



2026 Milo Cup

THE MILO CUP AT MILLARD NORTH HIGH SCHOOL

February 27-28, 2026

1010 S 144th Street, Omaha, NE 68154

Dear Coaches & Competitors,

We are looking forward to hosting you all for the Milo Cup on February 27th and 28th. The tournament will be entirely remote this year featuring open divisions in Congressional Debate, Lincoln-Douglas, Policy and Public Forum. Bid information for Congress, LD and PF can be found in the event details of this document.

Good luck and have fun!

Dylan Sutton
Director of Debate

Ian Matuszeski
Assistant Coach

Victor Thoms
Assistant Coach

Amrit Ammanamanchi
Assistant Director

Adiel Garcia
Assistant Coach

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Equity Statement

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.

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 Federal Trade Commission should establish a federal regulatory framework for sports betting. 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 cover their entire obligation (in every event) and judges must have a substantial paradigm on Tabroom on February 25th, 2026. If you are unable to cover your team's judge obligation or judges do not have a paradigm (in any event), then your team's strikes may not be honored.

Lincoln Douglas:

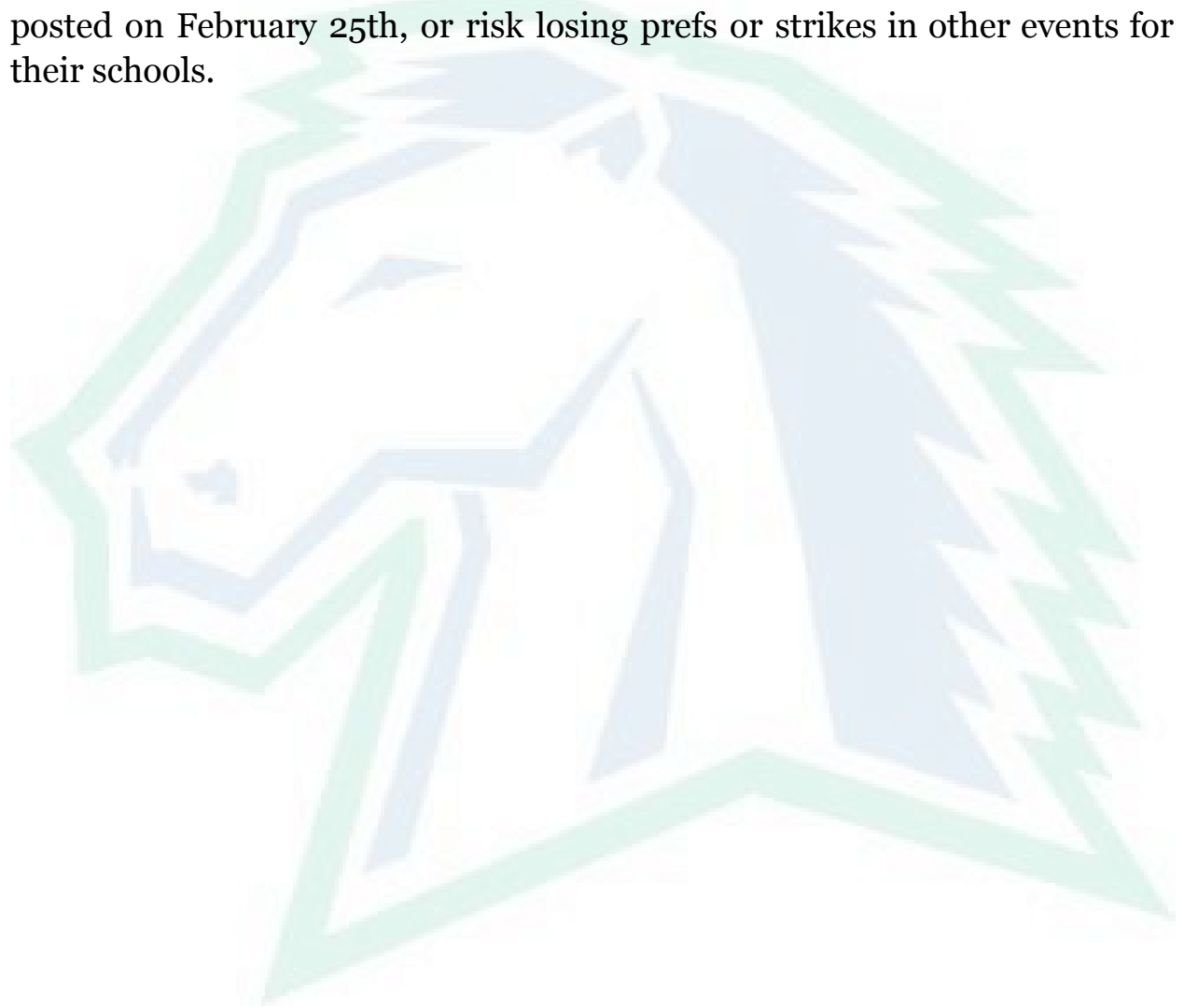
A **FINALS** bid is up for grabs in LD to the Tournament of champions. We will be using the January/ February topic, Resolved: The possession of nuclear weapons is immoral. We will follow the 6-3-7-3-4-6-3 speech format with 5 minutes of prep time per competitor. We guarantee that **all 4-2 records will clear to outrounds**, and we aim to provide each competitor with prefs. Thus, every team must cover their entire obligation (in every event) and judges must have a substantial paradigm on Tabroom on February 25th, 2026. If you are unable to cover your team's judge obligation or judges do not have a paradigm (in any event), then your team's prefs may not be honored.

Congress:

The **TOP 6** competitors in Congressional Debate will be awarded with a bid to the Tournament of Champions. The docket is available on the Tabroom site.

Policy Debate:

In Policy, we will have 5 preliminary rounds with powering after the second round. Outrounds will be dictated by entry numbers at the tournament itself. The format of the round will follow the standard 8 minutes of prep time. The 2025-2026 Policy topic is, *Resolved: The United States federal government should significantly increase its exploration and/or development of the Arctic*. All Policy judges must have a paradigm posted on February 25th, or risk losing prefs or strikes in other events for their schools.



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 Raksin Friend of Debate Award for being a Phenomenal Person

The Raksin 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 Millard North alumni Alex Raksin and his monumental support for debate and the Millard North squad. Raksin's vision of the life-changing power of debate affirms the essential importance of our activity, and he actively dedicates himself to making debate accessible to as many students as possible.

Registration Fees & 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**

Entries will only be accepted online via www.tabroom.com. No entries submitted via email will be accepted. We do not accept independent or hybrid 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 Tuesday, February 24th, 2026. Name changes or drops can be emailed after this date to mnmilocup@gmail.com. The hired judge request deadline is Wednesday, February 18th, 2026.

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 Obligations

Public Forum, Policy and Lincoln Douglas judges are obligated through 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.

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)

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. **All judges must have a valid email and phone number associated with their Tabroom account.**

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!



Schedule

All times are US Central time. Judges who are not in their remote rooms by the Check-In time listed below may be fined and replaced.

Congress		
	Day	Central
Friday, February 27th		
Open Meeting	Friday	4:00 PM
Caucusing	Friday	4:15 PM
Session 1	Friday	4:30 PM - 8:30 PM
Chambers may take a 30 minute break		
Saturday, February 28th		
Session 2	Saturday	8:30 AM - 11:30 AM
Lunch	Saturday	
Semifinals	Saturday	12:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Finals	Saturday	3:15 PM - 6:15 PM

LD and PF		
	Day	Central Time
Friday, February 27		
Round 1 Check-in Deadline	Friday	3:50 PM
Round 1 Start Time	Friday	4:00 PM
Round 2 Check-in Deadline	Friday	5:05 PM
Round 2 Start Time	Friday	5:15 PM
Break		
Round 3 Check-in Deadline	Friday	6:35 PM
Round 3 Start Time	Friday	6:45 PM
Round 4 Check-in Deadline	Friday	8:05 PM
Round 4 Start Time	Friday	8:15 PM
Saturday, February 28		
Round 5 Check-in Deadline	Saturday	8:20 AM
Round 5 Start Time	Saturday	8:30 AM
Round 6 Check-in Deadline	Saturday	9:50 AM
Round 6 Start Time	Saturday	10:00 AM
Elim 1 Check-in Deadline	Saturday	11:20 AM
Elim 1 Start Time	Saturday	11:30 AM
Elim 2 Check-in Deadline	Saturday	1:20 PM
Elim 2 Start Time	Saturday	1:30 PM
Elim 3 Check-in Deadline	Saturday	2:50 PM
Elim 3 Start Time	Saturday	3:00 PM
Elim 4 Check-in	Saturday	4:20 PM
Elim 4 Start	Saturday	4:30 PM
Elim 5 Check-in	Saturday	5:50 PM
Elim 5 Start	Saturday	6:00 PM

Policy Debate		
	Day	Central
Friday, February 27		
Round 1 Check-in Deadline	Friday	3:50 PM
Round 1 Start Time	Friday	4:00 PM
Break		
Round 2 Check-in Deadline	Friday	6:20 PM
Round 2 Start Time	Friday	6:30 PM
Saturday, February 28		
Round 3 Check-in Deadline	Saturday	8:20 AM
Round 3 Start Time	Saturday	8:30 AM
Round 4 Check-in Deadline	Saturday	10:20 AM
Round 4 Start Time	Saturday	10:30 AM
Round 5 Check-in Deadline	Saturday	12:50 PM
Round 5 Start Time	Saturday	1:00 PM
Elim 1 Check-in Deadline	Saturday	2:50 PM
Elim 1 Start Time	Saturday	3:00 PM
Elim 2 Check-in Deadline	Saturday	4:50 PM
Elim 2 Start Time	Saturday	5:00 PM
Elim 3 Check-in	Saturday	6:50 PM
Elim 3 Start	Saturday	7:00 PM