

2023 VHSL Class 1-3 Central-North Super Regional Debate Tournament

Date: Saturday, April 12th, 2024

Location: Turner Ashby High School
800 North Main Street
Bridgewater, VA 22812

Snow Date: TBD

Director: Michael Villacrusis, Tournament Director
mvillacrusis@rockingham.k12.va.us

Donnie Coleman, Activities Director
dcoleman@rockingham.k12.va.us

Regions:

Central Region	North Region
Broadway	East Rockingham
Buffalo Gap	Luray
Fluvanna	
Fort Defiance	
Rocktown	
Spotswood	
Turner Ashby	
Western Albemarle	

Registration: [Forms](#) **AND** [Online Registration](#) Due by 5:00 pm Friday, April 4th.

No entries will be accepted after the deadline without prior contact and approval from your tournament director.

Student Congress legislation is due by 11:59 p.m. on Friday, April 4th for those debaters to be considered eligible for competition. (Including alternates.)

Send [entry forms](#) to YOUR respective Region's Tournament Director, Activities Director, and your own Activities Director as well.

We will be registering competitors and judges online this year using tabroom.com. If you are unfamiliar with this debate tournament registration site and/or have questions or any difficulty please contact Steve O'Baugh at sobaugh@rockingham.k12.va.us.

Please note, per VHSL policy: "Individuals/teams must be present and compete to receive awards, advance to the next level of competition, and/or earn sweepstakes points."

Facility: The competition will be held in classrooms at Turner Ashby High School. Maps will be available at the registration table and wayfinding signs will be posted.

Parking: Teams may be dropped off at the entrance by the flagpole at the front of the school. Buses may park in the north lot (next to the football field). Judges may park in the lot closest to the front entrance or in the north lot.

Lunch: The TA Booster Club will have the concession stand in the large commons open for lunch. Pizza, hot dogs, beverages, and snacks will be available for purchase.

Here are some additional resources for use in consideration of the virtual nature of this year's tournament(s):

Resource	Description
Creating a Tabroom.com Account and Setting up Your Team	The very first thing anyone not on Tabroom.com will need to do is create an account, establish their team, and register for tournaments. This video covers all of this vital information.
Creating a Student Account in Tabroom.com	Here is a brief overview of how coaches may create student competitors' accounts.
Linking Student Accounts in Tabroom.com	For your team to receive notification as to rounds as well as review ballots there will need to be a step taken beyond simply creating your roster - competitors will need to create their accounts and link them to the roster you have created. This video goes over this.

Events: Policy Debate (CX)
Lincoln Douglas Debate (LD)
Public Forum Debate (PF)
Student Congress (SC)

Topics:

<u>Policy</u> -	Resolved: The United States federal government should significantly strengthen its protection of domestic intellectual property rights in copyrights, patents, and/or trademarks.
<u>Lincoln Douglas</u> -	Resolved: The development of Artificial General Intelligence is immoral.
<u>Public Forum</u> -	Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially increase its investment in domestic nuclear energy.
<u>Student Congress</u> -	Here is the link to posting legislation for Student Congress.

Legislation is due by the registration deadline (see above).

Topics:
(Continued)

Congress Topic areas - **Domestic:** 1. Opioids
2. FEMA

(The two options per area are ***not*** listed in order of required submission.)

International: 1. Panama
2. Sudan

Economic: 1. Office of Management and Budget
2. Consumer Financial Protection Bureau

Virginia: 1. Data Centers
2. Juvenile Courts

Schools should take care not to submit more than one piece of legislation in a topic area until all areas have been addressed (i.e. No two Domestic pieces of legislation unless International, Economic, and Virginia have also had something submitted.)

Tournament Format: CX, LD, and PF Round determination: Per the VHSL Resource Guide -

“In all four divisions of debate, **pairings shall be determined by the tournament director to provide the most equitable schedule possible depending on the number of participants in each group.** A director may choose either a round-robin format or...in the event there are more than eight teams, the director shall schedule four preliminary rounds using the power pairing format below. In Lincoln-Douglas, the final round side determination shall be via coin flip.

Power Pairing Format -

1. Rounds 1 and 2 are paired at random with regional constraints.
2. Round 3 paired on win-loss records and speaker points (High-High).
3. Rounds 4 paired on win-loss records and speaker points (High-Low).
4. Top four debaters break to semifinal* rounds.
5. Break to the final round."

* - Alternate in L-D (fifth place) will be determined based on the preliminary round record and through the VHSL tie-breaking procedure as indicated in the Debate Resource Guide.

Fewer than eight teams may necessitate a Round Robin format being used.

Based on the qualifiers submitted, the following formats will be used -

Policy: 5 Round Round-Robin

Public Forum: 5 Round Round-Robin

Lincoln-Douglas: 7 Round Round Robin

Student Congress: 2 Sessions

**Tournament
format (cont'd):**

Student Congress Round determination: Per the VHSL Debate Resource Guide - "The number of representatives or senators participating determines whether the meet is divided into multiple chambers. In general, 24 representatives or senators per chamber is ideal, with chambers ranging in size from 15 to 30 members. If there is to be more than one chamber, schools and regions should be split equally between or among chambers. At the regional tournament, each chamber should meet between two and four sessions, as determined by the Clerk of Congress."

Based on the format of a Super Regional Debate Tournament, there is no need for additional chambers and/or a Super Session.

(Super Session legislation is not even offered from here on out.)

After registration closes on Friday at 5 o'clock any and all, coach decisions will need to be made and communicated back to the respective tournament director before the date of the tournament, otherwise, the tournament will proceed with school seeing school (see below by "Coach's Decision").

**Coach's
Decision(s):**

Per the VHSL Debate Resource Guide, the coach's decisions will apply to a round-robin format only.

If a tournament is set up with preliminary rounds followed by elimination rounds, schools from the same region will not face anyone from their own region in the first two preliminary rounds. After the first two rounds, the regions may encounter their own members.

"In this format, (round-robin) each team would be assigned a debate against each of the other teams. If that involves a debate against a team from the same school, the coach must state at the time of entry whether

1. The teams/individuals shall debate as scheduled.
2. The ballot shall be awarded to the team/individual with the ***higher*** overall record, and all competitors will receive speaker points and ranks from the average of all rounds.
3. The ballot shall be awarded to the team/individual with the ***lower*** overall record, and all competitors will receive speaker points and ranks from the average of all rounds.
4. The ballot shall be awarded to the team/individual ***specified by the coach***, and all competitors will receive speaker points and ranks from the average of all rounds.

Schedule -	Registration – 8:00 am to 9:00 am (Judges should check-in by 8:30) Judges Meeting – 8:30 - 9:00 am		
Policy:	Robin Round 1 – 8:30 am to 10:00 am Robin Round 2 – 10:15 am to 11:45 pm Lunch – 11:45 pm to 12:30 pm Robin Round 3 – 12:30 pm to 2:00 pm Robin Round 4 – 2:15 pm to 3:45 pm Robin Round 5 - 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm		
Lincoln Douglas & Public Forum	Round 1 – 9:00 am to 10:00 am Round 2 – 10:00 am to 11:00 pm Round 3 – 11:00 pm to 12:00 pm Lunch – 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm Round 4 – 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm Round 5 – 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm Round 6 – 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm Round 7 – 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm		
Prep Time(s):	Policy - 8 Minutes	Lincoln-Douglas - 3 Minutes	Public Forum - 2 Minutes
Student Congress:	General Meeting, Swearing-In, and Pledge – 9:00 am Committees and Docket – 9:15 am to 9:30 am Session 1 – 9:30 am to 11:00 am Lunch – 11:00 am to 11:45 am Session 2 – 12:00 pm to 1:30 pm Voting for Outstanding Senator – 1:30 pm		
Awards:	5:30 pm (approximately)		

Judges: The tournament will attempt to provide independent, qualified judges. However, each school is asked to provide a judge (1) if they have any entries in Lincoln-Douglas Debate AND a judge (1) if they have any entries in Public Forum Debate. The coach may serve as one of these judges' requests if so desired.

Judges will be paid the going rate. If a coach is called upon to judge they should not necessarily expect payment due to the obligation of being present and prepared with judges in the first place. Judges are required to attend the training at the beginning of the day and any violations of the appropriate behavior form (including disclosures) may also be grounds for withholding payment.

Judging Resources: Please share with your judges the following resources as it will be beneficial to have them be familiar with the format in which we are operating. Any questions concerning any of the mechanics of judging or competing should be directed to Steve O’Baugh (sobaugh@rockingham.k12.va.us).

Resource	Description
Creating a Judge Account on Tabroom.com	While this is absolutely necessary for coaches, this is a video to pass along to all of those judges that you have made use of over the years.
Tabroom.com Judging	After having accounts created judges will most likely want to know what judging virtually looks like - especially the balloting process. This video goes over making use of the Tabroom.com platform for judging.

Coach’s/Judge’s Lounge: The Judge's Lounge will be in room 129. Food, beverages, and snacks will be provided for judges, coaches, and bus drivers.

Tab Room: The tabulation room will be located in the Library.

We are proud to offer an open tab, whereby coaches may come in as they please with the understanding that any communication concerning results while the tournament is underway (up to and including awards) may result in a sportsmanship violation and/or closing the tabroom for all future tournaments.

Team / Debater Area(s): Competitors will be asked to locate in the small or large commons (cafeteria) and judges/coaches should primarily locate themselves in room 129.

- Observers:** Coaches, debaters, and other school representatives are free to discuss strategies and opposing teams, even to ask a team what it is running. All that is fine as long as they fully identify themselves by name and are clear and accurate about their association with any and all schools that they might represent. It must also be understood that following that disclosure, **the participants in a debate have no obligation to permit the visitors to remain in the room. Those asked about cases or defenses, their own or those of another school, are under no obligation to provide the information.** A school whose coaches, student debaters, or other representatives fail to provide full and accurate disclosure or who unfairly pressures other participants into providing access or information they do not want to provide may be reported for unsportsmanlike conduct and discipline according to VHSL Rules and Regulations.
- Prohibitions:** The following are prohibited during a VHSL Debate Tournament: videotaping of rounds, switching judging assignments without prior approval from the tab room, and assigning half-points.
- Individual Awards:** 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners will receive recognition (With 4th place in LD being announced as having qualified for the State Debate Tournament). The 4th place finalist in Policy and Public Forum and 5th place in Lincoln-Douglas will also be announced as call-ups for the State Debate Tournament. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place (and 4th in LD) will participate in Class 1-3 and Class 5 State Debate Tournament.
- No substitutions are allowed by VHSL rules (111.1.1). Awards will be announced in the tabroom as results come in and overall tournament results are completed.
- Speaker awards, if recognized, will be based on the preliminary rounds performance
- Team Awards:** The team(s) with the greatest number of place points will be declared their Super Regional Champion. The team(s) with the second greatest number of place points will be declared their Super Regional runner-up. First places earn 7 points, second places earn 5 points, third places earn 3 points, and fourth places earn 1 point. If there is a tie, the team with more first-place winners will be declared their Super Regional Champion. If still tied, the total speaker points of the first-place winners will break the tie.
- Final Results:** The results of the tournament will be official as announced and sent out to coaches unless challenged within **one hour (60 minutes) of the end of the announcements** by any team.
- Any team not contacting within the 60-minute window of opportunity after awards have been announced and results have been shared via Tabroom forfeits the ability to challenge the results. The official results will be forwarded to the VHSL office in Charlottesville, VA, and the State Tournament Director within 24 hours of the end of the announcements. Individual schools are responsible for registering for the Class 1-3 Central State Tournament and Class 5 State Tournament.
- State Tournament Advancement:** Class 1-3 Debate Tournament at James Madison University, Saturday, April 26th, 2025.

[State Entry Form](#)

**Super Regional
Postponement
Policy:**

In case of extreme weather conditions that imperil travelers attempting to reach the event site, the regional director has permission to postpone the event, and therefore the Super Regional event entry form deadline, one day at a time until the day preceding the Super Regional event. If the regional event is delayed beyond the adopted regional deadline, the regional director is required to advise the Executive Director of the postponement and is required to call in the regional results to the Super Regional director as soon as the regional event is completed. In addition, the regional director is required to mail, deliver or fax the results to the state director and to the VHSL office.

Reschedule date for the super regional competition: To Be Determined