2026 RCS Cougar Cup — Tournament Invitation

You're Invited

Dear Coaches,

Resurrection Christian School is proud to invite you to the **2026 RCS Cougar Cup** on **Saturday, December 5, 2026**, in Loveland, Colorado. Last year the Cougar Cup grew into one of the largest tournaments in Northern Colorado, and we can't wait to welcome your teams back to RCS.

The tournament runs **3 preliminary rounds plus finals**, with events split into **Wave A and Wave B** to keep the day moving. The Cougar Cup is also a **NIETOC bid tournament** in eight speech events, so it's a great chance to earn a bid before winter break.

At a Glance

- **Where:** Resurrection Christian School, 6508 E Crossroads Blvd., Loveland, CO 80538
- **Registration:** cougarcup.tabroom.com

Date	Deadline (11:59 PM MST unless noted)
Nov 21, 2026	Congress legislation posted
Nov 27, 2026	Registration closes
Dec 1, 2026	Fees and drop lists due; change fees apply to changes after this date
Dec 4, 2026	Judge registration closes
Dec 5, 2026	Tournament day: check-in opens at 7:00 AM

Events & Waves

Wave A	Wave B
Public Forum Debate	Lincoln-Douglas Debate
National Extemp (NX)	International Extemp (IX)
Dramatic Interpretation	Duo Interpretation
Humorous Interpretation	Original Oratory
Program Oral Interpretation	Poetry
Informative	
Impromptu	

Policy Debate (CX) runs on its own schedule, outside the waves. Policy debaters may not enter any other event.

Congress runs through both Wave A and Wave B, so Congress competitors may not enter another event.

World Schools Debate (WS) will be offered if there's enough interest. Coaches, please email me directly at lsmith@rcschool.org before **November 27** if you'd like to enter WS. That way, students can still move into another event if we don't have enough competitors. Like Policy, WS runs on its own schedule, and WS competitors may not enter any other event. WS teams get 3 rounds: 2 prepared motions and 1 impromptu motion.

Double-Entry Rules

- Debaters and extempers may enter only one event within a wave.
- Speech competitors may double-enter across waves at the coach's discretion. Prep time may be lost because of entry patterns.

Entries, Registration & Fees

Entries. Each school may enter up to **4 entries per event**. Policy Debate is capped at **1 team per school**. You may add more entries to the waitlist, and we'll pull them in as room allows. Entries are first come, first served.

Registration. Register online at cougarcup.tabroom.com through **November 27**. Fees and drop lists are due **December 1**, and change fees apply after that date. Judges may be added through **December 4**. All deadlines are 11:59 PM MST.

Entry type	Fee
Individual event	$12
Congress	$10
Partnered or team event (Duo, PF, Policy, World Schools)	$24

Please make checks payable to **Resurrection Christian School**, 6508 E Crossroads Blvd., Loveland, CO 80538.

Supervision. A coach must be on site at all times.

Judging

Please bring as many judges as you can! Judges make a tournament this size possible, and every judge you bring helps. A good guideline is 1 judge for every 4 debate entries or 10 speech entries.

If you have judges planning to come, please add them on Tabroom by December 4 and tell us when they're available. We'll schedule them ahead of time so they can come and go as they need to.

Our judge pool includes former competitors, community members, and parents, and RCS parents will cover many rounds. By registering, you acknowledge that lay judges may be used in debate rounds as we train new judges. Judge training runs 7:30–7:45 AM for any judge who wants it.

Debate Topics & Congress

PF and LD will use the **November/December 2026** NSDA topics (NSDA topics). Policy will use the 2026–27 NFHS topic.

Event	Resolution
Public Forum	Resolved: European members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization should ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.
Lincoln-Douglas	Resolved: De-extinction is unethical.
Policy	Resolved: The United States federal government should establish national health insurance in the United States.

Congress legislation will be posted by **November 21**.

Schedule

All times are MST.

Time	Event
7:00–7:30 AM	Registration and judge check-in
7:30 AM	Extemp draw; Congress begins
7:30–7:45 AM	Judge training
8:00–9:15 AM	Wave A Round 1
9:15–10:30 AM	Wave B Round 1
10:30–11:45 AM	Wave A Round 2
11:45 AM–1:00 PM	Wave B Round 2
1:00–2:15 PM	Wave A Round 3
2:15–3:30 PM	Wave B Round 3
3:30–4:45 PM	Wave A Finals
4:45–6:00 PM	Wave B Finals
After finals	Awards

Missed rounds cannot be rescheduled once their time block has passed.

NIETOC Bids

The Cougar Cup is a NIETOC bid tournament in **USX, Informative, DI, HI, POI, IX, OO, and Duo**. Students need two bids in the same event during the season to qualify for the national tournament in May 2027 in Denver, CO. Learn more at nietoc.com.

Contestants in the event	Bids awarded
0–19	1st place
20–34	1st, 2nd, and 3rd place
35–50	Final round
51–70	Semifinal round

AI Policy

The use of generative AI and large language model tools is prohibited at the Cougar Cup. Students may not open these sites at any point during the tournament. That includes debaters during a round and extempers during prep, even to pull up something they searched earlier. Students who do may face consequences up to and including disqualification.

We also expect that students did not use AI to create their speeches or performances. Presenting AI-generated work as your own is plagiarism. This policy protects what the activity is for: student thinking, reading, and voice.

Good to Know

- **Arrival and parking:** Park in the lot off Crossroads Blvd. and enter the building at the High School Gym sign.
- **Team rooms and food:** Teams will have a staging area in the MS Gym, and concessions are available throughout the day. Judges have a hospitality room in the MS Auditorium.
- **Accessibility:** Elevators are available in the Elementary, Middle School, and High School buildings. If you need any other accommodations, please let us know ahead of time.

- **Removing barriers:** If anything in this invitation makes it hard for your team to attend, please email us. We'll work with you to find a solution.

We can't wait to see you at RCS. Go Cougars!

Levi Smith, Speech & Debate Coach, Resurrection Christian School

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