

OREGON EPISCOPAL WINTER CLASSIC

Saturday, December 13, 2025

Dear Coaches, Students, and Families,

You and your middle school students are warmly invited to participate in the OES Middle School Speech & Debate Invitational on Saturday, December 13 at Oregon Episcopal School (OES). The goal of this tournament is to provide middle school students with a positive experience and an opportunity to learn, grow, and challenge themselves in a welcoming, supportive, and inclusive environment.

We are grateful to:

- Oregon Middle School Speech & Debate League (OMSSDL)
- PUDL (Portland Urban Debate League)
- High School Speech & Debate students serving as judges and volunteers
- And the OES Middle School administration and faculty for supporting student opportunities

We recognize that December 13 may be a religious observance or day of worship for some families. We support students and families honoring their religious beliefs. If your student needs accommodations (late arrival, early departure, adjusted round scheduling), please send a note to the tournament administrator at amod@oes.edue.

Registration Details

- Registration platform: Tabroom.com
(this is the first Middle School Tournament of the year, if you have questions about Tabroom or the registration process, please don't hesitate to ask)
- Location
Oregon Episcopal School's Middle School
6300 SW Nicol Road, Portland, OR 97223
- Students may enter ONE debate format (PF, Parli, or Congress) and UP TO TWO Individual Events.
- Debate entry cap per school: 4 entries per debate format.
- Fees: No required fees. Optional donations to PUDL and OMSSDL for the work they do to expand debate. (Can put a suggested donation number in)
- Judging: We encourage a few judges to cover your entries - 1 judge per 3 IE entries and 1 judge per 2 debate entries to ensure good feedback. But we should have more than enough High School volunteers to cover the tournament's needs.

Events Offered

Debate Events (Choose ONE)

Public Forum Debate (PF) - 2-person team.** Teams prepare original cases with evidence for both sides. Sides are assigned each round. We will follow these times: 3-3-2-3-3-2-2-3-2-2. Each team is entitled to two minutes of prep time during the round.

Topic: "Resolved: Oregon middle schools should be allowed to regulate student speech when it would substantially disrupt the educational environment."

Order	Purpose	Time
Team A Speaker 1 Constructive	Presents the team's case	3 min
Team B Speaker 1 Constructive	Presents the team's case	3 min
Crossfire	Speak 1 from Team A & B question and answer each other	2 min
Team A Speaker 2 Rebuttal	Refute the opposing side's arguments	3 min
Team B Speaker 2 Rebuttal	Refute the opposing side's arguments	3 min
Crossfire	Speak 2 from Team A & B question and answer each other	2 min
Team A Speaker 1 Summary	Begin crystallizing the main issues in the round	2 min
Team B Speaker 1 Summary	Begin crystallizing the main issues in the round	2 min
Grand Crossfire	All debaters question and answer each other	3 min
Team A Speaker 2 Final Focus	Explain reasons that you win the round	2 min
Team B Speaker 2 Final Focus	Explain reasons that you win the round	2 min

Parliamentary Debate (Parli) - Teams will be assigned a side (Proposition or Opposition). The judge reveals a common knowledge topic to both teams. The teams prepare their cases in 10

minutes using pen, paper and teams will have access to the internet. Use of generative AI tools such as Chat GPT will not be tolerated during round, and there will be consequences for any students found to be using. During the debate, each student speaks and during that speech, the opponent can stand to ask a question after the first 30 seconds but before the last 30 seconds. No questioning or new arguments in the rebuttals. This debate includes a time to set the case, a time to make counterarguments and a time to rebut and summarize. No prep in round.

Order	Purpose	Time
1 st Proposition Speaker	Presents the entire Prop case	3 min
1 st Opposition Speaker	Presents the entire Opp case; counter-argues	4 min
2 nd Proposition Speaker	Counterargues OPP case & extends PROP case	4 min
2 nd Opposition Speaker	Counterargues PROP case & extends OPP case	4 min
1 st Opposition Speaker	Repairs, counters, and summarizes.	2 min
1 st Proposition Speaker	Repairs, counters, and summarizes.	3 min

*An opponent may stand to question after the first 30 seconds and before the last 30 seconds. The speaker may accept or deny questions; he/she may limit the number of questions asked. The opponent may ask one question and then must sit down before asking another.

Oregon Middle School Parli Times:

1st Proposition Speaker - 3 min

1st Opposition Speaker - 4 min

2nd Proposition Speaker - 4 min

2nd Opposition Speaker - 4 min

1st Opposition Speaker - 2 min

1st Proposition Speaker - 3 min

Student Congress - Students debate in a chamber on legislation provided before the tournament. Ideal event for first-time debaters. The Tournament will provide some sample bills for debate 2 weeks before the tournament.

Individual Events (Up to TWO)

Tall Tales- Given three words, the student has one minute to prepare a tall tale that includes all three words. The student then has up to three minutes to tell the tale.

Sales - Persuasion-based pitch that is a mix of humorous or serious. Visual aids will be provided.

Impromptu - Given three prompts (word, phrase, quote), the student chooses one, prepares for one minute and then speaks for 3 minutes. Grace period of 30 seconds with no minimum time limit.

Radio Commentary - Student presents a speech of original news/event/situation commentary dealing with current events of the current school year facing away from the judge and sitting down. Student is not required to memorize the speech but rather encouraged to present as if broadcasting. 2:45 - 3:15 minutes with no grace period.

Prose/Poetry - Choosing either a novel or a collection of poetry around a theme, students prepare and perform a speech between 4 min. 30 sec. and 5 min. 30 sec. minutes long. This is a storytelling event that focuses on narration, emotion, and vocal inflection.

Oratory - Students prepare to present either an informative or persuasive speech about a topic that they choose. Speeches are between 3 min. 30 sec. and 4 min. 30 sec. These speeches are typically structured with an introduction, three main subpoints, and a conclusion.

Tournament Schedule

Time	Activity
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9:15 – 9:30 AM	Judge check-in & orientation
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9:30 – 9:45 AM	Student check-in
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9:45 – 10:00 AM	Welcome remarks from Head of School
10:00 – 10:50 AM	Round 1 — Debate (PF / Parli / Congress)
10:50 – 11:30 AM	Round 1 — Individual Events (IE Pattern)
11:30 – 12:20 PM	Round 2 — Debate
12:20 – 1:00 PM	Round 2 — Individual Events (IE Pattern)
1:00 – 1:30 PM	Lunch Break
1:30 – 2:20 PM	Final Debate Round (PF / Parli / Congress)
2:20 – 3:00 PM	Final Individual Event Round
3:00 – 3:30 PM	Awards prep
3:30 – 4:00 PM	Awards Ceremony

We are excited to welcome you to OES!

Attached you will find a campus map and a map of the middle school.

Questions? Email: amod@oes.edu