

Northern California Forensics Association Spring Championship Tournament 2018

Hosted by Diablo Valley College

Friends and Colleagues,

On behalf of the Northern California Forensics Association and our executive board, I am pleased to invite you to our 2018 Spring Championship Tournament to be hosted by Diablo Valley College, Pleasant Hill, CA from February 23-25, 2018. NCFA Champs is sanctioned by governing body of NCFA and the tournament shall be governed by the Constitution and By-Laws of NCFA unless otherwise specified in this invite or determined by the executive board. If there are any issues that cannot be solved, we invite members to petition the executive board for consideration. Issues that arise during the tournament will be referred to the Ombudsmen. We also encourage everyone to read the NCFA constitution, which outlines rules for the events and the tournament.¹

The Spring Championship Tournament will be a full-service tournament, including; 11 individual events categories, Reader's Theatre, and three forms of debate. We will have a novice and open division in all Individual Events' and a novice, junior, and open division offered for all forms of debate. This year we will be using Tabroom for all entries. All coaches, competitors, and judges should create a profile on tabroom.com prior to the start of the tournament. We will email detailed instructions on how to do this if you are unfamiliar. Registration is now open and will be open from Jan. 24, 2018-Feb. 21, 2018. All entries are due by 11:59 PM on Wednesday, February 21, 2018. Drops and name changes may be made up until registration for competition. You must use the web entry system on tabroom.com to enter competitors and judges. **IN ORDER TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR OPEN DIVISION AND FULL COVERAGE FOR DEBATE, JUDGES MUST SUBMIT A JUDGING PARADIGM!**

The NCFA Spring Business Meeting will take place in the evening on Saturday, February 24, during the first elimination round of parliamentary debate. Please inform me in advance if you cannot make it so we can arrange a proctor for your votes on any business. Any items for consideration as new business and to be voted on at the Spring Business meeting must be submitted for consideration at least 15 days in advance of the meeting for consideration by the body. Furthermore, an online, electronic vote on passing amendments discussed at the coach's conference will happen Tuesday, Feb. 13 per Article X of the NCFA Constitution.

Please email Steven Farias at sfarias@pacific.edu if you have any questions. If you believe that you are not part of the NCFA list serve where we share a lot of pertinent tournament information please email Steve to be added, promptly.

Sincerely,

Steven Farias
Tournament Director
President, NCFA
Director of Forensics, Univ. of the Pacific

Robert Hawkins
Tournament Host
Vice President, NCFA
Director of Forensics, Diablo Valley College

¹ Please note: any unresolved issues or content or content that is contradictory between this tournament invite and the Constitution and/or its bylaws, the Constitution/Bylaws will ALWAYS take precedent.

ENTRY DETAILS

Student Eligibility:

Eligibility: Students must be currently enrolled in a class at the college they are representing. No students may compete in the Spring Championship Tournament for more than four years. Any student may enter open division, regardless of experience. If students fail to meet the eligibility requirement but have a compelling justification, a coach or representative from the institution may petition the executive council and tournament staff for consideration to participate.

Division Eligibility: Students with four semesters of collegiate experience in an event type must enter open division. Students with less than four semesters of collegiate experience in an event type may enter junior divisions. Junior eligibility is lost when a student places first, second, or third in Junior and/or Open division at three different tournaments. If a student has been in final rounds of junior and/or open division of debate at three tournaments he/she must move to open division.

Novice Division shall be open only to those students meeting the following NCFA Eligibility Requirements. (NOTE: NCFA Novice Eligibility is stricter than national organization rules, and will be adhered to.)

- High school experience in debate and Individual Events--if a student has competed in high school for two semesters, the student must compete in junior division.
- College experience in debate--If a student has advanced beyond the first elimination round at two tournaments, or if the student has competed in the final round at three tournaments in any debate format (team or Lincoln-Douglas) then he/she must enter in a higher division.
- College experience in Individual Events--A novice competitor must advance to junior (or open) division if he/she places (first, second, third) in an event, or like event type (i.e.-interpretation, limited prep, group event, and platform speeches), twice.

Participation in Novice Division at Spring Fling will not affect a student's eligibility.

Cross Entries: 1) Students may enter in a maximum of three events in each I.E. pattern. 2) Students entered in Policy cannot compete in individual events, NFA-LD or NPDA debate. 3) Students may compete in both NFA-LD and NPDA. 4) Students may enter in both I.E.s and NFA-LD and/or NPDA debate. 5) Students who advance to NFA-LD elimination rounds may only be entered in one IE event.

NOTE: If you are having difficulty registering on tabroom.com you are heartily encouraged to contact Phil Sharp via email psharp@unr.edu. SHOUT OUT TO PHIL!

EVENTS

Individual Events:

We will offer the following Individual Events:

- Interpretation: Prose, Poetry, Programmed Oral Interpretation, Dramatic Interpretation
- Group Events: Dramatic Duo, Readers Theatre.
- Platform Speeches: Informative, Persuasive, After Dinner Speaking, and Communication Analysis.
- Limited Preparation: Impromptu and Extemporaneous.

Collapsing Divisions: Every effort will be made to protect novice competitors; however, if there fewer than 8 entries in a division, that event may be collapsed. If this occurs, top non-advancing novices will be recognized at the awards ceremony.

Forfeiture Rule: Competitors not fulfilling their obligation to comply with the tournament schedule will be subject to forfeiture. Individual events competitors, regardless of double entries, must arrive to rounds within 45 minutes of a round's scheduled start time or risk forfeiture.

Criteria for Elimination Rounds: Any event with less than seven entries will not have a final round. Events with thirty-four entries should have semi-final round, if possible.

Advancement to Elimination Rounds: No more than half of the field will be advanced to finals. Students will be rank-ordered first by lowest cumulative rankings, then by the highest cumulative ratings, and finally by the highest reciprocal score (a.k.a. decimal conversion).

Placement/Advancement in Elimination Rounds: Students will be rank-ordered by lowest cumulative rankings, then by judge's preference, then by the highest cumulative ratings, and finally by the highest reciprocal score (a.k.a. decimal conversion).

Pattern A: Prose, Poetry, Persuasion, After Dinner Speaking, Extemporaneous, Duo interpretation

Pattern B: Programmed Oral interpretation, Dramatic interpretation, Informative, Communication Analysis, Impromptu

Debate Events

We will offer the following debate events:

- CEDA
- NPDA
- NFA-LD.

CEDA/NDT: The 2017-2018 topic will be used. Resolved: The United States Federal Government should establish national health insurance in the United States.

Each team will be allowed 10 minutes of preparation time during the round. Speaking times are as follows:

1AC	CX	1NC	CX	2AC	CX	2NC	CX	1NR	1AR	2NR	2AR
9min	3min	9min	3min	9min	3min	9min	3min	6min	6min	6min	6min

Criteria for Elimination Rounds: Events with 32 or more entries will break to an octo-final round. Events

with 16-31 entries will break to a quarter-final round. Events with 8-15 entries will break directly to a semi-final round.

NPDA: A different resolution for each round will be presented to the debaters at a specified time prior to the beginning of each debate. The topic of each round will be about current affairs or philosophy. The resolutions will be general enough that a well-educated college student can debate them. They may be phrased in literal or metaphorical language.

Any published information, electronic or otherwise, may be consulted before the debate. Except for notes that the debaters themselves have prepared during preparation time for that debate and a copy of the NPDA “Rules of Debating and Judging,” no published materials, prepared arguments, or resources for the debaters’ use in the debate may be brought into the debating chambers.

Preparation and transit time for the 2018 NCFA Spring Championship will be 25 minutes. This timing schedule includes time to locate buildings and find rooms. It is the responsibility of each team to familiarize themselves with the campus and campus maps before rounds begin. An inability to locate competition rooms will not be accepted as an excuse for late arrival to rounds. Prep time will be adjusted if campus logistics necessitate it and the tournament will be notified by the Tournament Director of any changes prior to topic announcement. If you encounter a locked room, call 209-628-6331 immediately.

At the expiration of preparation time, the judge will begin a timer. The team(s) who is/are not present will have the total of that time deducted from the speaking time of their first speech. If the late team(s) is/are not present by the expiration of their first speech’s total time, they will receive a forfeit with zero speaker points. If neither team is present by 8:00 after prep time has expired, both shall be forfeited and both teams shall receive 0 speaker points. Refusal by a judge to do this will result in the removal of the judge from the judging pool and an uncovered judge fee will be assessed to the team who the judge is representing.

NOTE: The judge does NOT have discretion about whether to enforce this rule and their decision may be overturned by the Tournament Director if they refuse to enforce it. If a judge refuses to enforce this rule, the affected team should contact the tab room immediately. Furthermore, judges are also bound by the prep clock and must arrive at their debates on time. This means that judges must also walk during prep time and must NOT continue to prep until the end of prep time and then walk to their round. Debaters shall be afforded the opportunity to inform the tab room of judges who are late to their rounds. The Tournament Director shall have the discretion of imposing penalties, equivalent to those imposed for a missed round, for lateness.

Finally, judges will have the discretion to allow teams who have arrived BEFORE THE EXPIRATION OF PREP TIME, to use the bathroom as needed. Students should do their best to fill water bottles, use restroom, etc. before the round begins. Judges should only afford this opportunity for students who have arrived before the expiration of prep time and should not allow such discretion egregiously to interrupt the tournament.

Speaking times are as follows:

First Proposition Constructive: 7 Min
Opposition Flex Time: 2 Min
First Opposition Constructive: 8 Min
Proposition Flex Time: 2 Min
Second Proposition Constructive: 8 Min

Opposition Flex Time: 1 Min
Second Opposition Constructive: 8 Min
Opposition Rebuttal by First Speaker: 4 Min
Proposition Flex Time: 1 Min
Proposition Rebuttal by First Speaker: 5 Min

Flex Time: Flex time may be used by the controlling team to prepare arguments, drink water, set up stands, ask questions of their opponents, etc. Flex time may not be used as additional speech time.

NFA L-D: The 2017-2018 topic will be used. Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially increase the regulation of state and/or local police misconduct in the United States.”

1AC	CX	1NC	CX	1AR	1NR	2AR
6min	3min	7min	3min	6min	6min	3min

Novice Eligibility: Students cannot compete in Novice Debate Events if they...1) advanced beyond the first elimination round at two tournaments in one debate format. 2) Competed in the final round at three tournaments in any debate format (parli, policy, or LD). 3) Competed in a high school debate event for one year in varsity/open division.

Collapsing Division: Three divisions will be offered (novice, junior, and open). If there are less than eighteen entries in a division of debate, the lower division may be collapsed into the higher division.

Preliminary Rounds: There will be four preliminary rounds of NFA-LD and six preliminary rounds in both NPDA and CEDA debate Rounds 3-6 of NPDA and CEDA will be power matched (high-low), although lag powering may be used to keep tournament running on time. NFA-LD round four will be power matched off rounds one and two.

Criteria for Elimination Rounds: We will break half the field, schedule permitting, in NPDA debate. All winning records will break. In NFA we will break all winning records. We will hold full elims for Open LD and full elims for Junior and Novice LD, judges and time permitting.

Advancement to Elimination Rounds: No more than half of the field will be advanced to finals. The tournament, whenever possible, will break brackets. Seeding in elimination rounds will be determined by the following sequence of preferences:

1. Number of wins
2. Adjusted speaker points
3. Total speaker points
4. Opposition record
5. Judge variance (z-score)

Disclosure: NCFA Bylaws require that judges be afforded time to disclose, but please help keep the tournament on time by returning the ballot no more than 1 hour and 15 minutes from the start of the round.

Hybrid & Three Person Teams: Each school may enter one hybrid team OR one 3-person team in each debate event (all divisions); schools should enter as many 2-person teams with partners from the same school as mathematically possible –even if this means novice competitors move up to compete in open division. A school is permitted one hybrid CEDA team AND one hybrid parliamentary team. No one-person teams permitted. We will allow three-person teams to break into elimination rounds. Any sweepstakes eligible points earned by a hybrid team will be divided in half between the two schools.

JUDGING

The tournament is committed to managing the judge pool to minimize the expense of hired judging. It is imperative that we have accurate information about your judges. When you enter your judges on-line please indicate if judges will be: unavailable at any time, ineligible to judge open division rounds, or conflicted by prior association that prevent them from hearing competitors from other schools. Judges can also feel free to submit conflicts directly to the tournament director at their email listed above.

Please make sure that there is a judging philosophy for all debate judges. The philosophies should be uploaded to tabroom.com by Wednesday, February 21 at 11:59 P.M. If a judge does not submit a philosophy by the deadline they will be exempt from judging in the open division until a philosophy has been submitted. No guarantees in terms of rounds or coverage will be guaranteed if philosophies are entered after the deadline.

We will be using electronic ballots for all debate. This means that all judges will need to have two things: (1) a linked tabroom.com account and (2) a device that can access tabroom.com

Guidelines for all Judge entries

- 1) Please make all attempts to cover your entry. If you cannot please encourage people you know from the community to volunteer or sign up as a hired critic.
- 2) Novice only judges will NOT cover your Open competitor entries. They will ONLY cover the novice level entries.
- 3) Enter all constraints that you have knowledge of at the time of registration. If any conflicts or constraints come up after registration, please contact the TD as soon as possible.
- 4) Judges must remain one elimination round past when their competitors are eliminated. This applies to both IE and Debate judges.
- 5) Judges must fill out ballot with notes before turning in.

The Director of each program shall vouch that each of their judges are qualified. Qualified is defined as having either two-year's minimum experience and/or possessing a BA degree. We prefer that all judges have some experience in judging at collegiate speech and debate tournaments.

Judging Commitment

Individual Events: Each school owes one judge for every six entries or fraction thereof. All judges are committed through final rounds even if your competitors do not advance.

Debate: Each school owes one judge for every two entries in Parliamentary, NFA-LD, and/or Policy debate or fraction thereof. All debate judges are committed through the second elimination round of the respective debate type.

NOTE: NFA-LD Schools MUST cover their judging commitment. Last year we struggled to get judges on Friday due to schools not bringing enough judges to cover their commitment. This year we will allow up to one uncovered slot per school in NFA-LD. This pertains to having enough judges within the division that you have entered. For example, if your school has 6 Open LD students, but you only provide 1 Open level judge along with 2 novice level judges, this does not cover your Open entry commitment. 6 open level competitors equate to 3 open level judges (this also applies to NFA-LD and Policy debate).

Uncovered Judging Commitment

Uncovered NPDA = \$50 X #of Uncovered

Uncovered CEDA/Policy = \$100 X #of Uncovered

Uncovered IE = \$10 X #of Uncovered

Uncovered NFA-LD = Graduated fee structure (\$50 for 1 uncovered, \$100 for 2nd uncovered, \$150 for 3rd uncovered)

REGISTRATION DETAILS

Fee Calculation Sheet

NCFA Dues	\$40 x	=	_
Debate Teams	\$50 x (entry)	=	_
NFA-LD	\$30 x (entry)	=	_
IE Slots	\$10 x (entry)	=	_
Open Persuasive	\$25 x (entry)	=	_
Uncovered IE slots	\$10 x (entry)	=	_
Uncovered LD	\$50 x (entry)	=	_
Uncovered NPDA	\$50 x (entry)	=	_
Uncovered CEDA	\$100 x (entry)	=	_
School fee	\$50 x 1_ (entry)	=	\$50.00
Total Owed	=	_	

Note:

- 1) Fees in Open Persuasive Speaking reflect the expenses necessary to finance the open division winner's participation in the Interstate Oratory Contest.
- 2) Checks should be made payable to the Northern California Forensics Association.

AWARDS

Student Fellowship Award: NCFA will recognize, based on the votes of peers, the students who embodies the finest qualities of intercollegiate forensics. Ballots will be distributed to coaches at registration and should be deposited in the ballot box near postings by no later than Saturday at 5PM.

NPDA District Student Representative: Since NCFA schools and students comprise a majority of District 1, and since not all of these schools and students are able to attend NPDA, NCFA has decided that students should vote for their district representative at NCFA Spring Champs. Please alert all your students who compete in NPDA debate that we will be holding an assembly for them to run for office and vote for their district representative.

Interstate Oratory Representative: The students from a California school, who places highest in the open division of Persuasive Speaking will be designated the Northern California representative to the Interstate Oratory Contest. If that students cannot go, the next highest placing student from a California school will be designated the representative. The designation will be passed down until a student is found who will attend the contest. NCFA will partially fund the representative's trip.

Sweepstakes: All sweepstakes categories will be based on the number of entries at the entry deadline, not on the day of competition. Sweepstakes trophies will be awarded to the top three schools in each of the following divisions:

- a. Open University Division

- b. Limited Entry University Division (Seven or fewer contestants from a school)
- c. Open Community College Division
- d. Limited Entry Community College Division (Seven or fewer contestants from a school)

Calculation for Sweepstakes:

Individual Events Points	NFA-LD points
-10 points for each first place	-15 points for first place
-7.5 points for each second place	-12.5 points for second place
-5 points for each third place	-7.5 points for semi-finalist
-2.5 points for each finalist	-2.5 points for quarter and octo-finalists

NPDA Debate, Reader’s Theatre, and Policy Debate Points

- 20 points for first place
- 15 points for second place
- 10 points for semi-finalist
- 5 points for quarter-finalist
- 2.5 points for octo-finalist

CAMPUS & MISC DETAILS

The tournament will attempt to make WiFi available to all schools. Please be aware that the tournament is not guaranteeing internet. I recommend bringing a HotSpot if you are able. Since WiFi is available on campus you may use internet for Debate and Extemp prep. Each School entered in Parliamentary Debate will be assigned their own prep room that they may use to prep for each round. Each school will also be held responsible for the cleanliness of their prep room.

LODGING DETAILS

We were unable to procure a tournament hotel due to military personnel being stationed in the area for the weekend. Robert was kind enough to investigate some prices in the region. Please book your rooms soon. Also, if you find a better price than the options below please share!

Local Rates: Concord Hilton - \$101; Best Western Heritage Inn - \$84; Concord Marriott - \$87

FOOD OPTIONS

The cafeteria on campus will be open Friday and Saturday but Sunday students and teams will have to figure out food on their own. Please refer to the following list that might provide some options during the day.

Walking Distance ~ 5 to 7 min/Driving Distance ~ 2 min:

- Hawaiian Poke
- El Tapitio
- Mt. Mike’s Pizza
- Giant Burger

Walking Distance ~ 15 to 20 min/Driving Distance ~ 5 min

- Safeway
- McDonalds
- Burger King

Walking Distance ~ 20 to 25 min/Driving Distance ~ 5 min

- Sunvalley Mall: Food Court, BBQ, BJ's, Red Robin, In-N-Out

Driving Stance ~10 to 15 min

- Downtown Pleasant Hill – Multiple Food Options

NCFA 2018 Master Schedule (by Event)

LD Debate Schedule		Parli Debate Schedule		Speech Schedule		CEDA Debate Schedule	
Fri Feb 23	11 AM-Noon Reg 12:15 PM Round 1 1:15 PM Round 2 4:00 PM Round 3 6:30 PM Round 4	Fri Feb 23	12:30-2 PM Reg 2:25 PM Topic Rd 1 2:45 PM Round One 5:10 PM Topic Rd 2 5:30 PM Round Two 7:40 PM Topic Rd 3 8:00 PM Round Three	Fri Feb 23	NO EVENTS	Friday Feb 23	1:00-1:45 PM Reg 2:00 PM Round 1 4:00 PM Round 2 6:00 PM Round 3
Sat Feb 24	8:00 AM Elim 1 10:30 AM Elim 2* 3:15 PM Elim 3* 6:00 PM Elim 4* *IN ELIM 2,3,4 Students should do Pattern A IE FIRST then rush to their LD round.	Sat Feb 24	12:00 PM Topic Rd 4 12:20 PM Round Four 1:00 PM Lunch 1:40 PM Topic Rd 5 2:00 PM Round Five 4:30 PM Topic Rd 6 4:50 PM Rd Six 7:30 PM Topic Elim 1 7:50 PM Elim One	Sat Feb 24	8:00-9:00 AM Reg 9:15AM Round 1B 10:30 AM Round 2B 1:00 PM Lunch 3:15 PM Round 3B 6:00 PM B Finals	Saturday Feb 24	9:00 AM Round 4 11:00 AM Round 5 1:00 PM Lunch 2:00 PM Round 6 4:00 PM Elim 1
Sun Feb 25	NO EVENTS	Sun Feb 25	11:15 AM Topic Elim 2 11:35 AM Elim Two 12:50 PM NPDA District Rep. Election 2:00 PM Topic Elim 3 2:20 PM Elim Three 5:00 PM Topic Elim 4 5:00 PM Awards 5:45 PM Elim Four ASAP Elim 5 (if needed)	Sun Feb 25	8:15 AM Extemp Draw 8:30 AM Round 1A 9:45 AM Extemp Draw 10:00 AM Round 2A 12:35 PM Extemp Draw 12:50 PM Round 3A 3:30 PM A Finals 5:00 PM Awards	Sunday Feb 25	9:00 AM Elim 2 11:00 AM Elim 3 5 PM Awards
Reader's Theatre Showcase at 2:30 pm Sunday				NCFA Business Meeting will be held at 7:50 pm on Saturday Night. ONE REPRESENTATIVE from each school (defaults to the DOF) will be freed from judging Parli Elim 1.			

Pattern A: Prose, Poetry, Persuasion, After Dinner Speaking, Extemporaneous, Duo interpretation

Pattern B: Programmed Oral interpretation, Dramatic interpretation, Informative, Communication Analysis, Impromptu

NCFA 2018 Master Schedule (By Day)

Friday February 23, 2018		Saturday February 24, 2018		Sunday February 25, 2018	
11 AM	LD Registration Opens	7:45 AM	Registration Opens LD Elim 1 Released ONLINE	8:15 AM	Extemp Draw
11:45 AM	LD Registration Closes	8:00 AM	LD Elim 1 (8:10 Forfeit)	8:30 AM	IE Pattern A Round 1
NOON	LD Pairings Released ONLINE	9:00 AM	Registration Closes Policy Round 4	9:00 AM	Policy Elim 2
12:15 PM	LD Round 1 (12:25 forfeit)	9:15 AM	IE Pattern B Round 1	9:45 AM	Extemp Draw
1:15 PM	LD Round 2 (1:30 Forfeit)	10:30 AM	IE Pattern B Round 2 LD Elim 2 (Speak 1 st in B2)	10:00 AM	IE Pattern A Round 2
1:45 PM	Policy Registration Closes	11:00 AM	Policy Round 5	11:00 AM	Policy Elim 2
2:00 PM	Policy Round 1 Parli Registration Closes	Noon	Parli Rd 4 Topic	11:15 AM	Parli Elim 2 Topic
2:15 PM	Parli Briefing	12:20 PM	Parli Round 4	11:35 AM	Parli Elim 2
2:25 PM	Parli Rd1 Topic	1:00 PM	Lunch	12:35 PM	Extemp Draw
2:45 PM	Parli Round 1	1:40 PM	Parli Rd 5 Topic	12:50 PM	IE Pattern A Round <hr/> NPDA Student Rep. Election
4:00 PM	Policy Round 2 LD Round 3 (4:15 Forfeit)	2:00 PM	Parli Round 5 Policy Round 6	2:00 PM	Parli Elim 3 Topic
5:10 PM	Parli Rd 2 Topic	3:00 PM	IE Pattern B Round 3 LD Elim 3 (Speak 1 st in A3)	2:20 PM	Parli Elim 3 RT Showcase
5:30 PM	Parli Round 2	4:00 PM	Policy Elim 1	3:30 PM	IE Pattern A Finals
6:00 PM	Policy Round 3	4:30 PM	Parli Rd 6 Topic	5:00 PM	AWARDS
6:30 PM	LD Round 4 (6:50 Forfeit)	4:50 PM	Parli Round 6	5:45 PM	Parli Elim 4 Topic
7:40 PM	Parli Rd 3 Topic	6:00 PM	IE Pattern B Finals LD Elim 4 (Speak 1 st in A Finals)	6:05 PM	Parli Elim 4
8:00 PM	Parli Round 3	7:30 PM	Parli Elim 1 Topic	ASAP	Parli Elim 5 (if Needed)
	On Saturday in ELIM 2,3,4 of LD, Students should do Pattern B IE FIRST then rush to their LD round.	7:50 PM	Parli Elim 1 BUSINESS MEETING		Reader's Theatre Showcase at 2:30 pm Sunday

Pattern A: Prose, Poetry, Persuasion, After Dinner Speaking, Extemporaneous, Duo interpretation

Pattern B: Programmed Oral interpretation, Dramatic interpretation, Informative, Communication Analysis, Impromptu