

Castle Classic Varsity Invitational Tournament - NIETOC Bid

On behalf of the Greeley Central High School Forensics team, I would like to invite you and your team to the 2021 GCHS 'Castle Classic' Varsity Invitational Tournament on **Saturday, November 20.**



We are once again pleased to announce that this tournament has been accepted as an official **NIETOC bid** tournament (National Individual Events Tournament of Champions).

We will be using tabroom.com with NSDA Campus as the online tournament platforms. The draw rooms + Exempt, Storytelling, and Congress will be in Zoom rooms (links to follow as the tournament gets closer) <http://castleclassic.tabroom.com>

Tournament Style:

- This will all be online with **synchronous and asynchronous events**. We are going to try a flex schedule and will run rounds as soon as we have the judges for each event. That may mean some events are farther along than others at any given time. Judges are the key. The more we have, the faster we can progress throughout the day.
 - TIME ZONES:
 - We are on MST (Mountain Standard Time... Colorado time)
 - Example: First round starts at 7:00 am MST =
 - 9:00 am Eastern
 - 8:00 am Central
 - 6:00 am Pacific
- 3 rounds + finals where numbers warrant (More than 20 entries)
- **Orange Wave = Synchronous Events:** LD, PF = These will be live via [NSDA Campus](#). **Congressional Debate, Combined Extemp, and Creative Storytelling** = These will be hosted in **Zoom Rooms** and those links will be available closer to the tournament. Extemp and CStory will also have **Zoom draw rooms**.
- **Black Wave = Asynchronous Events:** Drama, Humor, DUO, Poetry, POI, Informative Speaking, OO. For these events, students will submit a video recording of their performance. I know this is not ideal, but for tech equity purposes, this seems to be the system that results in the most fairness.
 - Please have your students hold up a piece of paper with the date and name of the tournament for their async recordings - "November 20 - Castle Classic"
 - It is also ok for them to verbally say "This performance is for the November 20, Castle Classic tournament" at the beginning of their performance.
 - I know this is a pain, but we just want to ensure fairness and to make sure those in the recorded events keep building and adjusting their performances throughout the year instead of just recycling one recording all year long.



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- Please note, we will use CHSAA (Colorado) rules for Poetry and Creative Storytelling.
 - Poetry: We will use CHSAA Poetry rules (10 minutes, memorized - just like DI, HI, Duo)
 - Creative Storytelling: We will use the CHSAA rules for this - draw 3 topic scenarios (character, setting, conflict) and students have 15 minutes in the draw room to prep and memorize a 3-5 minute story. This is a live event, similar to extemp. Reach out to Frenchie if you have questions.

DOUBLING:

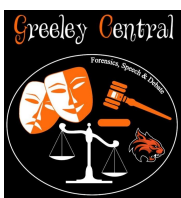
- Your student may enter as many asynchronous events as they want IF YOU PROVIDE JUDGES.
- Synchronous entries are only able to enter 1 synchronous event but may double in asynchronous events.
- Doubling (or triple or quad...) IS allowed for all asynchronous events.
- Doubling IS NOT allowed for more than 1 synchronous event
- Doubling IS allowed for a combination of 1 synchronous event and 1 or more asynchronous events.

Asynchronous & Synchronous:

- All non-draw speaking events and all interp events will be ASYNCHRONOUS and students will have to upload links to performances. It is the responsibility of the student/coach to make sure that links work and are public for anybody with the link to be able to see. I will check links the Wednesday morning of tournament week and message coaches if links do not work. ALL LINKS MUST BE IN TABROOM BY WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17. If your link did not work, you have until Thursday at 8:00 pm to resubmit a working link.
- LD, PF, Congress, Extemp, Creative Storytelling - these will be live
 - LD & PF will use NSDA Campus
 - Extemp, CStory, Congress will all draw and compete in Zoom rooms

JUDGING:

- In this new online competition world, we would ask for grace, patience, and a willingness to get your hands dirty and judge when called upon.
- For every 4 debate entries, 1 judge will be required.
- For every 6 interp/speaking entries, 1 judge will be required.
- No judges = the tournament cannot happen.
- Please have judges set up with tabroom accounts well before the day of the tournament.



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- Beyond required judge obligations from teams, we will pay judges \$9 per round judged. Please note that all the payment documents must be filled out and returned to Frenchie for payment to be processed (my hands are tied here as it is district policy).

PF NOTE: We will be using the 3-minute summary & prep time national changes.

CX: CX/Policy Debate will not be offered this year. I hope to bring it back for 2022.

SCHEDULE: Beyond the starting time of the tournament, we will attempt to run a flex schedule. As soon as judges are available, we will launch events. In a perfect world, we will run all events at the same time. **TELL YOUR SYNC STUDENTS TO PAY ATTENTION TO BLAST POSTINGS. If they are late or miss the round... sorry Charlie.**

Registration: This will take place on <http://castleclassic.tabroom.com> this year.

Congress Details:

- THE JUDGE DETERMINES AWARDS, NOT A CHAMBER VOTE.
- Email properly formatted legislation to Frenchie (sfrench@greeleyschools.org) so it can be posted on tabroom. Please do not submit legislation that your students have debated at a previous tournament, let's keep it fresh.
- **LEGISLATION DEADLINE = 12:00 PM Friday, November 12.**
- If schools do not submit legislation, GCHS will provide legislation – this enhances and legitimizes the congress so students have time to actually research and prepare ahead of time instead of playing games.
- There will not be any 'walk-on' legislation the day of the tournament.
- We will use preset precedence/recency
- POs beware, give up the "gavel" at your own risk. Last PO standing when the session concludes gets the PO award. If you give up your position to speak, you better trust the person to give you the power back as they are not required to.
- There is NO IMPEACHING so choose your PO wisely.

Entries & Fees:

- Registration on tabroom.com
- Fees of \$10.00 per asynchronous single entry, \$10.00 per synchronous entry, \$20.00 per asynchronous DUO team, \$20 per synchronous PF team, \$8 per Creative Storytelling entry, and \$6.00 per Congress entry are based on pre-registration – Due by 11/10 - If you want to enter more than 5 in each event, please contact Frenchie.
- If you are fortunate enough to have a P-Card/Credit Card/Debit Card, you can call my fabulous finance secretary, Nancy Kern, and pay that way, just let her know it is for the forensics tournament. 970-348-5002.



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- **Please make the checks payable to: Greeley Central High School**
- Send payment to:
Greeley Central High School
c/o Sarah French
1515 14th Ave
Greeley, CO 80631
- Entries: Please limit entries to a maximum of 5 per debate event (if you bring a debate judge – 4 if not) and a max of 5 for all other events, unlimited for Student Congress. If you wish to have additional entries, especially for NIETOC events, email me and we will see if that request can be accommodated... it usually can.

Awards:

- Finalists in all events will receive awards, hopefully in the form of medals. These will be distributed in person at tournaments in November/December if in-person tournaments are happening at that point (for Northern Colorado schools) and will be mailed out to schools that are out of state or not likely to attend tournaments that we attend. Coaches will be asked to supply the school mailing address and we ask that you then distribute awards to your team members who broke to finals.

PLEASE HELP US WITH JUDGES. I will contact the judges if you provide me with contact information, preferably their email. If you want us to run on time, we must have the judges.

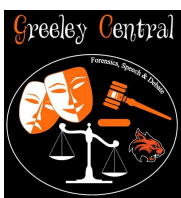
- We are online (obviously). **PLEASE have judges create a judge tabroom account prior to the tournament** to speed up the process at judge check-in in the morning.
- We ask that ALL coaches that are not assigned a specific duty (tab, zoom room, draw, judge liaison, etc) judge at least 2 rounds during the day. No matter the circumstance, every team is required to donate two rounds of judging by any coach – head or assistant will do.
- Coaches not wishing to judge or who do not provide a judge for the 2 donated rounds will be asked to pay a \$50 judge fee.

Facebook for judges:

- **We have a facebook page for Northern Colorado judges. Please tell your judges to search for 'Northern CO Speech & Debate Forensics Judges' and 'like' the page.
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/114179395299605/>
- I post details on that facebook page about upcoming judging opportunities.

NIETOC Information:

- This is an official bid tournament. Students advancing to bid rounds of this tournament will earn one official bid for the 2021 NIETOC tournament that will take place in May of 2022. Visit www.nietoc.com for more information.



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- NIETOC Main Events: Dramatic Interpretation, Humorous Interpretation, Duo Interpretation, Original Oratory, Informative Speaking, Program Oral Interpretation, Duet Acting, and NEW LAST YEAR – Extemporaneous Speaking has been added as a main event
- Supplemental events: Prose and Poetry and Expository
- Champions in Main Events and Supplemental Events will receive scholarships.
- How to earn a bid:
 - *0-19 contestants = 1st place
 - *20-34 contestants = 1st, 2nd or 3rd place
 - *35-50 contestants = Finals Round bid
 - *51-70 contestants = Semifinals Round bid (we will hold a hidden semifinal round if we reach these numbers).
- AP TESTING NOTE: NIETOC accommodates if you have students scheduled for AP tests on these dates.

Castle Classic Schedule of Events all times are MST (Mountain/Denver time):

7:00-7:30 am MST Registration

7:30 Round 1 NX Extemp Draw – if you are late, your extempers will lose the opportunity for full prep time.

7:45 Judge Meeting

8:00 am - launch as many events as we have judges for

Finals 6:30 pm (or sooner)

Awards hopefully by 8:20 pm or sooner depending on how the flex schedule works

NOTE, ALL TIMES ARE MOUNTAIN STANDARD TIME MST - DENVER TIME ZONE

Please let me know if you have any questions or have requests or a need for accommodations regarding entries or explanations of the events.

Cheers, Sarah French, Kaila Ward & the Wildcat Forensics Speech & Debate team

sfrench@greeleyschools.org

970-405-3198 (cell)