Drops must be removed and alternate substitutions must be added prior to the start of the tournament.
 - A hard copy of this form is due on **March 6, 2021 at 4PM**
3. National Tournament Single Entry Letter of Intent (for students who are double entering at the District Tournament held on March 23rd & 24th) - **Due at Registration on March 13, 2021.**
You should also file this via Tabroom.com under "NSDA Forms."

How To Register on Tabroom.com

The following instructions are how to register on www.tabroom.com.

1. Logon in the top right-hand corner of the screen.
2. Search "Tarheel" in the top right-hand corner of the screen. After you do this the first time, the tournament will always appear in your login screen unless you drop completely from the tournament.
3. Click "Register" on the tabs of the tournament. You'll have to certify that the information you provide is accurate, and then make sure that you update your NSDA roster (this is pretty intuitive). **I would advise that you put in your points prior to this step so that you don't have to go back and do it. Remember, the number of entries you get is dependent on the number of degrees your program has.**
4. Under "Entries" you will find a drop-down menu on the right hand side. You can select House or Senate. Once you select an event, you will have a list of your students who are eligible for the tournament. Select their name and click "Add Entry." You may continue to add until all of your slots are filled.
5. Your "Greensheets" (printed registration forms) are under "NSDA Forms" as well as your Single Entry Letter of Intent. You'll find that you can rank Congress and Worlds currently. However, you will be able to resubmit for any student that is also competing in the March portion of the District tournament.
6. Under "Judges" you will enter the name of the required number of judges. You must add them to the Tabroom system if you haven't already. On the right-hand side, you'll find "Add Judge."
7. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Crawford Leavoy.