



## McMinnville High School Forensics

Hello Friends,

I am so very pleased to invite you to the 2024 McMinnville High School Speech Invitational, hosted in person on January 27th 2024. In order to be able to make this happen STILL in the time of some covid, there will be some rules, and limitations. I am sure we can all work together to make this a successful and safe tournament for everyone.

This year we will be offering all Speech Events (this year we are adding Spoken Word poetry as well), Congress, and SPAR.

Speech/SPAR competitors may double enter at their own risk. Congress may not .  
We will not be offering Parli, PF, or LD.

Each team is allowed 5 entries per event.

For every 4 entries (not students, *entries*) the school MUST PROVIDE ONE JUDGE

For example, 16 entries= 4 judges

Each judge must meet the volunteer requirements of that school district.

Each judge must be prepared to judge EVERY ROUND OF THE DAY.

(there are ONLY 4 ROUNDS, see schedule below)

I realize this is a crazy judge requirement. I do. But in order to make this happen, and to make it run like a swiss clock, this is the plan. I hope that I am giving you enough notice to call in your troops and get them signed up. This allows us to keep the numbers to a minimum of the total number of bodies in the building. It's only 4 rounds. This is how we finish at 5pm.

There will be 2 sessions of Congress.

Once registration is open, there will be a waitlist if needed.

More info on food/concessions soon.

Awards will be nice trophies or medals that I order from a real place (more info soon).

\*awarded with every first place will be a \$100.00 scholarship toward Southwest Speech and Debate Camp, held in July 2022. <http://swsdi.org/>

Coaches are responsible for being aware and making sure that any adults (judges/coaches/ + whomever else) follow mandates set by their school districts at time of tournament.

Food and Concessions: TBD

There will definitely be Coffee, beverages and food available all day for judges/coaches.

Students are responsible for their own food.

There is a great deal of choices within walking distance of the HS (3 blocks to food truck pod)

More info about food later.

**Events offered:** Humorous, Dramatic, Duo, Poetry, Prose, Inform, Oratory, Spoken word Poetry, Extemp, Imp, ADS, POI, LIELL, and Radio. **All open division.** SPAR, and Congress

Congress Leg- due 1/25 to [cwalsh@msd.k12.or.us](mailto:cwalsh@msd.k12.or.us) OR [Kristine\\_Igawa@beaverton.k12.or.us](mailto:Kristine_Igawa@beaverton.k12.or.us)  
Kris Igawa has agreed to be our Congress guru.

## **Schedule for 1/27/24**

8:30am Extemp draw

9am Round One Speech, SPAR - Congress Session 1

11:00am Extemp draw

11:30am Round Two Speech, SPAR

Lunch break 1-2

1:30 Extemp draw - Congress Session 2

2:00pm Round Three Speech, SPAR

3:30pm or asap : Finals all events

5pm or asap- Award

And you are out the door by 5:30

School fee: \$25.00

Fee per Entry: \$5.00

Please print your invoice from tabroom and mail with your payment.

Checks can be mailed to : MHS Speech and Debate

Attn: Tracy Brandt/ Courtney Walsh

615 E.15th St

McMinnville, OR, 97128

I look forward to seeing you in January.

Respect and love, Courtney Walsh, (503) 550-7729; [cwalsh@msd.k12.or.us](mailto:cwalsh@msd.k12.or.us)

Link for your convenience:

OSAA Speech Handbook: <https://www.osaa.org/docs/handbooks/spehandbook.pdf>

#### Spoken Word Poetry

1. Students will perform their own original spoken-word poetry. Each student should prepare between 3 and 5 poems, roughly 3 minutes in length, for use during the competition.
2. Poems must be the original work of the student, and the student may not use poetry written by other poets.
3. Students will perform one of their poems per preliminary round.
4. Students may not repeat poems in prelim rounds.
5. Students may use new poems, or choose from the poems they used in Prelims for elimination rounds leading up to finals.
6. Students making the final round will perform 3 of the poems from their collection for the final round.
7. Poems are to be no longer than 3 minutes. There will be a 10 second grace period. After the grace period lapses, students may not receive the 1st place rank, but any other ranking decisions are at the discretion of the judge.
8. Students may choose to have a chapbook, notebook, or black book with them with no penalty. However, a chapbook, notebook, or black book is not required. Students may not use their cell phones. Any material students bring with them may not be used as a prop.
9. Students will be evaluated based on both their performance, and on the quality of the material they present, as the judge sees fit.
10. Students may not use any music/drum tracks/beats etc. except those that they make with their own bodies ("beat boxing", etc.)
11. Ranking and speaker point assignation/tabulation/tiebreakers/etc. Will follow the same rules as with all other Interpretation events.

I believe this is a way to open new and exciting opportunities for students in our competitive framework. Will we hear some pretty awful poetry? Almost certainly. But what else is new? I believe the time has come to give these kids a creative outlet and a different way to engage with poetry and performance.