



With immense appreciation, you are invited to attend the second National Speech Championship on March 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> of the year 2018. This tournament will provide an opportunity for teams of all resource levels to once again compete for a national team championship. The competition will be incredible and opportunities for both individual and team placement will abound. I am so very thankful to the hundreds of individuals who supported the tournament in 2017 through competing, coaching, running the tournament, and judging. I also want to extend a thank you to all of you who will be joining us as we begin a long history of forensics excellence. Special congratulations to George Mason University for winning the 2017 National Speech Championship.

The 2018 National Championship will be hosted in Lincoln, Nebraska by The University of Nebraska-Lincoln. 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 us in our commitment to fostering a healthy and rewarding competitive environment for schools of all resource 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. Hired judges will be available at a rate of \$40 per uncovered entry. If this fee prevents any team from attending the tournament, that team may contact the tournament director, Ryan Lauth at [r-lauth@northwestern.edu](mailto:r-lauth@northwestern.edu), for a fee waiver. The tournament is happy to provide this waiver as a means to support forensics participation around the nation. There will be **no charge** for any entries covered by judges.

### 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.

Students in their first year of competition are allowed to be entered as novice on speechwire. Novice students will be eligible for novice exhibition finals only if they do not advance in that event to open elimination rounds. The novice exhibition finals will take place at the same time as open semi-finals. There will be no ranking of the novice exhibition final rounds. Instead, a moderator will run the round and offer only feedback on ballots. Novice final round competitors will be recognized during the awards ceremony. There will be no points awarded for novice final rounds.

Entries will be due via speechwire by **March 13th**

### Scoring

No points will be earned in preliminary round competition. There will be two judges in each preliminary round. Elimination round placement 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

6<sup>th</sup> place = 2 points

5<sup>th</sup> place = 4 points

4<sup>th</sup> place = 6 points

3<sup>rd</sup> place = 8 points

2<sup>nd</sup> place = 10 points

1<sup>st</sup> place = 12 point

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

All teams will earn 20 points for attending the tournament.

## Tournament Schedule

Friday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> 2018:

7:00pm-9:00pm- Early registration

8:00pm-9:00pm- Voluntary Coaches meeting

Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup> 2018:

6:45am- Late Registration

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)

1:00pm- 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- A/B Quarter Finals (Extemp, Duo, CA, Prose, Persuasion)

Sunday, March 25<sup>th</sup> 2018:

8:00am- B/C Quarter Finals (Info, POI, Impromptu, Poetry, DI, ADS)

9:30am- Extemp Draw

9:45am- A/B Semi Finals (Extemp, Duo, CA, Prose, Persuasion)

11:15am- B/C Semi-Finals (Info, POI, Impromptu, Poetry, DI, ADS)

1:30pm- Extemp Draw

1:45pm- A/B Finals (Extemp, Duo, CA, Prose, Persuasion)

3:30pm- B/C Finals (Info, POI, Impromptu, Poetry, DI, ADS)

5:45pm- Awards Ceremony

## 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 directed by undergraduate students, and the top three programs directed by graduate students.

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.

## Event Descriptions

### Flight A

#### **Extemporaneous Speaking**

An extemporaneously delivered speech that answers a question based in current events. Students will have thirty minutes to prepare. Time signals will be provided during the speech. The maximum time limit for the speech is seven minutes.

#### **Duo Performance**

A performance by two students. The students should primarily maintain off stage focus. Original commentary by the students should be provided that includes the title and author of any text used in the performance. The maximum time limit will be ten minutes.

#### **Communication Analysis**

A speech that incorporates communication focused research to explore a communicative act. The maximum time limit will be ten minutes.

## Flight B

### **Prose Performance**

A performance of prose. Original commentary by the student should be provided that includes the title and author of any text used in the performance. The maximum time limit will be ten minutes.

### **Persuasive Speaking**

A speech designed to persuade the audience to change their attitude, beliefs, values, or behavior. The maximum time limit will be ten minutes.

### **Informative Speaking**

A speech designed to inform the audience. The maximum time limit will be ten minutes.

### **Program Performance**

A performance that incorporates multiple genres of text. Original commentary by the student should be provided that includes an argumentative justification for the collection of texts as well as the title and author of any text used in the performance. The maximum time limit will be ten minutes.

## Flight C

### **Impromptu Speaking**

A speech delivered after minimal preparation time. The student will have seven minutes total to prepare and speak after being given a prompt. Time signals will be provided. The maximum time limit will be seven minutes.

### **Poetry Performance**

A performance of poetry. Original commentary by the student should be provided that includes the title and author of any text used in the performance. The maximum time limit will be ten minutes.

### **Dramatic Performance**

A performance of material that was created specifically for live or broadcast presentation. Original commentary by the student should be provided that includes the title and author of any text used in the performance. The maximum time limit will be ten minutes.

### **After Dinner Speaking**

A speech designed to use humor to make a point. The maximum time limit will be ten minutes.