



Dear High School Forensics Colleagues,

The Arizona State University Forensics Team and The Hugh Downs School of Human Communication cordially invite your team to attend the Southwest Championship Tournament, January 7th through January 9th, 2016 on the Arizona State University Main Campus in Tempe, Arizona.

We are excited about the opportunity to host you on our campus. As the largest tournament in the state of Arizona, this tournament provides teams from all over the nation a chance to enjoy excellent competition in the Valley of the Sun in January. Last year, our tournament typically featured over 50 schools from more than 10 states, pushing the tournament over 1200 people.

Competition will feature six preliminary rounds of Policy, Public Forum, and Lincoln-Douglas debate. Congress competition will feature three preliminary assemblies and finals assemblies as entries warrant. There will be four preliminary rounds of speech and elimination rounds will begin with a quarterfinal round for events over 55 entries and a semifinal for events over 27 entries. Awards will be presented to all finalists, semi-finalists, and quarterfinalists in each individual event, to each member of debate teams reaching the octa-final or double octa-final, and the top three speakers overall in individual events. **For 2016, the Southwest Championship Tournament will have Tournament of Champions bids for participants reaching the FINALS in Student Congress, the octafinals of PFD, and the semifinals of Policy Debate. Our speech tournament is a qualifier for the the Tournament of Champions as well, with most events receiving bids for all finalists. For more about the speech qualification, see here: <https://ci.uky.edu/toc/speechbidtournaments>. The tournament is also a qualifier for the 2016 NIETOC, which you can read more about here: <http://www.nietoc.com/>.**

Key features:

- This year we are adding a Novice-only division of speech events on Saturday morning. We are still working with local area high school coaches to finalize the events offered, but each novice event will be \$5.
- We have added Programmed Oral Interp as a speech event this year, with 4 prelims available.
- All entries handled at asu.tabroom.com. This is the future home of all NSDA tournament registrations.
- Schools that register and pay by **December 1** will pay NO SCHOOL FEE.
- All schools enter a waitlist, your entries will be removed from the waitlist and entered in the tournament upon receipt of registration fees (we will accept Purchase Orders)**
- We will have **judge preferences** for both Varsity LD and TOC Policy Debate.
- Congressional Debate competitors may compete in Speech Events and vice versa.
- Lincoln-Douglas, Public Forum, Congressional Debate, and Policy Debate begin Thursday afternoon. PF and LD are flighted.
- No judge bond.** We will charge schools \$20 per missed ballot and will not clear students until the fees are paid.
- All questions should be directed to southwest.championship@gmail.com

You should make your hotel reservations as early as possible as this is a busy time of year in Phoenix. For your convenience, we have negotiated tournament contracts for hotel accommodations at hotels nearby campus. We are finalizing hotel contracts, and we'll post them to the website and update this invitation as those become available.

Also, we expect schools to cover all of their entry as we are typically tight on hired judges. We would much rather have your judges than your money, so please make every effort to cover your entry.

Due to limited space, entries will be taken on a first come, first served basis. Please enter early to ensure your students' participation. Finally, in an effort to reduce printing and waste, we will make the tournament packets available online January 2 at <http://humancommunication.clas.asu.edu/node/195>.

We look forward to hosting you in January!

Adam Symonds

Director of Forensics

Izak Dunn

Assistant Director of Debate

John Grimm

Assistant Director of Speech

Kendra Doty

Traveling Debate Assistant

Bria Woodyard

Speech Assistant

TOURNAMENT FEATURES

AWARDS: Awards will be presented to all competitors in elimination events in both individual events and debate. Teams must be present in order to receive their awards. Sweepstakes trophies will be awarded for the top five schools in the tournament. The following breakdown will determine sweepstakes, limited to the top 3 performances per event, per school:

Prelim points:

Debate win 4 points
Rank 1 in speech: 3 pts
Rank 2 in speech: 2 pts
Rank 3 in speech: 1 pts
Rank 1 CD chamber: 10 pts
Rank 2 CD chamber: 9 pts
Rank 3 CD chamber: 8 pts
Rank 4 CD chamber: 7 pts
Rank 5 CD chamber: 6pts
Rank 6 CD chamber: 5pts

Debate Elim Points:

1st place: 16 points
2nd place: 12 points
Semifinalist: 8 points
Quarterfinalist: 5 points
Octafinalist: 3 points
2x Octafinalist: 2 points
3x Octafinalist: 1 point

Congress Elim Points:

1st place: 16 points
2nd place: 15 points
3rd place: 14 points
4th place: 13 points
5th place: 12 points
6th-10th: 11 points
10th-20th: 8 points
Semifinalist: 5 pts

Speech Elim Points:

1st place: 12 points
2nd place: 11 points
3rd place: 10 points
4th place: 9 points
5th place: 8 points
6th place: 7 points
Semifinalist: 6 points
Quarterfinalist: 3 points

Unfortunately, we are not able to mail awards to teams that depart early. If you are leaving before the awards ceremony for your events, please make arrangements to have your awards picked up by someone from whom you can later get your awards.

Event Descriptions

POLICY: Policy debate features two-member teams who will debate on the 2015-2016 National High School debate topic. Novice and Varsity divisions will be offered. Novice division is limited to debaters in their first year of competition. If either member of a team is ineligible for the novice division, the team must be entered in the varsity division. The traditional 8-3-5 format will be used with 8 minutes maximum preparation time per team.

LINCOLN-DOUGLAS: Lincoln-Douglas debate features individual debaters who will debate on the NFL topic for January and February of 2016. Varsity and novice divisions will be offered. Novice division is limited to debaters in their first year of competition. L/D will use the 6-3-7-3-4-6-3 time format with 4 minutes preparation time for each debater.

PUBLIC FORUM: This event involves two teams debating over the January 2016 NFL topic. The format is 4-4-3-4-4-3-2-2-3-2-2 with 2 minutes of prep per team.

CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE: We will be using standard NFL procedures. See www.nflonline.org for more information. One division will be offered. We will offer three preliminary assemblies – each will be approximately 3 hours in duration. Any student may run for the position of Presiding Officer (P.O.). Each chamber elects one P.O. per session.

Each school may **submit** up to ***2*** pieces of **legislation** by emailing them to southwest.championship@gmail.com no later than Monday, **December 7th** in order to provide schools with time to prepare before the holiday break. Our student congress legislation packet will then be compiled and posted on our website by Monday **December 14th**. Legislation should conform to standard NFL formatting. Legislation will be selected for preliminary or final assemblies before the start of the tournament. Each school is permitted up to 15 entries in Student Congress. Chambers will be limited to 20 students, whenever possible.

FORFEIT RULE: Judges will enforce a **twenty-minute forfeit rule** for all debate competitors.

STUDENTS WHO PARTICIPATE IN POLICY, LINCOLN-DOUGLAS, OR PUBLIC FORUM MAY NOT BE ENTERED IN INDIVIDUAL EVENTS OR CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE.

STUDENTS REGISTERED IN INDIVIDUAL EVENTS ARE ELIGIBLE TO ENTER CONGRESSIONAL DEBATE AND VICE VERSA.

INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

DIVISIONS: All competitors will compete in a single division. Students currently enrolled in grades 9-12 are eligible to compete.

MATERIAL: Material in individual events may not have been used by that student in competition prior to the completion of the 2015 High School National Forensic League Tournament.

ORIGINAL ORATORY: OO consists of a speech that is the original work of the student and is designed to persuade the audience. Presentation must be memorized. Any non-factual reference, especially a personal reference, must be so identified. Not more than 100 words of the oration may be a direct quotation from any other source. Maximum time is ten (10) minutes.

PROSE INTERPRETATION: Selections used in this event shall be cuttings from published printed novels, short stories, essays (excluding plays or poetry). This may be a memorized event but contestants must use a manuscript. Adaptations may be for the purpose of continuity only. Maximum time is ten (10) minutes, including memorized introduction, which presents the author(s) and title.

DRAMATIC INTERPRETATION/HUMOROUS INTERPRETATION: Selections used in these events shall be cuttings from published printed novels, short stories, plays, or poetry. The presentation is memorized and is delivered without a manuscript. Costumes or props are not allowed in the presentation. Adaptations may be for the purpose of continuity only. Maximum time is ten (10) minutes, including memorized introduction, which presents the author(s) and title.

DUO INTERPRETATION: This event involves two competitors interpreting a cutting from a play, prose or poetry, humorous or serious, involving the portrayal of one or more characters by each individual. This is not an acting event; thus, no costumes, lighting, props, etc. are to be used. The presentation is memorized and delivered without a manuscript. The competitors' focus should be off-stage and not on each other. Maximum time is ten (10) minutes, including memorized introduction, which presents the author(s) and title.

POETRY INTERPRETATION: This division is designed for the presentation of any published literature in the genre of poetry. This may be memorized but contestants must use a manuscript. Maximum time is ten (10) minutes, including the original introduction. Students may *splice* two or more poems by performing them in alternating order. They may NOT *blend* different poems from different authors and perform them as ONE poem.

EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING: Topics for Extemp shall be based on foreign and domestic affairs for three months prior to the tournament. Speakers will be given 30 minutes to prepare after drawing from three topics suitable to their area of emphasis. Speakers may use one index card. Maximum time is seven (7) minutes.

IMPROMPTU SPEAKING: Topics for Impromptu will be quotations. All speakers in a round will speak on one of two quotations, and thus it is necessary that competitors cannot view any contestant before them. Each speaker has a maximum of seven (7) minutes to prepare and deliver a speech. Note cards may be used when preparing and speaking.

EXPOSITORY SPEAKING: This event is a memorized, informative speech that may use visual amplification. For example, a visual aid may consist of an object or physical demonstration by the speaker. Maximum time is ten (10) minutes including setup/dismantling of presentation aids.

PROGRAMMED ORAL INTERPRETATION: Using selections from Prose, Poetry and Drama students create a ten minute performance around a central theme. Program Oral Interpretation is designed to test a student's ability to

intersplice multiple types of literature into a single, cohesive performance. A manuscript is required and may be used as a prop within the performance if the performer maintains control of the manuscript at all times. Performances can also include an introduction written by the student to contextualize the performance and state the title and the author of each selection.

There will be one pattern in individual events, and students can enter a MAXIMUM of 3 of the following events: Original Oratory, Expository Speaking, Humorous Interp, Prose Interp, Dramatic Interp, Duo Interp, Poetry Interp, Impromptu Speaking, Extemporaneous Speaking, Programmed Oral Interp

There will be four preliminary rounds in each event. Elimination rounds will start at **quarterfinals for events with more than 55 entries** and **semifinals for those events with more than 27 entries**. Coaches are urged to emphasize the importance of conscientious attendance in scheduled rounds, since "no-shows" make it impossible for the tournament staff to assure participants an equal level of competition.

JUDGES:

Qualified judges are an essential component of any tournament. A qualified judge is an individual who has either graduated from high school with forensics competition experience or who has already had at least one year of forensics judging experience. High school students are limited to judging novice divisions in LD and Policy. Please list judges by full name when entering the tournament. Judge names should remain consistent throughout the tournament. It is each school's responsibility to furnish an adequate number of judges. **In general, the same judge cannot cover both debate and individual events, since they are run simultaneously. The one exception to this: CONGRESS JUDGES CAN ALSO JUDGE SPEECH EVENTS.** Please indicate if your judges will cover your Policy, LD, PFD, IE or Congress entries to avoid any confusion.

In Policy and LD debate, we encourage all judges to reveal their decisions to the students after the debate. We will be posting results after each round. **ALL judges for these events must submit a philosophy to judgephilosophies.wikispaces.com.** Several days before the tournament, judge preference sheets will be made available for all teams in Varsity LD and TOC Policy debate on tabroom.com. These should be submitted no later than **noon January 7th**.

In individual events, each participating institution is required to furnish one qualified judge for every events (5) individual entry slots, or fraction thereof. This is not a per student requirement, but **per entry slot**. All individual events judges will be expected to be available through the finals of individual events. Speech events take place only Friday and Saturday.

For Policy one judge is required for every two debate teams entered, or fraction thereof. In Lincoln-Douglas and Public Forum, one judge is required for every three entries, or fraction thereof. For Congressional Debate, one judge is required for every 5 congresspersons entered, or fraction thereof. **All debate judges will be expected to be available through the first elimination round. Judges affiliated with teams in elimination rounds must be available for the round beyond their teams' elimination. All judges should inform the tab staff before departing.**

Additionally, if you are traveling within the state of Arizona, we ask that you cover all of your slots. Because of the size of the tournament, we desperately need the help of the program directors to ensure that all judges affiliated with their school pick up their ballots each round. Judges for all events are asked to check-in at the ballot table before the first round.

This year, we will no longer be asking for a judge deposit. Instead, we will be charging **\$20 per missed ballot**. **No students from a school with missed ballots will be allowed to compete in elimination rounds until their schools missed ballot fees are paid.** Please impress upon your judges the significance of picking up their ballots on time.

Since the ASU judging pool is limited, we urge you to find your own judges. We may not be able to accept very large entries not covered by qualified judges. In order to count as one judge, each judge must be available for more the entire tournament schedule. Judges who are only available for a smaller part of the time, although welcome, will be considered one-half of a judge for the purposes of fee tabulation. **Finally, please do not list Arizona State University Forensics members or coaches as your judges.** They are already committed to running the tournament!

REGISTRATION:

During the allotted registration time, you will be able to register your competitors. You will *only* report drops/changes at this time. **EVEN IF YOU HAVE NO CHANGES/ DROPS, ALL TEAMS MUST REGISTER WITH THE TOURNAMENT PRIOR TO COMPETITION.**

Main Registration: Thursday 12pm-2pm, Room Discovery 250

Speech/Late Registration: Thursday 7-9pm, Room Discovery 181

NOTE: Main registration will cover all events. However, schools competing only in speech may register Thursday evening at late registration.

FEE PAYMENT:

Money and fees will be collected during registration. Outstanding fees and judge bonds/damage deposits will be collected. In the unfortunate event that a school fails to register before competition begins, we will be forced to drop their competitors from the tournament and bill the school directly.

Please bring the following to the registration table:

- 1) **An accurate final list of your students and their competition events.**
- 2) **If you have any outstanding fees, please bring a check, cash, money order, or PO receipt for the amount you owe. (Refunds of overages will take a while to reach you.) Please make every effort to have your check made out for the correct amount.**

FEES:

NO SCHOOL FEE FOR ENTRIES PAID FOR BY **DECEMBER 1**

\$75 SCHOOL FEE FOR ENTRIES PAID FOR AFTER **DECEMBER 1**

ALL PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN JANUARY 7

The following fees will be assessed:

TOC Policy Debate: \$100.00 per team

Novice Policy Debate: \$40.00 per team

Varsity LD Debate: \$40.00 per debater

Novice LD Debate: \$20.00 per debater

Student Congress: \$20.00 per student

All Individual Events: \$10.00 per slot (not per student)

Novice only I.E. tournament entries: \$5.00 per slot

Public Forum Debate: \$70.00 per team

In addition to the fees listed above:

\$100.00 per Uncovered Policy debate team (No more than 6 uncovered policy teams allowed per school).

\$50.00 per uncovered LD or PF team (No more than 12 uncovered LD entrants or PF teams allowed per school).

\$10 per uncovered IE slot (No more than 30 uncovered slots per school).

\$20 per uncovered Student Congress participant.

CHECKS SHOULD BE PAYABLE TO: "ASU Forensics" and should be sent to

Adam Symonds
Arizona State University
Hugh Downs School
PO Box 871205
Tempe, AZ 85287-1205

Arizona State's TIN is 86-0196696

ENTRY PROCEDURE: All teams must pay in advance to have their teams entered in the tournament. All teams must enter at Joy of Tournaments on a wait list. **Once payment is received** for those entries, your school and entries will be removed from the waitlist. Payment for entries received **by December 1st** will incur **no school fee**. Payment for entries received between December 2nd –January 6th will require a \$75 school fee. Receipt of a Purchase Order or PO number **will** constitute payment for this purpose.

The Final Entry Deadline is 8:00pm, Tuesday, January 5th, 2016. There can be NO changes after that time as the registration website will be closed. **You will not be refunded for drops or added judges after this fee deadline.** **"No shows" during the tournament will be assessed a charge of \$10.00 per entry during competition.** Schools with "No show" fees will be unable to collect ballots at the end of the tournament. If judges are dropped the day of the tournament, it may be necessary to drop competitors commensurate with the drop in judging. Please notify us (southwest.championship@gmail.com) of any changes as early as possible to prevent later complications.

HOSPITALITY:

FOOD: Coaches and judges will be treated to complimentary coffee, water, and snacks throughout the tournament. We are working with local businesses to provide lunch and dinner for judges throughout the tournament. In addition, the online tournament packet will suggest a wide variety of restaurants throughout Tempe and the Valley. We are blessed with a broad range of restaurants that will make dining in and around the University quite convenient.

PARKING: Parking spaces at ASU are a fiercely guarded resource. Therefore, it is necessary to be careful in their selection of parking spaces. You may park in visitor lots located around campus for a weekend fee. **We will be in contact with ASU parking to streamline available locations for buses and visitors to park, more info closer to the tournament.** ASU Forensics will not be able to "take care" of any parking tickets acquired by tournament participants. For visitor parking information, please visit: <http://cfo.asu.edu/pts-visitor-tempe>.

COLLEGE OPPORTUNITIES: The ASU Forensics staff is eager to discuss collegiate opportunities at ASU with any interested high school students. Information about the forensics program, the University, financial aid, and scholarship opportunities will be available throughout the tournament.

HOUSING: We will be reserving blocks at several properties around Tempe for the tournament. You should reserve your hotel rooms as early as possible. January is a busy time of year in Phoenix. To assist you, we are reserving blocks at various hotels near campus. Check back on our tabroom site to get information.

There are a number of hotels near the campus, including a Comfort Inn, an America's Best Value Inn, a La Quinta Inn, a Holiday Inn Express, and a Days Inn very near to campus. We suggest that you look into those options for reservations as well.

FINAL 2016 SOUTHWEST CHAMPIONSHIP SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, 1/7	LD/CX/PF	CONGRESS/SPEECH
12-2pm	Registration, all events – Discovery 250	
2:30pm		Congress meeting – DISC 350
3:00pm		Congress I
4:00pm	All Debate I	
6:30pm	All Debate II	Congress II
7-9pm		Late Registration – DISC 181

FRIDAY, 1/8	LD/CX/PF	CONGRESS/SPEECH
8:00am	All Debate III	Congress III
10:00am	All Debate IV	
11:30am		Extemp Draw (DISC 350)
12:00pm		Speech I
1:30pm	Nov LD V	Extemp Draw
2:00pm		Speech II
3:30pm	Debate V (VLD, CX, PF)	
4:00pm	Nov LD VI	
5:00pm		Extemp Draw
5:30pm		Speech III
7:00pm	Debate VI (VLD, CX, PF)	Congress Supersession I

SATURDAY, 1/9	LD/CX/PF	CONGRESS/SPEECH
7:30am		Extemp Draw
8:00am	All Debate Elim I	Speech IV
9:30am		Congress Supersession II
11:00am	Debate Awards – LSA 191	
12:00pm	Debate Elim II-V continue ASAP	
12:30pm	*LD/PF single flighted ASAP	Extemp Draw
1:00pm		Speech Quarterfinals (55+ entries)
3:00pm		Extemp Draw
3:30pm		Speech Semifinals
5:30pm		Extemp Draw
6:00pm		Speech Finals
8:00pm		AWARDS – LSA 191

This schedule is provisional. Entries may warrant some adjustment to the schedule.