

March 2023

Dear Coaches and Students:

You are cordially invited to the 2023 KHSSL State Debate Championship, which will be held March 24 and 25 at Transylvania University in Lexington. Please read this invitation thoroughly and carefully.

EVENTS AND REGISTRATION

State contests will be held in the following events.

Congressional Debate

Lincoln-Douglas Debate / Novice

Lincoln-Douglas Debate / Varsity

Public Forum Debate / Novice

Public Forum Debate / Varsity

In LD and PF, you may have **up to three (3) entries** at each level (Novice and Varsity). You may enter **up to 10 students** in Congressional Debate. **No doubling.**

Registration is on Tabroom at <http://khssldebatechampionship.tabroom.com/> and is due by **8 PM Eastern on Monday, March 13.** This is a firm deadline. Drop/Add will end Thursday, March 16, at 8 PM. After March 16, adds go through the KHSSL email address ONLY (khssl@khssl.org -- no texts or calls for changes.) Automatic and increasingly heavy penalties kick in for drops after the initial deadline, so please try to be accurate early. See [KHSSL Handbook](#) pages 72 and 73 for a complete list.



STATE DEBATE TOURNAMENT INVITATION

<http://khssldebatechampionship.tabroom.com/>

DEFINITION OF NOVICE

A novice debater shall be defined as any student in his/her first year of debate. That means if a student competed at Congress one time in a prior year or in a debate round one time in a prior year, that student is now a Varsity debater.

SCHEDULE AND ROUNDS

- Congressional Debate will have three 2-hour prelims and a 3-hour final session.
- Varsity and Novice Public Forum and Lincoln-Douglas shall compete in four preliminary rounds plus a Semifinal (best 4) and Final (winners of Semifinals) unless numbers require larger numbers of students in outrounds (see [Handbook](#) page 73).
- A full schedule of expected rounds is at the end of this invitation.

ENTRY FEES

Entry fees are \$25 per Congress entry, \$25 per Lincoln-Douglas entry (Novice or Varsity), and \$50 per Public Forum (Novice or Varsity) team.

TOURNAMENT RULES

[The KHSSL Handbook](#) contains extensive information about how the State Tournament is put together and how tabulation determines advancement. Coaches are responsible for understanding these procedures and for explaining them to your team and their parents, your judges, etc.



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TOPICS

As the tournament is being held in February, KHSSL State Debate will use the March Debate Topics from NSDA for both VARSITY and NOVICE divisions.

Lincoln-Douglas Debate – 2023 March/April topic

Resolved: The justices of the Supreme Court of the United States ought to be term-limited.

Public Forum Debate – 2023 March Topic:

Resolved: The Republic of India should sign the Artemis Accords.

JUDGES

Judge Obligations and Hire Fees

- The judge quota is set at one judge required per five entries or fraction thereof for Congressional Debate.
- The judge quota is set at one judge required per two entries for all other events.
- Teams may hire up to but not more than half your quota for \$130 each if you are bringing other judges, but you **must provide at least half of your judges required** regardless.
- It is considered standard operating procedure for the team coach to be one of the judges you bring as this is state tournament, and we want our best people in the judging pool to determine the state winners!
- All judges are obligated for all rounds during a set day; if you wish to share a single judge entry between two people, please sign up both judges and note which day a particular judge is not available.



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- **Please note** that judges must be available the full day to count for the day, so no “Please no finals” requests unless you’re willing to pay the \$65 per day charge for a judge. We need you!
- It is not KHSSL’s norm to publish judge paradigms nor to honor requests for judge blocks without extraordinary circumstances. Contact the Executive Director with concerns.

Judge Training

From the Handbook regarding Debate Judges:

A qualified Debate judge is a judge who meets one of the following criteria:

- Judged at a minimum of one tournament during this season or during previous, recent seasons, and was trained either through the League’s Judge Training Program and/or by the coach of the School. (KHSSL recommends the [NFHS Judge Training Program](#) for judges new to Debate)
- Debated in High School and/or College
- Currently coaching or formerly coached

At the 2021 KHSSL Board of Directors meeting, the Board passed a requirement for all judges to go through a training regarding implicit biases. Your judges must complete this online training before the State Debate tournament begins. Please don’t wait until the last minute; if your judges are not trained before the tournament begins, they will be dropped, and you will have to pay the drop fee.

The Judge Training against Implicit Bias is available at this link and is also a link on the KHSSL homepage: <https://forms.gle/6MYsr2nTCSqRPzwe6>. It takes less than 15 minutes to complete.



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CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE

Chamber sizes will be no larger than 24 per chamber per [the Handbook](#).

Only **NEW legislation** may be submitted for KHSSL Congress. Schools must **upload legislation through Tabroom** as part of their entry; limit of **three items per school**. **LEGISLATION DEADLINE IS THE SAME AS THE ENTRY DEADLINE: 8 PM EASTERN MARCH 13.**

Legislation will be shared with schools the week of March 13; dockets will be announced at the beginning of prelims (with the remaining published legislation naturally being reserved for finals, no more than one per school).

Students **MUST use KHSSL's established templates** to write legislation. That includes double-spacing, single page, and line numbers. See this website to download these templates:

<https://www.khssl.org/congressional-debate>

TABROOM

New judges should browse [here](#) and [here](#) to get started with establishing a Tabroom account.

Students without Tabroom accounts should browse [here](#) and follow instructions.

All debaters and judges will have to have accounts AND be linked to their school's account to participate in the state tournament. Get this finished early, not near the start of the tournament.

Judges will be judging on Tabroom and will not have the option of paper ballots. They should bring their own tablets or laptops; they may not judge on smartphones.



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FEES

All checks should be made payable to KHSSL and be turned in at registration when the head coach registers the team. A credit card/PayPal option is available for paying fees, but it includes a \$5 upcharge for all transactions.

AWARDS

Awards will be presented at the end of the day on Saturday.

In addition to the winners and high placement honors given in each event, speaker awards will also be given based on preliminary rounds in Debate events. Team trophies and the Sustained Excellence trophy will also be presented at this ceremony, which will also host the announcement of the two Bale Scholarship winners (though they may not necessarily be participants in the Debate tournament – could be from the State Speech tournament also).

PARKING AND MAPS AND FOOD INFORMATION

Will be published on the Tabroom site for this tournament later in March.

From the Executive Director:

I am excited to see this event return to in-person competition for the first time since 2020! Please don't hesitate to reach out to me with any questions or concerns you have about the event, and good luck to you and yours at the State Tournament! May the words be with you!

STEVE

**Steve Meadows, Executive Director
Kentucky High School Speech League
khssl@khssl.org
859/927-1100 talk or text**



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SCHEDULE 2023

Monday, March 13

- Registration Deadline for STATE DEBATE, 8 PM Eastern.
- Congressional Debate Legislation Upload Deadline for Congressional Debate 8 PM Eastern (in Tabroom). Legislation released to schools later in the week.
Over next four days, coaches can drop/add/sub via email to khssl@khssl.org. Drops/Add's pay registration fee plus \$10. Subs are free (name changes).

Thursday, March 16 Drop/Add Deadline 8 PM.

FRIDAY, March 24

Registration 2 PM – 3:30 PM HEATH ROOM / YOUNG STUDENT CENTER, PENNSYLVANIA UNIVERSITY

4:00 PM	Congress Session 1	CON 1
4:30 PM	Debate Round 1	NLD 1, NPF 1, VLD 1, VPF 1
5:45 PM	Debate Round 2	NLD 2, NPF 2, VLD 2, VPF 2
7:00 PM	Congress Session 2	CON 2
8:00 PM	Debate Round 3	NLD 3, NPF 3, VLD 3, VPF 3

SATURDAY, March 25

9:00 AM	Congress Session 3	CON 3
9:00 AM	Debate Round 4	NLD 4, NPF 4, VLD 4, VPF 4
11:00 AM	Debate Quarters/Runoffs	NLD Q/RO, NPF Q/RO, VLD Q/RO, VPF Q/RO
1:00 PM	Congress Super Session	CON SUPERS
1:00 PM	Debate Semis	NLD S, NPF S, VLD S, VPF S
3:00 PM	Debate Finals	NLD F, NPF F, VLD F, VPF F
5:00 PM	AWARDS unless extra round held	
7:00 PM	AWARDS IF NOT AT 5	

P O BOX 23451 * LEXINGTON KY 40523 * khssl@khssl.org * (859) 927-1100 * www.khssl.org