November 1, 2024

Greetings Coaches and Competitors:

You are cordially invited to attend the Voices of the Falls Speech and Debate Tournament on December 13th & 14th, hosted by Great Falls and Charles M. Russell High Schools Emerging Voices. We will be utilizing tabroom.com for registration (<http://voices_of_the_falls.tabroom.com>). The site will allow you to manage your entry until 5:00pm on Monday, December 9th, and complete your own drops until 4:00pm on Wednesday December 11th. However, we do ask that you complete a best estimate entry by 5:00pm on Wednesday, December 4th, and a final registration by 5:00pm December 9th, so that we can have judges and rooms sorted. You will be able to make changes up until December 11th at noon without penalty, but having an idea of space and judging needs early will be crucial for a smooth tournament. There will be a limit of 4 entries per event, ABC schools and JV entries will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis, please e-mail the tournament directors before signing up. Varsity and Novice divisions will be offered in both Policy and Lincoln Douglas events. All other events are open division. If you have former competitors in Great Falls who would like to judge, or you are bringing judges with you, please pass along the following link and have them sign themselves up: <https://shorturl.at/HKrkr>.

**Registration/Entry Fees:** All speech events will be held at Great Falls High School – 1900 2nd Ave S, all debate events will be held at Charles M. Russell High School – 228 17th Ave NW.

Initial registration due by Wednesday, December 4th at 5:00pm

Final registration due by Monday, December 9th at 5:00pm

There will be no on-site registration. All double-checking and changes will be done by coaches via tabroom.com and after 5:00pm on December 11th, via email, call, or text.

Each school will be charged an entry fee for each student, **$5.00** per single event and **$10.00** per partner entry.

There will be no fees for drops, additions or changes up to Wednesday, December 11th at 4:00pm. Any changes after will be assessed a **$20.00** penalty.

**Rules:** We will conduct all MHSA sanctioned AA events according to the 2024-2025 MHSA Handbook, except as noted below:

* Internet usage during debate rounds will be allowed and will follow Use of Internet-Enabled Devices in Debate Events as outlined the NSDA Unified High School Handbook.
* Judging rules will be waived and any person 18 and older who is no longer in high school may judge any round of competition they did not compete in the previous year.

**Arrival:** We ask that no buses arrive prior to 3:15pm.

Great Falls High School (Speech): We ask that all buses drop off students at the HUB parking. Students will stay in the HUB-cafeteria area until school is released. There are large restrooms adjacent to the HUB to change or freshen up as needed.

CMR (Debate): We ask all buses to drop off students at the street on the south side of the main building. DO NOT use the parking lots or bus loop until after 3:30pm. Students will be in the cafeteria. Students are not allowed in the far sides of the main building. Events will be going on in both the gym and auditorium.

* Students are reminded that they are guests and should act as such. No tampering with classrooms, computers, or teacher and/or student materials! Coaches are expected to monitor their students. Because of the noise factor, there are no open stereos in any buildings.

**Schedule:** There will be a total of 5 preliminary rounds, semi-final and final round. No event will break to quarterfinals. Events with less than 12 people will only break to final rounds.

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|  | Speech/Debate Rounds | Extemp Draw (Room 121) |
| Friday | Round 1 4pm |  3:30pm |
|  | Round 2 6pm |  5:30pm |
|  | Round 3 8pm |  7:30pm |
|  |  |  |
| Saturday | ROUND 4 8:00 am |  7:30 am  |
|  | ROUND 5 10:00 am |  9:30 am |
|  | SEMI-FINALS 1:00 pm |  12:30 pm  |
|  | FINALS 3:00 pm  |  2:30 pm  |

**Logistics:**

Extemporaneous Draw room will be in room 121, located in the main campus of Great Falls High School.

Tabroom: Will be in the Library/Media Center at both schools. Great Falls High is located on the second floor of the school, CMR is on the north side of the first floor.

Hospitality: Will be available for judges and coaches in room 205A at Great Falls High and in room 224 at CMR High School.

Concessions: Will be available on Friday only at booth schools. Grocery and gas stations are a short walk away. Delivery options are also available.

Awards: Will be in the Great Falls High School Auditorium immediately following completion of the final rounds at approximately 5pm.

**Topics:**

Policy: Resolved: The United States federal government should significantly strengthen its protection of domestic intellectual property rights in copyrights, patents, and/or trademarks.

Lincoln/Douglas: Resolved: The United States ought to adopt a wealth tax.

Public Forum: Resolved: The United States should substantially reduce its military support of Taiwan.

Legislative: Foreign – Land Management Domestic – Africa

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| **Please make all payments to CMR School Speech & Debate** |