Invitation to WKU Fall Tournament

Dear Colleagues:

Please help us kick off the 2021-2022 competition season by joining us virtually on September 22nd-26th for the 2021 Western Kentucky University Fall Tournament. The tournament will include:

- A Lincoln-Douglas Debate Tournament (Saturday/Sunday) held in a virtual **synchronous** format
- An Individual Events Tournament held in a virtual **asynchronous** format
- Novice/JV divisions in debate and top novice recognition in IE
- Team Recognition for the top three schools in debate and IE
- Top Speaker Recognition in debate
- Quadrathon Recognition (LD counts as 2 events towards eligibility)
- Overall Recognition for schools competing in both debate and IE

NEW OR STUDENT-RUN PROGRAMS WILL RECEIVE 50% OFF THEIR TOTAL ENTRY FOR THE TOURNAMENT. Please notify us at time of registration.

More information is contained within the rest of this invitation regarding entries and scheduling. However, if you have any questions, please contact:

For LD Debate: Chad Meadows ([chadwickmeadows@gmail.com](mailto:chadwickmeadows@gmail.com))
For Individual Events: Ben Robin ([benjamin.robin@wku.edu](mailto:benjamin.robin@wku.edu))
    Ganer Newman ([ganer.newman@wku.edu](mailto:ganer.newman@wku.edu))
For payment: Debra Gensheimer ([debra.gensheimer@wku.edu](mailto:debra.gensheimer@wku.edu))

Sincerely,
Ganer Newman - Director of Forensics
FEES:

- LD Entry: $30.00 per debater
- IE Slots (duo = two slots): $10/per slot/per tournament
- Uncovered LD Entry: $100.00 plus entry fee
- Uncovered IE Per Slot/Per Tmnt: $20.00 plus entry fee
- Drops after the drop deadline: $25.00
- No-Show/Unreported Drop: $50.00

Please note teams will be sent a fee sheet on Wednesday prior to the start of the tournament. At this time, we are only able to accept checks. Please make checks payable to:

Attn: WKU Forensics  
1906 College Heights Blvd  
Bowling Green KY 42101

If you have any questions concerning payment, email debra.gensheimer@wku.edu.

Because of the virtual nature of the tournament we understand that funds might not be available immediately and we will accept payment after the completion of the tournament.

REGISTRATION:

All registration for Individual Events is done online via speechwire.com. All IE students and judges will need speechwire accounts prior to registering for the tournament.

Registration and tabulation for Debate will use Tabroom
http://wkufalltournamenttabroom.com/tabroom.com/

EVENT RESTRICTIONS:
There are no event restrictions! Students may enter as many events as they desire.

JUDGES:
A full time debate judge covers 3 rounds. An IE judge covers 6 IE slots. If you do not bring enough judges, there is an uncovered judge fee. LD reserves the right to impose restrictions on large uncovered entries. Please attempt to fulfill your commitment.

ENTRY DEADLINES:
IE:
Entries must be received by 5:00 PM Central Standard Time on Monday, September 20th via Speechwire.com. That system also allows you to check your entry at any time.

LD:
Monday, September 20st at 5 p.m (CST) via tabroom.

DROP DEADLINES:
IE:
Considering the asynchronous format, we don’t anticipate any drops or changes for Individual events, as the complete video will be registered by Monday at 5:00 CST.

LD:
If you must drop an entry, please phone in or email the drop early so that we may make appropriate changes. The drop deadline will be noon on Thursday, September 23th. Any drops after the deadline will result in a $25 drop fee. Finally, there is no excuse for a student not showing up to a round or being an unreported drop; consequently a nuisance fee of $50 will be accessed for any unreported drops.

**INDIVIDUAL EVENTS**

Competition will be offered in all 11 AFA (NST) events. All events will follow the AFA - (NST) rules *unless otherwise indicated.* (See LP)

Competitors will provide videos of their performances which will be judged *asynchronously.*

**How to provide your video?**

Our individual events tournament will be conducted *asynchronously.* Students should record their video, then upload it to their own private (or a team) *youtube channel.* Once uploaded, students can adjust the video setting to “unlisted.” This will make the video un-searchable, but still viewable to anyone with the link (url.)

We will be using AFA (NST) standards for videos.

When registering for the tournament, Speechwire will provide a space to enter a student name and event. After inputting entries you can provide links to videos under the “links” tab on speechwire’s main menu.

When judges receive their dance cards / eballots, those links will be provided to them.
These links will also be provided to other competitors in the round. Due to privacy concerns, only judges and students participating in a specific round will have access to video links for that round. Please do not share these links out of respect for the performers.

The same video will be used for all rounds: 2 preliminary rounds and finals.

Preliminary rounds will be judged on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Final rounds will be judged on Saturday and Sunday.

Awards format and time TBD

Note:
Competitor videos only need to be set on “unlisted” for the duration of the tournament. After the tournament is over, competitors can adjust their video setting to “private” ensuring the link will no longer provide access to the video.

How will Limited Prep work?

All LP prompts will be released three days before registration is due. (We will send out prompts at noon (CST) on Friday, September 17th. Videos must be submitted by 5:00 (CST) on Monday, September 20th.)

Extemp prompts will consist of questions. Students can choose any question from the provided options. From the moment of selection students will have 30 minutes to prepare and then must immediately perform and record their speech. Impromptu prompts will be quotations. Students can choose any quotation from the provided options. From the moment of selection, students will have 7 minutes to prepare, perform and record their presentation. (Prep time does not need to be filmed for either Extemp or Impromptu.)

We are using the honor system here. We are confident that our community will maintain the highest ethical standards in these difficult circumstances. We are providing a three day period so there is plenty of time to deal with any technical challenges that may arise. The video url must be provided (by way of registration) before the close of the three day period.

The 1 provided video will be judged in preliminary rounds 1 and 2, and then again in Finals if that student advances.

Note:
The WKU limited prep coaches believe these are fair rules for asynchronous conditions. We trust competitors to be ethical. We also feel one video is sufficient for competition, as the act of recording and uploading 3 different videos for a single competition is an unique burden on LP students.

**IE Judging Expectations:**

Once we have all entries/videos registered, we will create the tournament on Tuesday night. All judges should expect their dance cards (links to e-ballots) by Wednesday at 9 a.m. Judges are expected to watch their rounds, provide feedback and rankings. We would like for e-ballots to be returned to us as soon as possible. However, judges will have until **Friday at noon to complete judging their assigned preliminary rounds.**

Saturday morning, Judges will receive their Final Round dance cards. While we would prefer e-ballots returned as soon as possible, **Final round results must be returned by Sunday at noon.**

We will hold semifinals if numbers necessitate it.

**LINCOLN-DOUGLAS DEBATE**

The WKU Debate tournament will use the Zoom Room Model (ZRM) on all competition days.

For the ZRM day, Zoom Meeting rooms with breakout spaces will be used. Zoom meeting rooms will be private and sent to teams with students/judges in the elim debates. Observers will be limited, and will be required to appropriately identify themselves. Assuming consent of the parties involved, a select number of elim debates will be livestreamed to a tournament Youtube Page. Livestream links will be posted to an excel sheet and shared with the broader NFA LD Community.

**FAQ**

What are the technology requirements?
ZRM will require
A device that can access the internet

What is the observer policy?
Observers are allowed but consent of participants should be respected.
Will teams have tournament provided squad rooms?
Yes! Each registered school will have a tournament provided squad room accessible in the zoom room.

**Divisions**
Novice - In your first two semesters of debate competition (including High School)
JV - In your first four semesters of College Debate
Open - Any student eligible to debate

Lincoln-Douglas debate will follow the NFA-LD Debate rules (including both a warm room and the release of bracket prior to elimination rounds) and utilize the 2021-2022 NFA-LD debate topic. Speech times for LD will be the standard 6-3-7-3-6-6-3 with four minutes of prep time for each side.

**Awards**
All debaters advancing to elimination rounds will be recognized. In the event that a full novice division does not make, a final round between the top non-advancing novice debaters will be held. Speaker awards will be given to the Top Novice speaker and to the 15 speakers in the open divisions of LD. Sweepstakes awards will be given to the top 3 schools participating in debate.

**PRIVACY NOTICE**

Two-party consent is required for the recording of a live debate round. Students and Judges are allowed to clarify at any point in the round that the recording/live streaming should stop. Any violation of this rule could result in disqualification.

Recording of IE performances is prohibited. Violating this rule could subject competitors to disqualification.

**AWARDS / RECOGNITION / SWEEPS CALCULATIONS**

Awards will be given for the top 3 in Debate Sweepstakes, Individual Events Sweepstakes, and Quadrathon.

One Overall Award will be given for Overall Sweepstakes.

Quadrathon Eligibility
To be eligible, a competitor must compete in at least 4 events of any genre. (LD can count as two of the 4.) Points for this award will be earned under the same system as the team sweepstakes awards, guided by NFA rules.

WKU students will be eligible for all individual awards, but WKU will not be eligible for team sweepstakes awards.

DEBATE:
For the purpose of calculating sweepstakes, a school will be awarded 3 points for each preliminary round win and five points for each elim win.

INDIVIDUAL EVENTS:
Sweepstakes points will be earned as follows: In preliminary rounds, all contestants will accumulate points with each rank of one worth three points, each rank of two worth two points, and each rank of three worth one point. In the event that semifinal rounds are necessary each break to semifinals will earn a school two points. In final rounds, schools will receive twelve points for a first place finish, ten points for second, eight points for third, six points for fourth, four points for fifth, and two points for sixth.

OVERALL:
There will be 1 overall sweepstakes award given for the top school that competed in debate and individual events.

SCHEDULE: LD Debate
Saturday, September, 25th 2021
9:00 am Online Registration
10:00 am Round 1
12:00 pm Round 2
2:00 pm Round 3
4:00 pm Round 4
6:00 pm Round 5

Sunday, Saturday, 26th 2021
10:00 am Round 6
12:00 pm Elim 1
2:00 pm Elim 2
4:00 pm Elim 3
6:00 pm Elim 4
7:30 pm
Awards
8:00 pm
Finals

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