



THE MILO CUP
February 28th - March 1st, 2025
Millard North High School

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Millard North Debate is committed to both the NSAA bylaws and the NSCTA Diversity Statement:

Every Person. Every Voice.

The Nebraska Speech, Communication, and Theater Association believes that communication's value is through the sharing of multiple perspectives and learning through the experiences of others. Therefore, our mission as the NSCTA is to foster and promote the celebration of diversity, equity, and inclusion. We define diversity as differences in race, color, place of origin, socioeconomic status, religion, immigrant and newcomer status, ethnic origin, ability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression and age. We seek to enhance diversity through the removal of systemic barriers and biases. We commit to model and encourage the practice of valuing and respecting the contributions of all participants in speech, debate, and theater.

Please refer any equity concerns to the tabroom. The Milo Cup has an equity committee devoted to handling these issues.

THE EVENTS AND BIDS

Public Forum:

We are pleased to award a **OCTOFINALS** bid to the **Silver** PF Division of the Tournament of Champions and a **QUARTERFINALS** bid to the **Gold** PF Division of the Tournament of champions. We will use the February topic: *Resolved: The United States should accede to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court*. There will be six preliminary rounds, with powering after the second round. We guarantee that **all 4-2 records will clear to outrounds**, and we aim to provide each team with strikes. Thus, every team must have all of their judges (in every event) have a posted and substantial paradigm by February 26th, 2025. If your judges do not have a paradigm, then your team's strikes and prefs (depending on event) may not be honored.

Lincoln Douglas:

A **FINALS** bid is up for grabs in LD to the Tournament of champions. We will be using the January/ February topic, *Resolved: The United States ought to become party to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and/or the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court*. We will follow the 6-3-7-3-4-6-3 speech format with 5 minutes of prep time per competitor. We guarantee that **all 4-2 records will clear to outrounds**, and we aim to provide each competitor with prefs. Thus, every team must have all of their judges (in every event) have a posted and substantial paradigm by February 26, 2025. If your judges do not have a paradigm, then your team's strikes and prefs (depending on event) may not be honored.

Congress:

The **TOP 6** competitors in Congressional Debate will be awarded with a bid to the Tournament of Champions. For the preliminary rounds, the docket will be submitted by the competitors. **Please email your submissions to mnmilocup@gmail.com by 5:00 PM Central on Thursday, February 6th, 2025.** Tournament staff will review submissions and compile a completed docket by Monday, February 10th, 2025 at 5:00 PM Central. We encourage schools to **submit as many pieces of legislation as they wish**. A separate rules document will be available on the Congress page on Tabroom for more specific information.

Policy Debate:

In Policy, we will have 5 preliminary rounds with powering after the second round. We will announce what elimination round (i.e. quarters, sems, etc.) we break to depending on entry numbers at the tournament itself. The format of the round will follow the national standard with 8 minutes of prep time. All Policy judges must have a paradigm posted by February 26, 2025, or risk losing prefs or strikes in other events for their schools.

World Schools:

We are excited to be hosting World Schools for the first time here at the Milo Cup. We are currently planning to have 5 prelim rounds, with 3 being prepared and 2 being impromptu. We also plan to break to quarterfinals, but that may be adjusted based off of entry numbers at the tournament. The format will be in the **WSDC** format that is used at the annual National Speech and Debate tournament. For those that are unfamiliar, the round structure is as follows:

Speech	Time	Responsibility of Debater
1st Proposition	8 min	Introduce motion, define key terms, set burdens, establish mechanism or model if needed, offer substantive arguments
1st Opposition	8 min	Deal with proposed framework by proposition, clash with proposition arguments, offer own substantive arguments
2nd Proposition	8 min	Clash, offer new substantive arguments, defend 1st speaker's points
2nd Opposition	8 min	Clash, offer new substantive arguments, defend 1st speaker's points
3rd Proposition	8 min	Clash and Summarize Key Issues
3rd Opposition	8 min	Clash and Summarize Key Issues
Opposition Reply	4 min	Crystallize the round
Proposition Reply	4 min	Crystallize the round

Credit: National Speech

and Debate Association

We will announce the prepared motions on February 1st, 2025 More info will be added to this page in the near future!

NOTABLE AWARDS

The Milo Cup

The Milo Cup will be presented to the team that finishes first in sweepstakes in honor of former Millard North debate coach Scott "Milo" Milliken. Mr. Milliken was the coach at MNHS for a stretch of time that covered 3 decades, and under his leadership and tutelage, thousands of students learned, competed, and grew. Mr. Milliken retired in 2014, and it is our privilege to honor his legacy by presenting The Milo Cup as an annual tradition.

The Charles Fisher Championship Award for Congressional Debate

The importance of Charles Fisher to the Millard North Debate team cannot be overstated. His guidance helped propel our team back to relevance, but more than that his friendly face combined with his no-nonsense attitude towards what we do made him the perfect educator, mentor, and friend. His ability to care for another knows no bounds. A man of the highest moral caliber, it is our honor to name the champion of congressional debate after him.

The Schlessinger-Schuller Award for Top Speaker in Public Forum

The PF Top Speaker Award is named in honor of Claire Schlessinger and Ygal Schuller, the first Millard North Public Forum squad to qualify to the Tournament of Champions. Schlessinger and Schuller were monumentally important to the long-term existence and stability of the Millard North debate team given that they simply were the entire Millard North debate team at many tournaments throughout their tenure.

The Lauren Burdt Award for Top Speaker in Lincoln Douglas

The LD Top Speaker Award is named in honor of Lauren Burdt, without whom Millard North Debate would not have had a NSDA runner-up and a TOC quarterfinalist. Burdt's contribution to our team and students has been monumental from her first moments at practice. When she came aboard, Millard North had never qualified an LD debater to the TOC, and within mere months, that was no longer true. Her skill as a debater is trumped only by her skill as an educator and coach.

The Tomsu Friend of Debate Award for being a Phenomenal Person

The Tomsu Award is given to a coach, judge, or volunteer that has dedicated themselves to the advancement of debate in high schools. The award is named in honor of Nebraska debate alumni Scott Tomsu and his monumental support for debate in Nebraska. Tomsu's dedication to the life-changing power of debate affirms the essential importance of our activity, and he actively dedicated himself to making debate accessible to as many students as possible.

FEES, ENTRY, JUDGE, and PAYMENT INFORMATION

For an entry in **PUBLIC FORUM - \$80**

For an entry in **LINCOLN DOUGLAS - \$60**

For an entry in **CONGRESS - \$30**

For an entry in **POLICY - \$80**

For an entry in **WORLD SCHOOLS - \$30**

Entries will only be accepted online via www.tabroom.com. No entries submitted via email will be accepted. We do not accept independent entries. Once the entry deadline passes, no further entries will be permitted. The deadline for the regular tournament entries and judge entries is 5:00 pm on Monday, February 24th, 2025. Name changes or drops can be emailed after this date to mnmilocup@gmail.com. The hired judge request deadline is Friday, February 7th, 2025.

For payment, a district W9 is available upon request. Checks for entries/fees can be made out to:

Millard North Debate
c/o Dylan Sutton
1010 S. 144th St. Omaha, NE 68154

JUDGE OBLIGATION

Judge Obligation

Public Forum and Lincoln Douglas judges are obligated through at ***least*** the first **full** outround in their event to ensure winning records break in each event. Beyond that, judges are obligated one round beyond their teams' elimination. If a team's entries are eliminated prior to octofinals, their PF and LD judging obligation would be met following the octofinal debate round.

Judges in Policy and World Schools are obligated for one round beyond their teams' elimination, and congressional debate judges are obligated until the congressional debate tournament is completed. Please note that congressional debate judges may be used in pools for other events if they are not being used in congress.

The cost to hire a judge is as follows:

Policy – One judge per two entries or part thereof
(May be hired for \$350)

Lincoln-Douglas – One judge per two entries or part thereof
(May be hired for \$350)

Public Forum – One judge per two entries or part thereof
(May be hired for \$350)

Congressional Debate – One judge per six entries or part thereof
(May be hired for \$50 per debater)

World Schools Debate – One judge per two entries or part thereof
(May be hired for \$350)

Please limit your judge hire requests as there are only a limited number of these judges available. The tournament reserves the right to refuse your entry if you do not meet your obligation.

Please note that all judges provided must be qualified to judge in the event for which you're hiring them. Judges need to be experienced judges and must be out of high school. Judges who are first year out of competition should be marked as such in Tabroom.

An important note that all of your judges should be made aware of prior to the tournament: Judges will be expected to disclose in round. If detailed oral comments are warranted, that is encouraged to be given, but should not take so much time as to delay any round. Students, it's also important for you to remember that judges who are uncomfortable disclosing in debates often feel that way due to past negative experiences disclosing decisions. If you want judges to disclose decisions in your debates, treat your judges with respect and do not post-round your judges!

Evidence Challenges

In line with NSDA guidance, Judges are responsible for evaluating evidence based challenges during rounds. Please review [this document](#) for details on what is considered an evidence based challenge and how to adjudicate it.

This document can also be found at:

<https://www.speechanddebate.org/wp-content/uploads/Debate-Evidence-Guide.pdf>

PF & LD		POLICY	
<u>Friday, February 28</u>		<u>Friday, February 28</u>	
Online Registration	12:30 PM to 3:30 PM	Online Registration	12:30-3:30 PM
Round 1	04:00 PM	Round 1	04:00 PM
Round 2	05:15 PM	Dinner	06:00 PM
Dinner	06:30 PM	Round 2	06:30 PM
Round 3	07:00 PM		
Round 4	08:15 PM	<u>Saturday, March 1</u>	08:00 AM
<u>Saturday, March 1</u>		Round 3	10:00 AM
Round 5	09:15 AM	Round 4	12:00 PM
Round 6	10:30 AM	Lunch	12:30 PM
Triple Octofinals*	11:45 AM	Round 5	2:30 PM
Lunch	01:00 PM	Quarterfinals*	4:30 PM
Double Octofinals	01:30 PM	Semifinals	6:30 PM
Octofinals	02:45 PM	Finals	After Finals
Quarters	04:00 PM	Awards Stream	
Semifinals	05:15 PM		
Finals	06:30 PM		
Awards Stream	After Finals		
CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE		WORLD SCHOOLS	
<u>Friday, February 28</u>		<u>Friday, February 28</u>	
Online Registration	12:30 PM to 03:30 PM	Online Registration	12:30-3:30 PM
Opening Meeting (Congress Specific)	04:05 PM to 04:20 PM	Judges Meeting	03:30 PM
Caucusing	04:20 PM to 04:30 PM	Round 1 (Prepared)	04:00 PM
Session 1	04:30 PM to 08:30 PM	Round 2 (Prepared)	05:30 PM
<u>Saturday, March 1</u>		Dinner	06:45 PM
Session 2	09:00 AM to 12:00 PM	Round 3 (Prepared)	07:30 PM
Lunch	12:15 PM to 12:45 PM	<u>Saturday, March 1</u>	
Semifinals	1:00 PM to 03:00 PM	Round 4 (Impromptu)	09:00 AM
Finals	03:30 PM to 06:30 PM	Announcement & Prep	10:00 AM
		Round 5 (Impromptu)	10:30 AM
		Announcement & Prep	11:30 AM
		Lunch	12:45 PM
		Quarterfinals* (Prepared)	01:30 PM
		Semifinals (Impromptu)	3:00 PM
		Announcement & Prep	4:00 PM
		Round	
		Finals (Prepared)	5:30 PM

NOTES ON THE SCHEDULE

- 1) All times listed are CST (UTC-6)
- 2) Which outround an event breaks to is dependent upon both entry numbers and number of entries which have a winning record after prelims. Additional outrounds or partial outrounds will be added if necessary (note - Public Forum and Lincoln Douglas judges are obligated through at **least** the first full outround in their event to ensure winning records break in each event). In World Schools, we may break to semifinals. If Quarterfinals are not run, we will not debate the prepared assigned motion for that round at all. We are committed to having Semifinals be an impromptu round.

