

September 20, 2026



Dear Debate Coach:

The Shawnee Mission West Speech and Debate team invites you to enter our Novice Debate Invitational tournament on **Saturday, November 14th**. We will host three Novice divisions, each with 5 rounds and no elimination rounds. To register for the tournament, go to <http://vikingdebate.tabroom.com>.

- **Limited Experience**
 - This division will adhere strictly to the 2026 Novice Packet as set by NDCA. This division is intended to be a debater's first or second tournament of the year.
- **Novice**
 - This division will adhere to the *topic areas* of the Novice Packet, but debaters are not restricted to the packet evidence.
- **Champ Novice**
 - This division will NOT be restricted to the Novice Packet evidence or topic areas and is intended as a warm-up for Novice State. We will prioritize experienced judges as available.

In all divisions, the first two rounds will be pre-set, the rest will be power-matched. We will have awards for the top eight teams in each division. Sweepstakes will be awarded to the top three schools based on the record of your four best teams in the Novice or Champ Novice divisions.

I will accept named entries on a first-come-first-served basis until we reach capacity (130 teams). We have a big squad and will recruit community judges with this in mind. That said, you are **all** welcome to bring experienced (2nd year and up) debaters to judge our Limited Experience division.

All schools must have an adult sponsor/coach in-building at all times. Our school will be hosting a matinee performance of our musical during the tournament. Any debater found interfering with this performance in any way will result in their entire team dropped and an email to your admin.

We will have a pizza meal deal for students. \$5 cash day-of or \$6 if you are combining with entry fees. The surcharge is for us to float the cost of the pizza as we wait for your payment. Please only fill out the pizza order form in Tabroom if you are combining with your entry fees.

Saturday, November 14 th	
Round 1	8:00 AM
Round 2	9:45 AM
Round 3	11:30 AM
Round 4	1:30 PM
Round 5	3:15 PM
Awards	A.S.A.P. ☺

We look forward to seeing you at Shawnee Mission West on November 14th!

Logan Swafford

Director of Speech and Debate

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Rules and Regulations

1. Prep time will be 8 minutes for all divisions.
2. The registration deadline is Friday, November 6th at 11:59 PM.
3. Priority will be given to named entries on a first-come-first-served basis. I have no loyalty to anything but ~~money~~ promptness.
4. Your invoice will reflect the number of entries you have on file at the deadline or the number who actually compete, whichever is greater. Please keep your numbers up to date! If I have to plan on you bringing a dozen teams, you will be charged for a dozen teams even if only five compete.
5. All coaches/sponsors are on standby to judge. We don't expect to use you.
6. Advanced Debaters can judge in the Limited Experience division.
7. Any team more than 10 minutes late to a round, through no fault of the tournament, will forfeit.
8. We will observe KSHSAA rules. Wireless internet access will be provided to all competitors and judges.
9. Limited Experience is only for students competing at their first or second tournament. Teams found in violation of this rule will be removed from the tournament.
10. Limited Experience must adhere strictly to the novice packet evidence and topic areas. Novice must adhere to the topic areas in the packet, but can bring in new evidence. Champ Novice is in no way bound by the packet evidence or topic areas.
11. Tabroom.com will be utilized for all tournament functions.
12. We will seek to resolve all conflicts in a way that maximize education and fairness for all competitors. In all disputes, the tournament director's decision will be final.

Payment

Entry fees are \$10.00 per team. Invoices will be sent the week of the tournament but are always available through Tabroom.com. Make checks out to Shawnee Mission West. Please be as prompt as possible with payment.

Shawnee Mission West
Attn: Logan Swafford
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