



23rd National Christian College Forensics Invitational

Key deadlines

INITIAL ENTRY DEADLINE:

Tuesday, February 25, 5:00 CT

CHANGE DEADLINE:

Tuesday, March 3, 5:00 CT

JUDGE PHILOSOPHIES:

Friday, February 28, 5:00 CT

Email to:

mdreher@bethel.edu

(Put NCCFI Judge

Philosophy in subject)

IPDA/NPDA Topics:

Friday, February 28, 5:00 CT

Email to:

mdreher@bethel.edu

(Put IPDA/NPDA Topics

in subject)

ENTRY CHANGES AFTER THE CHANGE DEADLINE:

Email directly to:

mdreher@bethel.edu

(Put NCCFI entry change

in subject)

NCCFI Friends and Colleagues:

Back in November 1996, a few coaches from Christian colleges came together at the National Communication Association convention to discuss whether or not it would be a good idea to hold a forensics tournament. In February 1998, 12 schools attended the inaugural NCCFI.

We hope you and your team will join us for the 23rd annual National Christian College Forensics Invitational to be held **March 6-8 (Friday-Sunday)**. The tournament is open to schools who are members of the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities or schools that have a mission statement that is supportive and sympathetic to the mission of Christian higher education. This tournament is a unique opportunity to celebrate our heritage as Christians in forensics.

We are still looking for hosts for 2021 and beyond. We would encourage your school to consider submitting a bid to host the tournament. Bid forms are on the NCCFA website. Ideal locations have a large enough campus for 50-60 rooms at a time, a location fairly close to a major airport, located in a town with some large hotels with decent rates. Hosts typically spend less than it might take them to fly to a location several hours away. Please contact Chris Leland if interested. We hope to present proposals at the Business Meeting.

On the following pages of the invitation, you'll find more details about the schedule, rules of the tournament, and more. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us. We look forward to seeing you in Pennsylvania in March!

Dr. Chris Leland, Azusa Pacific University, NCCFA President (cleland@apu.edu)

Dr. Andrew Harvey, Grove City College, Tournament Host (harveyaj@gcc.edu)

Dr. Michael Dreher, Bethel University, NCCFI Tournament Director (mdreher@bethel.edu)

TENTATIVE 2020 NCCFI SCHEDULE

One change that we are making this year in an attempt to make the days shorter is to put IE into two flights instead of three. We also want to remind everyone that on Sunday morning is Daylight Savings Time. Please remember to set your non-electronic clocks ahead one hour before turning in on Saturday night!

- **Flight A: Impromptu, Inform, CA, Prose, Duo, Faith Lit, LD**
- **Flight B: Extemp, Per, ADS, DI, POI, Poetry, RT**

Thursday:

Registration will be at the from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Hampton Inn

Friday:

7:30-8:15 - Late Registration
 8:30-8:50 - Opening Assembly/Opening Prayer
 9:00 - Topic Announcement
 9:20/9:30 - Round 1 of NPDA/IPDA
 10:30 - Round 1A of IE, Round 1 of NFA-LD
 11:45-12:45 - Lunch
 1:00 - Topic Announcement
 1:20/1:30 - Round 2 of NPDA/IPDA
 2:30 - Extemp Draw
 3:00 - Round 1B of IE
 4:15 - Topic Announcement
 4:35/4:45 - Round 3 of NPDA/IPDA
 5:30-5:45 - Fellowship Time
 5:45 - Round 2A of IE, Round 2 of NFA-LD
 7:00 - Topic Announcement
 7:20/7:30 - Round 4 of IPDA/NPDA

Saturday

8:30 - Topic Announcement
 8:50/9:00 - Round 5 of NPDA/IPDA
 10:00 - Round 3A of IE, Round 3 of NFA-LD
 11:30 - Topic Announcement
 11:50/12:00 - Round 6 of NPDA/IPDA
 1:00-2:00 - Lunch, Business Meeting
 1:50 - Announce parli breaks,
 2:00 - Topic Announcement
 2:20/2:30 - Outround 1 of IPDA/NPDA
 3:30 - Extemp Draw
 4:00 - Round 2B of IE
 5:15 - Topic Announcement
 5:35/5:45 - Outround 2 of IPDA/NPDA
 7:00 - Banquet/Debate Speaker Awards and awards through semis

Sunday

9:00 - Chapel
 9:45 - Extemp Draw
 10:15 - Round 3B of IE
 11:30 - Topic Announcement
 11:50/12:00 - IPDA/NPDA Debate Finals
 1:00-2:00 - Lunch
 2:00 - IE Semis/Round 4 of NFA-LD
 3:15 - Finals 1/NFA-LD Outround 1
 4:45- Extemp Draw
 5:15 - Finals 2/NFA-LD Outround 2
 7:00/ASAP - Awards - IE, Team, finals of debate

HOTEL AND TRAVEL INFORMATION

There are several options for schools flying in. Most teams will likely fly into Pittsburgh International Airport. The campus is about an hour and 15 minutes to 1 1/2 hours away. Southwest and American are the two largest airlines flying into Pittsburgh, but there are plenty of other options as well. Akron (1 1/2 hours away), and Cleveland (2 hours) are also possibilities that may be cheaper for some teams.

Hotels: We have blocks at the Hampton Inn (Mercer), and the Holiday Inn Express (Mercer). The Candlewood Suites will be our overflow hotel. All of the hotels are right next to each other, and are located just minutes from Grove City. The rates for all of the hotels are the same: **\$99 per night plus taxes (11% per night)**. In addition to the free shuttle available between the hotel and the tournament, they also offer a shuttle between Pittsburgh International Airport and the hotel. With several restaurants across the street from the hotels, it may be possible to entirely forego renting vehicles. Most of our rooms are double queens, but it's possible to get king rooms for the same rate.

The hotel cutoff date is **February 14**. Rooms must be cancelled by midnight the day before arrival in order to avoid charges (Hampton Inn) or 6 p.m. the day of arrival (Holiday Inn Express). Our group coordinator, Stacey Glenn, recommends calling directly in order to get the group rates - please mention NCCFI at Grove City College when calling.

Hampton Inn: 724-748-5744
 Holiday Inn Express: 724-748-5514.

If you run into any issues, Stacey can be reached via email:
 Stacey.Glenn@americanhg.com.

INFORMATION ABOUT NCCFA

At the 2004 NCCFI, the assembled schools passed a constitution that created the National Christian College Forensics Association. As the constitution notes, membership is open to all schools who are full members of the Council of Christian Colleges and Universities (CCCU), with a forensics program that competes at the national tournament during the current or preceding three years. In addition, schools that support the Christian faith are allowed to participate. While not all historic church bodies subscribe to a creedal declaration of faith, the tenets of the Christian faith that schools are asked to support are as detailed by the Nicene creed. For further data on the organization please look to <https://www.nccfa.org/>

The National Christian College Forensics Association (NCCFA) is not an attempt to isolate Christian College programs from the regular circuit. Rather, the goal of the NCCFA is to provide Council based programs the opportunity to gather once a year and celebrate our faith while we engage in an activity we all love. We apologize to any individuals or institutions that may feel marginalized by our admittedly inexact effort at defining membership parameters.

Are you wondering whether you or another school can be part of the NCCFA? Contact: Dr. Chris Leland, President of NCCFA: cleland@apu.edu, 626-815-6000, ext. 3705, after reviewing the organization's website.

TOURNAMENT FEE INFORMATION (ENTRY DEADLINES *on page 1*)

Entry fees: Each school will be assessed a \$65.00 fee per participant (Coaches, Judges and Participants and Observers) to help provide food available during the tournament. **At the 2018 business meeting, the membership voted to have a \$50 per year membership fee that starts with the 2019 tournament.** Please let us know if finances are a barrier to your participation.

- Each Individual Event Slot: \$10.00
- Each NFA LD entry: \$35.00
- Each IPDA entry: \$35.00
- Each NPDA Debate team: \$50.00
- Each RT entry: \$35.00

Judging fees: For each uncovered entry, the following fees will be assessed:

- Individual Event slot: \$10.00
- NPDA Debate slot: \$100.00
- NFA LD Debate slot: \$70.00
- IPDA Debate slot: \$70.00
- Reader's Theatre slot: \$70.00

Meal Packages: The meal package covers 3 lunches, one dinner and the banquet. **If there are any dietary restrictions, please contact Andrew Harvey.**

Tax/Vendor Information: NCCFA is a designated non-profit organization. If your school is writing a check, please make it payable to NCCFA. Our Tax Identification Number (TIN) is 27-2053626. We are not unfortunately set up as of yet to handle credit card payments.

JUDGING

Qualification: All judges must have experience judging intercollegiate forensics competitions and be qualified to judge the events assigned to them. All Open competition judges **MUST** possess a college degree. Non-degree holding judges **MAY** be used for Novice division competition **ONLY** if they have intercollegiate forensics experience. Judges without a college degree should be noted with the entry.

Limitations: Please note all events and/or rounds a judge is **NOT** qualified or able to judge on the entry form. As always, we prefer your judges to your money!

Obligations: Each school will be required to provide judges as follows:

- One I.E. judge for every 10 IE entries
- One RT judge for every 2 Readers' Theaters
- One NPDA judge for every 2 NPDA debate teams
- One IPDA judge for every 2 IPDA debaters.
- One LD judge for every 2 LD debaters.

Mix and matching:

- Individual Events judges may also cover judging for NPDA **or** IPDA (and would cover a full number of NPDA/IPDA slots)
- Individual Events judges who want to cover NFA-LD can cover 1 LD slot and 5 IE slots.
- Individual Events judges who want to cover RT can cover 1 RT and 8 IE slots.
- Debate judges can only cover IPDA or NPDA, but not both, and can cover 2 LD slots.

We will adjust your fees for judges that judge more than one type of event. We'll make those adjustments at the entry change deadline. If you need that information earlier (to request a check, for example), please contact me (Michael Dreher - mdreher@bethel.edu), and I'll do that for you ahead of time.

Novice/Open Definitions

NOVICE: The tournament staff has become aware of cases in which schools have had differing opinions regarding the division between Open and Novice. If students are found to be entered in the wrong division prior to the tournament, their coach will be asked to decide between moving the student up or dropping the student. If the student is discovered during the tournament, the student will be allowed to continue for the sake of education and tournament consistency, but the student will not advance and cannot receive sweepstakes points nor speaker awards. All opposing students will automatically be ranked above the competitor (e.g., an automatic bye in debate, or a leapfrog in IEs). In short, put your students in the correct divisions. When in doubt, either contact the tournament administration for a ruling or move the student into the higher division. We encourage teams who have questions about this policy to bring it up before or after, and not during, the round.

IE: A novice I.E. competitor is any student in her/his first year of college competition. We use the AFA guidelines; one semester of competition is 3 or more tournaments of competition. A student who has attended a previous NCCFI or other national tournament is not a novice and must enter the open division. Students in Dramatic Duo must move up to the Open Division if either competitor would be required to move up based on these requirements.

Debate: For NPDA and NFA-LD debate, the tournament uses NPDA division guidelines. For IPDA debate, the tournament uses IPDA guidelines.

NPDA and NFA-LD Debate: To be classified as novice,

- The student should have no significant high school debate experience. “Significant” shall be defined as having more than one year of experience OR more than six tournaments, whichever is more restrictive (e.g., a student who only competed during one year but traveled to 7 tournaments should not be considered a novice).
- The student should be in the first two semesters of college debate
- Once the student has advanced to elimination rounds more than 3 times, the student should be advanced to the junior or open division.

To be classified as junior varsity,

- The student should be in the first four semesters of intercollegiate debate.
- The student should not have advanced to elimination rounds more than 3 times in junior or open division.
- Once the student has advanced to more than three elimination rounds in junior division (or higher), the student should be advanced to open.

IPDA Debate:

To be classified as novice, the student shall not have competed in more than eight debate tournaments in any capacity at any level in any combination (e.g., high school or college; novice, junior or open, CX, Policy, Value, NDT, CEDA, Parliamentary, NFA, L-D, etc.). For these purposes, a swing tournament would count as two tournaments.

Junior Varsity: have competed in eight tournaments beyond their novice eligibility OR have competed in sixteen debate tournaments in any capacity at the collegiate level in any combination (e.g. novice, junior or open, IPDA, CX, Policy, Value, NDT, CEDA, Parliamentary, NFA, L-D, etc.).

Open: This division is open to all tournament competitors. Any student who is in at least his/her third year of college competition must enter the open division as long as they have not already expended up to four years of eligibility, measured either by 10 semesters or 5 National Years (a year the student competed at any intercollegiate forensics National Championship)

A Quick Guide to Divisions:

EVENT	Novice	Junior Varsity	Varsity
IE	1st year of collegiate competition (1 semester is 3+ tournaments)	Not applicable	Open to all. Duos with one novice and one varsity partner are varsity.
NPDA, NFA-LD	No high school debate experience (1 year or 6 tournaments maximum, whichever is more restrictive)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First 4 semesters of debate • Should not have advanced to elims more than 3 times in junior or open 	Open to all; maximum of 8 semesters or 4 national years
IPDA	No more than 8 debate tournaments in any combination of high school and college (in any format)	No more than 8 tournaments beyond novice, or no more than 16 tournaments in a combination of high school and college (in any format)	Open to all; maximum of 8 semesters or 4 national years (of any intercollegiate forensics format)

Miscellaneous Information: Judges, Fees, Entries, ADA Room Concerns

PLEASE be careful not to overbook your judges. Tournament days can be very long and breaks are rare if judges are committed to covering every possible event.

If you are bringing along judges who would like to work beyond your team's commitment, please note their willingness to be hired on the entry form. We will waive their meal fee and pay them for additional rounds.

Philosophies: All NPDA debate judges are required to submit a copy of their philosophy. Email all philosophies to: mdreher@bethel.edu.

Commitment: All judges are expected to judge one round beyond the point their students are eliminated from competition. IE schools would be expected to judge in all time blocks of IE finals. Please help the tournament run on a timely basis by fulfilling your commitment.

When you enter on Speechwire, please remember to enter pronunciations for student names. If you've not entered the student before, the pronunciation box is right below the name box. If you've used Speechwire and the student before, go back and edit the student in your roster. You can then add the pronunciation. It will make our lives much easier!

If you have a student or judge who needs special room accommodations, please let both Michael and Andrew know. We've already identified potential rooms during the site visit; we'll make sure that those rooms are used for those who need them.

Please enter RT the following way: enter the RT cast members first on the main entry screen. Then go to "Piece Registration" and enter the name of the RT there.

DEBATE

The tournament will offer NPDA parliamentary debate, IPDA debate, and NFA-LD debate.

- All debate formats will offer open, junior and novice divisions.
- Divisions will only be collapsed when there are six or fewer entrants.
- Definitions of divisions can be found on pages 6-7 of the invitation.

2019-2020 LD Resolution: Resolved: The United States federal government should implement an energy policy that substantially increases investments in one or more of the following domestic energy sectors: nuclear, hydroelectric, geothermal, wind, solar.

Governing Rules

The following are links to the rules for NPDA, IPDA and NFA-LD debate:

- NPDA: <https://www.parlidebate.org/npda-rules>
- IPDA: <http://www.ipdadebate.info/constitution--bylaws.html>

IPDA and NPDA Resolutions

All schools participating in NPDA and IPDA debate should submit five potential motions for debate by Friday, February 28. Coaches MAY encourage students to participate in the topic submission process.

Faith and Value Resolutions

To remain consistent with the theme of the tournament, the debate propositions will vary in content. Some propositions may reflect a value, moral, religious, or ethical intent wherein students may feel free to integrate their faith into their arguments.

Invoking a particular theological belief or particular interpretation of a verse is only persuasive if your audience already shares those views. Given the fact that we have a wide variety of denominational backgrounds and theological preferences represented in the NCCFA, the tournament desires to be inclusive of a wide variety of faith traditions. We encourage judges and students to respect other viewpoints - even if they are not their own - and to encourage that respect within the rounds and on the ballots. We also encourage judges if they have definitive theological biases that they cannot set aside to contact the tournament staff as soon as possible, certainly prior to the beginning of the debate round.

Debate Outround Procedures

- The tournament resources (e.g., rooms, judges, and time) will trump outround calculation.
- Resources permitting, the number of competitors in each event will determine the number of teams advancing to elimination rounds. The tournament will attempt to use partial outrounds if available. If not, the tournament will use the following guidelines:
 - up to 7 entrants = finals
 - 8-14 entrants = semifinals
 - 15-28 entrants = quarterfinals
 - 29-57 entrants = octofinals

As specified in the bylaws, brackets will be broken.

Tiebreaking Criteria:

NPDA and IPDA Teams	NPDA and IPDA Speakers	NFA-LD Debate
Number of wins	Adjusted speaker points	Number of wins
Adjusted speaker points	Total speaker points	Total speaker points
Total speaker points	Judge variance	Adjusted speaker points
Opposition record	Number of wins	Opposition record

TIME LIMITS FOR DEBATES

NPDA Time Limits

- PMC: 7 minutes
- LOC: 8 minutes
- MOC: 8 minutes
- MOC: 8 minutes
- LOR: 4 minutes
- PMR: 5 minutes
- Prep Time: 20 minutes from topic announce, with 3 minute forfeit rule

NFA-LD Time Limits

- 1AC: 6 minutes
- Cross Examination: 3 minutes
- 1NC: 7 minutes
- Cross Examination: 3 minutes
- 1AR: 6 minutes
- 1NR: 6 minutes
- 2AR: 3 minutes
- Prep Time: Each competitor is allowed to use up to a total of 4 minutes of preparation time allocated at their discretion throughout the round

IPDA Time Limits

- 1st Affirmative: 5 minutes
- 2 minute Cross Examination
- 1st Negative: 6 minutes
- 2 minute Cross Examination
- Affirmative Rebuttal: 3 minutes
- Negative Rebuttal: 5 minutes
- Affirmative Summary: 3 minutes
- Prep Time: 30 minutes

Deviations from Updated NPDA Rules of Debate

As most members are aware, the NPDA changed its rules in October 2018 to allow for flex time. NPDA does allow tournaments to be sanctioned provided they note any deviations from the rules from debate. An electronic vote of the membership took place during Fall 2018. Members voted **against having flex time and against having a warm room.**

For IPDA and NPDA: Please be prompt. Preparation time includes the time required to walk to the furthest room. There is a three minute forfeit rule which will be strictly enforced. **The three minute forfeit rule IS the grace period. Arrival after that 3-minute delay is necessarily an automatic forfeit.**

All NPDA debate topics will be presented via mass topic announcement.

All IPDA debate topics will be presented via draw, with competitors striking topics at the draw table.

Prep Rooms

- Schools will be given prep rooms for NPDA debate. However, it is the responsibility of the school to keep the room clean and usable, since there will be other competition rounds in those rooms, including IE events. If necessary, schools will be assessed cleaning fees. Please leave the rooms as you've found them.

Use of Electronic Devices (NPDA and IPDA):

Unless the competitor has verified an ADA accommodation for the use of a laptop, electronic tablet, or any other electronic device, they should not be used in the round.

- Cellphones are allowed in NPDA debate for personal timekeeping only
- By IPDA rules, cellphones are not allowed for personal timekeeping.

Use of Electronic Devices (NFA-LD):

NFA guidelines have now been altered to allow digital media. However, note that opponents must be allowed the option to review evidence in exactly the same way they would if the material were printed. It is strongly recommended that debaters carry printed copies of their most commonly presented positions for this purpose.

INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

- **Flight A: Impromptu, Inform, CA, Prose, Duo, Faith Lit, LD**
- **Flight B: Extemp, Per, ADS, DI, POI, Poetry, RT**

There will be open and novice divisions in each event. We will only collapse divisions with less than 6 students. There is no limit on the number of students a school may enter in a given event, however, we cannot guarantee that team members will not compete against one another in preliminary rounds.

- *Students may triple-enter in flight A, except for those doing LD. LD'ers may only double-enter.*
- *Students may triple-enter in flight B. **Teams should compete in RT in the assigned order on the schematics. Students competing in RT and Extemp should not triple enter.***
The tournament will do its best to schedule competitors. However, we VERY STRONGLY discourage competitors from being in RT, Extemp, another group B event **and** Parli or IPDA, as it could cause increased stress for the competitor and the tournament.

No material used at NCCFI should have been used in competition prior to September 1, 2019.

Event Definitions: All events will follow AFA guidelines, with the following exceptions:

- *Impromptu:* Impromptu Speaking: An impromptu speech, serious in nature, with topic selections varied by round. In the spirit of the tournament, however, the topic committee will develop quotations which may consist of Psalms or Proverbs, quotations from famous religious figures (e.g., Martin Luther, Mother Theresa, Billy Graham, etc.), or regular quotations. Speakers will have a total of 7 minutes for both preparation and speaking. Limited notes are permitted.

Please note that we will use the new AFA-NIET Impromptu guidelines. In all rounds of impromptu, judges will allow for a 15-second grace period for the competitor to read/review the given prompt. Competitors may not write during this 15 second period, which begins as soon as the prompt is given. Once the 15 second period is complete, time begins, and students can start to prepare for their speech. Time signals will be given as usual after this grace period.

- *Extemporaneous:* Questions will be mixed with least one round being value, religious, or moral oriented questions. The topic committee will generate questions from a variety of sources. Internet access and electronic data retrieval will be allowed during preparation time, but both NFA and AFA guidelines explicitly forbid collaboration in Extemporaneous Speaking – the speech should be the original work of the student, and students should not confer with anyone during preparation time.

The tournament also offers:

- **Interpretation of Faith Literature:** 8-10 minute time limit. A selection or selections of interpretation material emphasizing faith issues. Content could reflect a variety of faith perspectives. This may be a single selection or may be developed from more than one source in any genre. Solo performances only; no Duos permitted. Presentation should follow traditional guidelines for an interpretation presentation including an introduction which establishes the theme and tone of the piece. The use of a manuscript is required.

- **Readers' Theater:** A group performance of literature, involving more than two performers with a single or compiled program on a discernible theme or concept. Scripts must be perceived, but not necessarily referenced at all times. Props, set pieces, music, singing and other theatrical accouterments must be perceived as enhancing rather than substituting for the performance options. 25 minute time limit includes set up and take down of set and audience reaction.

IE Outround Procedures

- If there are more than 12 students in the event, all finalists shall be advanced. If there are 35 students in an event, there will be semifinals, tournament resources permitting.
- Semifinalists shall be seeded into two patterns. Semifinal A shall have the 1-4-5-8-9-12 seeds; semifinal B shall have the 2-3-6-7-10-11 seeds. If there is need for a 13th student, that student shall be placed in semifinal A. The top 3 students from each semifinal shall be advanced into the final round.
- If a novice division has less than 12 students in an event, and the open division has 12 or more students, then the entries will be collapsed into a single division. A novice champion shall still be named. If an open division has less than 12 students, and the novice division has 12 or more, then the divisions will not be collapsed, and the open division will advance 50% into finals. If both divisions have less than 12 students, then the divisions will be collapsed and a novice champion will still be named.

Breaks to, and placement in, elimination rounds will be conducted as follows:

- Total ranks
- Speaker points (In a tie including more than 3 competitors, if speaker points break part of the tie, it shall be used first)
- Judges' preference (In a three-way tie, if judges' preference breaks the tie, it shall be used first)

A few notes to keep in mind:

- Students who are entered in all IE rounds as well as debate will have very little downtime; please take wellness into account.
- Students double-entered in two different Duo Interpretations will be protected. Students need to adhere to their assigned schedule to help guarantee that those rounds get off on time. For example: if Duo A is in the 2nd slot and Duo B is in the 5th slot, go to those rounds in that order. The same is true for Readers' Theater - RT will speak in the order in the schedule.
- Students are responsible for getting to rounds on time. Students will have 75-90 minutes to get to all of their rounds, depending on the specific round; we strongly encourage students to move promptly from round to round, and it helps us greatly when you have teammates check you in to your waiting rounds. Judges will be instructed to mark speakers as forfeits if they cannot meet this deadline.
- Wellness is a vital element of making this experience a positive one for our students. Be sure to plan ahead in order to guarantee that your students will have adequate rest as well as opportunities to eat healthy and stay hydrated!

SPECIAL SPEECHWIRE INFORMATION

We will again utilize Speechwire's live functionality for postings. There are two different ways in which the live functionality will work:

1. During the tournament, you can go to <https://www.speechwire.com/live>. There will also be a link to the tournament on Speechwire's home page as well. From those links, you'll be able to link to schematics and debate postings.
2. You and your students may choose to subscribe to SMS/email subscriptions. We'll announce when this will be available - it'll be shortly before the tournament. Students will know where they'll be performing before each round. Judges will receive alerts when ballots are being handed out. NOTE: The alert for judges won't tell you whether you have a ballot or not; it simply indicates when ballots are ready. For debate in particular, if you don't have a ballot in a round, you should be expected to be on standby and be able to pick up a ballot if needed.

Here's how it works: Click on the "Live!" link at the top of the Speechwire site. Then you'll see an option that allows you to subscribe to NCCFI. Click that link.

You'll get to a screen that says the following:

Subscribe to a competitor

Please select the event/division of the competitor you wish to subscribe to and click 'View entries'.

Event/Division: <a drop down box with all the events will appear.>

Please select the judge that you wish to subscribe to and click 'Subscribe'.

Judge: <a drop down box with all of the judges will appear.>

For the competitor - click on the "view entries" that appears next to the event once you've selected it. Then click on the competitor's name. You'll then be taken to another screen where you can choose to receive email updates or SMS updates.

For the judge - a similar screen will appear where you can choose to receive email updates or SMS updates.

Please note Ben Stewart's caveats when it comes to this service. This is a new feature and we apologize in advance for any glitches. You should always be aware of the location of tournament postings at the local tournament site in case of technology problems with email/SMS text or late updates to the tournament schedule after the delivery of email/SMS text messages. Standard messaging and data fees may apply. Check with your carrier for details on specific fees and charges. The SMS text feature is contingent on the delivery of SpeechWire's messages by the message recipient's cellular/mobile carrier, and SpeechWire Tournament Services is not responsible for messages blocked or not delivered for any reason (spam filtering, outages, etc.) by cellular/mobile carriers. SpeechWire Tournament Services may be reached by email at support@speechwire.com.

TEAM AND INDIVIDUAL SCORING

Sweepstakes points will be accrued by both novice and open speakers in IEs and novice, junior and senior speakers in debate in the following manner:

Debate

- 3 points will be earned for every preliminary round win for each debate team. Byes will be counted as wins for purposes of points.
- Preliminary round points may be earned for up to 4 teams per division, per school. Elimination round points may be earned for all teams from a school in each division.
- Elimination round points will be earned on the following basis:
 - First Place - 20 Points
 - Second Place - 15 Points
 - Semifinalists - 9 Points
 - Quarterfinalists - 6 Points
 - Octofinalists - 3 Points

Individual Events

- Preliminary round points will be earned on the following scale:
 - 1st place in a round earns 3 points,
 - 2nd place in a round earns 2 points,
 - 3rd place in a round earns 1 point.
- Preliminary round points may be earned for up to 4 students per school, per division. Elimination round points may be earned for all students per school per division.
- Elimination round points will be earned on the following basis:
 - First Place - 12 points
 - Second Place - 10 points
 - Third Place - 8 points
 - Fourth Place - 6 points
 - Fifth Place - 5 points
 - Sixth Place - 4 points
 - Seventh Place or Higher in a Final - 3 points
 - Non-advancing Semifinalists - 2 points

Readers' Theater

- 3 points will be earned for each preliminary round win. Byes will be counted as wins for purposes of points. (If there are two judges per preliminary round, then each preliminary round win shall earn 1.5 points.)
- Preliminary round points may be earned for as many as 4 Readers Theaters per school. Elimination round points may be earned for all Theaters from a school.
- Elimination round points will be earned on the following basis:
 - First Place - 24 Points
 - Second Place - 20 Points
 - Third Place (or Semifinalist)- 16 Points

AWARDS

Individual Tournament Sweepstakes: We will offer awards for the top overall competitor at the tournament in Open and Novice divisions.

Open speakers must be entered in at least 4 events.

- The student must be entered in platform (limited prep or public address) and interpretation events to be eligible.
- Readers' Theater counts as an interpretation event with elim points halved.
- LD, IPDA, and NPDA debate count as limited preparation events, with NPDA points halved.

Novice speakers must be entered in at least 3 events.

- The student must be entered in both platform (limited prep or public address) and interpretation events to be eligible.
- Readers' Theater counts as an interpretation event with elim points halved.
- LD, IPDA, and NPDA debate count as limited preparation events, with NPDA points halved.

Number of Events - If a student enters more than the minimum number of events required (4 or 3, respectively), then their best 4 or 3 events will count.

Individual Events Speaker: We will offer awards for the top Individual Events speakers in both novice and open division.

Open speakers must be entered in at least 4 events.

- The student must be entered in platform (limited prep or public address) and interpretation events to be eligible.
- Readers' Theater, IPDA, LD debate, and NPDA debate do not count for this award.

Novice speakers must be entered in at least 3 events.

- The student must be entered in both platform (limited prep or public address) and interpretation events to be eligible.
- Readers' Theater, IPDA, LD debate, and NPDA debate do not count for this award.

Number of Events - If a student enters more than the minimum number of events required (4 or 3, respectively), then their best 4 or 3 events will count.

Individual Debate Speaker: We will award the top 10 speakers in open, junior and novice NPDA debate. Since NFA LD Debate and IPDA are single-person events, no speaker awards will be given in those events.

Debate Team Sweepstakes

The tournament will offer three team trophies in each of two divisions of debate: large entry and small entry.

- The breakdown between divisions shall be such that a minimum of 40% of the entries fall into each division, unless a "natural break" occurs that would modify the 40% rule. The breakdown will be based on the number of entries at the time registration closes or the time the tournament starts, whichever is higher.
- The guiding principle behind this rule is that a team that brings a few debaters that do both LD and parliamentary debate will likely be a small entry; as paraphrased, 'If your teams fit in a minivan, they are likely in the small entry division.'
- For purposes of entries, IPDA, NFA LD, and NPDA each count as 1 entry.

AWARDS (CONTINUED)

Individual Events Team Sweepstakes

The tournament will offer three team trophies in each of three divisions of individual events: large entry, medium-size entry, and small entry.

- The breakdown between divisions shall be guided by “natural breaks.” The intent is to have approximately 1/3 of the teams in each of the divisions. The breakdown is based on the number of entries at the time registration closes or the time the tournament starts, whichever is higher.
- For purposes of entries, Readers Theater will count toward Individual Events sweepstakes at the rate of 1 Readers Theater = 2 Individual Events entries.

Team Quality Awards Sweepstakes

The tournament will offer one quality award trophy. This trophy is designed to award the team that has the greatest success per entry.

- The quality award will be calculated by adding all points that the school’s entries earn, and dividing by the number of entries.
- Readers Theater will count as 2 entries for purposes of quality awards.

Overall Team Sweepstakes

The tournament will offer three trophies to the top overall schools. In order to be eligible, a school must enter individual events and debate. RT is considered an individual event.

The overall team award shall be determined as follows:

- Calculate the percentage of all possible points a team earns in IE,
- Calculate the percentage of all possible points a team earns in Debate,
- Add the two percentages together (to two significant digits).

Example: Assume there are 1000 possible IE points, and 800 debate points. A school earns 100 IE sweeps points, and 96 debate sweeps points. Their score would be $10\% (100/1000) + 12\% (96/800) = 22\%$.

If there is a tie, the tie will be broken as follows:

- Total combined place ranking in IE and debate (e.g., 2 + 2)
- Total number of breaks in all events
- Number of 1’s in all events
- Coin flip