

2021 VHSL Class 1-3 Central, North, and Class 5 - D Regional Debate Tournament(s)

Date: Saturday, March 18th, 2023

Location: Turner Ashby High School
800 North Main Street
Bridgewater, VA 22812

Snow Date: TBD (Sunday, March 26th, may be an option due to VHSL state forensics on March 25th)

Directors: Michael Villacrusis, Tournament Director
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(Central AND North Region)

Donnie Coleman, Activities Director
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Danae Delozier, Tournament Director
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(Group 5 - Region D)

Brandon Burley, Activities Director
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Regions:

Central Region	North Region	Group 5 - Region D	
Broadway	Brentsville	Albemarle	Patrick Henry - R
Buffalo Gap	Caroline	Brooke Point	Potomac Falls
Charlottesville	Central	Briar Woods	Riverbend
Fluvanna	East Rockingham	Harrisonburg	Riverside
Fort Defiance	Independence	Independence	Stafford
Monticello	Luray	Massaponax	Stone Bridge
Parry McCluer	Madison County	Mountain View (Stafford)	William Fleming
Riverheads	Meridian	North Stafford	Woodgrove
Spotswood	Middlesex		
Staunton	Mountain View - Q		
Stuarts Draft	Strasburg		
Turner Ashby			
Wilson Memorial			

Registration: [Forms AND Online Registration](#) Due by 5:00 pm Friday, March 10th.

No entries will be accepted after the deadline without prior contact and approval from your tournament director.

Student Congress legislation is due by 11:59 p.m. on Friday, March 10th in order for those debaters to be considered eligible for competition. See submission link below. This does include Super Session legislation per school.

Registration: Send [entry forms](#) to YOUR respective Region’s Tournament Director, Activities Director, and your own Activities Director as well.

(continued)

We will also be registering competitors and judges online this year using tabroom.com.

If you are unfamiliar with this debate tournament registration site and/or have questions or any difficulty please contact Steve O’Baugh at sobaugh@rockingham.k12.va.us.

Please note, per VHSL policy: “Individuals/teams must be present and compete to receive awards, advance to the next level of competition, and/or earn sweepstakes points.”

Facility: The competition will be held in classrooms at Turner Ashby High School. Maps with rooms highlighted should be available at the registration table and wayfinding signs will be posted.

Parking: Teams may be dropped off at the entrance by the flagpole at the front of the school. Buses may park in the north lot (next to the football field). Judges may park in the lot closest to the front entrance or in the north lot.

Lunch: The TA Booster Club will have the concession stand in the large commons open for lunch. Pizza, hot dogs, beverages, and snacks will be available for purchase.

Here are some additional resources for use in consideration of the virtual nature of this year’s tournament(s):

Resource	Description
Creating a Tabroom.com Account and Setting up your Team	The very first thing anyone not on Tabroom.com will need to do is create an account, establish their team, and register for tournaments. This video covers all of this vital information.
Creating a Student Account in Tabroom.com	Here is a brief overview of how coaches may create student competitors' accounts.
Linking Student Accounts in Tabroom.com	In order for your team to receive notification as to rounds as well as review ballots there will need to be a step taken beyond simply creating your roster - competitors will need to create their own accounts and link them to the roster you have created. This video goes over this.

Events: Policy Debate (CX)
Lincoln Douglas Debate (LD)
Public Forum Debate (PF)
Student Congress (SC) - **If warranted.**
(More on this below under “Tournament Format”.)

Tournament Format: CX, LD, and PF Round determination: Per the VHSL Resource Guide -

“In all four divisions of debate, **pairings shall be determined by the tournament director to provide the most equitable schedule possible depending on the number of participants in each group.** A director may choose either a round-robin format or...in the event there are more than eight teams, the director shall schedule four preliminary rounds using the power pairing format below. In Lincoln-Douglas, the final round side determination shall be via coin flip.

Power Pairing Format -

1. Rounds 1 and 2 are paired at random with regional constraints.
2. Round 3 paired on win-loss records and speaker points (High-High).
3. Rounds 4 paired on win-loss records and speaker points (High-Low).
4. Top four debaters break to semifinal* rounds.
5. Break to the final round."

* - Due to a large number of potential entries, there may be a quarterfinal round in Lincoln-Douglas and/or Public Forum. Alternate in L-D (fifth place) will be determined based on the preliminary round record and through the VHSL tie-breaking procedure as indicated in the Debate Resource Guide.

Fewer than eight teams may necessitate a Round Robin format being used.

Student Congress Round determination: Following the Debate Rules Clinic in the fall of 2019, the recommendation that will be followed is that regions consisting of ***twelve*** (12) Student Congress debaters or ***fewer NOT*** have a competition at the regional level. This has also been verified with VHSL and is now indicated on the Regional entry form.

Per the VHSL Debate Resource Guide - "The number of representatives or senators participating determines whether the meet is divided into multiple chambers. In general, 24 representatives or senators per chamber is ideal, with chambers ranging in size from 15 to 30 members. If there is to be more than one chamber, schools and regions should be split equally between or among chambers. At the regional tournament, each chamber should meet between two and four sessions, as determined by the Clerk of Congress."

Tournament setup will be finalized after all Tabroom.com registrations and/or entry forms have been submitted to their respective tournament director.

Tournament format finalization will be communicated following the registration deadline.

At that time any, and all, coach decisions will need to be made and communicated back to that coach's respective tournament director before the date of the tournament, otherwise, the tournament will proceed with school seeing school (see below by "Coach's Decision").

Schedule - Registration – 8:00 am to 9:00 am (Judges should check-in by 8:30)

Judges Meeting – 8:30 - 9:00 am

Policy: Preliminary Round 1 – 9:00 am to 11:00 am

Preliminary Round 2 – 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

Preliminary Round 3 – 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Preliminary Round 4 – 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm

Break Rounds (if needed) – Immediately after tabulation results of Preliminary Rounds.

If doing a round-robin, rounds will continue on after the fourth round until all teams have seen each other.

Awards – 6:30 pm*

Lincoln Preliminary Round 1 – 9:30 am to 10:30 am

Douglas

Preliminary Round 2 – 10:30 am to 11:30 pm

&

Preliminary Round 3 – 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm

Public

Forum

Preliminary Round 4 – 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Break Rounds (if needed) – Immediately after tabulation results of Preliminary Rounds.

If doing a round-robin, rounds will continue on after the fourth round until all teams have seen each other.

Awards – 6:30 pm*

Prep Time(s): Policy - 8 Minutes Lincoln-Douglas - 3 Minutes Public Forum - 2 Minutes

Student General Meeting, Swearing-In, and Pledge – 9:00 am

Congress:

Committees and Docket – 9:15 am to 9:30 am

Session 1 – 9:30 am to 11:00 am

Session 2 – 11:15 am to 12:45 pm

Session 3 – 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm **(If Super Session is not warranted.)**

Voting of Outstanding Representative – 3:00 pm

Super Session (if warranted) – 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

Voting of Outstanding Representative – 3:00

Awards – 6:30 pm*

*** - Each respective Region may end earlier as entries allow.**

**Coach’s
Decision(s):**

Per the VHSL Debate Resource Guide, the coach’s decisions will apply to a round-robin format only.

If a tournament is set up with preliminary rounds followed by elimination rounds schools will not face themselves in the preliminary rounds.

“In this format, (round-robin) each team would be assigned a debate against each of the other teams. If that involves a debate against a team from the same school, the coach must state at the time of entry whether

1. The teams/individuals shall debate as scheduled.
2. The ballot shall be awarded to the team/individual with the ***higher*** overall record, and all competitors will receive speaker points and ranks from the average of all rounds.
3. The ballot shall be awarded to the team/individual with the ***lower*** overall record, and all competitors will receive speaker points and ranks from the average of all rounds.
4. The ballot shall be awarded to the team/individual ***specified by the coach***, and all competitors will receive speaker points and ranks from the average of all rounds.

Judges:

The tournament will attempt to provide independent, qualified judges. However, each school is asked to provide a judge (1) if they have ***any*** entries in Lincoln-Douglas Debate AND a judge (1) if they have ***any*** entries in Public Forum Debate. The coach may serve as one of these judges requested if so desired.

Judges will be paid the going rate. If a coach is called upon to judge they should not necessarily expect payment due to the obligation of being present and prepared with judges in the first place. Judges are required to attend the training at the beginning of the day and any violations of the appropriate behavior form (including disclosures) may also be grounds for withholding payment.

**Judging
Resources:**

Please share with your judges the following resources as it will be beneficial to have them be familiar with the format in which we are operating. Any questions concerning any of the mechanics of judging or competing should be directed to Steve O’Baugh (sobaugh@rockingham.k12.va.us).

Resource	Description
Creating a Judge Account on Tabroom.com	While this is absolutely necessary for coaches, this is a video to pass along to all of those judges that you have made use of over the years.
Tabroom.com Judging	After having accounts created judges will most likely want to know what judging virtually looks like - especially the balloting process. This video goes over making use of the Tabroom.com platform for judging.

- Coach's/Judge's Lounge:** Judge's Lounge will be in rooms 100 and 129. Food, beverages, and snacks will be provided for judges, coaches, and bus drivers.
- Tab Room:** The tabulation room will be located in the Library.
- We are proud to offer an open tab, whereby coaches may come in as they please with the understanding that any communication concerning results while the tournament is underway (up to and including awards) may result in a sportsmanship violation and/or closing the tabroom for all future tournaments.
- Team / Debater Area(s):** In order to avoid confusion, help in the case of needing to find a specific team/debater, and help with distancing as much as possible, the plan is that schools will be assigned a team room which will be communicated following the registration deadline. This may change depending on the number of teams.
- Observers:** Coaches, debaters, and other school representatives are free to discuss strategies and opposing teams, even to ask a team what it is running. All of that is fine as long as they fully identify themselves by name and are clear and accurate about their association with any and all schools that they might represent. It must also be understood that following that disclosure, **the participants in a debate have no obligation to permit the visitors to remain in the room. Those asked about cases or defenses, their own or those of another school, are under no obligation to provide the information.** A school whose coaches, student debaters, or other representatives fail to provide full and accurate disclosure or who unfairly pressure other participants into providing access or information they do not want to provide may be reported for unsportsmanlike conduct and discipline according to VHSL Rules and Regulations.
- Prohibitions:** The following are prohibited during a VHSL Debate Tournament: videotaping of rounds, switching judging assignments without prior approval from the tab room, and assigning half-points.
- Individual Awards:** 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners will receive recognition (With 4th place in LD being announced as having qualified for the Super Regional Tournament). The 4th place finalist in Policy and Public Forum and 5th place in Lincoln-Douglas will also be announced as call-ups for their Super Regional tournaments. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place (and 4th in LD) will participate in Class 1-3 Central and North and Class 5 - C and D Super Regional Tournament(s).
- No substitutions are allowed by VHSL rules (111.1.1). Awards will be announced in the tabroom as results come in and overall tournament results are completed.
- Speaker awards, if recognized, will be based on the preliminary rounds performance.
- Team Awards:** The team(s) with the greatest number of place points will be declared their Regional Champion. The team(s) with the second greatest number of place points will be declared their Regional runner-up. First places earn 7 points, second places earn 5 points, third places earn 3 points, and fourth places earn 1 point. If there is a tie, the team with more first-place winners will be declared their Regional Champion. If still tied, the total speaker points of the first-place winners will break the tie.

Final Results: The results of the tournament will be official as announced and sent out to coaches unless challenged within **one hour (60 minutes) of the end of the announcements/email time** by any team. Any team not contacting within the 60 minutes window of opportunity after awards have been announced and results have been shared via email forfeits the ability to challenge the results. The official results will be forwarded to the VHSL office in Charlottesville, VA, and the Super Region Tournament Director within 24 hours of the end of the announcement. Individual schools are responsible for registering for the Class 1-3 Central and North Super Regional Tournament and Class 5 C and D Super Regional Tournament.

Super Regional Advancement: Class 1-3 Central and North Super Regional Tournament at Turner Ashby High School, Saturday, April 1st, 2023.

Class 5 - C and D Super Regional Tournament at Turner Ashby High School, Saturday, April 1st, 2023.

[Super Regional Entry Form](#)

Please note that not following through on advancement to upper levels of competition due to foreseen circumstances such as family trips or any other previously planned, communicated, or known conflicts may constitute a sportsmanship violation that may be followed through by the director of the tournament in which the competitor qualified.

Regional Postponement Policy: In case of extreme weather conditions which imperil travelers attempting to reach the regional event site, the regional director has permission to postpone the regional event, and therefore the Super Regional event entry form deadline, one day at a time until the day preceding the Super Regional event. If the regional event is delayed beyond the adopted regional deadline, the regional director is required to advise the Executive Director of the postponement and is required to call in the regional results to the Super Regional director as soon as the regional event is completed. In addition, the regional director is required to mail, deliver or fax the results to the state director and to the VHSL office.

**Reschedule date for regional competition:
To be determined, but Sunday, March 26th is the most likely date,
due to VHSL Forensics States on March 25th.**