



Dear Coaches & Competitors,

You are invited to the return of the **DVC Viking Middle & High School Invitational**. We look forward to welcoming competitors, coaches, and judges back to the Diablo Valley College campus after a 10 year hiatus! Our goal is to host an event featuring a schedule that we think offers competitive rigor while also prioritizing the wellness of students, coaches, and judges who give their time to this activity that has so much to offer its participants. Furthermore, we recognize the importance of offering a high-quality yet reasonably priced event and have made a concerted effort to keep our costs lower than other invitionals throughout the season.

This tournament will offer divisions of LD, Parli, Spar, Public Forum, and Congress as well as the 12 CHSSA Speaking events. The tournament will take place from November 15th-16th 2025, at Diablo Valley College in Pleasant Hill, California.

We hope to run this tournament for many years to come, so if you have any suggestions, comments, or recommendations to help us improve the tournament or have questions you would like clarified, please feel free to reach out to us. We look forward to seeing you and your team and wish you the best of luck!

Sincerely,

Paul Villa
Co-Director of Forensics
Co-Tournament Director & Host
Contact: pvilla@dvc.edu

Robert Hawkins
Co-Director of Forensics
Co-Tournament Director & Host
Contact: rhawkins@dvc.edu

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND LOGISTICS

Location:

We will be hosting the tournament **in person** at Diablo Valley College located at 321 Golf Club Rd, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523.

Events:

Debate

Lincoln Douglas (LD)
Parliamentary Debate (PARLI)
Congress
Public Forum

Speech

Dramatic Interp (DI)
Duo Interp (DUO)
Humorous Interp (HI)
Impromptu (IMP)
Informative (INFO)
Extemp (EXT)
Oratorical Interp/Declamation (OI)
Original Advocacy (OA)
Original Oratory (OO)
Original Prose and Poetry (OPP)
Program Oral Interp (POI)
SPAR

Decorum

Please remember to conduct proper communication between competitors and judges. Students will not ask questions about decisions until the judge has submitted their ballot. Judges will not ask questions about arguments or speeches, with the exception of asking to see evidence, until decisions are submitted and confirmed. THERE IS NO RECORDING OF MINORS WITHOUT *PARENT* PERMISSION IN CALIFORNIA.

Supervision Requirements

Each school must be accompanied by a qualified adult supervisor who is physically at the tournament site and reachable at all times. No unaccompanied entries will be permitted. Non School entities will use the INDEPENDENT ENTRY form on the last page of the Invitation. Varsity and JV debate judges cannot cover speech entries. All schools and programs must be “accompanied” by an adult reachable by phone, PHYSICALLY ON SITE, and must remain under adult supervision throughout the tournament. No exceptions! If your student(s) are unsupervised, we reserve the right to remove your entries from the tournament for liability reasons with no refund.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND LOGISTICS

Events / Divisions

In debate, we offer Open Division Congressional Debate. In other debate events we will offer divisions based on entry count but hope to offer both Novice and Open. Open debate events will make every attempt to break all winning records up to a full double-octofinal round.

In speech we offer Open divisions in all CHSSA events including: Dramatic Interpretation, Humorous Interpretation, Oratorical Interpretation (10 minute Declamation), Programmed Oral Interpretation (POI), Duo Interpretation, Original Oratory, Original Advocacy, Informative, Original Prose & Poetry (not to be confused with prose/poetry), Impromptu, Extemporaneous (Extemp is one category) and SPAR.

Speech will break to two Festival finals chambers if there are twenty-eight or more entries; in some events we may have more Festival final sections. Fewer than twenty-eight entries will break directly to Finals. Events with 51+ will break to 3 finals sections. Events with 85+ will break to 4 sections. Trophies will go to the top 7 cumulative ranked entries after the Festival Finals round. In the event that a division cannot support a full division, (less than one section) we reserve the right to collapse similar events but will do our best to avoid..

TOC Bids:

We will announce TOC bids as we receive approval. Since this is the first year, TOC bids are not guaranteed but we will do our best.

DIVISIONS:

The DVC Viking Invitational will offer a Varsity division in all events and attempt to offer a Novice division as well. If entries are inadequate after the registration deadline has passed, the Novice division will be collapsed into Varsity. Entries from private academies will be allowed.

Eligibility / Novices

PUBLIC FORUM:

- Open to all HIGH SCHOOL competitors (Restricted to HS competitors only).
- Novice: Open to all competitors who are debating their first year in the type of event (Speech/ Debate) they are entered in. In Teamed events, BOTH team members must meet this qualification. Any competitor in 7th and 6th grade can compete as a novice. 8th graders in their second year or less can debate novice. Any student 8th grade or higher in their third academic year of forensics or higher must go Junior Varsity or higher. Entries younger than 6th grade will not be allowed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND LOGISTICS

ALL OTHER DEBATE EVENTS:

- Open: Open to all competitors.
- Novice: Open to all competitors who are debating their first year in the type of event (Speech/ Debate) they are entered in. In Teamed events, BOTH team members must meet this qualification. Any competitor in 7th and 6th grade can compete as a novice. 8th graders in their second year or less can debate novice. Any student in their third academic year of forensics or higher must go varsity. Entries younger than 6th grade will not be allowed.

Maverick Policy

Our tournament will not allow Maverick entries in any format of debate.

EVENT RULES:

We will adhere to NSDA rules (section 2 of High School Manual) for all national circuit events: this includes Lincoln Douglas, Public Forum, Policy, Congress, SPAR, DI, Duo, HI, Info, IX, NX, OO, and POI. We will be following CHSSA rules & regulations for all California state events, which include Parliamentary Debate, IMP, OI, OA, and OPP.

PROTESTS/RULES CONCERNS:

If a question arises regarding the rules during a round, please have a coach submit [this form](#) within 30 minutes of the completion of the round in question.

Dates / Deadlines

- **Add Entries:** November 12, 2025
- **Fees Frozen:** November 12, 2025 at 11 PM
- **Manual Drop Deadline:** November 12, 2025, at 5 PM
- **Judge Entries by:** November 12, 2025 at 4 PM
- **Judge Hire Requests:** November 10, 2025
- **Change and Drop Fees:** November 13, 2025

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND LOGISTICS

Drops:

The deadline to drop without penalty will be **November 13, 2025**

- Drops after this point will be charged the regular entry fee due.
- You may continue making drops online until **5:00 PM on November 13, 2025**.

Judges:

The deadline to register judges is **November 12, 2025**

Judges / Judging Obligations

School Judges:

Please register judges accurately. Because we will be using entirely electronic ballots in debate, it is important that judge registration be accurate. Any attempts to circumvent judge registration processes will result in your team being waitlisted and those spots being given to other teams. The deadline to register judges is **November 12, 2025, at 5:00 PM**. If you do not have judges registered by this deadline, you will be charged for missing/hired judges regardless of whether you bring additional judges to the tournament. We will need time to finalize contracts with our hired judges. Tabroom. There will be no AM/PM judge split.

- **Varsity PF/LD:** 1 judge per 2 teams/entries.
- **Parli:** 1 judge for each 2 teams.
- **Speech, SPAR, and Congress:** 1 judge for every 5 entries.

All VARSITY/Novice and SPEECH/CONGRESS judges must be adults qualified to judge the division they are covering. Novice LD, Open and Novice Public Forum, Open and Novice Parli, and Congress may be used in other events. Open PF and Policy judges **MUST** have a paradigm and experience.

Speech judges will be used in all speech events.

Part-Time Judges:

If you will be having different judges on different days, please register all judges and mark each one as **Unavailable** for the day that they will not be in attendance. Remember, a full Open/JV debate judge covers **Saturday–Sunday–Monday** (even if that is 3 different people).

Elim Commitment:

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND LOGISTICS

All Speech/Congress judges are committed for all Speech/Congress rounds. For Varsity Debate elimination rounds, all judges are obligated to judge the first full elimination round AND one round beyond their last school's best competitive finish (Example: If your last team drops in the first Elim you are committed through the second elim). Whichever requirement is later will apply.

For example, if your school has a competitor in the octafinals, then your school's judges are all obligated through the quarterfinals. This rule ensures the best panels for elimination debates. Please make appropriate logistical arrangements that honor these requirements.

Penalty for Missing Rounds

There is a **\$50 per round penalty** for any judges who miss their rounds. Please advise your judging staff that the team will be charged if they do not attend their debate rounds. We prefer not to charge any teams for missing debate rounds, and this nuisance fee is only assessed to discourage judges from missing debates to ensure a high-quality experience for all competitors.

Please ensure your judges who do not currently have a ballot report to the **Judges Lounge/Library 15 minutes before the posted round start**. They will be dismissed when we start all rounds. If your judge is called for in the Judges' Lounge/Library while pushing ballots, you may be fined if they do not answer.

Financial Information / Entry Fees Fees

Payment Information

All payments must be received before the start of the first round. Payment at morning registration is acceptable. We will have a digital option via venmo, cash, and we can accept checks. However, the check must be received before the opening of the first round or students will be taken out of the tournament.

Make checks payable to:

DVC Forensics Trust
321 Golf Club Rd, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND LOGISTICS

Entry Fees

Category	Fee
School Fee	\$40/school
Independent Entry/Non-School Surcharge	\$40/"Institution"
Lincoln Douglas	\$50/entry
Public Forum	\$80/entry
Parliamentary	\$80/entry
Open Congress	\$30/entry
Individual Events (IEs and Spar)	\$20/entry
Duo	\$35/entry
Debate Hired Judge Fee	\$200 per uncovered Entry
Speech/Congress Hired Judge Fee	\$50 per uncovered Entry
Missing Judge Penalty	\$50 per judge per missed round
Nuisance Penalty	\$10 per change after at 5 PM PT

Independent Entry Policy

- Independent entries must meet all deadlines and criteria.
- Payment by any independent entry that drops or fails to meet deadlines/criteria will **not** be refunded.

Double Entry Rules

- **Novice Students:**
 - May enter **one debate event** and up to **two speech events**.
 - Exception: If entering Extemp, may only single-enter in speech but still compete in one debate event.
- **Varsity Students:**
 - May enter **one debate event** and up to **two speech events**.
 - Exceptions:
 - Can enter both Parliamentary and Extemp (no additional prep time provided).
 - Round 3 of Speech is concurrent with Varsity Elimination Rounds.

Double-entered competitors will:

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND LOGISTICS

- Be scheduled later in Speech Round 1 if double-flighted.

Responsibilities of Double-Entered Students:

- Must manage time effectively to attend both events.
- Coaches *may* need to choose which event the student continues if advancing in both debate and speech.

Additional Notes

- Judges accompanying teams must have a **tabroom** set up and linked.
- Students are expected to adhere to **DVC's School's code of conduct** and behave responsibly.

DVC VIKING INVITATIONAL SCHEDULE

Diablo Valley College

Saturday, November 15th		
SATURDAY	Debate (LD, PF, Parli)	Congress
8:00 AM	Parli Topic Announce	
8:30 AM	Round 1	Round 1
10:00 AM	Parli Topic Announce	
10:30 AM	Round 2	Round 2
12:00	LUNCH	
1:00	Parli Topic Announce	
1:30 PM	Round 3	Round 3
3:00 PM	Parli Topic Announce	
3:30 PM	Round 4	Finals
5:15 PM	Parli Topic Announce	
5:45 PM	Debate Elim 1	

DVC VIKING INVITATIONAL SCHEDULE

Diablo Valley College

Sunday, November 16th		
SUNDAY	Debate (LD, Parli, PF)	Speech
8:00 AM		Round 1
9:00 AM	Parli Topic Announce	
9:30 AM	Debate Elim 2	
11:00 AM	Debate Lunch	Round 2
12:00 PM	Parli Topic Announce	Speech Lunch
12:30 PM	Debate Elim 3	
1:00 PM		Round 3
2:00 PM	Parli Topic Announce	
2:30 PM	Debate Elim 4 (As Necessary)	
3:30 PM		Finals
4:00 PM	Parli Topic Announce	
3:00 PM	Debate Elim 5 (As Necessary)	
4:00 PM		
5:30 PM	Awards ASAP	

DVC VIKING INVITATIONAL SCHEDULE

Diablo Valley College

Independent Entry Form Parent Letter authorizing participation by independent entries
(template--copy/paste the text and fill in the blanks as appropriate):

Date _____

Dear Diablo Valley College:

This letter is to inform you that we would like our child, _____, to attend The Diablo Valley College Invitational from November 15th - 16th and that she/he/they does so with our full consent and permission. We have arranged for our child to be fully chaperoned and for transportation to our satisfaction, and accept full responsibility and liability for our child during the entire course of the event. We understand and agree that Diablo Valley College, its employees, and its agents provide no chaperones for the event, and further agree that Diablo Valley College, its employees, and its agents are hereby relieved of any responsibility or liability of any sort for the supervision of our child.

The following person will be chaperoning our child:

Name: _____

Cell phone: _____

Relationship to our child: _____

By signing this we are certifying that we are in fact the legal guardians of the listed child, and

have full legal authority to act on the listed child's behalf. _____

Parent Name Parent Signature Date Parents' contact information: _____

Cell phone Email Child's insurance # _____ Medical Provider _____

This form will be required to be on the chaperon's person, and presentable to the tournament by the chaperon on request (preferably at the tab-room when the team first arrives at the tournament).