

## CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FULLERTON

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February 15, 2021

Dear Forensics Colleague:

The California State University, Fullerton Forensics squad invite you to attend the annual High School/Middle School Speech and Debate Invitational which will take place VIRTUALLY on Saturday, March 13 and Sunday, March 14, 2021. As you are likely aware, California State University, Fullerton is unable to host on-campus events during the Covid-19 pandemic. As such, we are committed to providing you with a professional, virtual atmosphere and an enjoyable online competitive experience. All speech and debate rounds will be SYNCHRONOUS. We are very lucky to have several members of our experienced tab room staff returning to continue this long-standing spring tradition.

We are approaching this year's tournament with our sincerest effort to provide students with the next best experience to an on-campus, in-person tournament. The decisions we have made were highly influenced by the success of our last tournament and additional feedback provided that largely focused on competitors' enjoyment. To that end, we aim to provide an overall positive experience. To maximize inclusion across the country, we accommodate multiple time zones, provide ample and sufficient competition, and continue to show consideration of all participants' time spent on their computer screens. Unfortunately, not every tournament feature will be ideal for every participant, but our tournament staff has had countless meetings to provide you this virtual tournament opportunity, which we hope you will find manageable and fun. We kindly ask you for your patience and understanding as we navigate our second online tournament hosting experience. We promise you that we are doing everything we can to resolve concerns, issues, and problems quickly and reasonably.

Once again, we will be use the virtual platform, NSDA Campus. We are offering multiple levels of competition including middle school, novice, and open competition in Public Forum, Policy Debate, Lincoln Douglas Debate, Parliamentary Debate, Student Congress and in nearly all Individual Events. Debate competition (including policy, LD, public forum and parliamentary debate) takes place on Saturday and Sunday. Individual Events competition takes place on Sunday. Student Congress will take place on Saturday. Lastly, we are again excited to announce that, if entry numbers suffice, <u>we</u>

have been awarded National Individual Events Tournament of Champions (NIETOC) bids in some divisions/events in IE (see additional information on page 9).

At this time, entries are not limited (though we expect to need to cap divisions at 175 teams or competitors), however we have implemented waiting lists to assure that there is sufficient competition in each division. Please register early. All entries are due by Wednesday, <u>March 10<sup>th</sup> deadline at 11:59 p.m.</u> We will be using the on-line entry system available at http://thebruschkeinvitational.tabroom.com.

**Please direct questions regarding the tournament to csufdebate@gmail.com or our personal emails.** On behalf of the coaches and students of the CSU Fullerton Forensics squad, we look forward to hosting you this March.

Sincerely,

California State University, Fullerton Forensics, SCUDL and the Department of Human Communication Studies

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## **TOURNAMENT RULES AND ENTRY GUIDELINES**

**ELIGIBILITY:** A **novice** is a first-year high school competitor, honestly appraised by her or his coach as a beginner (with no or extremely limited prior experience, specifically with less than 5 tournaments). CSUF recognizes the following statements regarding novice eligibility:

- Upon qualifying as a novice competitor, a student has the right to compete in the novice division for one entire academic year/season.
- Our tournament recognizes four 'non-similar' event categories: (1) Debate, (2) Limited Preparation Events (Extemporaneous and Impromptu), (3) Platform Events (Persuasion and Informative), (4) Oral Interpretation Events.
  - Therefore, a student who has never competed in debate, but has competed in one of the three categories of individual events, may be entered in novice debate and open in a category of individual events.
  - Likewise, a student may be entered in open debate and novice in Oral Interpretation, for example, if the student has experience in the former, but not the latter.
  - Please note, however, that students cannot enter both debate and individual events in the 2021 Bruschke invitational tournament (the one exception is Congress Debate). Students entering individual events, however, will be able to double enter within Individual Events pattern (see below).
- To decide which division a student should enter, we recommend the assessment of the coach(es), who should determine whether a student in debate has competed in more than 5 previous tournaments (Middle School/High School) or who have participated in roughly 30 rounds in any style of debate, and/or who has been in a late out-rounds <u>at two or more</u> novice/M.S. tournaments. In those instances, the high school debate student should be entered in the Open division.
  - An IE student is generally ready for Open if they have completed two semesters of prior competition (or more than 5 tournaments) and/or won <u>two or more</u> top three awards in an event in which a final round occurs.
- Thus, ninth graders with pre-high school experience (i.e., with a season/year/5 or more tournaments of middle school experience), should enter the Open divisions of either debate or Individual Events.
- Keep in mind that ALL students are eligible for open division, at the discretion of their coach or the desire of the student.
  - As a tournament, we are not encouraging of any current Middle School student being forced to compete in Open (or even Novice) unless the coach believes it is in the student's best interest and/or the student desires to do so.

## <u>Maverick debaters</u> will only be permitted under extreme circumstances and must be approved by the tournament director – hybrid (debate teams) should be clearly designated as such.

**Individual event pieces** should <u>not</u> have been used the prior competitive year.

We will try to offer as many entry divisions per event as possible, but divisions may be collapsed due to limited entry (please see underlined note below)

<u>Middle School</u>: We are again offering middle school divisions for most speech and debate events. Eligibility for the middle school divisions are students between fifth to eighth grades. Each division will have the appropriate number of elimination rounds and speaker awards (Except LD has no speaker awards). We strongly encourage all middle school students to enter the middle school division. *If a middle school debate* 

division does not attract enough entries for an independent division, they will be collapsed into high school novice. If this happens by the initial registration date, coaches will be notified via Tabroom.com by March 11th. (Please note that collapsing divisions may happen before the release of first round if more drops occur that prevent a sufficiently sized division for competition.) Middle School debate will follow the same schedule as novice.

**Eligibility/Ethical Challenges:** In the event that a coach, parent, or competitor believes that a student is competing in violation of the novice eligibility policy or is doing something else unethical, it is up to that chaperone or coach to present the evidence for that student's disqualification to the tabulation room staff and within a reasonable timeframe prior to the end of the tournament. We will be asking students to digitally sign an honor code prior to the tournament. That honor code includes a statement that any novice competitors meet the requirements necessary for novice eligibility as well as other commitments to follow ethical competitive practices. We strongly prohibit any other behaviors that are ethically questionable. Violations may still be raised, but the tournament will only disqualify a student for violating the policy if sufficient evidence is presented by the individual making the challenge prior to the end of the student's participation. Coaches or chaperones should accompany students to the tabulation staff or tournament directors in the event they are making an ethical challenge in a round. Also, please understand that when an ethical challenge is raised during a debate, the judge is obligated to stop the round and resolve the issue. The outcome of the ethical challenge (whether or not the student is found "guilty" of the act based on evidence resolves the decision of the round). Ethical challenges should only be raised in extreme instances and will be taken most seriously.

**ENTRY LIMITS (see exceptions below):** To keep the tournament at manageable numbers, we need to cap each division at 175 teams or entries. In that event, we ask that a school enter a maximum of 12 debate teams, in any one event, Parliamentary, Policy Team, Public Forum Debate, with no more than 6 teams entered in any one division (open or novice). A school may enter a maximum of 12 LD debaters, with no more than 6 L-D debaters in any one division (open or novice). In the event, we have not reach capacity, schools who register early may be able to remove additional competitors off of wait-lists. In circumstances where your school comprises a majority of entries in the field/division, there may be less entries approved or said entries may debate one another in order to allow the competition to occur. Any entries beyond the maximum specified will be placed on a standby list and entered into the tournament upon availability by the tournament directors. Email your overage list of "hopeful adds" and we will do our best to accommodate your requests provided that we have the available rooms on our campus.

In Student Congress and Individual Events, a school may enter as many or as few students as a school chooses (follow the other important updated guidelines below).

#### Important Notes about Entry in Debate vs. IEs and Elimination Rounds:

 Because of the new schedule we developed from helpful responses and comments from our tournament survey in August, students will not be able to enter both debate and Individual Events. <u>However, at this tournament, student congress entries CAN double enter in Individual</u> <u>Events since the competitions occur on different days</u>. Students entering Individual Events will also be able to double enter within Individual Events patterns (they can enter up to two events in pattern A and two events in pattern B).

- This also means we will **not be averaging IE scores** for IE competitors who break to debate rounds and miss a round of IE, as we have done in the past.
- PLEASE NOTE THAT WE DO NOT BREAK BRACKETS AT THE TOURNAMENT. This means that the teams will be assigned elimination debates based on their seeded placement in the tournament's preliminary rounds regardless of whether the teams are from the same school. If two teams from the school are scheduled to debate, we recommend that a coach determine which team will move on to the next elimination round and notify the tournament's tabulation staff rather than actually conducting a debate.

**Individual Events:** No entry limits per school with the following exceptions:

- CONFLICT PATTERNS: Students can enter up to two Individual Events in each pattern\*
- DOUBLE ENTRIES ARE ALLOWED within Individual Events.\*
  - A "double entry" is defined as entering <u>more than one Individual Event in the same</u> <u>pattern.</u> For example, a student entering in Extemporaneous and Duo (they are both pattern A).
  - \*Students must get to the round and be ready to speak within <u>45 minutes of the start</u> of the round, according to the official invitation schedule (If in extemp, ask the proctor to be first speaker). Students choose to double enter at their own peril. We will not drop them from the event if they do not make it in time to a round, but at the same time, the tournament must go on. If they miss an event one round, they can always try again the next round.
  - If a student is in Extemporaneous speaking and is double entered, they should go to extemp <u>first (because of the prep time)</u> and their other event second.
  - Students may not triple enter within a pattern.
  - Please inform students who are double entered to notify their later event in the competition room chat that they are double entered and will be back, THEN go to their earlier event and ask to speak first.
  - \*Competitors will not be able to enter in BOTH Individual Events AND debate.
- **Pattern A**: extemporaneous, informative, dramatic interpretation, duo interpretation, oratorical interpretation
- **Pattern B**: impromptu, persuasive, humorous interpretation, thematic interpretation, original prose and poetry

### RULES FOR TECHNOLOGY AND EVIDENCE USE:

In this virtual environment, students are required to use computers in rounds to compete but also to flow speeches, prepare speeches or access pre-prepared evidence files. Live Internet is now required for participation, thus altering expectations in that technology/evidence use.

To participate in the tournament, you must have a strong and stable internet connection. In addition to a strong and stable internet connection, you must have a working microphone along with a webcam. We highly recommend having access to a second device whether it is a laptop or a cellphone which will allow you to access the event you are registered in if your primary technology fails,

#### Technology Problems:

Prior to the tournament, we will release additional details/instructions for contacting the tournament directors, tab staff, or tournament volunteers for troubleshooting purposes in the event that problems with technology should occur or if debate competitors' or debate judges' personal technology should fail during the tournament. We appreciate your understanding as we navigate these challenges and attempt to strike a balance between fairness and inclusivity. We will do our best to find corrections, make exceptions, and generally resolve issues as quickly as they are brought to our attention.

In the event of technology failure, you *must* contact the Tournament help line (more information on this process will be released closer to the tournament) in order to inform Tabroom that there is a technology issue and the event has been paused. Do so immediately in the case of technology/internet failure. We are imposing a time limit of up to 20 minutes in order to resolve technological/internet issues but we will be *closely* monitoring any of the issues that arise. We suggest that you make appropriate arrangements to be properly prepared for the tournament.

When contacting the Tournament help line – please include your:

Full Name / Event / Division. For example: John Smith, Open Public Forum.

#### Team Policy debate, Lincoln Douglas (L-D) debate, Public Forum (PoFo) debate

Live internet is acceptable for accessing files on Dropbox, Cloud, or a similar system for electronic storage. Students should not find, cut, or site new evidence and sources found from the Internet during the round. Students will sign an honor code that they will not violate this policy.

#### Parliamentary (Parli) debate

The intent of Parliamentary Debate is to encourage an extemporaneous or impromptu argumentation. Reference to "outside materials" should be limited; instead, students should rely on general knowledge, common sense, and application of logic and analysis. Nevertheless, the use of "outside materials" is allowed within the following parameters:

- 1) Debaters can utilize the Internet in prep and reference published material in the speeches of the debate to support their argument claims.
- 2) During the debate, students may consult notes prepared during the preparation period, however no materials prepared outside of preparation time may be used in the debate.
- 3) Debaters may take and use notes during the debate.

<u>\*Students may use or access evidence on their computer during parli prep but not during the round</u>. Violation of this rule can result in immediate removal from the tournament. Due to Covid-19 and an inability to monitor students' prep, coaching is permitted during the parliamentary prep period (but strictly prohibited during the round).

#### Limited Prep Events:

- Impromptu topics will be provided to each student in the competition room chat box. Judges will need to copy/paste the topics (provided on the eBallots) in the chat window for the students.
- Each student will receive a different set of impromptu topics.
- Extemp questions will be provided for all speakers in a separate virtual Extemp Prep Room. Students do need to make themselves known to the extemp proctor before leaving the room, but they do not

need to stay in that room after checking in with the proctor and receiving the questions. The extemp proctor will copy/paste the questions into the chat window at the specified time.

- Students will require their devices/internet access strictly for prepping, and, of course, competition purposes, however, preparation must be completed without the aid of coaches or other contestants. Use of email, instant messaging, the internet or other means of receiving information from sources (coaches or assistants included) inside or outside of the competition room are prohibited.
- This is, admittedly, not the same as a face-to-face tournament. We appreciate your patience and willingness to adapt!

### Honor Code/Coaching Policy

Using other devices, the internet, searching for research, and consulting coaches via phone call, texts, messaging on platforms in-round are strictly prohibited.

#### Source Integrity and Related Rules

All students must be able to produce copies of all sources, which must include the full context of the citation, not simply a retyped list of short sentences and quotes. (We will not ask to see this material at registration, but the ability to produce is critical if a question or issue arises during the tournament).

Debaters must make said sources available to either their opponent(s) in the round, and/or their judges during or after the round upon request. Debate entries failing to do so, or debaters who significantly misrepresent sources in the round may be disqualified at the discretion of Tab. Speech contestants should have the full original source of all material in interpretive events available at the tournament, in addition to their cutting.

Oratory and Extemp students should have the text of any material they cite in their speeches available. Students misrepresenting sources or using sources not available may be disqualified at the discretion of Tab.

Finally, in debate events, if evidence of card clipping is brought to the tabroom's attention, it is ground for immediate disqualification.

#### **EVENT DESCRIPTIONS - DEBATE**

Policy debate will use the 2020-2021 resolution.

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.

Time limits for team debate are 8-3-5 with 8 minutes of preparation per debate team. For debate, elimination rounds will begin with octafinals or quarterfinals as entry size warrants.

L-D debate will use the 2021 NSDA March/April Resolution:

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

#### Please note that due to community consensus, we will offer 1 resolution for Open and Novice

Time limits for LD are 6-3-7-3-4-6-3, with 4 minutes of preparation time per debater. For debate, elimination rounds will begin with octafinals or quarterfinals as entry size warrants.

**Parliamentary Debate (Parli)** There will be a variety of fact, value, and policy resolutions offered throughout the tournament that will be mass announced in the designated PARLI PREP room. After the mass announcement, students will have 20 minutes to develop their stances and then be expected to be in their designated competition rooms at the start of competition time.

Prime Minister Constructive: 7 minutes / Leader of Opposition Constructive: 8 minutes / Member of Government Constructive: 8 minutes, / Member of Opposition Constructive: 8 minutes / Leader of Opposition Rebuttal (must be given by 1<sup>st</sup> opposition): 4 minutes / Prime Minister Rebuttal (must be given by 1<sup>st</sup> proposition): 5 minutes NO ADDITIONAL PREP IS ALLOWED DURING THE ROUND.

Evidence: (Please see the rules above).

Public Forum (PoFo) 2021 NSDA March Public Forum

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

Time Limits/speaking times for public forum are: Speaker 1 (Team A, 1st speaker) 4 min., Speaker 2 (Team B, 1st speaker) 4 min., Crossfire (between speakers 1 & 2) 3 min., Speaker 3 (Team A, 2nd speaker) 4 min., Speaker 4 (Team B, 2nd speaker) 4 min., Crossfire (between speakers 3 & 4) 3 min., Speaker 1 Summary 2 min., Speaker 2 Summary 2 min., Grand Crossfire (all speakers) 3 min., Speaker 3 Final Focus 2 min., Speaker 4 Final Focus 2 min. Each team may use up to three minutes of prep time.

#### \*AGAIN, PLEASE NOTE THAT WE DO NOT BREAK BRACKETS AT THE TOURNAMENT.\*

### **Congressional Debate**

We will offer novice, open, and Middle School divisions of Congressional Debate. Student Congress follows a version of Parliamentary procedure based on the practices at NSDA-sanctioned competitions. Sessions will last roughly two hours.

There will be two preliminary sessions run, which run concurrently with debate events. We will advance to a final round and include semi-finals (if numbers necessitate it).

In Open Congress, <u>a Presiding Officer will be elected in each session</u>. The election will be run by the chamber. In Novice or Middle School Congress, Presiding Officers will be appointed based on Entries in the Presiding Officer Competition. Student votes will determine the top Presiding Office they saw for the day. The top 2 will advance to the final round and preside over Novice Congress, and the third and fourth place competitors will preside over the Middle School Congress Final Round. Student preference will determine the winning Presiding Officers.

This year, Congress judges CANNOT enter both the Congress judging pool and the IE pool. Please provide 1 judge per every 6 entries in Congress, with a maximum of three judges. Each preliminary round will contain one parliamentarian and one or two scorers (depending on the total number of judges in the Congress Judge

Pool). Standard NSDA tabulation will be used. Coaches should rate how well each judge would serve as a parliamentarian. The final round will contain one parliamentarian two to four scorers depending on the judge pool and entries, and some judges may be pulled from alternative pools to allow for a neutral pool for the final round.

## ALL SCHOOLS WITH CONGRESS/JUDGE ENTRIES MUST PROVIDE ONE PERSON TO SERVE AS A PARLIAMENTARIAN.

Additional tabulation information and procedures will follow as it becomes available.

#### Legislation

This year, schools should write and submit bills to be considered for inclusion at the tournament. The tabulation staff will select the bills that will be debated in the tournament. Deadline for legislation submission is **Monday, March 1** at 5 pm. **Bills can be uploaded to Tabroom.com or emailed to jeffr2590@gmail.com as an attachment.** Bills will be announced by **Tuesday, March 3** at 5 pm. To submit your legislation in Tabroom, please register for Congress on Tabroom.com. Legislation is tied to the entry. A student's full name must be entered in the event or the Legislation tab may not appear. Follow the prompts to submit your legislation. We will be using the Microsoft Word based templates from CongressionalDebate.org (https://www.congressionaldebate.org/resources/legislation-templates). Please submit your bills in a .docx file (e.g., do not use a .pdf, .pages, or Google doc).

Chambers will be posted after the finalization of judges on Thursday, March 11<sup>th</sup>.

## **INDIVIDUAL EVENTS (IEs) INFORMATION/DESCRIPTIONS:**

As an invitational, we do not adhere to organizational rules (such as CHSSA/NFL/NSDA) that supersede what is on our tournament invitation. Dispute decisions will be made by tournament directors.

Our tournament has qualified the following events to earn bids to qualify students for the National Individual Events Tournament of Champions (NIETOC): extemporaneous, dramatic interpretation, informative, duo, humorous interpretation, thematic interpretation (POI), and persuasive (OO). Bids are dependent on the number of competitors in each event—see http://nietoc.com/ for more information.

For event divisions with 23 or fewer competitors, the event will not have a semifinal round and will break directly to finals.

In the event Middle School or Novice does not have sufficient numbers to justify both divisions, the divisions will be collapsed into Novice or Open. Decisions on collapsing will be made by the tabulation director and announced on the day of the tournament.

\*For interpretation events, props are not allowed—the exception to this rule is the use of the "black book" (manuscript) on a limited basis.

We would like to give a shout-out to the Pacific Southwest Collegiate Forensic Association for some of the online competition changes in this invite. We hope to see your competitors at the collegiate level soon!

#### PLEASE BE FAMILIAR WITH RULE CHANGES FOR ONLINE <u>IE</u> COMPETITION:

- Internet Loss/ Connection During Competition: IE Competitors who are giving a speech and lose their internet connection are allowed 10 minutes to reconnect before they forfeit their opportunity to finish the speech. They will then be judged on what was presented before they lost internet. However, if the student can reconnect before the end of the round, they may be given an opportunity to complete their speech. Once roughly 45 minutes has passed or the round ends, we unfortunately cannot accommodate the speech. Further information on what to do during a "technology "emergency" will be given out closer to the tournament. We highly recommend that students contact us and we will do our best to accommodate/assist in reconnecting efforts prior to implementing the rule above.
- 2. Competitors are restricted to the use of a "single camera setup" during the performance. We highly encourage cameras to remain on unless sound/video quality, bandwidth connectivity disruptions, and issues of equity are at stake. For this reason, we do not mandate it but high encourage that competitors and judges leave them all to maximize engagement, eye contact, interaction, sportsmanship, etc.
- 3. Physical audiences are prohibited from being present for the performance, with the exception of: involuntary audiences (ex: individuals/families who happen to be in the same room), and assistants/aids for individuals with disabilities. Enforcement is up to the discretion of the TD.
- 4. Competitors are prohibited in Duo from competing together in the same physical space. Competitors in Duo must compete in separate physical spaces (such as separate rooms) and use separate cameras. Competitors in duo found to be competing together in the same physical space will be disqualified.
- 5. Practices that would not be possible in a face-to-face environment are prohibited (such as motion, video transitions, or audio manipulation) while allowing for the use of file sharing and virtual visual aids in Individual Events. Note: NSDA Campus does not have screen sharing capabilities.
- 6. No persons should participate or contribute to students who are competing during the course of the round.
- 7. Judges should avoid discriminating based off a competitor's background/space available/whether they are sitting or standing. We are still in a pandemic, and many students do not have a choice as to where they can perform their event and how much space they have or how cluttered their background is.
- 8. Platform Events: Screen sharing to show a PowerPoint or image as a visual aid is permitted, if possible.
- 9. Interp Events: These are likely the most difficult to translate to an online video conference style.
  - a. Students may, if they desire, stand up while performing to showcase blocking, but are not required.
  - b. As stated above, competitors in Duo are prohibited from competing together in the same physical space and must use separate cameras as well.
  - c. In the event, Impromptu, the judge will have the impromptu quotations on their eBallot. When it's your turn to speak your judge will copy/paste the prompts into the chat window in the competition room.

### PATTERN A EVENTS:

**EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING (PATTERN A):** The general topic area will be national and international affairs for the preceding 90 days. Each speaker will draw three topics 30 minutes before s/he is to speak and select one for the topic of the speech. Preparation must be completed without the aid of coaches or other contestants, though the use of magazines, newspapers, or other published research resources is permitted. Please also refer to the "Rules for Technology and Evidence Use" above for Extemporaneous Speaking. Notes are allowed but not encouraged in open division. Notes are permitted in novice division. There is a 7 minute maximum speech time.

**DRAMATIC INTERPRETATION (PATTERN A):** Selections may be prose, poetry, drama, or screenplays of a serious nature. All selections must consist of published material. The contestant may not have used the selections in tournaments prior to the current school year. This is not an acting event; thus, no costumes, props, etc. are to be used. Although gestures, pantomimes, and movement are not barred, they should be used with restraint, as this is not a contest in acting. There is a 10 minute maximum.

**INFORMATIVE SPEAKING (PATTERN A):** Any appropriate subject may be used, but the primary purpose of the speech must be to inform, explain, demonstrate, or impart knowledge about an idea, concept, process, or procedure. Visual aids may be used insofar as they contribute to the overall goal of the speech. No costumes may be worn, but items of dress necessary to the presentation may be added during the speech. All informative speeches must be the original work of the student and must have been prepared during the current school year. Speeches used in previous years will be disqualified. A typewritten or clearly handwritten manuscript of the speech must be available on request from the Tournament Director. No notes or manuscripts are allowed in open division. Notes may be used in novice division. There is a 10 minute maximum.

**DUO INTERPRETATION (PATTERN A)**: This event is a cutting from a play, humorous or serious, involving the portrayal of two (or more) characters presented by two individuals. The material may be drawn from stage, screen, or radio. This is not an acting event; thus, no costumes, props, etc. are to be used. <u>Use of scripts is optional.</u> Contestants should be evaluated on their interpretation and not on whether scripts are used. Although gestures, pantomimes, and movement are not barred, they should be used with restraint, as this is not a contest in acting. Maximum time limit is ten (10) minutes, including the introduction.

**ORATORICAL INTERPRETATION (PATTERN A)**: The event requires presentation of a published speech that was actually delivered in a public forum. This speech event encourages students to understand the relationship of an oration to the times that inspired it. Students must interpret the oration with a whole new voice to a whole new audience. It is the only interpretive event that allows you to use the internet as a source for selection so long as the web source is accessible from a basic internet search. The piece must have an introduction that includes the name of the author, the title of the oration, if any, the name of the source where the oration was published, and the place and date of the original delivery. No more than 150 words can be added, including the introduction and any transitions. The editing and/or delivery must not change the author's intent. The speech should be memorized. Presentation cannot go over 10 minutes long. While there is no minimum time, speeches are usually not shorter than 5 or 6 minutes.

### **PATTERN B EVENTS:**

**IMPROMPTU SPEAKING (PATTERN B):** Topics are varied from round to round and can include philosophical quotations, fortune cookies, postcards, physical objects, etc. Each speaker will draw 3 topics and choose one as the subject matter of the speech. The speaker has 7 minutes maximum to divide between preparation and speaking time as s/he chooses (2 minutes preparation followed by a 5 minute speech is considered standard--there is no assumed additional preparation time for middle school impromptu). Students are permitted to use one blank note card in order to make speaking notes during prep time and to use those notes during the presentation of the speech.

**PERSUASIVE SPEAKING (PATTERN B): (Also known as Original Oratory)** Any appropriate subject matter may be used, but the primary purpose of the speech should be to alter or change beliefs, attitudes, or behavior. All persuasive speeches must be the original work of the student and must have been prepared during the current school year. Speeches used in previous years will be disqualified. No more than 200 words of quoted material are allowed. A typewritten or clearly handwritten manuscript of the speech must be available on request from the Tournament Director. No notes or manuscripts are allowed in open division. Notes may be used in novice division. There is a 10 minute maximum.

**HUMOROUS INTERPRETATION (PATTERN B):** Selections must be prose, poetry, drama, or screenplays of a humorous, but not slapstick, nature. All selections must consist of published material. The contestant may not have used the selections in tournaments prior to the current school year. This is not an acting event; thus, no costumes, props, etc. are to be used. Although gestures, pantomimes, and movement are not barred, they should be used with restraint, as this is not a contest in acting. There is a 10 minute maximum.

**THEMATIC INTERPRETATION (PATTERN B): (Also known as Program of Oral Interpretation)** The contestant is to present a program of 3 or more selections from different works based on a theme of the contestant's own choosing, utilizing an original introduction and transitions. All selections must consist of published material and shall be at least 150 words in length. The contestant may not have used the selections in tournaments prior to this school year. This is not an acting event; thus, no costumes, props, etc. are to be used. The manuscript is to be interpreted; although gestures, pantomimes, and movement are not barred, they should be used with restraint, as this is not a contest in acting. There is a 10 minute time limit.

**ORIGINAL PROSE AND POETRY (PATTERN B):** The contestant is to present his or her original material, which may consist of prose, poetry or a combination of both. The contestant may not have used the material in tournaments prior to the current school year. This is not an acting event; thus, no costumes, props, etc. are to be used. Although gestures, pantomimes, and movement are not barred, they should be used with restraint, as this is not a contest in acting. There is a 10 minute time limit.

## **INDIVIDUAL EVENTS ON NSDA CAMPUS**

NSDA Campus offers free practice space for current NSDA members to log in and experience the video conferencing portion of NSDA Campus now, at https://www.speechanddebate.org/nsda-campus/ This is an excellent means to check blocking prior to the start of the tournament.

#### **CSUF TOURNAMENT ENTRY**

Tournament entries are submitted online through the tabroom.com website. Please see page 25. IMPORTANT REGISTRATION REMINDERS:

- <u>The individual who registers your school must be a representative of the school and willing to</u> <u>take responsibility as the primary contact for all guests affiliated with the school who are</u> <u>attending the tournament during the entire tournament.</u> (A parent is an acceptable representative but we need to be notified BEFORE the tournament. Please email CSUFdebate@gmail.com or the directors to identify the individual who is registering in place of the coach/teacher).
- <u>At least one coach or chaperone must be reachable/available when students are competing.</u> (This person should have a means to reach the students on their team/who they are in charge of right away).
- All judges signed up on tabroom.com must provide the CONTACT INFORMATION (mobile numbers and emails).

### JUDGING COMMITMENT:

Schools are required to meet their judging commitments.

- Each school is obligated to provide **ONE QUALIFIED JUDGE (full 6 preliminary round commitment plus appropriate elimination rounds) for every two policy debate teams or a fraction thereof.**
- Each school is obligated to provide **ONE QUALIFIED JUDGE (full 6 preliminary round commitment plus appropriate elimination rounds) for every two LD entries or fraction thereof.**
- Each school is obligated to provide **ONE QUALIFIED JUDGE (full 6 preliminary round commitment plus appropriate elimination rounds) or for every two Public Forum entries or fraction thereof.)**
- Each school is obligated to provide **ONE QUALIFIED JUDGE (full 6 preliminary round commitment plus appropriate elimination rounds) for two Parliamentary Debate entries or fraction thereof.**
- Each school is obligated to provide ONE QUALIFIED JUDGE per SIX PRELIMINARY IE entries (or fraction thereof, regardless of pattern).
  - All judges are committed to all preliminary rounds plus one elimination round beyond what any of their competitors advance to.
- Each school is obligated to provide **ONE QUALIFIED JUDGE per SIX PRELIMINARY Congress entries or fraction thereof (plus appropriate elimination rounds).**

\*\* Please note, a judge in one division of debate CANNOT simultaneously cover the same commitments in another division of debate. \*\*

Entries covered by a school's judges will be charged the "COVERED" cost. Any entry not "covered" by a judge will be charged the *additional* "uncovered" rate. It is important to provide adequate judges for the sake of your registration costs and to provide enough judges for the tournament. Any entries not "covered" by <u>March 10th</u> will be covered by judges we hire on your behalf. Accordingly, we will not allow late judge entries at registration for uncovered teams we have already hired for. Please provide adequate

judging. We highly encourage you to have extra judges available in the event that your judges do not pick up electronic ballots.

## **IMPORTANT JUDGING REMINDERS:**

- ALL DEBATE JUDGES ARE REQUIRED TO BE AVAILABLE FOR THE <u>FIRST ELIMINATION ROUND</u> (SUNDAY) REGARDLESS OF WHETHER YOUR TEAMS/STUDENTS HAVE QUALIFIED! Please note that each judge is obligated until one round after his or her team is eliminated from competition. If judges are absent or missing, fees will be assessed or the judge security deposit will be retained.
- Please note, due to the changes in the schedule, judges cannot simultaneously cover their <u>debate teams and Individual Events judging obligations</u>. In the event that debate teams are out of elimination competition AND the judges have been cleared by the Tabroom, then some debate judges help can cover your IE slots. (Any arrangement of this nature needs worked out directly with tournament directors prior to the tournament).
- Any judge changes made from the original entry must be given to the tournament administration during registration so that we can give you and your judging staff their proper credit.
- Under no circumstances are judges allowed to pass their electronic ballots to someone else without permission of the TABROOM. We will impose nuisance fees for repeat offenders of this policy.
- \$25 per round will be charged to schools with judge no-shows during the tournament.
- If a school has multiple (three or more) judges "no show" you will be retroactively charged the uncovered fee for the appropriate number of entries.

Judges are <u>not</u> allowed to cover entries for two different schools. Schools attempting to circumvent coverage at registration by using double-entered judges will be penalized double the cost of the school fee, entries and judges.

## **PAYMENT/REGISTRATION**

- 1. Registration will occur via Zoom for both debate and IE. Zooms link will be released closer to the tournament. **Chaperone and honor codes must be filled out/turned in at the time of registration.** (Forms will be emailed and made accessible on Tabroom.com very soon). Forms and payment may be sent in prior to registration (More information on this will follow). *If all registration materials are submitted before the tournament and you have no changes, registration is NOT mandatory.*
- 2. Given the conditions created by COVID-19, we strongly prefer **electronic payments**, which we will be accepting for the first time this year. We will provide a link to Event Brite page closer to the tournament date where you can pay online. E-payments by credit card will have a 2.5 % service charge.
- 3. If it is impossible to pay online we can provide an address to send the money order, cashier's check, or check. DO NOT send cash by mail. Please contact the tournament directors.
- 4. All payments (including fines accrued during the tournament) must be paid in full by the Awards ceremony on Sunday.

#### **ENTRY FEES**

School Fee:	\$20.00	
Each covered Policy Team	\$40.00	
Each uncovered policy team	<i>\$120.00</i> [in addition to the \$40.00 fee]	
Each covered LD Entry	\$20.00	
Each uncovered LD team	<i>\$120.00</i> [in addition to the \$40.00 fee]	
Each covered Public Forum Team	\$40.00	
Each uncovered Public Forum Team	<i>\$120.00</i> [in addition to \$50.00 fee]	
Each covered Parliamentary Team	\$40.00	
Each uncovered Parliamentary Team	<i>\$120.00</i> [in addition to \$60.00 fee]	
Each covered IE/ Congress (Duo counts as one slot)	\$15.00	
Each uncovered IE/Congress Slot	<i>\$60.00</i> [in addition to \$15.00 fee]	

#### ALL SCHOOLS WITH CONGRESS ENTRIES MUST PROVIDE ONE PERSON TO BE A PRESIDING OFFICER, EVEN IF YOU BUY OUT OF JUDGING COMMITMENT

#### **FEES**

- A fee of \$5 for <u>any</u> drops after <u>Thursday, March 11 at 5 pm</u> (including original entry cost). Students not dropped during registration and virtually NO-SHOW more than 50% of their rounds will be retroactively charged the uncovered fee. There is a fee of \$25 per round for a virtual judge no-show during prelims and \$50 for failure to show in an elimination round.
- A Fee of \$20 will be charged for late payments/bounced checks.
- All fees are due at the time of registration.

We cannot guarantee that Tabroom.com will provide an accurate representation of your team's invoice before registration. For expedited service contact csufdebate@gmail.com

 \*\* <u>Please make all checks payable to Southern California Urban</u> <u>Debate League (or SCUDL)</u> \*\*

## HELP US FOLLOW APPORPRIATE NETIQUETTE AT CSUF'S VIRTUAL TOURNAMENT

While attending the CSUF HS MS Invitational, we expect that all participants, observers and judges follow the netiquette policies outlined below and the policies of their institutions that they are representing. We know that the majority of your students and virtual attendees will follow tournament rules and conduct themselves according to professional behavior, however, the inappropriate actions of a few students could jeopardize our ability to host future speech and debate tournaments and events. Remember, while online, you are representing your various institutions and should act accordingly.

As such, participation in our tournament requires the following guidelines:

- All students and guests should follow civil decorum in competition and when providing judging feedback, showing respect to other teams, competitors, coaches, or judges,\* participants and conducting themselves in a professional manner. It is expected that every member of the tournament participates in a mature and respectful fashion and in accordance with their respective institutional polices.
- While we cannot police all language use, we strongly discourage the use of profanity and encourage tactful and appropriate communication. We expect all participants will show an appreciation and openness to diversity and we strongly condemn any behaviors that can be construed as racist, sexist, heteronormative, ableist, or offensive. Engaging in such behaviors are grounds for disqualification or removal from the tournament.
- CSUF is committed to maintaining an environment that is free from <u>all forms of harassment and</u> <u>discrimination</u>. Accordingly, all forms of harassment and discrimination (including online bullying, zoom bombing, and harassment on any social media or within a round) are prohibited, whether committed by participants, judges, coaches, or observers. CSUF tournament directors will enforce this policy and any individuals in violation of this policy will be subject to removal from the tournament.
  - Judges' web cameras should remain on and pointed at eye level while judging unless there are extenuating connectivity issues that the tournament is aware of.
- Do not write or engage in any communication/discourse that you would not want publicly shared.
- Coaches, please continue to monitor your students at tournaments and inform our staff if student participants and campus guests are engaging in inappropriate behavior.
- All schools should provide at least one parent chaperone or coach who is actively engaged in the virtual tournament, immediately available as an emergency contact, and responsible for all underage students' participation in the virtual event (and able to contact students and students' parents right away and in the case of an emergency).

#### Additionally, please follow these guidelines when competing virtually:

- 1. Your name online must accurately represent the name that you have registered with the tournament.
- 2. Recordings of participants, observers, or judges are strictly prohibited. If any extenuating circumstances regarding the issue of recordings should arise or exceptions need considered, they should be discussed with tournament directors prior to any recording taking place.
- 3. Remain muted unless you are speaking in order to maintain clarity for the competitors speaking.
- 4. If possible, reduce background noise to a minimum by using a headset.
- 5. We highly recommend that both JUDGES and COMPETITORS leave their cameras on to maximize engagement, eye contact, interaction, sportsmanship, etc. However, we cannot mandate that the

cameras are on if sound/video quality, bandwidth connectivity disruptions, and issues of equity are at stake. Nonetheless, we highly encourage your use of cameras when individuals are speaking, performing, competing, and judging.

- 6. Be aware the space in which you are in and clarify that the participants and judge or competitors can hear you.
- 7. Due to limited bandwidth, we cannot allow observers of rounds. We apologize for the inconvenience.

# <u>\* ALL participating judges will be asked to sign a professional conduct agreement at the time of registration.</u>

#### \*\*All student participants will be instructed to sign an honor code prior to participating in the tournament.

## **RECOGNITIONS AND FINAL NOTES**

**<u>RECOGNITIONS</u>**: Virtual award ceremonies will occur. The debate and IE awards ceremonies for the CSUF HS/MS Invitational will be held in a Conference Zoom room. The award room entry is limited to 300 individuals, but it will also be a live simulcast on YouTube. Prior to awards, the Tabroom will send out the invite for the awards. (Specific information/links will be provided at that time). We are asking that competitors join the awards ceremony first and that observers/judges view it on YouTube. If you are unable to join (when we are at maximum capacity), please visit the YouTube stream. We ask that you remain muted during the awards ceremony and we encourage the usage of reactions both on camera and with the reaction features in Zoom. When joining the awards ceremony, please make sure your name correlates with the name you have listed on Tabroom

Team and individual debate speaker placements (PROVIDED FOR LD, PARLI, POLICY and PUBLIC FORUM) are recognized at the awards stream. Elimination round decisions for LD, Parli, Policy and Public Forum debate are announced immediately following each elimination round. Debaters receiving a speaker award or advancing to the elimination rounds in all divisions will receive an individual award, which will be mailed to one coach or school address following the tournament. We will do our best to send these awards as soon as they are made available to us. The fall tournament taught us that there are often elements beyond our control that are slowly down the shipment of the trophies. We appreciate your patience.

All individual events contestants advancing to the finals will receive verbal recognitions during their award ceremony, and awards will be mailed to one coach or school address roughly 1 month after the tournament.

Special recognitions are announced to the top 10 competitors in both divisions of Congress, and awards will be mailed to one coach or school address roughly 1 month after the tournament. Following tradition, the first-place competitors in Congress receive the "Reed-Stockton" First Place Congress Award. The individual events/Congress awards ceremony is held Sunday evening.

### PLEASE NOTE THAT WE DO NOT BREAK BRACKETS AT THIS TOURNAMENT. IF TEAMS FROM THE SAME SCHOOL ARE SCHEDULED TO MEET IN ELIMINATION ROUNDS, THEN THE COACH WILL BE ASKED TO ADVANCE ONE OF THOSE TWO TEAMS.

In the event we collapse divisions (such as Middle School/Novice), we will recognize 1 Top Novice Speaker and/or 1 Top Middle School Speaker in those divisions.

## 2021 CSUF BRUSCHKE MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL TOURNAMENT DEBATE SCHEDULES

(A fifteen-minute forfeit rule will be enforced.

Please warn your students to leave enough time to connect to the NSDA Campus!) All times are PST

DEBATES (all rounds are single-flighted)		SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 2021		
Round 1:				
7:30 AM	Pairings released, judge check-in			
8:00 AM	Public Forum, Lincoln Douglas, Policy, Parliamenta	ry (TOPIC announced/Prep)		
8:20 AM	Parliamentary			
Round 2:				
9:45 AM	Public Forum, Lincoln Douglas, Parliamentary (TOP	IC announced/Prep)		
10:00 AM	Policy			
10:05 AM	Parliamentary			
Round 3:				
11:30 AM	Public Forum, Lincoln Douglas, Parliamentary (TOP	IC announced/Prep)		
11:50 AM	Parliamentary			
12:00 PM	Policy			
Lunch Break immediately following Round 3				
Round 4:				
2:00 PM	Public Forum, Lincoln Douglas, Parliamentary (TOP	IC announced/Prep)		
2:20 PM	Parliamentary			
2:30 PM	Policy			
Round 5:				
3:45 PM	Public Forum, Lincoln Douglas, Parliamentary (TOP	IC announced/Prep)		
4:05 PM	Parliamentary			
4:30 PM	Policy			

## 2021 CSUF BRUSCHKE MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL TOURNAMENT DEBATE SCHEDULES (Continued)

(A fifteen-minute forfeit rule will be enforced.

Please warn your students to leave enough time to connect to the NSDA Campus!)

#### All times are PST

**DEBATES** (all rounds are single-flighted)

**SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 2021** 

(Schedule subject to change based on entries/out-round needs. Update will be provided the after entries close).

#### **Elimination Round 1:**

- 7:30 AM Pairings released, judge check-in
- 8:00 AM Public Forum, Lincoln Douglas, Policy, Parliamentary (TOPIC announced/Prep)
- 8:20 AM Parliamentary

#### **Elimination Round 2:**

- 9:45 AM Public Forum, Lincoln Douglas, Parliamentary (TOPIC announced/Prep)
- 10:00 AM Policy
- 10:05 AM Parliamentary

#### Elimination Round 3 (If needed):

- 11:30 AM Public Forum, Lincoln Douglas, Parliamentary (TOPIC announced/Prep)
- 11:50 AM Parliamentary
- 12:00 PM Policy

#### Lunch Break immediately following Elimination Round 3

#### Elimination Round 4 (If needed):

- 2:00 PM Public Forum, Lincoln Douglas, Parliamentary (TOPIC announced/Prep)
- 2:20 PM Parliamentary
- 2:30 PM Policy

#### Elimination Round 5 (If needed):

- 3:45 PM Public Forum, Lincoln Douglas, Parliamentary (TOPIC announced/Prep)
- 4:05 PM Parliamentary
- 4:30 PM Policy
- 6:30 PM Awards (Zoom link will be provided)

## Congress Schedule All times are PST

CONGRESS DEBATE Schedule		Saturday, March 13, 2021	
	9:00-9:30 AM	Judge Meeting	
	9:15 AM	Students Report to Chambers and Te	echnology Check
	9:30 to 11:30 AM	Round 1	
	12:30 to 2:30 PM	Round 2	
	3:30 to 6:00 PM:	Round 3 (for any event less than 24	entries) or Final Round
	7:00 PM or ASAP	Awards for Student Congress	

#### **INDIVIDUAL EVENTS SCHEDULE**

**Pattern A:** extemporaneous, informative, dramatic interpretation, duo interpretation, and oratorical interpretation **Pattern B:** impromptu, persuasive, humorous interpretation, thematic interpretation, original prose and poetry

#### All times are PST

IE Schedule

Sunday, March 14, 2021

7:30 AM **Extemp Draw** 8:00-9:15 AM Round 1- Pattern A Round 1-Pattern B 9:15-10:30 AM 10:30 AM **Extemp Draw** 11:00-12:15 PM Round 2- Pattern A 12:15-12:45 PM Break **Round 2-Pattern B** 12:45-2:00 PM **Extemp Draw for finals** 2:00 PM 2:30-4:00 PM **Finals-Pattern A Finals-Pattern B** 4:00-5:30 PM ASAP Awards

#### **CSUF TOURNAMENT ENTRY**

#### (Tournament entries are submitted online through the tabroom.com website) <u>Directions for use of Tabroom</u>

CSU Fullerton proudly uses the tabroom.com online entry system to facilitate the tournament entry process. This is the only method to enter the tournament. <u>Faxes or e-mails will not be accepted as entry means</u>. The step-by-step instructions listed below should prove helpful in assisting you if this is your first time or if you need guidance. Should you need help or find that you are experiencing challenges accessing the page or entering the tournament, please e-mail the tournament at <u>csufdebate@gmail.com</u>.

Go to https://www.tabroom.com/user/chapter/tournaments.mhtml?chapter\_id=6262&err=&msg=

- (If you do not already have an account) Click on this link: https://www.tabroom.com/user/login/new\_user.mhtml. Fill out this form. The next page will give you the option "Create your school" Complete this information and you will be ready to go. Make sure you add your participants. If you do not add your participants you will not be able to register for the events.
- Once established, your account can be used for any other future tournaments that might be using the program. (This includes access for the any other future tournaments.)
- Make sure you are logged in and go to the link above. Click "Register" then click on the even you wish to register on the right. From there you will be able to add your students to the events. If you click the judges tab, you will be able to add judges. Make sure you add judges to the correct events. Tabroom also allows for you to see total registration costs. You can print this page as an invoice if you need one prior to the tournament. If you feel the invoice is not accurate please contact us. If you have any troubles with tabroom, contact csufdebate@gmail.com and a tournament director will walk you through the process.

ANY CHANGES TO YOUR ENTRY SHOULD BE CHANGED THROUGH THIS WEBPAGE AND THE ONLINE PROCESS AND CAN BE DONE ANY TIME BEFORE THE DEADLINE DATE (MARCH 10<sup>th</sup> @ 11:59 pm). Emails confirming changes made to the entry will be sent to both the tournament director as well as to the designated primary contact. <u>ENTRY DEADLINE</u>: Entries must be made by the March 10<sup>th</sup> 2021 11:59 PM deadline. Note all specified parameters in the invitation as you develop your entry and competition gameplan. If you wish to request additional entries beyond the specified limit, and should room availability allow us, we will consider submitted entries on a first-come, first-serve basis. Requests for those extra slots should be directed to the tournament @ csufdebate@gmail.com

All drops or substitutions of competitors must be completed by on <u>Thursday, March 11<sup>th</sup>.</u> On that day @ 5 PM, we will assess fees. All email correspondence must include your school name, your contact number and email address as well as the competitor or judge information (include first name, last name, event, and level of competition where appropriate and necessary).

Nuisance fees for substitutions, judge no-shows and drops will be levied at the tournament prior to awards and may result in a withholding of the school's judge deposit check to accommodate fees incurred as a result for these challenges.

## **Competitor Logistics / Best Practices**

- Please open a tabroom account so you can get ePostings on your device. Your coach should be able to link your account to your team for the tournament.
- Competitors will receive a text/email with their ePostings information.
- There are two places to check for postings:
  - 1. Receive a text/email on your device
  - 2. Check the Pairings tab on the tournament website. If you did not receive a text/email, always double check here. <u>Always double check here</u>.
- The ePostings will have a link to a competition room where you will present/compete. Click that link to go to your round. Judges will be in the same competition room to judge the round. The tournament will be using the NSDA Campus video conference room software.
- Please do not immediately start to talk when entering a competition room. Another student may be already performing. Please make sure your audio is off and wait to be recognized by the judge.
- Students should remain in the competition room as audience members with video on to the extent possible, and audio off. Due to audio feedback loops or bandwidth issues, you may need to mute your audio or video feeds. But ideally, react to the performances like in a face-to-face round.
- Students can, if it fits their particular setup, sit while performing. Judges are instructed *not* to penalize students for sitting while speaking since the particular tech setup may work better while sitting.
- Students are encouraged to leave cameras on during the round, competition, and when speaking.
- Students are also encouraged to use a mic/headphones since audio quality is much better than with an external mic. Judges are instructed *not* to penalize students for having mics/headphones on.
- We recognize this creates some challenges for certain events. But we trust in the ingenuity of the forensics community to adapt to this new environment. Some students may also have better quality video, lighting, sound, etc. We will all try our best.
- If a student's internet connection drops or audio quality is poor, they will be encouraged to call into the video conference room and give their speech with audio only. While not ideal, it will ensure all student's speeches are listened to by a judge. You can get the dial-in information from the info icon in the bottom right of the screen.

## Additional Judge Logistics / Best Practices

- All judges must have a tabroom account. The head coach can link judges' accounts to their team for the tournament.
- Judges will receive a text/email with their eBallot link. Judges should click on that link within 5 minutes of receiving it to indicate that they have "picked up" their ballot.

- There are two places to check for your ballot:
  - 1. Receive a text/email on your device
  - 2. Check your account on the tournament website. If you did not receive a text/email, always double check here. <u>Always double check here</u>.
- On your eBallot you will have all of the competitors in that round along with a link to a live video room. Click that link to go to your video conference competition room.
- Your eBallot will then have a feedback form where you can type your feedback to the student while they are performing or afterwards.
- Judges should turn on cameras albeit connectivity issues. We highly recommend it.
- If a judge's keyboard is loud they are encouraged to mute their audio during performances but please leave the video feed on so competitors can receive your visual feedback.
- Judges are instructed *not* to penalize students for sitting while speaking since the student's particular tech setup may work better while sitting.
- Judges are also instructed *not* to penalize students for having mics/headphones on since audio quality is usually much better using a mic/headset.
- Judges are also instructed *not* to penalize students for lighting, video/audio quality, video background to the extent possible.
- If a judge's internet connection drops or audio quality is poor, we will work them to assist the best possible connection. As a last resort, they may be encouraged to call into the video conference room and listen to speeches with audio only. While not ideal, it will ensure all student's speeches are listened to by a judge. You can get the dial-in information from the info icon in the bottom right of the screen.
- For Impromptu/Extemp, the eBallot will have the quotations/questions listed on it.