

With immense appreciation you are invited to attend the first inaugural National Speech Championship on March 25th and 26th of the year 2017. This tournament will provide an opportunity for teams of all resource levels to genuinely compete for a team national championship. The competition will be incredible and the opportunities for both individual and team placement will abound. I am so very thankful to those who have already agreed to take part in the tournament as we begin a long history of forensics excellence.

The 2017 National Championship will be hosted in Evanston, Illinois by Northwestern University. Host sites through 2020 include:

2018 University of Nebraska-Lincoln - Lincoln, Nebraska

2019 Oakland University - Auburn Hills, Michigan

2020 George Mason University - Fairfax, Virginia

I hope you will join in a commitment to fostering a healthy and rewarding competitive environment for schools of all budget levels by attending this national tournament. Further information regarding the tournament can be found below.

Entry Fees

Teams are asked to provide enough judges to cover their entry. Each judge will cover six entries. To fully cover an entry a team will need to provide four judges. Uncovered entries will be \$15 each. All covered entries will be free. A team may apply for a waiver of the hired judge fee by contacting the tournament director.

Entry limitations

Each team will be allowed a maximum of two entries per event. A single student may enter in duo twice if each duo has a separate partner. A single student can be entered in each event, other than duo, only once. There are no flight restrictions for individual students. However, judges will be asked not to wait for competitors past the beginning of the following round in order to keep the tournament on schedule. There will be no qualification process necessary for entry.

Scoring

No points will be earned in preliminary round competition. There will be two judges in each preliminary round. Advancement to elimination rounds will be determined based on each entry's three best ranks. Only the highest placing entry from each team in each event will score points. Points will be determined by adding all of the elimination round placements along the following scale:

Quarter finals = 1 point

Semi finals = 2 points

6th place = 2 points

5th place = 4 points

4th place = 6 points

3rd place = 8 points

2nd place = 10 points

1st place = 12 point

A student winning an event will therefore earn 15 team points.

All teams will earn 20 points for attending the tournament.

Awards

Medals will be awarded to all elimination round competitors. Traveling team trophies will be awarded to the top ten teams based upon points from that year's elimination rounds. Each of these trophies will have space to engrave the names of the coaches and students from each team earning that trophy. The team trophies will need to be returned to the tournament the following year.

A traveling team award will also be given to the team earning the most points in tournament history with points being reset to zero after winning.

Recognition will also be given to the top three non-scholarship programs, the top three two year institutions, the top three programs run by undergraduate students, and the top three programs run by graduate students. If your program has questions about divisional placement, please contact the tournament director.

Further recognition of requested division placement will be viewable via speechwire after the awards ceremony. To request additional divisional competition, please contact the tournament director.

Tournament Schedule

Saturday, March 25th 2017:

7:30am Extemp Draw

8:00am Round 1A (Extemp, Duo, CA)

9:30am Round 1B (Prose, Persuasion, Info, POI)

11:00am Round 2B (Prose, Persuasion, Info, POI)

Lunch break

1pm Extemp Draw

1:30pm Round 2A (Extemp, Duo, CA)

3:00pm Round 1C (Impromptu, Poetry, DI, ADS)

4:30pm Round 2C (Impromptu, Poetry, DI, ADS)

6:30pm Quarter Finals (Extemp, Duo, CA, Prose, Persuasion)

Sunday, March 26th 2017:

8:00am Quarter Finals (Info, POI, Impromptu, Poetry, DI, ADS)

10:00am Extemp Prep

10:30am Semi Finals (Extemp, Duo, CA, Prose, Persuasion)

Lunch

1pm Semi-Finals (Info, POI, Impromptu, Poetry, DI, ADS)

3pm Extemp Prep

3:30pm Finals (Extemp, Duo, CA, Prose, Persuasion)

5:30pm Finals (Info, POI, Impromptu, Poetry, DI, ADS)

8:00pm Awards Ceremony