



2026 Castle Classic NIETOC Bid Invitational

www.castleclassic.weebly.com

Hosted by Greeley Central High School Speech & Debate
Saturday, November 21, 2026

On behalf of the mighty **Greeley Central Wildcats** (and our semi-magical, slightly drafty Castle of a school), we invite you and your team to the **2026 Castle Classic Varsity Invitational**! We are once again thrilled (and relieved) to announce that we are an **official NIETOC bid tournament**. That means trophies, glory, and possibly the eternal admiration of our great community, right here in Colorado @ Cherokee Trail HS. What a great opportunity to engage in a national competition without gigantic travel expenses!



Tournament Style

- **Two Waves:** Orange Wave & Black Wave (like Halloween, but with more paperwork).
- **3 prelim rounds + finals** (where numbers warrant — i.e., if more than 20 entries).
- **Events per wave:**
 - **Orange Wave:** CX, PF, Drama, Humor, POI, Combined Extemp (*students' choice to select NX or FX topics*), Congress A
 - **Black Wave:** LD, Duo, OO, Informative, Poetry, Congress B

Double Entry Rules:

- Across waves = encouraged.
- Within a wave = negotiable (email me if you have a superhero student).
- Debate + Debate = nope.
- CX + anything else = double nope (except Congress).
- Extemp + Debate = possible, but extemp prep might shrink.
- Poetry ≠ POI (different events, different cuttings).



Congress

We'll run a **revolving Congress session** (because students love spinning). Students will attend in one wave, then get an extended "personal privilege" before moving to the next wave.

- **Judges determine awards** (not the chamber vote).
- **Legislation** will be posted by early November at castleclassic.weebly.com.
- No "walk-on" bills the day of. Sorry, no last-minute filibusters.



Entries & Fees

- **Registration:** castleclassic.tabroom.com
- **Deadlines:** Pre-reg fees lock 11/18
- **Costs:**
 - \$12 per single entry
 - \$24 per team (CX, Duo, PF)
 - \$10 per Congress entry
- **Payments:** Checks payable to **Greeley Central High School**. Or call our legendary finance secretary, **Elisa Davis** (970-348-5002), to pay by card. (Tell her it's for the Castle Classic, or she may assume you're paying parking tickets.)





Judges

We love them. We need them. Please bring them.

- Every coach must judge at least **2 rounds** (head coach, assistant coach, or that mysterious “volunteer parent” who suddenly disappears at lunch).
- Don’t want to judge? Pay the **\$70 fee** (aka the “I’m too tired to help students be the best they can possibly be” fee).
- CX teams = bring CX judges. Otherwise... random lay judges who may decide winners based on penmanship.
- Judges must have a Tabroom account as all ballots are through that platform.

Judge lounge = cozy, food-filled, and located on the second floor of the Castle (across from the library/tabroom). NO oral critiques. Written ballots only, because time is real.



NIETOC Info

This is a **bid tournament**. Qualifiers move closer to the **2027 NIETOC @ Cherokee Trail HS in Aurora, CO**.

Bid levels:

- 0–19 contestants = 1st place bid
- 20–34 = Top 3 bid
- 35–50 = Finals bid
- 51–70 = Semis bid

Details at: nietoc.com/full-details



Schedule Highlights - *note: we will push the tournament faster if possible*

Orange Wave: CX, PF, Drama, Humor, POI, Combined Extemp (*students’ choice to select NX or FX topics*), Congress A

Black Wave: LD, Duo, OO, Informative, Poetry, Congress B

- **7:00–7:30:** Registration (west entrance). Late = possible round one forfeit.
- **7:30:** Extemp Draw begins & CX Round 1 (don’t be late; CX is cruel that way).
- **7:45:** Judge Meeting (room 215).

Orange Wave:

- R1 – 7:30/8:00
- R2 – 11:00
- R3 – 3:00



Black Wave:

- R1 – 9:30
- R2 – 1:30
- R3 – 4:30

Finals (where needed): 6:15

Awards: 8:20 (with medals if the supply chain gods smile on us).



Food & Logistics

- Concessions open all day.
 - Coaches & judges will be fed Texas Roadhouse at lunch.
 - No restaurants within walking distance. If you leave and miss a round, your students lose. (We warned you.)
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Other Rules

- **WiFi:** Free & open. (Your battery = your problem.)
 - **Flashing = prep time.**
 - **Smoking:** Not on campus. Not across the street. Just... no.
 - **Tab Room:** Open to coaches. Please don't sneak off for naps. Join us in the library (216)
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Day-Of Emergencies

Running late? Drop entries immediately in Tabroom OR text Sarah at (970) 405-3198 with your school, event, and student's name. Otherwise, round one = loss/last place.



Needs:

- Extemp Draw person (you get to live in the cool auditorium during Orange Wave)
- Tabroom.com crew - 4 humans would be wonderful. Interested? Let me know.

We look forward to hosting you at the **Castle Classic**, where the rounds are sharp, the ballots are blunt, and the medals are shiny.

Questions? Contact: **Sarah French** – sfrench@greeleyschools.org or 970-405-3198

