



Ardrey Kell High School • Speech And Debate
10220 Ardrey Kell Road • Charlotte NC 28277
akspeech.weebly.com

Dear Coaches,

The Ardrey Kell Speech & Debate Program is pleased to cordially invite you to the 5th annual Steven Davis Invitational at Ardrey Kell High School on February 27, 2021. This year our tournament will be hosted online using NSDA Campus. We established this event in 2017 to honor the legacy of our program's founder, NSDA Hall of Fame Coach Steven Davis, and we hope you will join us for an exciting day of competition!

We will host competition in Lincoln Douglas Debate, Public Forum Debate, Congressional Debate, Dramatic Interpretation, Humorous Interpretation, Duo Interpretation, Program Oral Interpretation, Original Oratory, Declamation, Extemporaneous Speaking, Impromptu Speaking, and Informative Speaking.

In 2021 we will once again be hosting the Carolina West District Congress in conjunction with our regular tournament. Students who are entering the District Congress as "friends" are welcome and encouraged to also enter the 2021 Steven Davis Invitational in any event(s).

Additionally, we will serve as a CFL of Charlotte qualifying tournament in all events EXCEPT Congressional Debate.

Finally, we are very pleased to announce that we will once again be awarding **NIETOC bids** in speech events at this year's tournament!

Please review each section of this invitation carefully for information about events, rules, schedules, and registration. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the tournament director at ccharrow@gmail.com.

We look forward to seeing you in February!

Sincerely,

Chris Harrow

Director, Ardrey Kell Speech & Debate



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REGISTRATION

Online Registration

Registration will open December 1, 2020 on Tabroom.com. All competitor and judge entries should be made through your team's Tabroom account – no faxed or emailed entries will be accepted. Online registration will close for adds on February 19, 2021, and will close for all drops, name changes, and judge registration on February 24, 2021.

Final Registration

Final registration will take place on Tabroom.com on Friday, February 26, 2021. This registration is for final confirmation of entries. We request that any late entry changes after the close of online registration (drops/adds/name switches) be emailed to aksdhelpline@gmail.com.

Fees

Entry fees will be \$12.50 per entry. Public Forum and Duo Interp entries will be \$25.

Payment

To pay via check, please mail your entry check no later than February 24, 2021. Make checks payable to:

AKHS Debate, Inc.
10220 Ardrey Kell Rd.
Charlotte, NC 28277

To pay online via Zelle, please input akdebate@gmail.com as the recipient for payment. This is the Zelle account for the AKSD Debate parent booster. Payments on Zelle MUST include your school name and invoice number in the "Memo" line.

Independent Entries

Independent entries must email a letter of permission on school letterhead signed by an administrator to aksdhelpline@gmail.com acknowledging the students and authorized adult contact who may participate no later than February 24, 2021. Non-approved entries will be rejected.



JUDGING

We value high-quality competition and take the educational value of Speech & Debate very seriously. Please do not supply judges who are unqualified or unwilling. We understand that inexperienced judges are often a necessity and can even be a valuable asset, but we do ask that you thoroughly train any first-time judges on their role prior to the tournament.

We will only accept high-school graduates as judges. No current high school student may judge any event at the Invitational.

Quotas

- Individual Events: 1 judge per 5 entries
- Public Forum Debate: 1 judge per 3 entries
- Lincoln Douglas Debate: 1 judge per 3 entries
- Congressional Debate: 1 judge per 6 entries

Hired Judges

NEW for 2021: Due to online competition amid the COVID-19 pandemic, we will not offer judges for hire this year. Schools must cover all entries with adequate judging in order to compete.

Electronic Access

The Invitational will be using electronic balloting through Tabroom.com in all events.

All judges **MUST**:

- Have access to an electronic device with internet connectivity (we suggest the use of a laptop computer or tablet. Smartphones will also work but may be harder to enter comments on)
- Have an account on Tabroom.com that is linked to their school prior to the beginning of the tournament.



EVENT GUIDELINES

Electronics Policy in Debate Events and Extemporaneous Speaking

Students may access the internet in Congressional Debate, Lincoln Douglas Debate, Public Forum Debate, and during Extemporaneous Speaking Prep. Students may use the internet to access files and evidence, but may NOT use the internet to communicate with any other person. Any student found to be communicating electronically during competition will be disqualified.

CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE

The Invitational will provide a legislation packet for competitors to be made available on Tabroom no later than 1 month prior to the tournament.

Open competition in Congressional Debate will be held in two preliminary sessions. If entries warrant, the Invitational will hold a final session.

Congressional Debate will follow all NSDA event rules found in the High School Event Rules Manual unless otherwise noted here. Additionally, the Invitational will utilize the “direct questioning” format in competition.

LINCOLN DOUGLAS DEBATE

Novice and Varsity competition in Lincoln Douglas Debate will feature four preliminary rounds, a semi-final round, and a final round of competition.

Procedures

Lincoln Douglas competitors will have four minutes of preparation per side. Sides will be pre-assigned in preliminary rounds and will “flip” in elimination rounds unless the competitors have previously met. All round assignments will be high-low power matched after round 2.

Speaker points will be assigned in 0.5 increments on a scale of 20-30. Points may tie between speakers but low-point wins are not permitted in Lincoln Douglas.

The Invitational will use the **March/April** topic for Lincoln Douglas as published by the NSDA.

Lincoln Douglas Debate will follow all NSDA time limits and evidence rules.



PUBLIC FORUM DEBATE

Novice and Varsity competition in Public Forum Debate will feature four preliminary rounds, a semi-final round, and a final round of competition.

Procedures

Public Forum teams will have two minutes of preparation per side. Sides will be “flip” in all preliminary and elimination rounds regardless if the competitors have previously met. All round assignments will be high-low power matched after round 2.

Speaker points will be assigned to individual speakers in 0.5 increments on a scale of 20-30. Points may be tied between individual speakers and between teams. Low-point wins are not permitted in Public Forum.

The Invitational will use the **March** topic for Public Forum as published by the NSDA.

Public Forum Debate will follow all NSDA time limits and evidence rules.

SPEECH EVENTS

All speech events will follow NSDA rules published in the High School Event Rules Manual with the exception of Declamation which will follow published NCFL rules.

All individual events will feature four preliminary rounds of competition with the top 6-7 competitors advancing to a final round. Individual events will feature Open competition with the exception of Declamation which is limited to 9th and 10th grade students.

Competitors in individual events may enter up to three (3) events but should be aware that in order to stay on schedule no rounds will be held past their scheduled end time to allow double- or triple-entered students to compete. It is the responsibility of double- or triple-entered students to swiftly move between rounds of competition. Coaches are encouraged not to over-enter students who cannot handle this responsibility.



TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

ALL TIMES ARE EASTERN STANDARD TIME

- 8:30 AM Pairings and Ballots published
- 8:30 AM Draw – Round I of Extemp (Extemp Prep will be hosted on Zoom)
- 9:00 AM Round I – LD, PF, DEC, DI, DUO, EXT, HI, IMP, INF, OO, POI
- 9:15 AM Session 1 of Congressional Debate Begins
- 10:00 AM Draw – Round II of Extemp
- 10:30 AM Round II – LD, PF, DEC, DI, DUO, EXT, HI, IMP, INF, OO, POI
- 12:00 PM Draw – Round III of Extemp
- 12:30 PM Round III – LD, PF, DEC, DI, DUO, EXT, HI, IMP, INF, OO, POI
- 12:45 PM Session 2 of Congressional Debate Begins
- 1:30 PM Draw – Round IV of Extemp
- 2:00 PM Round IV – LD, PF, DEC, DI, DUO, EXT, HI, IMP, INF, OO, POI
- 3:30 PM Semifinals - LD, PF
- 3:30 PM Draw – Extemp Finals
- 4:00 PM Final Round – DEC, DI, DUO, EXT, HI, IMP, INF, OO, POI
- 4:45 PM Final Round – LD, PF
- 6:00 PM Awards Posted on Tabroom.com



2021 CAROLINA WEST DISTRICT CONGRESS

This year the Invitational will “host” the Carolina West District Congress simultaneously with our traditional tournament.

Cross Entry Between Tournaments

Students who enter the District Congress as MAY ALSO and are ENCOURAGED to enter the Invitational in any event(s) if they do not plan to compete for the duration of the District Congress. These students will ONLY be charged the entry fee for the Invitational. They will NOT incur a separate fee from Carolina West.

Entry for the District Congress

Schools wishing to enter the District Congress must make those entries on the separate Tabroom.com page for that tournament. You MUST make entries on BOTH tournament pages in order to be entered in both events. Invoices incurred for the District Congress will be reduced by the District Chair in accordance with the guidelines above.

Judging for the District Congress

Do NOT enter a judge in the Invitational who will be covering your school’s judging obligation for the District Congress. Judge obligations for schools with non-competitive entries may be waived by the District Chair.

Schools found to be “double dipping” by entering the same judge in both tournaments will have a \$50 fee per double entered judge assessed by the Invitational.

Your judges who are entered in the District Congress through that tournament page MAY be used in the Invitational.

If you are a school with FEW to NO entries in the District Congress, you may be asked to help judge that tournament by “lending” judges who you have entered in the Invitational. These judges WILL still count toward your obligation for the Invitational - you will not incur any fees for this “trade” if it occurs. Please make judge notes on Tabroom for any judge who is trained to judge Congressional Debate, regardless of which event you enter them in for the Invitational.