

September Congressional Debate Learn-ament

Date: September 19, 2026

Location: Seneca High School, 3510 Goldsmith Ln, Louisville, KY 40220

Event Synopsis

The Wilson Wyatt Debate League Congressional Debate Learn-ament is an opportunity for first-time debaters to compete without the pressures of a standard tournament and while learning essential concepts and skills that will empower them for a successful debate career.

The Learn-ament will feature three one-hour Congress sessions, each with a ten minute break at the halfway point for breaking down key concepts. We will open with a 20 minute symposium where students will learn the very basics and first-time judges will learn how to evaluate a Congressional Debate round.

This Learn-ament is for students who have never competed, are still very early to debate, or have competed before but would like to deepen their skills.

Run of Show

8:00am - 8:30am

Registration

9:00am - 9:20am

Welcome: short meeting to introduce first-time competitors to the very basics of Congressional Debate

Judges meeting: brief overview of Congressional Debate for first-time judges

9:30am

Congress Session One (with Parliamentarian acting as Presiding Officer)

10:00am - 10:10am

Break to discuss topics:

- Previous Question
- Presiding Officers

10:10am - 10:30am

Resume Session One

11:00am

Congress Session Two (with student-elected Presiding Officer)

11:30am - 11:40am

Break to discuss topics:

- Clash
- Delivery and gesticulation

11:40am - 12:00pm

Resume Session Two

12:00pm - 1:00pm

Lunch

1:00pm

Congress Session Three

1:30-1:40pm

Break to discuss topics:

- Questioning
- Argumentation styles

1:40pm - 2:00pm

Resume Session Three

2:30pm

Awards