



Invitation to the 2024 KHSSL Regional Speech Tournament

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The KHSSL Regional Speech Tournament is fast approaching, so please read through this information carefully and reach out if you have any questions. Also, please keep watch on the KHSSL Weekly WWW for more tips and explanations and reminders.

REGIONAL TOURNAMENT LOCATION:

- Beechwood Elementary & High School
54 Beechwood Road
Fort Mitchell, KY, 41017

REGIONAL TOURNAMENT DATE AND TIMES:

- Saturday, February 3, 2024 (7:00 am - 1:30 pm)
- Snow-out date: February 10, 2024 (7:00 am - 1:30 pm)

REGISTRATION:

- Register your students and judges on our Regional tournament website on Tabroom.
- The registration deadline is 11:00 p.m. Friday, January 26, 2024.
- You may drop or add students and judges after this deadline, but nuisance fees attach (see below). Substitutions are free until the Thursday prior to the tournament at 5 PM, so if you want to put in one name now and change names later, that's easy enough to do.

NUMBER OF ENTRIES ALLOWED:

- Schools may enter no more than three students in each event.
- Individual students may enter no more than three events.

SCHEDULE FOR THE TOURNAMENT:

7:00 am - 7:30 am	Registration in the cafeteria
7:45 am	Opening meeting for students and judges in the cafeteria
8:00 am	Round I Extemp Prep
8:30 am	Round I
9:30 am	Round II Extemp Prep
10:00 am	Round II
11:30 am	Run-off round if necessary (Remember that run-off rounds are used to break unbreakable ties for the Regional Champion or Regional Runner-up)
12:30 pm	Awards in the cafeteria

FEES:

- **Competitor entry fees** are \$10 per individual event and \$20 per duo event
- **Competitor Drops or Adds** between Friday, January 26 at 11:01 pm and Friday, February 2, at 5:00 pm:
 - entry fee payable to KHSSL + a \$10 nuisance fee payable to Beechwood HS.
- **Competitor Drops or Adds** after Friday, February 2, at 5:00 pm:
 - entry fee payable to KHSSL + \$50 nuisance fee payable to Beechwood HS.
- **Competitor Name Substitutions** between Friday, January 26 at 11:01 pm and Friday, February 2, at 5:00 pm:
 - Free
- **Competitor Substitutions** after Friday, February 2, at 5:00 pm:
 - \$25 nuisance fee payable to Beechwood HS.
- **Judge fees:**
 - Each school must provide the following 1 judge per every 6 entries or fraction thereof; **schools may hire only ONE judge for \$65 to cover required entries at the Regional Tournaments. Schools must provide other required judges.**
- **Judge Name Changes** after Friday, February 2, at 5:00 pm:
 - \$10 nuisance fee payable to the host school
- **Judge Drops** after Friday, February 2, at 5 pm:
 - \$100 nuisance fee payable to Beechwood HS.

QUALIFYING FOR STATE, EXEMPTIONS, AND PENALTIES FOR TEAM DROPS OR ABSENCES:

- Any Senior division school that attends the regional tournament but does not attend the State Championship will, unless excused for good and sufficient reasons by the Executive Director, be deemed to owe State entry fees as if its entries at the Regional Tournament were entered at the State tournament; these deemed entry fees must be paid before the school may join KHSSL for any subsequent competition year. This rule no longer applies to Junior Division schools, though they are strongly encouraged to attend the State tournament as well as Regionals.

- If a team drops from the Regional or State Championships, they must pay all the drop fees or a nuisance fee of \$150 (whichever is lower) by the time of registration in KHSSL the following year unless excused for calamity by the Executive Director.
- Please read carefully through this next section, pasted directly from the Handbook:

Rule 2: A student may qualify an event for entry into the KHSSL STATE SPEECH TOURNAMENT by:

a. Competing at their KHSSL Regional Tournament and getting a composite score of no more than 8 in that event during the current school year. If 7 or fewer contestants compete in an event in a division at Regionals, all students who compete at the Regional tournament in that event make State.

OR

b. Competing at no fewer than two (2) in-state tournaments (in a particular event for which they wish to qualify for state) that use KHSSL competition events and rules during the current school year.

OR

c. Advancing into the final round of that KHSSL event at any in-state tournament that uses KHSSL competition events and rules during the current school year.

OR

d. Advancing to the semi-final round in the same event at the previous year's KHSSL State Tournament (must be in that Division).

- A school may take their strongest entry to the STATE TOURNAMENT as long as each of the students entered has qualified for the STATE TOURNAMENT in one of the aforementioned ways in that particular event(s). The school will have to provide documentation of each student's eligibility when completing the STATE TOURNAMENT ENTRY. In other words, Johnny can go to State in Prose, even if he didn't compete in Prose at Regionals, as long as he earned State qualification in Prose through one of the other three methods.
- Keep in mind, however, that schools can enter as many entries total at State as they entered at Regionals (or fewer), so students should attend the Regional tournament if possible, obtain an Exemption (see rule 3 below) and pay the entry fee for missing, or have another student compete at Regionals in that event in their stead.

- *Rule 3: Exemptions*

Some students may be unable to attend the Regional Tournament owing to academic or familial reasons. Coaches may apply for an exemption for such a student. Exemptions should be rare and will count towards the school's total entries at the Regional tournament. The reasons for the exemption must be stated in the application. Exemptions should be requested when both of the following requirements are met:

a. The student has an academic (including Academic Team or standardized testing) or familial reason for missing the Regional tournament, AND

- b. the student has qualified for state in one of the other methods listed under Qualifying for the State Speech Tournament in rule 2.*
- The student must be listed on the regional entry and regional entry fees must be paid. The student can be dropped from the regional tournament with no penalty fees once the exemption has been approved by the director. In other words, an exemption is NOT necessary for a student who has earned State Qualification in one of the other methods in that event but cannot attend regionals; however, a school cannot bring more entries to state than it entered/paid for in the regional tournament.
 - Please contact KHSSL Executive Director, Steve Meadows, at khssl@khssl.org with any questions about qualifying for State or exemptions.
 - **[The Regional Exemption Request form is linked here.](#)**

IMPORTANT NOTE REGARDING PAYMENT:

- Please have two checks available at registration:
 - A check made out to KHSSL for all entry fees (and the \$65 judge fee if applicable)
 - A check made out to Beechwood HS for any nuisance fees
- Please remember that **no school can compete until all fees are paid**. This includes any other fees owed to KHSSL as well.

AWARDS:

- A Regional Champion and a Regional Runner-up will be named in all events.
- In the event of a tie for either Regional Champion or Regional Runner-up, ties will be broken in the following ways:
 - Lowest composite rank
 - Highest reciprocal composite
 - Highest total rating points
 - If there is still a tie after these three methods have been exhausted, then we will hold a run-off round in that particular event with one judge. That one judge will determine the Regional Champion and/or Runner-up, as the case may be.
- The top three schools in both the Junior and Senior divisions will be awarded trophies.

JUDGE TRAINING AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- 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 your Regional tournament.** 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 \$100 drop fee before your kids can compete, so please don't let this slide. Completing this training in prior years will suffice; it is

unchanged. The Judge Training against Implicit Bias is available at this link and is also a link on the KHSSL homepage. <https://forms.gle/6MYsr2nTCSqRPzwe6>

- Judges at the Regional Tournament must be available for all rounds.
- Please make your judges aware that they may be assigned to judge ANY event - including limited prep events. Requests for exemptions from particular events will be ignored. They also can be assigned to judge Junior Division, Senior Division, or both.
- Coaches MUST inform the Regional Manager ahead of time of any judges with your squad who cannot judge students from other schools (students they are related to on other Regional teams, etc.).
- It is the coach's responsibility to ensure that all judges are properly trained in KHSSL rules prior to the Regional Tournament.
- While we welcome high school students as judges at Invitational Junior Speech tournaments, they are not allowed to judge at the Regional OR State Speech tournaments (or at State Debate).

ONLINE BALLOTS:

- We are using online ballots at this tournament, meaning your judges should each bring a LAPTOP OR TABLET (a phone will not work) to type comments and score the rounds. If this is impossible for a particular judge, we can provide paper ballots, but it's our hope that judges will be able to manage online ballots. Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns here.

TOURNAMENT BEHAVIOR AND EXPECTATIONS:

- If your squad is new to competition or has new members, you are strongly encouraged to review [this list of tips and expectations for behavior at tournaments](#) with your students.

ORIGINAL SPEECHES:

- Coaches must have Oratory and Informative speeches electronically available for retrieval (or paper copies available) at Regionals and State tournaments should questions of originality arise, but these documents no longer need to be turned in at Registration.

COACH OF THE YEAR:

- Each region is tasked with submitting a name for the Coach of the Year Award for both the Junior and Senior divisions. [Please fill out this online form](#) by FEBRUARY 1.
- I will have Coach of the Year ballots available at registration.

STUDENT ADVISORY BOARD:

- NEW THIS YEAR: Each Region will elect members of the KHSSL Student Advisory Board. [Please click here to read the full description of the Board and its purpose and duties and expectations.](#)
- Students should submit their letters and/or Flipgrid videos to me no later than the Regional entry deadline. We will hold elections as needed in the manner described in the linked document.

RECOGNIZING OUR SENIORS:

We'd love to recognize our seniors again this year at the award ceremony. Please complete [one slide on this document](#) for each of your seniors! This will be displayed in the cafeteria throughout the day and during the award ceremony.

I know this is a lot of information, so please reach out if I can help you clarify any of these details.

Looking forward to seeing everyone soon!

Ms. Molly Seifert

KHSSL Northern Regional Manager

KHSSL Board of Directors Member

Beechwood High School & Beechwood Middle School Forensics Coach