

Dear Forensics Coach Friends,

You and your team are invited to the 2021 Ravens Virtual Forensics Tournament. Due to the current attendance restrictions in place due to COVID-19, the tournament will be held remotely, utilizing Tabroom and Zoom. The official tournament date is March 20. Asynchronous (pre-recorded) preliminary rounds for all events will occur March 15-19. Synchronous finals will take place on Saturday, March 20th.



**Please note - this is a closed tournament, by invitation only, and entry is limited to 15 schools. Each school may enter up to 22 total entries, with a maximum of THREE entries per event. Final entries are due by March 12th at 5:00 p.m. Entry videos for prelim events are due by Sunday, March 14th at 5:00 p.m. Your team is financially responsible for entry fees as of that time.**

Entry fees:

- \$5 per individual event; \$10 per IDA & Duet team

Registration in Tabroom will be <http://ravensvirtualinvitational.tabroom.com>. You will need a Tabroom account for the coach, each competitor, and each judge you provide. Please also give me a preliminary indication of entry numbers on the [2021 MHMA Ravens Invitational Forensics - Team Entries](#) so I may begin scheduling judges. There is also a place to include the name(s) of the judges you will provide.

Details:

- We will offer the following events: **Extemp, Oration, Informative, Prose, Poetry, POI, Serious Solo Acting, Humorous Solo Acting, Duet Acting, Improvised Duet Acting, and Impromptu.**
  - Extemp topics will be taken from a variety of current news sources
  - Impromptu topics will utilize the traditional categories - quotations, famous people, proverbs, and abstract nouns.
- There will be three preliminary rounds, and all events will use pre-recorded videos. Videos cannot use professional backgrounds, greenscreens, editing, etc. Each entry **MUST** include the following spoken statement (or something similar) at the beginning: **“This is for the Ravens Virtual tournament.”**
  - Coaches are responsible for uploading video links along with entries on Tabroom. Prelims will be judged during the week, with finals announced Friday prior to the Saturday finals round(s).
  - I will note, based on experience & comments from judges I’ve worked with, please take into account the sound levels/quality of recordings.
- Students may enter two events, however, they may NOT enter two draw events, including Impromptu (*since we’re doing things on Zoom, it will have prescribed draw/perform times too*). All KSHSAA rules will be followed, except foreign and domestic extemporaneous topics will be mixed in one draw.
  - I will send the same selection of extemp questions, IDA draw topics and Impromptu topics for all competitors to use in prelims. I will trust coaches to not assist with the draws but to in some way monitor their students' prep time prior to recording speeches.
  - Draws for the finals will take place in Zoom breakout rooms and will be done in a more “traditional” fashion. More details will be shared closer to 3/20.

- Participating schools may determine whether to use split screens or mask your performers for duet & IDA teams, keeping in practice with the policies in place for your school district & county.
- Final rounds will be held for each event that has more than one room of competition. Finals will be cut-throat.
- Medals will be awarded to the top six places in each event. Sweepstakes will be based on the top two entries per event per school, and calculated on a 5-point scale. Plaques will be awarded for the top three schools.

If you know anyone interested in serving as a judge, either for the asynchronous or synchronous portion of the tournament, please let me know so I may reach out to them.

Please note that this will not only be my first time hosting a virtual tournament, but it will be my first time hosting a tournament ever! I appreciate all of the advice and the coaches who have already hosted this season, especially Noelle Walters, from whom I took most of this extremely helpful information.

Thank you all and I look forward to a great tournament!

Erin Wolf

Forensics Coach  
Maur Hill - Mount Academy