

**Southern Wisconsin NSDA
District Tournament**

Congressional Debate: March 6th VIRTUAL on NSDA Campus

Speech Events: March 7th IN PERSON at Port Washington HS

All Southern Wisconsin NSDA member schools are invited to enter and participate in the **Southern Wisconsin NSDA District Tournament** on the above dates. Qualifiers to the National Tournament will be based on actual entries competing in each event. We have two qualifiers in each speech division.

Schools must have any student membership fee balance paid for prior to the tournament or bring a check to cover any outstanding balance the day of the tournament. This is an NSDA policy – if the school has ANY outstanding balance with the NSDA on the day of competition, it must either be paid, or the school may not compete.

Procedures and Deadlines for Entry:

1. **ASAP-** Enter NSDA points for students on speechanddebate.org. For students to be eligible to compete, they must have 25 or more NSDA points and an active student account at speechanddebate.org.
2. **Wednesday, March 5th** - All Legislation must be submitted in the correct format on tabroom.com. Maximum 2 per school, however a school can submit additional legislation for a reserve docket to be available for debate only after main docket legislation has been addressed. The legislation also must be original work of the student submitting it. The committee reserves the right to remove repetitive legislation or legislation that does not meet the NSDA requirements. **Please see attachment regarding legislation policies for NSDA. If it is not in the correct format, coaches will be given 48 hours to correct.**
3. **Saturday, February 28th at 8pm** - Enter all competitors online at: **tabroom.com**. After registration, please print the appropriate document on the “NSDA Forms” tab. Fees and judging obligations are locked as of this time. This means if you have drops on Saturday, your entry fees and judge obligations will stay the same.

Students can double enter in individual events but must complete a letter of intent (found on tabroom.com). If a student competed in a debate qualifier, they cannot double enter in two speech events (they can only do one).
- 3a. **Tuesday, March 3rd at 8pm** – Enter all judges on tabroom.com.
4. **Prior to the first round of competition** - Official Paperwork (NSDA Form) must be emailed to the District Chair, Stephanie King, prior to the first round. Students CANNOT compete without signed entry forms in hand. Letters of intent must be completed on Tabroom.com prior to the student beginning their second event. So, if they competed in the debate qualifier and want to do congress, the letter of intent must be completed before congress begins.

Coaches do NOT need to submit copies of the manuscript or original source materials for speech pieces. However, these materials MUST be available at the qualifiers in case of a rule's violation concern. If there is a rules concern and the required materials are not available, then it will be presumed the rule has been violated. Additional information can be found in the Interpretation rules in the NSDA manual. It is the affirmative duty of each coach and each student entered in Interpretation contests to determine absolutely that the cutting being performed meets all rules for material.

5. Please review the tournament manual and documentation. **This includes confirming ALL pieces follow the NSDA rules.** It is your obligation to review the rules with your students. Please read the attached manual carefully. Letters of Intent can be found on the tabroom site. Please contact Stephanie King if you have questions about tournament operations, documentation required, etc.

Fees:

Congress Fees:

\$75 Per School **PLUS \$25** Entry Fee per student: The school fee covers tournament hired judges. Schools do not have a judge obligation. This fee ensures unaffiliated judges for the whole night.

If you have judges to recommend for hire – who you know to be unaffiliated with our district schools, send their names and email addresses to Stephanie King at stephak88@yahoo.com.

Saturday IE Tournament Fees:

\$25 per entry, plus either:

- A. One qualified judge for EVERY entry.
- B. \$150 judge fee for each missing judge. Please note, there is a very limited number of tournament hired judges.

Make Checks Payable To: Southern Wisconsin District

Mail to: Stephanie King
3334 N 98th
Milwaukee, WI 53222

Bringing an unaffiliated judge counts as two judges. An unaffiliated judge is someone who does not personally know, coach, or is affiliated with any students or schools/coaches at the tournament. An alum of your school is NOT neutral for your school unless they have been out of high school for four or more years without coaching or knowing any students on the team. Please notify Stephanie at stephak88@yahoo.com if you believe you have a clean judge.

If you have judges to recommend for hire – especially those who you know to be unaffiliated with competing schools, send their names and email addresses to stephak88@yahoo.com. Extra judges mean the day will go much faster and smoother. As most of our fees go to hire extra judges, providing extra judges can also offset fees; email Stephanie for details.

Please review the reasons for recusals posted to tabroom.com. This is provided by the NSDA. Please notify Stephanie before the tournament begins if there is an entry a judge should be recused from judging. It is much easier to proactively put a block in than after rounds have been paired.

Judge training requirement: If someone is in the first two years of judging, they must complete the Adjudicating Speech and Debate training (<https://nfhslearn.com/courses/adjudicating-speech-and-debate>). This roughly takes 1.5 hours. If someone has judged more than two years, they must complete the Cultural Competence training (<https://www.speechanddebate.org/learn/courses/community-learning-series-unit-four-culturally-responsive-feedback/>). This roughly takes 45 minutes. Both trainings were created by the NFHS and NSDA jointly. Coaches will be notified by John Kneztger if there are judges registered who have not completed the training & they should email him their certificate of completion. If your judge completed this in a prior year, they do NOT have to complete it again. If you'd like to check on a judge's status, just email Stephanie.

Judges may self-identify as diversity enhancing. We don't, and won't, seek to define what it means to enhance diversity. During the tournament, the computer will use that information when placing judges. We do not publish the list of judges who have identified themselves as diversity enhancing and leave it totally up to you as an option.

Schedules

Congress Qualifier, Friday, March 6th

Location: Online – NSDA Campus through [tabroom.com](https://www.tabroom.com) Coaches should check in online via tabroom if you have no changes. Any changes must go to Stephanie.

Registration: 3:00-3:30pm

Session I Senate and Houses:

Docketing committees will meet at 3:45

4:00-6:00 pm Session I

Dinner Break: 6:00-6:30pm

Senate session II and Congress Supersession: 6:30-8:30 pm

Brief award ceremony to follow.

We need a minimum of **TEN students from SIX** schools represented in the Senate. We need a minimum of **16 students** represented in the House. The Senate will have two qualifiers. The number of qualifiers in the House will be at least two, possibly more depending on the number registered.

The schedule above is subject to change if numbers are small (thus session times would be shortened). We may also have to combine the Senate and House if the minimums are not met.

We will utilize present, randomized recency and direct questioning. See the NSDA manual for additional information.

If an event needs multiple chambers, students will be assigned by the tabulation software.

Individual Events Qualifier, Saturday, March 7th

Location: Port Washington High School 427 W Jackson Street Port Washington, WI
Check in with the tabroom once all your students and judges are physically at Port Washington.

Entry Requirements: Every event must have at least four entries representing two schools. If there are any events that do not meet this requirement, I will email the district to see if anyone has extra students who could attend qualifiers in order for the event to occur. If on Saturday morning an event does not meet this requirement, that event cannot occur.

Pairing procedure – Each event will have three preliminary rounds and then break to elimination rounds if the numbers require it. **Preliminary rounds will have two judges and elimination rounds will have three judges. Judges will render decisions independent of each other.**

If there are less than 8 entries, there is no elimination round, and the preliminary rounds decide the qualifiers. If there are 8 or more entries, 25% of the event will clear to elimination rounds. If 25% is less than 4 entries, a minimum of 4 entries will advance. If 25% is more than 8 entries, the event will break to a semifinal round.

Based on number of entries in each event at the close of registration, the start times of events may be staggered to maximize judges. This means some events may have rounds off built in during the day. **A final schedule will be released after registration closes. It changes based upon which events will need an elimination round and how many students are multiple entered. However, to aid in planning transportation, previous qualifiers had registration 7:30-8a, opening meeting 8-8:30, and rounds 9am – 5pm. It is anticipated that this year's qualifiers will be similar to this.**

Online balloting will be used for this tournament, so judges should bring a laptop or tablet to submit ballots electronically. Please share this [training video](#) with any judges who are new to electronic judging on Tabroom. It is recommended that judges type their feedback into a Word document during the round, and then paste their comments into Tabroom at the end of the round. In case of wifi troubles, this method ensures that judges' hard work is not lost. It is also critical that judges triple check they are entering the right feedback and rank to the right entry – the tabs are not guaranteed to be in performance order.

Round Assignments via Tabroom Dashboard or Text: There will be no paper postings for round assignments. Students can see their round assignments on their tabroom.com dashboard.

Tournament Communications:

Coaches and judges can: Text Stephanie, call Stephanie, email Stephanie, enter the tournament zoom and talk to the tournament staff in there (for congress tournament).

As part of the NSDA Equity Initiatives, Stephanie will be the contact for any accommodation's participants (adults or students) may need for the tournament. Examples include, but aren't limited to, dietary needs, physical accessibility needs, space to breast feed/pump, etc.

If there are equity concerns, the concerned individual can email equity.swinsda@gmail.com and the equity officers for the weekend will respond.

**Please direct all questions to Stephanie King via email at:
stephak88@yahoo.com or cellphone: 414-202-5619**

We look forward to hosting strong competition!

Stephanie King, Rufus King, Chair
John Knetzger, West Bend
Shelly Uttke, Port Washington
David Umstot, Brookfield Central
Jaya Sims, Homestead

World's Debate:

The NSDA is offering World's Debate again. To be eligible a student must compete in at least one event (debate, speech, interp, congress). Being a "debater" is not a prerequisite- the USA Debate team includes students to identify as extempers and orators as well. A student may prefer World Schools debate on their Letter of Intent form.

We will be using a "method B" for selection- an open application process for any students. While the team (or teams if there is enough interest for us to request a second team) is a "district team" student costs of the trip (registration, judge, travel, school approved chaperone) must be covered by the participating students or their schools.

Students must also be willing to commit to a preparation schedule in May and early June, so those needing to dedicate time to AP tests, finals, and NCFL prep should consider whether they have time to commit an additional event, as missing practice or not contributing to research is unfair to both those not selected and their teammates.

IF INTERESTED please email stephak88@yahoo.com with the names of all interested students along with a summary of their forensics/debate history/accomplishments, and what strengths they would bring to the team by March 21st.

If multiple students from a school apply and spaces are limited, their coach may be asked the order in which they would select them for the team.

Big Questions:

This qualifier will be offered in conjunction with the Speech qualifiers for this year. 10 competitors from 2 schools must register and participate for the qualifiers to occur. If interested, please email Stephanie by 3/7 at 8pm with the number of students you'd have that are interested. If there is enough interest, additional details on registering will be release to those interested. Please see the Unified Manual for more details.