





**Steve  
Sparks  
Memorial**

**Eau Claire North High School Forensics**  
1801 Piedmont Road, Eau Claire, WI 54703



**Forensics  
Tournament**



**February 12  
2022**

Dear Coach,

We are excited to invite you and your students to celebrate Valentine's week by participating in the fifteenth annual *Steve Sparks Memorial Forensics Tournament* at Eau Claire North High School on Saturday, February 12, 2022. This tournament is both WFCFA and WHSFA friendly, and students may double or triple enter. The Valentine's theme is a reflection of our love for our students, the activity of forensics, and all our dear friends involved and especially for the memory of Steve Sparks.

There will be awards for all finalists, qualitative sweepstakes awards for the top two small teams (5 - 20 entries), and sweepstakes awards for the top two large teams, based on the top 25 entries from each school.

Continuing this year, we offer the following additional awards:

- Best Double-Entry: Top 3 (based on prelim totals)
- Best Novice Entry: Top 3 (based on prelim totals - will use best category if double entered)

The entry fee will be \$8.00 per entry and \$12.00 per group. Please bring one judge for every 5 entries with a maximum of 5 affiliated (non-clean) judges per school (contact us for possible exceptions for affiliated judges). Hired judges will be available for \$15.00 per uncovered entry.

Registration will be through <http://ecn.tabroom.com> The deadline for registration will be at 5 pm Saturday, February 5. Drops after this time will not reduce your fees nor reduce your judging requirements. Checks are payable to: *North High School*.

Feel free to call us if you have questions.

Sincerely,

Scott Peterson  
608-345-4556  
scott.forensics@gmail.com  
(tournament  
entries/scheduling)

Krisany Blount  
Chelsea Ennen  
Max Haslow

Cole Pankratz  
Amber Schoeder

# Changes and special notes for 2022

**Keep it healthy:** Coaches should ensure that all students and judges are screened for illness symptoms prior to coming to the tournament. Anyone with symptoms cannot attend.

**Social Distancing:** Everyone is encouraged to be prudent with social distancing especially with people outside of your team. Both the commons and auditorium will be open for teams to find their own space in the morning, during lunch (but please no food in auditorium), and for final round postings. If any team would like a homeroom for their exclusive use for gathering in the morning or for lunch just let us know.

**Masks:** Masks covering the nose and mouth will be required in the building except when a student is performing. There may be other groups using the school that day in the gyms that are not wearing masks... but all forensics competitors and coaches will wear masks as some schools attending are more strict than others.

**Lunch:** As per WFCA covid guidelines... students can bring their own lunches to the meet. We will have some concessions available (prepackaged...precooked items like chips/hotdogs/fruit/etc...) for students as well. If you have a student with dietary restrictions, let us know and we can arrange for something to suit their needs... or they are able to bring their own as well.

**Radio Announcing:** We previously had computers available for receiving Radio materials and for editing the script. Because North's students now have personal devices, the computer labs are gone. Competitors may bring their own devices for Radio preparation, and they may use the devices in the performance room for reading the script. Paper copies of the source packet will also be available.

**Extemporaneous Speaking and Radio Announcing Internet use:** Competitors in Extemporaneous Speaking and Radio Announcing may utilize the internet during their preparation for research but not for communicating with people or accessing pre-written speeches or outlines.

**Final rounds:** All students who did not advance to a final round are encouraged to be observers to learn from and enjoy the performances of the top entries. It's also a great way to explore other categories that a student may want to pursue. For social distancing, students will be encouraged to attend a final round for a category being held in one of our designated large rooms. Play Acting, Group Interp, and a few other categories chosen at random will be in the large rooms.

**Online ballots:** All judges will be required to bring a Wi-Fi enabled portable device for receiving the judging schedule, writing critiques, and submitting ranks.

**Finally,** if your team has specific restrictions or needs, please let us know and we can work best to accommodate. We want the best tournament experience possible for all in attendance.

# Tournament Schedule for February 12

The North High School main parking lot and entry doors are on the north side of the building facing Piedmont Road. Look for the giant husky dog on the roof.

Time	Event
5:00 / as soon as possible	Report drops or changes to Scott Peterson 608-345-4556
7:45 - 8:15	Registration in Foyer under Husky
8:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• General Meeting in Auditorium for all contestants and judges (except Radio Announcers and Extempers)</li><li>• Radio Announcers and Extempers report to Draw/Prep in IMC</li></ul>
9:00	Round One
10:15	Round Two
11:30	Round Three
After a brief break for lunch, the approximate times are:	
1:15	Posting of Results in Commons
1:30	Final Rounds
3:00	Awards in the Auditorium

# Tournament Guidelines

We welcome WFCFA *and* WHSFA schools, and to facilitate the slight differences in rules we have a basic overall philosophy: rules from either organization will be honored. If an element of a performance is allowed in either WFCFA or WHSFA, it will be allowed at this tournament. Some examples of blending the rules include:

1. Two speakers will be allowed in Demonstration Speaking. The entry fee for Demonstration will be the same price as other individual entries regardless of a Demonstration entry having one or two speakers. If there are two speakers under one entry, provide the names of both when submitting your roster.
2. Group Interpretive Reading and Play Acting will have 12 minute time limits.
3. One 4x6 note card will be permitted in Oratory. For other categories that allow a 4x6 note card, notes instead will have no specific limits, formats, or dimensions.
4. There will be no separate Public Address event, but students in Public Address can be entered in Oratory, and the judges will be alerted to this.
5. Chairs, etc. MAY be used in Solo and Group Interp. Optional speaker's / reader's stand may be used in the categories involving scripts or notes.
6. Storytelling: the order of the stories will be set by random draw the morning of the tournament at the opening meeting. For each round, everyone will be presenting the same story category.
7. A printed list of works cited does not need to be presented to the judge, but sources should be cited contextually during the speech.

\*For the WFCFA rules, go to <https://wfcaforensics.org/>

\*For the WHSFA rules, go to <http://whsfa.org>

\*For Oratorical Declamation rules, open to freshmen & sophomores only, go to <http://ncfl.org>

## Registration limitations:

- Unlimited number of entries are allowed in each category.
- Double or triple entries *are* allowed (students may compete in multiple events).
- Please report how many of your judges are *clean* (have no school or team affiliation other than you hiring them to judge) versus *dirty* (coaches or others close to your team). This will give us more options for scheduling judges. Each school may bring a MAXIMUM of 5\* dirty judges; schools with more than 25 entries will be required to fulfill their judging quota by bringing clean judges or hiring clean judges from us. If you have extra *clean* judges, you may contact us and we may hire them.

\*Depending on tournament size we might allow more than 5 dirty judges.

## Remember:

- The deadline for registration is 5 pm Saturday, February 5.
- Drops after this time will not reduce your fees nor your judging requirement.
- PLEASE submit a roster with your registration. This should list the names of your students in each category. For the Best Novice Award, indicate which of your students are in their first year competing at the high school level.

## Important:

Please keep your Tabroom entries updated as soon as you know about changes so that we can best plan for the tournament rooms and judging needs. One student drop might mean an entire section and judge slot can be eliminated.

**Tournament day drops MUST be called in on Saturday morning before your team departs for North.** If you have valuable information about which students are missing that morning, we need to know prior to your arrival so that the schedules can be adjusted to balance round sizes and make the tournament run smoothly. Schools whose students are not transported as a team are exempt from this request. (i.e. nearby schools like EC Memorial, Regis, etc.) REPORT ANY KNOWN CHANGES to 608 345-4556.

# Steve Sparks Memorial Forensics Tournament Registration

## Eau Claire North High School - Saturday, Feb. 12, 2022

We are using [ecn.tabroom.com](http://ecn.tabroom.com) this year for registration.  
Please attempt to register there first, but if that isn't working, email the following information to [scott.forensics@gmail.com](mailto:scott.forensics@gmail.com)

\*\*\* Registration Deadline is Saturday, Feb. 5, at 5 pm\*\*\*

School \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Coach \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

### # of Entries per Category

_____ Demonstration	_____ Oratory
_____ *Duo Interp	_____ *Play Acting
_____ Extemporaneous	_____ Poetry
_____ Farrago	_____ Prose
_____ *Group Interp	_____ Radio
_____ Impromptu Speaking	_____ Solo Acting-Humorous
_____ Informative Speaking	_____ Solo Acting-Serious
_____ Moments in History	_____ Special Occasion
_____ Oral Interp of Literature	_____ Storytelling
_____ Oratorical Declamation (9/10 grade only)	

Number of Individual Entries \_\_\_\_\_ x \$8.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

*Record Demonstration as an  
Individual Entry even with two speakers*

Number of Groups (\*) \_\_\_\_\_ x \$12.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

*Duo Interp, Group Interp, Play Acting*

Total Number of Entries \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Dirty Judges (max 5) \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Clean Judges \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Uncovered Entries \_\_\_\_\_ x \$15.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

*(Please provide one judge per 5 entries)*

Total \$ Due \_\_\_\_\_

*Please email your entry (either a copy of this sheet or the same information typed out) to Scott Peterson: [scott.forensics@gmail.com](mailto:scott.forensics@gmail.com)*

*Make checks payable to **North High School** and deliver to the tournament or mail to: **Forensics - Cole Pankratz, 1801 Piedmont Rd., Eau Claire, WI 54703***

*Please submit a roster with your registration. This should list the names of your students in each category. For the Best Novice Award, indicate which of your students are in their first year competing at the high school level.*

## A word about Steve Sparks . . .

Steve was our assistant coach and an alumnus of the North High School Forensics program. Steve died unexpectedly on August 2, 2007, due to a pulmonary embolism at the age of 26. He had been planning to attend law school.

He came in every day, Monday through Friday, for seven months out of the year to coach for us. For three years, he was a volunteer - we paid him almost nothing. He was the gentle giant who ran our radio and extemp draw. He also judged for us and traveled with us on all of our trips.

It is in honor of our dear friend, mentor, coach, and colleague that we have decided to name our tournament the Steve Sparks Memorial Forensics Tournament. If you knew Steve at all, then you know what we have lost and you understand how lost we are without him.

