



## **Carolina East District Congressional Debate Tournament**

On Saturday, February 1st, the Carolina East District will be holding the first portion of the NSDA District Tournament. We will be hosting the Congressional Debate Qualifier virtually via Zoom

This tournament determines who competes in Congressional Debate from our district at the NSDA National Tournament held in Des Moines, Iowa on June 15th through 20th, 2025.

Final registration will be held that morning. As registration finishes, we will begin competition immediately. All of your paperwork will need to be organized, signed, and appropriately emailed to the Committee. Please help us begin on time by having this done ahead of time. (Paperwork is discussed in detail later in the document)

Each school must complete a District Congress Tournament Registration Form. This form is automatically completed for you after you enter and complete your registration on Tabroom. This form must be fully completed, signed, and emailed to the District prior to the beginning of competition. Please email that document to [carolinaeastdistrict@gmail.com](mailto:carolinaeastdistrict@gmail.com).

In accordance with new rule changes, we will permit changes to registrations after the seven day deadline, but the registration must be received by the January 29th date to insure entry into the tournament.

All students and judges must be concurrently registered for the tournament on the Tabroom website as well. We must have both the electronic and hard copy version of your registration.

Please be sure to read the information on this website to ensure that you properly register.

Cordially,

Crawford Leavoy, District Chair - Durham Academy  
Michelle Boswell - Cumberland Polytechnic High School  
Ben Denton - Pinecrest HS  
Kim Eckstein - Apex Friendship HS  
Kaitlin Lumpkins - Jack Britt HS  
RJ Pellicciotta - Cary Academy



## **Schedule**

9:00 AM	Registration Begins	
9:15 AM	Registration Ends; Announcements & Chamber Assignments	
9:45AM	Congress	Session One (House & Senate)
1:00PM	Lunch Brunch	
2:00PM	Congress	Finals (House); Session Two (Senate)
5:30PM	Awards	

- All Congress teams must register at 9AM on Saturday, February 1st, 2025
- Congress judges are required to be available all day
- This schedule is subject to change
- NSDA rules require a minimum of ten minutes per student in a chamber. Additional time may be scheduled for breaks & meals.



## **Rules**

**The Congressional Debate will follow the guidelines that are in the [District Tournament Operations Manual from the NSDA](#).** The Congressional Debate rules are listed on pages 86-95 and 110-115 . You should review these rules and be familiar with them.

### **Legislation**

The District Committee has decided to use neutral legislation for the 2025 Congressional Debate tournament. That legislation will come from outside the District and be approved by the District Committee.

Legislation will be released by the District Committee by January 24th at the latest.

### **Entry Limits**

The number of students you may enter to the Congressional Debate portion is determined by the members and degrees that your school has on record as of January 31st, 2025 at 5PM EST. Please enter all NSDA points prior to this date and time.

<b>NSDA Degrees</b>	<b>Senate</b>	<b>House</b>
1-20	2	2
21-35	2	3
36-55	2	4
56-75	2	5
76-100	2	6
101-150	2	7
151-200	2	8
201-250	2	9
251-300	2	10
301-350	2	11
351-400	2	12
401+	2	13

### **Placement in Houses**

Schools may place students in groups with other students from their schools. Assignment of House chambers are determined by a random blind draw of groupings. Once chamber assignments are made, only replacing an absent student with an alternate is allowed, and no changes shall be made once a chamber is convened.



### **Cross Examination**

The Carolina East District Tournament will be using direct questioning for cross examination where speakers wishing to question are recognized for 30 second intervals in which a series of questions are asked before moving to the next questioner.

### **Presiding Officers**

There will be one Presiding Officer per session. No student may preside twice in Preliminary Sessions at Districts unless no other student is willing to preside.

### **Qualifiers**

A district with six (6) or more schools and 10 or more students represented in the Senate will qualify two (2) senators to the National Senate. If fewer than six (6) schools or 10 students are represented, no Senate may be seated.

A minimum of 16 students must be represented in the House. Refer to the chart below to determine number of House chambers:

<b>Participating Students</b>	<b>Qualifiers</b>
16-29	2
30-58	4
59-87	6
88-116	7
117-145	8
146+	9



## **Judges**

### **Judge Ratios**

Every school must supply judges in the following ratios:

- In Congress, 1 judge for every 4 entries (\$150 for missing judge quota)

### **Rules Concerning Judges**

1. Judges must have graduated from high school. First-year out judges may be registered.
2. Judges must be aware of all NSDA rules regarding event procedures, scoring, and requirements of the event you have placed them in. If a judge is unfamiliar with the rules and regulations, or unfit to judge (as determined by the District Committee) your judge will be deleted from the tournament, and you will be charged for a missing judge fee (\$150).

### **Judge Bond**

The 2025 NSDA District Tournament will not use a judge bond system. Schools will be assessed a \$50 fine for each round missed by a judge.



## **Fees & Limits**

Please pay all outstanding NSDA fees prior to February 1st. You must pay the remaining balance at registration in order to be allowed to compete. You will not be able to compete without paying.

Please bring a check for entries in the following ratios:

- In Congress, \$30.00 per student

This must be paid for all students at this tournament; if your student is competing at the Speech/PF/LD portion of the NSDA District Tournament in March, there will not be an additional registration fee for that student.



## **Paperwork to Submit**

The following items need to be turned in to the appropriate listed person by their respective due dates.

1. Tabroom Registration - **Due January 31st at 4PM**
2. District Congress Tournament Registration Form
  - This is a form generated by Tabroom after you complete your registration.
  - Must be completed, printed, and signed by the coach.
  - A hard copy of this form is due by registration.
3. National Tournament Single Entry Letter of Intent (for students who are double entering at the District Tournament held on March 23rd & 24th) - **Due at Registration on February 1, 2025**

## **How To Register on Tabroom.com**

The following instructions are how to register on [www.tabroom.com](http://www.tabroom.com).

1. Logon in the top right-hand corner of the screen.
2. Search "Carolina East" in the top right-hand corner of the screen. After you do this the first time, the tournament will always appear in your login screen unless you drop completely from the tournament.
3. Click "Register" on the tabs of the tournament. You'll have to certify that the information you provide is accurate, and then make sure that you update your NSDA roster (this is pretty intuitive). **I would advise that you put in your points prior to this step so that you don't have to go back and do it. Remember, the number of entries you get is dependent on the number of degrees your program has.**
4. Under "Entries" you will find a drop-down menu on the right hand side. You can select House or Senate. Once you select an event, you will have a list of your students who are eligible for the tournament. Select their name and click "Add Entry." You may continue to add until all of your slots are filled.
5. Your "Greensheets" (printed registration forms) are under "NSDA Forms" as well as your Single Entry Letter of Intent. You'll find that you can rank Congress and Worlds currently. However, you will be able to resubmit for any student that is also competing in the March portion of the District tournament.
6. Under "Judges" you will enter the name of the required number of judges. You must add them to the Tabroom system if you haven't already. On the right-hand side, you'll find "Add Judge."
7. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Crawford Leavoy.