



# 60th ANNUAL HOLLY SPEECH FESTIVAL

Dear Coach:

The Natick High School Speech and Debate Team cordially invites you and your team to the 2022 Holly Speech Festival, to be held at Natick High School on Saturday, December 17, 2022. The Holly is a state-qualifying tournament for the Massachusetts Speech and Debate League.

The following events will be offered at the Holly:

- Broadcast Editorial
- Children's Literature Reading
- Congressional Debate
- Declamation
- Drama Audition
- Dramatic Performance
- Duo Interpretation
- Extemporaneous Literature
- Group Discussion
- Impromptu Speaking
- Informative Speaking
- Multiple Reading
- Novice Extemporaneous Speaking
- Novice Public Forum Debate
- Original Literature
- Original Oratory
- Play Reading
- Poetry Reading
- Program Oral Interpretation
- Prose Reading
- Radio Broadcasting
- Varsity Extemporaneous Speaking
- Varsity Public Forum Debate

A final round will be held in Novice Oral Interpretation for all non-advancing novices in Children's Literature Reading, Play Reading, Poetry Reading, and Prose Reading.

We expect to be using our building to its maximum capacity. Please note that all entries will initially be placed on a waitlist, and we will accommodate as many entries as our space allows.

Twenty-three events will be offered as well as our Holly Pentathlon, which is open to one student from each participating school. Double entry is permitted with certain restrictions. Also, subject to restrictions, students may enter Multiple as a third event. Please see specific information on the Holly Pentathlon and entry restrictions below.

## **IMPORTANT DATES:**

**Thursday, December 1 at 5:00 PM:** Holly Pentathlon registration deadline

**Tuesday, December 13 at 5:00 PM:** Registration deadline at [www.tabroom.com](http://www.tabroom.com)

The following entry restrictions will be in place:

1. Students may enter only one prep room draw event – Extemporaneous Speaking (VX), Novice Extemporaneous Speaking (NX), Radio Broadcasting (RB).
2. Students entering Group Discussion (GD), Congressional Debate (CONG), Varsity Public Forum Debate (VPF), or Novice Public Forum Debate (NPF) may not double enter or participate in Multiple (MULT).
3. Students in a prep room draw event (VX, NX, RB) may double enter or enter Multiple (MULT), but not both.
4. Each school may enter up to two students in Drama Audition (DA).
5. Each school may enter up to two Multiples. We will have a wait list for additional Multiples. Holly Pentathlon competitors may not participate in Multiple.

Each school is guaranteed only one Holly Pentathlon entry. This year one additional student may be indicated as a waitlisted entry, but there is a significant chance that we will not be able to accommodate waitlist entries due to space considerations. When Holly Pentathlon registration closes on December 1st, we will determine whether we are able to accommodate any waitlisted students.

Double-Entry Awards will be offered to the top students entered in any combination of events from two of the categories below:

Interpretation Events: KL, DP, DUO, PL, PO, POI, PR  
Public Address Events: DEC, INFO, OO  
Limited Prep Events: VX, GD, IMP, NX, RB  
Holly Specials: BE, DA, OL, XLIT

Holly Pentathlon competitors will not be eligible for double-entry awards.

Team awards will be presented to the top finishing schools based upon the best single entry in each of the twenty-three events plus the next two highest scoring entries. Therefore, a total of twenty-five scores will contribute to the sweepstakes total. (Because of double entry and the Holly Pentathlon, however, it takes as few as eleven students to receive these twenty-five scores.) The Holly Pentathlon winners will earn extra sweepstakes points for their teams as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> place – 10 points, 2<sup>nd</sup> place – 7 points, 3<sup>rd</sup> place – 3 points, 4<sup>th</sup> place – 2 points, 5<sup>th</sup> place – 1 point.

**REGISTRATION** is online at [www.tabroom.com](http://www.tabroom.com) and will be available through **5:00 PM on TUESDAY, December 13, 2022**. Please e-mail any drops to [jeba78@verizon.net](mailto:jeba78@verizon.net) on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday. You may also text or call in any drops to 508-397-5143. Drops called in after 5:00 PM on Thursday will incur a \$5.00 drop fee.

**Holly Pentathlon registration** should not be completed online. Please email the student's name and events to Joyce Albert at [jeba78@verizon.net](mailto:jeba78@verizon.net) by **5:00 on THURSDAY, December 1, 2022**. Waitlist registrants should also be communicated by this deadline. We will confirm if we are accepting waitlist entries the evening of December 1.

Registration Fee: \$7 per entry (discounted to \$20 total for each Holly Pentathlon competitor), \$14 for Duo and Public Forum Debate.

**EVERY TEAM MUST TEXT OR CALL 508-397-5143 BY 8:00 AM ON THE DAY OF THE TOURNAMENT TO CONFIRM THEIR REGISTRATION; THIS ASSISTS US IN GETTING THE TOURNAMENT STARTED ON TIME.** When texting, please remember to identify your school. Please include the coach's emergency contact phone number (cell or home) with your initial online registration, should tournament staff need to contact you outside school hours or while you are en route to the tournament.

#### **JUDGING REQUIREMENT:**

In speech events and Congressional Debate, one judge for every five entries (or fraction thereof), based on the total number of entries when registration closes on December 13. Holly Pentathlon entries will not be counted for judge requirement purposes.

In debate events, one judge for every two entries (or fraction thereof), based on the total number of entries when registration closes on December 13.

Extra judges are welcome!

**WE WILL BE USING ELECTRONIC BALLOTING AT THE HOLLY. All judges will need an electronic device, preferably a laptop, and will need to register for a free account at Tabroom.com.**

Please note that all judges are expected to be present at the judges' briefing at 8:15.

A variety of foods, including bagels, sandwiches, pizza, salads, sodas, juice, snacks and candy, will be available throughout the day.

#### TENTATIVE TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

- |                                                      |           |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| • Mandatory Call-in Confirmation of Entry            | By 8:00   |
| • Registration                                       | 8:15      |
| • Judges' Briefing (all judges)                      | 8:15      |
| • Ballot Distribution, General Assembly and Postings | 8:45      |
| • Preliminary Rounds                                 | 9:00-5:00 |
| • Final Rounds                                       | 5:00-7:00 |
| • Awards                                             | 7:30      |
| • Departure                                          | 8:30      |

All students and judges should plan to be in attendance for the duration of the tournament.

**THE HOLLY PENTATHLON** is open to one student from each participating school. As described in the invitation, waitlist entries may be accepted. The guidelines for the Holly Pentathlon are as follows:

1. Each Pentathlon competitor must participate in one event in each of the following four areas:

Platform: VX, NX, RB, OO, DEC, IMP, INFO

Memorized/Interpretation: DP, DUO, DEC, OO, INFO

Reading: PR, PO, PL, KL, POI

Holly Special Events: BE, DA, OL, XLIT

*Please note that students participating in the Holly Pentathlon may not compete in Multiple, Group Discussion, Congressional Debate, or Public Forum Debate.*

2. Several of the events are included in more than one area; students should enter four different events and must use different material in each event.
3. The fifth event is a creative platform event in which each student will be addressing a group of people, such as a press conference or a group of investors. Tournament staff will provide specific instructions and background materials; students may not bring additional materials for use in the prep room except that a note card or sheet of paper may be used during the preparation and presentation. Each student will have 15 minutes to prep for a 2-minute presentation followed by a brief question-and-answer session.
4. The registration fee for each Holly Pentathlon competitor will be a flat \$20 instead of the standard \$7 per entry. Judge requirements are waived for Holly Pentathlon entries.
5. Holly Pentathlon registrations will be required by **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2022 AT 5:00 PM**. Holly Pentathlon registrations should be emailed to [jeba78@verizon.net](mailto:jeba78@verizon.net) and should include the student's name and the 4 events the student will be entering. **Coaches should not try to enter their Holly Pentathlon student through the website as those registrations will be restricted to double entry.** We may also accept up to one waitlist entry from each school for the Holly Pentathlon. Confirmations of acceptance from the waitlist will be emailed to coaches on the evening of December 1.
6. For the purposes of sweepstakes, Holly Pentathlon competitor scores will count in each of the four individual events (Platform, Memorized/Interpretation, Reading, Holly Special Events). The Pentathlon will not be a separate sweepstakes event, although bonus sweepstakes will be awarded to Holly Pentathlon winners as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> place – 10 points, 2<sup>nd</sup> place – 7 points, 3<sup>rd</sup> place – 3 points, 4<sup>th</sup> place – 2 points, 5<sup>th</sup> place- 1 point

## CATEGORY-SPECIFIC INFORMATION

**Drama Audition** (*maximum of two entries per school*): This category is intended to simulate the audition process and will consist of a memorized humorous monologue (one character), a memorized dramatic monologue (one character), and up to two minutes of music – either sung or danced. These selections combined cannot exceed six minutes. You must provide your own accompaniment if you wish to have it. The tournament will provide a speaker for any device with a standard headphone plug. Vocalists are reminded that only instrumental accompaniment is permitted. This restriction does not apply to dancers. A chair or stool may be used, but otherwise props and costumes are not allowed. Competitors will be called upon to compete in one initial audition during preliminary rounds. Call-backs will be posted during the normal finalist posting times.

**Declamation:** Speeches originally written for forensic competition are not acceptable in this event.

**Group Discussion:** Questions will be drawn from the themes covered in Greta Thunberg's No One Is Too Small to Make a Difference, which is available from libraries and online booksellers.

**Broadcast Editorial** (*3-minute maximum with a 5-second grace period*): In advance of the tournament, the contestant should select a topic derived from recent news events. The student should construct a 3-minute editorial piece that reflects their thoughts on this topic. The editorial will be read, from a sitting or standing position, as if on a television broadcast.

**Original Literature** (*six-minute maximum with a 30-second grace period*): The contestant is given six minutes to read his/her original literature. The literature may be in any genre or combination of genres: prose, children's literature, free verse/poetry, drama.

**Extemporaneous Literature:** In each round, the contestant will receive a brief selection of literature prepared by the tournament staff with each round representing a different genre: prose, children's literature, free verse/poetry, and drama. The material is read from a manuscript with only a momentary preparation time.

**Multiple Reading** (*twelve-minute maximum with a maximum of two entries per school*): Students entering in Multiple may not enter Group Discussion, Congressional Debate, Varsity or Novice Public Forum Debate or the Holly Pentathlon. Students in a prep room draw event (VX, NX, RB, TVNT) may double enter in another individual event or enter Multiple (MULT), but not both. Multiple Reading does not count toward double entry awards.

**Congressional Debate:** The 2022 Holly Speech Festival Congressional Debate will convene during the full day. Students entering Congressional Debate may not double enter or participate in Multiple Reading. Congressional Debate will cover bills which have not been debated at previous MSDL tournaments and which have been designated for the Holly Speech Festival by the MSDL Congressional Debate Chair. Bills should be submitted to [joe.bowden@gmail.com](mailto:joe.bowden@gmail.com) by Friday, December 9. Bills will be available at [www.tabroom.com](http://www.tabroom.com) prior to the tournament.

All other categories will follow standard MSDL rules and regulations.

All schools should have submitted a signed MSDL Participation Agreement prior to attending the tournament.

Standard rules of professionalism and etiquette will be expected at all times.

The Natick Speech and Debate Team and the Massachusetts Speech and Debate League foster a culture of diversity and inclusion. We expect all members of our community to treat one another with respect. Should any participant have any issues they wish to discuss, TAB room staff would be happy to connect them with our equity officer.

We look forward to your participation in the 2022 Holly Festival!

*Sarah Donnelly*  
Tournament Chairperson

*Joyce Albert*  
Tournament Director

*JJ Gilbert*  
Student Tournament  
Chairperson

**Directions: Natick High School is located at 15 West Street, Natick, MA 01760. [Click here for directions.](#)**

**TEXT OR CALL TO CONFIRM ENTRY BY 8:00 AM: 508-397-5143**