



October 2024

Fellow Coaches,

Charlotte Latin School enthusiastically invites you to attend our ninth annual Corona Rostrensis – the crown at the place of the rostrum – on Saturday, November 9, 2024.

Our students, parents, faculty, and community are working tirelessly to make your visit to Charlotte Latin the highlight of your year. We are excited to offer some unique features to our tournament. Some of this year's highlights will include:

- Four preliminary rounds for all events plus a final round for Speech events and semis & finals for debate, if possible.
- Unique hawk statue trophies for the champions of each event, glass plaques to the remaining top six competitors of each event, and sweepstakes cups for the top three overall schools.
- Hospitality features including unique concession stand offerings, a fantastic judges' lounge buffet, and a fast-paced awards ceremony.

Our tournament will offer open divisions (a mixed pool combining varsity, junior varsity, and novice) in all speech events. This year, we are pleased to offer an open pool and a novice pool (for students in their first year of competition) in all debate events.

Please carefully read all posted information regarding the operation of our tournament and contact us should you have questions. We look forward to welcoming you to our tournament!

Sincerely,

Bilal Butt, Megan Butt, and Radi Muhammad
Speech & Debate Coaches
Charlotte Latin School

General Information

Registration Procedure and Fees:

Attending schools must complete initial entries by 5:00 PM EDT on Monday, November 4, so that we can estimate the number of schools and students attending. Schools with existing entries may drop entries without penalty beyond this deadline up to Wednesday, November 6 at 5:00 PM EDT; drops after this deadline will forfeit the competitor entry fee.

Entries cost \$15 for single-person events and \$30 for two-person events. At final registration, please plan to bring checks payable to Charlotte Latin School. The school's W-9 is available for download on Tabroom.com.

Entry Caps:

Due to limited competition space on campus, entries in some events may be capped. Any additional entries above the cap will be waitlisted and accepted as space becomes available.

Judging Requirements:

Please do your part to bring qualified judges for all events in which your students enter. Instruct your judges on the basics of completing Tabroom.com electronic ballots and to remain in the judges' lounge whenever they are not in rounds. This will help the tournament run smoothly.

Please be aware that if your judges fail to report for their assignments, your school will be assessed penalty fees of \$50 per missed ballot. Each school must provide qualified, adult judges (defined as having at least graduated from high school) based on the following requirements:

- 1 judge for every 3 Lincoln Douglas Debate entries or fraction thereof.
- 1 judge for every 3 Public Forum Debate teams or fraction thereof.
- 1 judge for every 5 speech entries or fraction thereof.
- 1 judge for every 7 Congressional Debate entries or fraction thereof.

Eligibility, Supervision Requirements, and Liability Release:

Students currently enrolled in grades 6-12 who meet all of the eligibility requirements set forth by their school district and any relevant state sanctioning bodies are eligible to enter. It is essential that each attending school have a chaperone that is a legal representative of that school and that the school's administration has approved its participation. Parent volunteers, unless in possession of a letter signed by the school principal authorizing them as a legal chaperone, are not adequate to meet this requirement. Charlotte Latin reserves the right to deny entry to any students, parents, and coaches who cannot demonstrate that their school has met this requirement.

Entry via Tabroom.com further indicates that the attending students, their parents, and their school take full responsibility for their participation in this program, assume all risks involved in said trip, and agree to hold Charlotte Latin School harmless for any accident, regardless of degree, and any injury incurred to said attendees to, from, and during said tournament, and do fully release Charlotte Latin School for any liability therefore.

Observers:

Schools are encouraged to bring new students to watch rounds. All rounds are open to observers so long as they are a respectful audience. No competitor, judge, parent, or coach shall request that observing students be denied entry to a round. Judges, competitors, and observers may not record video, audio, or photograph rounds with the exception of parents photographing (not video or audio recording) only their own child.

Disclosure, Results, and Ballots:

Tabulation staff will record wins/losses, ranks, and speaker points as appropriate in each event. Judges are strongly encouraged to write exhaustive, constructive comments. Disclosure and oral critiques are encouraged at the conclusion of Lincoln Douglas and Public Forum rounds. Judges must complete ballots before disclosing and should be limited to no more than five minutes. After the tabulation staff completes the audit of each round, electronic ballots, records, and ranks will be made publicly available via Tabroom.com.

Tie Breaks, Sweepstakes Formula, and Awards:

Ties will be broken in Lincoln-Douglas and Public Forum Debate based on win-loss record, total speaker points, then dropping high/low speaker points. Ties will be broken in speech events based on cumulative ranks, reciprocals of ranks, then preferences of judges in head-to-head rankings. Ties will be broken in Congressional Debate based on parliamentarians' ranking. In speech events, the tournament will base final placement solely on the results of the final round.

The sweepstakes formula will award six points for each first place finish, descending by a point per place to one point for sixth place in each event. In order to weight speech and debate equally for sweepstakes awards, the tournament will convert schools' scores into percentages earned of the available points in speech and debate, and then those two percentages will be averaged. The tournament will award sweepstakes trophies to the top three schools overall.

Questions and Contact:

Please feel free to contact Bilal Butt, Director of Speech and Debate at Charlotte Latin School, via email bilal.butt@charlottelatin.org, office 704.846.1100 x745. For emergencies only on the day of the tournament, contact campus security at 704.578.0013.

Event Offerings & Guidelines

Events Offered:

Debate: Lincoln Douglas Debate, Public Forum Debate, Congressional Debate

Speech: Children's Literature, Dramatic Interpretation, Duo Interpretation, Extemporaneous Speaking, Humorous Interpretation, Impromptu Speaking, Informative Speaking, Declamation, Original Oratory, Program Oral Interpretation

Double Entry:

Students entered in Lincoln Douglas Debate, Public Forum Debate, or Congressional Debate may not double enter. Students entering any other events may double enter, but they are responsible for attending both events each round. Under no circumstances will officials delay the tournament to accommodate a double-entered student.

Event Rules:

All events will operate under the rules set forth in the National Speech and Debate Association's latest High School Unified Manual with the following addendums:

- Lincoln-Douglas Debate will argue this year's November-December topic.
- Public Forum Debate will argue this year's November-December topic.
- Congressional Debate will follow NSDA competition rules. Coaches of schools authoring legislation for Congressional Debate must submit legislation as a Google Doc or Microsoft Word attachment to megan.butt@charlottelatin.org by 8:00 am by Wednesday, October 23. The tournament will post selected legislation on Tabroom by 4:00 pm on Friday, October 25.
- Extemporaneous Speaking will not have cross-examination in preliminary rounds, but, if possible, will include cross-examination for the final round.
- Oratorical Declamation will operate using NCFL rules, since this event is not offered by the NSDA. Entry is limited to students enrolled in 6th-10th grade.
- All other Speech Events will operate using NSDA rules and norms.