

The 2026 Spudder Invitational @ Ridgefield High School October 31st, 2026

Washington and Oregon Coaches!

You are invited to the *return* of The Spudder Invitational at Ridgefield High School this Halloween! I'm very excited to marshal the return of RHS' home tournament, and for it to be the first full-scale tournament of the season for Washington District IV.

This year, we're happy to offer a wide spread of events for students to participate in. The Spudder will host open and novice divisions of: **Informative, Oratory, Extemporaneous, Impromptu, Original Spoken Word Poetry, Radio, DI, HI, Duo, POI, Literary Interpretation for English Learners, Congress, LD, PuFo, and SpAr.**

The Spudder also seeks to embody Ridgefield's hospitable hometown spirit. To that end, meals and concessions will be available to purchase on site, so competing teams will be able to eat and celebrate together in our school commons. Ridgefield High School's campus is a little isolated, so students may not be able to easily leave campus to get food *and* make it back to campus in time for their rounds, so we hope that our food offerings will help alleviate that stress.

To celebrate the festive date, students are allowed and encouraged to compete in their Halloween costumes. We ask that costumes **1.) do not cover the face, 2.) do not include excessive gore, obscene language or imagery, or promotion of criminal affiliation, and 3.) otherwise follow their home school's rules.** We must also emphasize that *students are not to perform* in character. They may wear costumes for their rounds, but their costumes are not a part of their speech, debate, or interpretations. **There will be a costume contest with both individual and group winners held in the Performing Arts Center just before Awards!**

The Spudder is a celebration of Speech & Debate, of Washington District IV, and of Ridgefield as a community. In that spirit, we offer additional specialty awards honoring our history, and inspiring hope for our future. Please see the following page for a list of awards

We look forward to seeing you at this year's Spudder Invitational! Join us as we kick off the Washington Speech & Debate season, and celebrate a great year together!

C. Alexander Varela

Alex Varela

RHS Speech & Debate Coach

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Speech & Debate Awards

The Bisbee Family Award

Named in honor of RHS' late Speech & Debate Coach, Ken Bisbee, The Bisbee Family Award celebrates the interminable spirit of small programs. This award is given to a small but highly competitive program that participates in The Spudder. Schools that bring just a handful of highly capable students are honored with The Bisbee Family Award.

The Aja Gerrity Memorial Award

Named to honor the memory of RHS Speech & Debate alum, Aja Gerrity, this award is given to a Renaissance Competitor. To be eligible for the Aja Gerrity Award, a student must compete in 3 or more events, including debate or congress. The Aja Gerrity Memorial Award recognizes a competitor who shows a high level of success across 3 or more events.

The Rookie of the Year Award

The Rookie of the Year Award is given to a novice division competitor that shows success in 2 or more events at The Spudder. The Rookie of the Year is a student that shows promise in Speech and Debate, and should be celebrated and encouraged.

Sweepstakes

The Sweepstakes Award is given to the school with the highest point total. The winner is determined by combining the point totals of all competitors from each program.

Schedule

7:30-8:00 AM	Check-In & Judges Meeting in Career Center
8:00-9:30 AM	Congress Session 1
8:00-9:00 AM	Debate Round 1
9:30 AM	Extemp Draws 1
10:00 AM	Speech Round 1
11:30 AM-1:00 PM	Congress Session 2
11:30 AM-12:30 PM	Debate Round 2
1:00 PM	Extemp Draws 2
1:30 PM	Speech Round 2
2:30 PM	Debate Round 3
4:00 PM	Extemp Draws 3
4:30 PM	Speech Round 3
5:30 PM	Debate Tiebreaker Round
6:30-7:00 PM	Costume Contest in Performing Arts Center
7:15 PM	Awards in Performing Arts Center

Ridgefield High School

Spudder Map

