



Seven Lakes/Cy Park TFA Swing Tournament

Hosted by: Seven Lakes & Cypress Park High Schools

February 10-13, 2021

Tournament Directors:

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Dear Colleagues,

Seven Lakes and Cy Park High Schools are proud to host the Seven Lakes/Cy Park TFA Swing Tournament on February 10-13, 2021.

We will offer all traditional TFA events and students have the opportunity to swing in ALL IE events and Congress. We are also a NIETOC bid for the Seven Lakes IEs. Debate events will be offered once for the weekend.

All IEs, except for extemp, will be judged asynchronously through videos for prelims and semis competition (Duo/Duet will be fully asynchronous). Finals in those events will happen synchronously on Saturday afternoon for both sides of the tourney.

All recorded performances need to be submitted no later than February 9th at 5:00 pm CT. Any entry without a video will be dropped after the deadline with entry forfeited.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

We look forward to hosting you in February.

Sincerely,

Lillian Adeyemi and Tammi Raley

Tournament Information

All tournament tabulation and pairings will occur via tabroom.com and as such, all students, coaches, and judges will need to have an updated tabroom.com account. Information on how to create an account can be found on the TFA website (txfa.org). We are committed to allowing all students who qualify for the elimination rounds to compete in those rounds. To accomplish this, it will be necessary to place entry limits on some events.

We will be using Classrooms.cloud.

In this document you can find the following information:

- Events Offered
- Independent Entries
- Entry Guidelines and Waitlist Policy
- Drop Deadlines
- Judge Requirements
- Debate Topics and Congress Legislation
- Hospitality
- Awards and Sweepstakes

EVENTS OFFERED

Individual Events:

Synchronous - Domestic Extemp, Foreign Extemp, Novice Extemp

Asynchronous in Prelims and Semis and Synchronous in Finals - Dramatic Interpretation, Informative Speaking, Humorous Interpretation, Original Oratory (there will be a Novice OO finals as well), Program Oral Interpretation, Poetry, Prose, Novice Oral Interpretation

Fully Asynchronous - Duet, Duo

Contestants may enter 1 extemporaneous speaking event.

Students may enter as many of the “Asynchronous in Prelims and Semis” events as they want.

Video submissions for these events will be due at 5:00pm on Tuesday, February 9th

Debate Events -

Policy Debate, Novice Policy, LD Debate, Novice LD, PF Debate, Novice PF, World Schools Debate, Congressional Debate, Novice Congress

Contestants entered in debate events may not cross-enter with any other live events at the tournament (they may enter in “Asynchronous in Prelims and Semis” events). Non Advancing LD/PF/CX/WSD entries may re-register Friday night for **Park Extemp**.

INDEPENDENT ENTRIES

The Seven Lakes/Cy Park Swing Tournament is a TFA tournament and as such we must abide by TFA rules. The TFA Constitutions says on pg 72 that "Texas students participating at TFA tournaments must be affiliated with and a representative of the schools they are attending." This means that if you are a Texas student, you must participate under your school's name and be affiliated with said team. This rule is non-negotiable, if we break this (or any) TFA rule, our tournament can be sanctioned in future years, regardless of what our personal opinions about the rule are.

- 1 – All competitors must have a school-approved adult representative present at all times during the tournament. As noted in the tournament best practices document, this means they must be either actively judging, in a judge pooling room, or assisting the tournament.**
- 2 – If a school employee is not attending with the student, a school official must email Lillian Adeyemi or Tammi Raley giving permission for the responsible adult to act on behalf of and make all relevant decisions for the student/school.***
- 3 - All teams must register using their school name and their official school tabroom account so that TFA and NSDA points can be accurately attributed.**

We require every team to be chaperoned by an individual who is either a school employee or has written authorization by the school to act and make decisions at the tournament on behalf of the school (this means, but is not limited to: carrying emergency medical information, to make decisions that can impact future attendance by the school - such as paying fines, etc. - anything a school employee would be expected to do). An acceptable alternative is an adult who has been background checked by the school and who has the approval of the school to assume full responsibility for the care of students of that school while at the tournament. Schools will be asked to list who that adult will be as a condition of final registration. **It is the expectation of the tournament that all competitors must have the adult described above with them at registration; STUDENTS MAY NOT REGISTER THEMSELVES.** If the responsible adult is not a school employee, a school official must email Lillian Adeyemi or Tammi Raley to give the authorization to act on the school's behalf from their **school email address**.

Any student found to be in violation of such policy will be removed from the pairings.

*If you are an out of state student, you are welcome to attend with your parent as a chaperone as long as they are **present at the tournament** and you abide by #1 and #3 above. A privately hired assistant coach may fulfill your judging obligations, but they ARE NOT a substitute for your parent/legal guardian unless a principal from your school emails me authorizing them to make medical decisions on your behalf (see above).

ENTRY GUIDELINES AND WAITLIST POLICY

This is a TFA state qualifier for member schools. All Texas Forensic Association rules will be followed. If you need a copy of TFA contest rules, please access their website at www.txfa.org.

The entry deadline is **Tuesday, February 10, 2021 at 5PM**. After this date, the website will be closed and any adds/drops/changes will need to be approved by tournament directors via email before being moved off of the waitlist to ensure we have enough rooms and judging.

Registration link at the top of this page. Schools are allowed to enter the events according to the following guidelines:

No more than 4 CCX entries, with additional entries to be placed on a waiting list.

No more than 8 CLD entries, with additional entries to be placed on a waiting list.

No more than 8 CPFD entries, with additional entries to be placed on a waiting list.

DROP DEADLINES

Entries will be accepted through Tuesday, February 9th, 2021.

ALL FEES WILL LOCK ON Tuesday February 9th, 2021 at 5pm.

The deadline to enter a judge will be February 9th, 2021 at 5pm. After this point you will be charged a judge fee.

This will be strictly enforced this year, after this date all drops will forfeit entry fees. Given that we will have to wait until we receive school checks to pay judges, it is important that we have an accurate estimate of judge need.

Any drop after **February 9th, 2021 at 5pm** will be charged the entry fee and incur a \$25 penalty to help mitigate the fact that judging had already been hired for those entries. This is a necessary evil because at this point we will have already hired judges to cover those entries; however, if your school has all the judging for the event covered (i.e. you have two policy teams and 1 judge, one team drops) email us and we can remove the extra drop penalty since we didn't lose any money on judging in this particular instance.

Fees

Individual Events: \$20

Congressional Debate: \$25

NLD - \$25

NCX - \$30

NPF - \$30

VLD - \$40

VPF - \$40

VCX - \$50

WSD - \$40

JUDGING REQUIREMENTS

WSD – 2 rounds owed per entry. 1 judge can cover 6 rounds/ \$25/missing round

PF – 2 rounds owed per entry. 1 judge can cover 6 rounds/ \$25/missing round (3 entries/1 judge)

LD – 2 rounds owed per entry. 1 judge can cover 6 rounds/ \$25/missing round (3 entries/1 Judge)

CX – 3 rounds owed per entry. 1 judge can cover 6 rounds/ \$25/missing round (2 entries/1 Judge)

IEs - .5 rounds owed per entry. 1 judge can cover 6 rounds/ \$20/missing round (12 entries/1 judge)

Congress - .25 rounds owed per entry. 1 judge can cover 4 rounds/\$25/missing round (12 entries/1judge)

NLD/NPF - .5 rounds owed per entry. 1 judge can cover 6 rounds/\$15/missing round (12 entries/1 judge)

NCX – 1 round owed per entry. 1 judge can cover 4 rounds/\$15/missing round (4 entries/1judge)

Judging Fees will be assessed on **February 9th, 2021 at 5pm**. Those schools missing judges will be charged at that time. All judges must have a tabroom.com account and a paradigm on tabroom.com. Missing Round fees will only be used to hire judges. While we understand that this may seem high, we would much rather have your judges than your money. We also believe that during these trying times, we must also pay our judges (many of whom rely on debate tournaments as their primary source of income) fairly for their labor. We also believe that in a virtual world paying judges fairly only helps us to attract the best judges and critics from across the state.

All school provided judges are required to be available one round past the elimination of their most successful competitor in the event that they are covering.

Due to multiple school judges not picking up debate ballots in the past, we will be fining schools \$25 per round for any judge who either doesn't pick up a ballot, or who is so late in picking up a ballot that we need to reassign it to another judge. After two no-shows, the judge will be dropped from the tournament and the school will be charged the full judge fee. Judges who are late to their round and require a replacement will count as a "no show".

If a school's judge no-show results in the tournament being short judges we will ask the school's coach to either fill in or we will have to drop entries in order to have enough judging.

In a world of virtual debate and online ballots, it is important that your judges' tabroom information (email and phone number) are up to date and that they are frequently checking their phone/email to ensure they do not miss a ballot. It is the obligation of coaches to ensure this info is up to date and to check pairings and ensure that their judges are prepared to judge.

DEBATE TOPICS AND CONGRESS INFORMATION

The topic for CX Debate is: **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.**

The topic for LD Debate will be the January/February 2021 topic.

The topic for PF Debate will be the February 2021 topic.

Prep time for CX is 8 minutes. Prep time for LD is 4 minutes. Prep time for PF is 3 minutes.

We will use the NSDA pilot rules for PF.

Brackets will NOT be broken in debate.

CONGRESS NOTES: We will use the TFA 2021 Spring Legislation. Specific items are listed below. The items may be reordered as established by each chamber. Copies of the legislation can be found on the TFA website at txfa.org. Procedures for advancing and tie-breakers can be found in the TFA constitution.

7L (Friday)

Prelims: Domestic Policy

5, 7, 8, 13, 16, 23, 24, 30

Finals: Foreign Policy

3, 10, 12, 14, 15, 21, 26

Cy Park (Saturday)

Prelims: Foreign Policy

3, 10, 12, 14, 15, 21, 26

Finals: Domestic Policy

5, 7, 8, 13, 16, 23, 24, 30

Students will run for P.O. in all sessions of congress.

WSD Prepared Motions

Round 1: Impromptu

Round 2: This House would end the European common currency (Euro).

Round 3: This House would abolish all patents for green technology.

Quarters (if necessary): Impromptu

Semis: This House supports “Ban the Box” laws.

Finals: Impromptu

Extemp Topic Areas - TBD

7L (Friday)

FX

Prelims - Infectious Diseases and Natural Disasters

Semis - Protest Movements

Finals - International Migration

DX

Prelims - National Security

Semis - Labor, Housing, and Food Security

Finals – Courts

NX

Prelims - Strongmen

Semis - Wealth and Inequality

Finals - Women's and LGBTQ Rights

Cy Park (Saturday)

FX

Prelims - Middle East and North Africa

Semis - International Institutions

Finals - Oceans, Seas, Lakes, and Rivers

DX

Prelims - The Future of the Right

Semis - The Lone Star State

Finals - Rural Issues

NX

Prelims - Central Africa, Central Asia, and Central America

Semis - American Cities

Finals - Energy and the Environment

AWARDS TBD

SWEEPSTAKES

Individual Events, Congressional Debate, Duet Acting, Duo Interpretation

1st = 15 points

2nd = 10 points

3rd = 5 points

All non-placing finalists receive three points.

Debate Sweepstakes points will be calculated based off of prelim performance in debate events. Students will earn 5 points per prelim win and 1 point per prelim loss, only a school's top 2 students per debate event will be counted.

GENERAL RULES

We will break to Semifinals in all Individual Events unless entry levels warrant a break straight to finals. If entry numbers in an event are low, we will move to 2 prelim rounds and breaks directly to finals.

All ballots for Debate, IEs and Duet Acting will be made available as soon as possible after the completion of each round. Problems or questions should be directed to the tabroom as soon as possible.

An adult supervisor for each school must be immediately available to perform necessary tournament duties if called upon. Failure to do so may result in the tournament making necessary decisions such as: removing a competitor, walk-over an entry, or adjudicating a protest. Frequent inability to make contact with a coach for tournament related matters may result in that school's students being removed from the tournament.