

2014 California Middle School Speech & Debate State Tournament
Hosted by the Bay Area Middle School Speech & Debate Association at UC Berkeley
May 24-26, 2014

The Bay Area Middle School Speech & Debate Association is excited to announce the first California State Middle School Tournament. The tournament will be held May 24-26, 2014 at the UC Berkeley Campus.

The tournament will offer six rounds of Policy, Public Forum, and Lincoln Douglas with elimination rounds to follow. Individual Events will have three rounds and elimination rounds. The Individual Events students can compete in are Congressional Debate, Impromptu, Humorous Interpretation, Dramatic Interpretation, Duo Interpretation, Original Oratory and Extemporaneous Speaking. All events will occur in one division.

Topics

Policy Debate: Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially increase its economic engagement toward Cuba, Mexico or Venezuela.

Public Forum: Resolved: Prioritizing economic development over environmental protection is in the best interest of the people of India.

Lincoln-Douglas: Resolved: Developing countries should prioritize environmental protection over resource extraction when the two are in conflict.

Congressional Debate: Legislation will be released the week of April 14th

Accommodations

The Marriott Courtyard Emeryville (5555 Shellmound Street, Emeryville. 510-652-8777) is the official tournament hotel. We have arranged a rate of \$125/night for up to four people in a room. This hotel has a variety of food options within walking distance. This is also where pairings will be released in the morning and where registration will occur on Friday. You can make reservations by calling the above number. Reservations must be made by May 2nd. Ask for the California State Middle School Tournament rate. There is now a parking fee at this hotel, though it is very reasonable for the area.

Fees & Judge Requirement

\$40 school fee

\$20 per IE/Congress slot (\$35 per Duo team)

\$30 per Lincoln Douglas entry

\$40 Public Forum/Policy entry

\$15 judging fee per uncovered IE/Congress entries

(One judge covers 5 IE entries)

\$60 per uncovered PF & LD entry

(One judge covers 2 entries)

\$100 per uncovered Policy entry

(One judge covers 2 entries)

Schedule

Friday May 23rd

Registration 6pm-8pm at Courtyard Marriott Emeryville

Saturday May 24th

9:00am Debate Round 1

11:00am Debate Round 2

1:00pm Speech Round 1

2:30pm Debate Round 3

4:30pm Speech Round 2

Sunday May 25th

9:00am Debate Round 4

11:00am Speech Round 3

12:30pm Debate Round 5

2:30pm Speech Round 4

4:00pm Debate Round 6

6:00pm Speech Finals

Debate Elim if time permits

Monday May 26th

8:00am Debate Elim

10:00am Debate Elim

12:00pm Debate Elim

Adult requirement

The Tournament expects the coach or supervising adult of each debater to be available at the tournament site and have proper school and parental authorization to arrange for medical transportation, care, and payment in the event of an emergency. Since all debaters are minors, the coach should have proper medical releases and parental authorizations for each debater should they be required by a physician, hospital, law enforcement agency, and/or assistance provider.

Coaches should be on-site and available for consultation with the Tournament Director and/or Tab Room Officials who will seek out the coach for decisions regarding their debaters. If a reasonable attempt has been made to locate the coach without success, Tournament officials reserve the right to make decisions on behalf of the coach.

Education and Openness Policy

All debates at this tournament are considered open to the public, and any person including coaches, debaters, parents, school officials, and members of the general public are allowed to observe and take notes in rounds. Any sources read as evidence in round should be available to other competitors should they make a request for the citation after the evidence has been read.

Any challenges of evidence should be made in-round and addressed with the judge. It is the responsibility of the judge to decide if the protest is valid and the implications in the round. The tournament staff or tab room will not intervene or overturn a decision made by the judge regarding evidence protests.

Use of Technology

The use of computers during debates is permitted for both flowing and research purposes including retrieval of evidence stored on hard drives and accessing resources via the internet during debates.

Students should not attempt to use electronic devices to initiate contact with outside parties during a debate. The penalty for violation of this rule is loss of the debate in question and zero speaker points assigned to the offending debater. This rule recommends, but does not require, that all text messaging devices and cell phones be turned off during debates. It is meant to restrict the debaters from initiating that contact. Example: A student's cell phone ringing during a debate would not violate the rule. A student calling or text messaging their coach during a debate would violate this rule.

Debate Formats:

Lincoln-Douglas Debate format is 6-3-7-3-4-6-3 with four minutes of preparation time for each debater.

Public Forum and **Congressional Debate** will use the National Speech & Debate Association format for speech and preparation times. Public Forum will use the National Speech & Debate Association rules for the coin toss.

Policy Debate uses the cross-examination format 8-3-5 which consists of eight-minute constructives, three-minute cross-examination periods, five-minute rebuttals, and eight minutes of preparation for each team.

Contact:

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