

50th Marshall University John Marshall Speech and Debate Tournament

Huntington WV 11-12 February 2022

Dear Colleagues:

It is my pleasure to invite you to attend the 50th annual Marshall University John Marshall Speech and Debate Tournament to be held on Friday, 11 February 2022, and Saturday, 12 February 2022, at Marshall University, Huntington, West Virginia.

EVENTS AND ENTRIES

This year we will offer competition in 18 different speech and debate events. The events are:

Speech	Speech	
Flight A	Flight B	Debate
Broadcasting	Declamation	Lincoln-Douglas Debate
Dramatic Interpretation	Duo Interpretation	Public Forum Debate
Extemporaneous Speaking	Humorous Interpretation	Big Questions Debate
Informative Speaking	Impromptu Speaking	Congressional Debate
Program Oral Interpretation	Original Oratory	
Prose Interpretation	Pantomime	
Storytelling	Poetry Interpretation	

STUDENT ENTRIES

A school may have unlimited student entries in each event, except Congressional debate, where entries per school are limited to six. Students may enter up to seven events subject to the following:

- Any student may enter Congressional Debate, which will be held Friday morning before the remainder of the tournament starts.
- No student may enter both broadcasting and extemporaneous speaking.
- A student competing only in speech events may enter up to three events in Flight A.
- A student competing only in speech events may enter up to three events in Flight B.
- A student competing in Lincoln-Douglas Debate or Big Questions Debate may enter one Flight A speech event.
- A student competing in Public Forum Debate may enter one Flight B speech event.

JUDGING ENTRIES

One judge is owed for each six (6) speech entries. One judge is owed for each two (2) debate entries. (Schools earn an uncovered judging fees discount if they designate a judge as available to judge either speech or debate events and allow the tournament to select where they are assigned.)

All judges must be knowledgeable of tournament and event rules. All debate judges must be qualified to judge at least two of the following three debate events: Public Forum Debate, Lincoln-Douglas Debate, and Big Questions Debate. (If a judge wants to be excluded from one of the debate judging pools, they should exclude themselves from the event during the registration process.

All judges must be available to judge until the ballots for the last final round have been distributed.

REGISTRATION

You may register for this tournament at http://mujm.tabroom.com.

The registration deadline is Tuesday, 8 February 2022, at 5:00 PM, but you are encouraged to register earlier so we can better prepare. You may make changes through Thursday, 10 February 2022, at 12:00 PM without any nuisance fees applying.

DEADLINES

Congressional debate bills/resolution submission: Tuesday, 1 February at 12:00 PM (Each school may submit two primary bills and an unlimited number of secondary bills. A docket and all bills/resolutions received will be posted online by 5:00 PM.)

Student entries: Tuesday, 8 February at 5:00 PM Judge entries: Tuesday, 8 February, at 5:00 PM

Fees & obligations freeze: Thursday, 10 February, at 12:00 PM Online drops & name changes: Thursday, 10 February, at 12:00 PM Nuisance fees apply after Thursday, 10 February, at 12:00 PM

FEES		
ENTRY FEES		
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Hospitality:	\$5.00 per person	
Speech individual events:	\$8.00 per entry	
Speech duo events:	\$14.00 per team	
Congressional debate:	\$8.00 per entry	
Lincoln-Douglas Debate:	\$12.00 per person	
Big Questions Debate:	\$12.00 per person	
Public Forum Debate:	\$18.00 per team	

JUDGING FEES

Hospitality: \$5.00 per person Uncovered speech entries: \$10.00 per entry Uncovered debate entries: \$30.00 per entry

STUDENT ADD/DROP FEES

Thursday, 10 February (after 12:00 PM) \$10.00 + entry fee Friday, 8 February (before 9:30 AM) \$15.00 + entry fee Friday, 8 February (after 9:30 AM) \$30.00 + entry fee

JUDGE DROP FEES

Thursday, 7 February (after 12:00 PM) \$50.00 Friday, 8 February (after 9:30 AM) \$100.00

To avoid high drop fees on the day of the tournament, call or text Clara Adkins with any drops no later than 9:30 AM.

INVOICE/PAYMENT

You can print your invoice through tabroom.com. Make checks payable to MU Speech and Debate. Cash is also accepted.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Friday

1:30 PM – Extemp prep starts

2:00 PM – Speech Round 1, Flight A

2:00 PM – PF Debate Round 1

2:30 PM - LD/BQ Debate Round 1

3:00 PM - PF Debate Round 2

3:30 PM – Speech Round 1, Flight B

3:30 PM - LD/BQ Debate Round 2

4:30 PM – Extemp prep starts

4:30 PM - PF Debate Round 3

4:45 PM – Broadcasting prep starts

5:00 PM - Speech Round 2, Flight A

5:30 PM - PF Debate Round 4

5:30 PM – LD/BQ Debate Round 3

6:30 PM – Speech Round 2, Flight B

6:30 PM - LD/BQ Debate Round 4

Saturday

8:00 AM – Extemp/Broadcasting prep starts

8:00 AM – PF Debate Round 5

8:30 AM – Speech Round 3A

9:15 AM - PF Debate Round 6

9:15 AM - LD/BQ Debate Round 5

10:00 AM – Speech Round 3B

10:30 AM - LD/BQ Debate Round 6

11:00 AM - PF Debate Elim Round 1

11:30 AM – Extemp/Broadcasting prep starts

12:00 PM – Speech Elim Round 1

12:30 PM – LD/BO Debate Elim Round 1

12:30 PM – PF Debate Elim Round 2

1:30 PM – Speech Elim Round 2

1:50 PM – LD/BQ Debate Elim Round 2

2:00 PM – PF Debate Elim Round 3

2:45 PM – Extemp/Broadcasting prep starts

3:15 PM – Speech Elim Round 3

3:40 PM – LD/BQ Debate Elim Round 3

4:15 PM – PF Debate Elim Round 4 (if needed)

4:50 PM – LD/BQ Debate Elim Round 4 (if needed)

5:30 PM or 6:00 PM – Awards

SPEECH EVENTS

DIVISIONS

Speech events may be divided into novice and varsity divisions or a novice final round may be held if there are at least 12 novice contestants.

EVENT RULES

The tournament follows National Speech and Debate Association (NSDA) high school rules for the following events: Dramatic Interpretation, Duo Interpretation, Extemporaneous Speaking, Humorous Interpretation, Impromptu Speaking, Original Oratory, and Program Oral Interpretation.

The tournament follows National Catholic Forensic League (NCFL) rules for the following events: Prose Interpretation (Oral Interpretation), Poetry Interpretation (Oral Interpretation), and Declamation (Oratorical Declamation). Declamation is limited to middle school students, freshmen, and sophomores. See http://www.ncfl.org/competition-events.

The tournament rules for other events are as follows:

Broadcasting – The tournament follows West Virginia Speech and Debate Association (WVSDA) rules (see http://wvsda.org) for this event, except that all rounds are TV news. Contestants are judged not only on what is heard, but also how it is presented. Judge eye contact, facial expression, and body movement.

- Round 1 (prepared TV news): No preparation time; contestants report to round. Contestants will prepare a news script using up-to-date material. An introduction, sign-off, and brief commercial (15 seconds suggested length) must be included in the broadcast. Contestants must give a copy of the script to the judge and present all copy as it appears in the script. Maximum time limit: 3 minutes with 30 second grace period both above and below the time limit.
- Round 2 (verbatim TV news): 15 minutes prep time; contestants report to prep room. Contestants are given a news script and must deliver it verbatim with the following exceptions: An introduction and sign-off are required, and transitions may be used. There is no time limit.
- Round 3, semi-finals, finals (cut TV news): 30 minutes prep time; contestants report to prep room. Contestants must edit the copy given to them and include an introduction, impromptu commercial, and sign-off within a five-minute time frame. During the round, contestants may use a stopwatch as judges will not give time signals. Maximum time limit: 5 minutes with no grace period.

Pantomime – Competitors enter one by one, are given the same topic, and must perform a scene, using no oral communication, based on that topic. The ideal pantomime tells a story that has an initial situation with a rising conflict and ends with resolution. No introduction is expected. No make-up, costumes, props, or lighting are permitted, but a table and/or chair may be used. Doors and walls are considered props and must not be used. Criteria for judging include clarity of scene, story development, consistent characterization and pantomime of props, creativity and comedic or dramatic timing. Maximum time for both prep and performance: 7 minutes with 30 second grace period. The judge must provide contestants with time signals.

Storytelling – Each competitor will present a single published, printed story, anecdote, tale, myth or legend which must be retold without props. A book or script may be used but is not required. The contestant must not materially change the content of the story. Competitors may stand, sit in a chair, sit on the floor and/or use a limited amount of room for movement. Original introductory remarks are permitted. Maximum time limit: 10 minutes with 30 second grace period.

TIMING AND TIME LIMITS

With the exception of extemporaneous speaking (7 minutes with 30 second grace period), impromptu speaking (7 minutes with 30 second grace period for both prep and speaking), pantomime (7 minutes with 30 second grace period for both prep and pantomime), and broadcasting (time limits vary by round), the maximum time limit per event is 10 minutes with a 30 second grace period. **There is no minimum time for any event at this tournament.**

Judges must time all events. Judges, however, are required to give contestants time signals only in extemporaneous speaking, impromptu speaking, and pantomime.

ROUNDS

There will be 3 preliminary rounds and either one or two elimination rounds for each speech event unless the event has fewer than 10 contestants in which case there will be no elimination rounds. If a speech event has 25 or more contestants/teams, the event will break to two or three sections of semi-finals and then to finals. If the speech event has 10 to 24 contestants/teams, the event will break only to finals. Preliminary rounds will have one judge and elimination rounds will have at least three judges.

BREAKING TIES

The following is the order for determining advancement from preliminary rounds: total ranks, reciprocal fractions, total speaker points. If a tie remains, all tied contestants advance.

The following is the order for determining placement in elimination rounds: total ranks, judges' preference, total speaker points, highest seed after preliminary rounds.

AWARDS

Awards will be given to semifinalists and finalists for all speech events that break to semifinals then finals. Awards will be given to finalists for all speech events that break to finals. For speech events that do not break to finals, awards will be given to no more than half of the contestants. For any event that does not have a novice division, a top novice award will also be given.

DEBATE EVENTS

RULES

The tournament follows NSDA high school rules except as follows:

Congressional Debate – To promote efficiency: (1) Each school may enter a maximum of six students. (Additional students may be wait-listed and will be added if we have multiple Houses.) (2) Each school may designate up to two students as potential presiding officers. (3) Tournament hosts will randomly select the two presiding officers – one for Session 1 and one for Session 2 – from among the schools' designees. (4) Each school may submit two primary bills/resolutions and any number of secondary bills/resolutions. (5) Tournament hosts will establish a docket, which will control the order in which bills/resolutions may be taken up. Primary bills/resolutions will appear in front of secondary bills/resolutions on the docket. (The Senate/House may table consideration of a bill/resolution but may not reorder the docket.)

DIVISIONS

Lincoln-Douglas and Public Forum Debate events may be divided into varsity, junior varsity, and/or novice divisions if there would be at least 12 teams in each division.

TOPICS

The Lincoln-Douglas Debate and Public Forum Debate topics will be the NSDA topics for February 2022.

The Big Questions Debate topic will be: *Resolved:* On balance, societies benefit from religious belief and practice.

ROUNDS

For Lincoln-Douglas Debate and Public Forum Debate, there will be 6 preliminary rounds and up to four elimination rounds if the event/division has 17 or more entries. Adjustments may be made if there are 16 or fewer entries in an event/division.

Preliminary rounds will have one judge, and elimination rounds will have at least three judges.

PAIRINGS

Unless a round-robin format is being used, students from the same school will not debate one another in preliminary rounds. Students from the same school, however, may debate one another in elimination rounds. In such a case, the coach will make the decision whether the two competitors or teams debate or whether one competitor or team should advance automatically.

Unless a round-robin format is used, Preliminary Rounds 1 and 2 will be preset and later preliminary round will be power matched. Elimination round pairings may be adjusted to prevent students from the same school from hitting one another.

BREAKING TIES

Ideally, all teams with records of 4-2 or better will break to elimination rounds. Otherwise, the following is the order for determining advancement from preliminary rounds: win-loss record, head-to-head outcome, speaker points, speaker points except best and worst, judge variance, and coin flip. The following is the order for determining placement in elimination rounds: win/loss record in round.

AWARDS

Awards will be given to the top six Congressional debaters in each House and the best presiding officer.

Awards will be given to all students who advance to elimination rounds. For events that do not break to finals (e.g., operate using a round-robin format), awards will be given to the top two debaters or debate teams.

Awards will be given to the six best speakers across debate events based on speaker points in preliminary rounds. Ties will be broken based on speaker points except best and worst, head-to-head score, and winloss record.

For any event that does not have a novice division, a top novice award will also be given.

JUDGING

Judges are encouraged to use online speech and debate ballots but are not required to do so.

A judge may seek clarification concerning whether a rule violation has occurred from tournament hosts. But it will be the responsibility of the judge, not tournament hosts, to determine the appropriate penalty for a rule violation unless tournament hosts disqualify the competitor.

Speech judges may not disclose results. Debate judges may disclose results ONLY at the end of elimination rounds and only if time permits.

NOVICE, JUNIOR VARSITY, VARSITY STATUS

A novice is someone in their first year of high school competition OR in middle school regardless of whether they have finaled the event or competed in middle school.

A junior varsity student is someone in their second year of high school competition.

A varsity student is someone who is not a novice or junior varsity student.

SWEEPSTAKES

SCORING SYSTEM

If you want information about the sweepstakes scoring system used, please contact the tournament director.

INDIVIDUAL SWEEPSTAKES

The six students who earn the most sweepstakes points will receive awards. To be eligible for individual sweepstakes, a student must enter at least three events.

TEAM SWEEPSTAKES

The six schools that earn the most sweepstakes points across all events will receive awards. Only a school's top three entries in an event count toward team sweepstakes.

Depending on the size of the tournament, separate team sweepstakes awards may be given in speech and debate, among middle schools, and among schools with small entries.

TRAVELING TROPHY

The tournament presents a traveling trophy to the team with the highest number of sweepstakes points over the years. Once a school wins, its total points go to zero. The top ten schools going into the tournament are: (1) Parkersburg South High School – 1,479 points; (2) John Marshall High School – 1,194.5 points; (3) Fairmont Senior High School – 1,038.5 points; (4) Capital High School – 958.5 points; (5) Mount Vernon High School (OH) – 947 points; (6) George Washington High School – 909 points; (7) Rowan County Senior High School (KY) – 891 points; (8) Point Pleasant Jr./Sr. High School – 848.5 points; (9) Braxton County High School – 791.5 points; and (10) Preston High School – 754 points. A team must be present to win.

LODGING

DoubleTree Hotel (Hilton) – 1001 Third Avenue, Huntington, WV 25701

- +1 877-214-6725
 - Newly renovated
 - 0.7 miles west of campus

Delta Hotel (Marriott) – 800 Third Avenue, Huntington, WV 25701

- +1 888-890-3222
 - Newly renovated
 - 0.9 miles from campus
 - Indoor swimming pool

Hampton Inn – 77 Kinetic Drive, Huntington, West Virginia, 25701

- +1 304-523-8001
 - 2.6 miles from campus
 - Complimentary continental breakfast

Ramada – 33094 16th Street Road Huntington, WV 25701

- +1 304-523-8308
 - 2.6 miles southeast of campus
 - Complimentary continental breakfast
 - Indoor swimming pool

Fairfield Inn & Suites – 536 Kinetic Drive, Huntington, WV 25701

- +1 304-696-8777
 - 2.6 miles from campus
 - Complimentary continental breakfast
 - Indoor swimming pool

Super 8 – 3090 16th Street Road, Huntington, WV 25701

- +1 304-525-1410
 - 2.6 miles southeast of campus
 - Complimentary continental breakfast
 - Indoor swimming pool

FOOD

On Saturday, we will provide lunch for tournament participants. Additionally, many food options are available close to the tournament site.

If you have any questions, please contact me. We look forward to seeing you this winter!

Sincerely,

Clara Adkins Director of Forensics Marshall University

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