

November 30, 2020

Dear Coaches,

Harlen Hamm, an icon in the Kentucky forensics community, was particularly beloved here in Rowan County where he taught and coached for many years.

In addition to being a great educator/coach, I have it on good authority that Mr. Hamm had a great sense of humor – and would have appreciated an effort to elicit giggles in the midst of a pandemic. Plus, it seemed like a good idea to keep the holiday food theme going here in the Kentucky forensics community.

All that said, I extend an enthusiastic invitation to the Rowan County Senior High School ...

## Harlen “Christmas” Hamm Invitational Tournament.

### **Critical info:**

- The tournament will be held December 8-12, 2020.
- Three (3) rounds of asynchronous preliminaries; the top six entries in each event advance to an asynchronous final round.
- Registration and videos are all due by Monday (12/7), 6pm.
- Events offered:
  - Broadcasting (Round 2 format)
  - Declamation
  - Dramatic Interpretation
  - Duo Acting
  - Extemporaneous Speaking
  - Humorous Interpretation
  - Impromptu Speaking
  - Improvisational Duo
  - Informative Speaking
  - Oratory
  - Poetry
  - Program of Oral Interpretation
  - Prose
  - Storytelling

See the [KHSSL Handbook](#) for Kentucky rules, time limits, etc.

### **Schedule:**

- Preliminary rounds judged Tuesday (12/8), 6pm – Thursday (12/10), 6pm.

- Finalists announced at Friday (12/11), 6pm via HAMM RADIO. Just kidding. Announcement link will be emailed to coaches.
- Finals judged Friday (12/11), 6pm – Saturday (12/12), 12pm.
- Awards announced Saturday (12/12), 6pm. As with the announcement of finalists, an announcement link will be emailed to coaches.
- Ballots and results posted online Saturday (12/12), 7pm via the Tabroom software/site.
- All times Eastern Standard Time.

### **Limited Prep:**

- Extemp, Impromptu, and Improvisational Duo topics released at Sunday (12/6), 6pm
- Students should use expected time limits.
- Impromptu and Improvisational Duo should film prep time as well as performances. Extempers do not need to film prep time and may use Internet searches but may not consult human beings by any means in preparation.

### **Video Info:**

- All videos (including Extemp, Impromptu, and Improvisational Duo) MUST be uploaded by Monday (12/7), 6pm.
- Student video links should be set for “anyone with the link” to view.
- Upload student video links to Tabroom through the “Entries” tab (click on the kid’s name once registered, and you’ll see a place to paste the URL). There will be only one video uploaded, and it will be used for all rounds (preliminaries AND finals).
- Videos should be shot as one “take” without editing. Students may move on and off screen in the videos as needed, but the camera must not move.
- Duo Interpretation and Improvisational Duo entries MUST film on separate screens and should both be visible on screen at all times – even if they live in the same house so as to keep everything fair to everyone as well as to be safe. The split-screen can be side-to-side or top-to-bottom, and students may leave the screen as needed for the scene as long as the camera does not move. Remember to film prep time for Improvisational Duo. See [these instructions](#) for more help with team events.

### **Entries/Drop/Add:**

- Teams may enter an unlimited number of students in each event.
- Students may enter as many events as they wish to enter.
- Only the top 3 students on each team in each event count towards sweepstakes.
- \$10 per competitor per event nuisance fee + registration fee for drops after Monday (12/7), 6pm.

- Judge quotas do NOT change when drops are made.
- Dropped judges are \$50 (\$40 hire fee plus \$10 nuisance fee).
- No adds after Monday (12/7), 6pm.

### **Fees/Judging:**

- Fees
  - \$6 per competitor per event.
  - Postal Fee: An \$8 fee will added to each team's invoice to cover awards postage. If your team receives no awards, this fee will be refunded.
  - W-9 form available on our Tabroom site if needed.
  - Make checks payable and mail to:  
Rowan County Speech Boosters  
c/o Kim Reeder  
610 Knapp Avenue  
Morehead, KY 40351
- Judges
  - Judge quota is one per six entries or fraction thereof; hired judges are \$40.
  - Judges must be available for preliminaries AND finals. If you want to provide two judges to fill one slot (one for preliminaries and one for finals), sign up one judge and email Kim about the second judge by Monday (12/7), 6pm.
  - Judges must have a Tabroom account by Monday (12/7), 6pm.

### **Awards:**

- The top 6 teams will receive trophies.
- The top 6 finishers in each event will receive medals.
- Awards will be mailed after completion of the tournament and receipt of your team's entry fees.

### **Please come!**

Please email me ([kimberley.reeder@gmail.com](mailto:kimberley.reeder@gmail.com)) with questions about rules or events or how the tournament will work. This is going to be a great event, even though it's being planned very last minute. (I'm really sorry about that (sad face), but, I'll be honest, I feel like I'm swimming in molasses these days, y'all.)

Kim Reeder  
RCSHS Coach  
[kimberley.reeder@gmail.com](mailto:kimberley.reeder@gmail.com)

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

### **Tabroom.com:**

- Coaches and judges need Tabroom.com accounts for registration, online ballots, and video links for asynchronous events. See making a Tabroom.com account video [HERE.](#)
- Judges will use Tabroom.com to access their ballots. Although competitors do not absolutely have to have a Tabroom account for this tournament, if they do have an account they will be able to see their ballots on Tabroom.com after the tournament is over and use judges' comments to help them improve their performances.

### **Tech Tips for Judges:**

- So many ways to manage your devices while judging, so little time!
  - Use 2 devices: 1 for the video & 1 for your ballots. Log into Tabroom on each device.
  - Use a desktop computer: open 2 tabs and position them so you can see the video (one tab) & type on the other one (the ballot) at the same time.
- Try to use a fairly large screen to watch the videos. If you're trying to watch videos on a phone, you may be losing facial expressions, etc. because the screen is so small.
- KHSSL rules require that cameras stay still when filming; competitors may move around as they wish in the camera frame including leaving/re-entering the frame.

### **Asynchronous Tournaments & Students:**

- Once a student submits a video to the coach for an asynchronous tournament, there isn't anything else students need to do except watch final round/award announcements and review ballots at the tournament's conclusion.

### **Ballots:**

- [KHSSL Ballots can be accessed here.](#) The ballot will be duplicated and available to you within your online Tabroom ballot as well – this link is just provided in case you want to get a sneak peek.

**KHSSL Resources for You:**

- [KHSSL Best Practices for Virtual Tournaments](#)
- [Filming Students for Video Competitions](#) (video from KESDA; thank you, KESDA!)
- KHSSL Video for Judging Virtual Tournaments (Judges should be sure to watch this!) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UrV3BTJP3nk&feature=youtu.be>