24th National Christian College Forensics Invitational

Key deadlines

INITIAL ENTRY DEADLINE:
Thursday, March 11, 5:00 CT

CHANGE DEADLINE:
Thursday, March 18, 5:00 CT

JUDGE PHILOSOPHIES:
Thursday, March 18, 5:00 CT
Email to:
mdreher@bethel.edu
(Put NCCFI Judge Philosophy in subject)

IPDA/NPDA Topics:
Monday, March 22, 5:00 CT
Email to:
mdreher@bethel.edu
(Put IPDA/NPDA Topics in subject)

ASYNCHRONOUS EVENTS:
Monday, March 22, 5:00 CT
Links must be on Speechwire.

PRELIM BALLOTS FOR
ASYNCHRONOUS EVENTS:
Due Thursday, March 25, 12:00 CT

FINAL BALLOTS FOR
ASYNCHRONOUS EVENTS:
Due Saturday, March 27, 5:00 CT

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.

With COVID-19 changing forensics for all of us this year, the Executive Committee has decided that the 24th NCCFI will be a virtual tournament. We want to thank Prof. Denise Thomas for all of her work for be willing to host us this year.

We hope you and your team will join us **March 25-28 (Thurs.-Sun.)**. The tournament is over 4 days (2 for IE, 2 for debate) so as to accomodate teams in all U.S. time zones. The tournament will be hybrid; we will have special asynchronous events for those schools who wish to compete asynchronously. Debate will be held synchronously, as will the normal NCCFI individual events. RT and Faith Lit will be held asynchronously this year.

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 2023 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 this year for future years.

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.

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

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

Executive Committee: Dr. Mike Ingram, Whitworth University; Prof. Mike Marse, California Baptist University; Prof. Denise Thomas, Liberty University; Prof. Jon Loging, Bethany Lutheran College, Dr. Julie Welker, Howard Payne University; Prof. Brooke Adamson, Northwest Nazarene College

TENTATIVE 2021 NCCFI SCHEDULE (SYNCHRONOUS)

This year's schedule will be a 4-day schedule to allow schools in all time zones to start and end at decent times. Friday/Saturday will be debate; Thursday/Sunday will be individual events. All times listed are **CENTRAL TIME.**

Thursday, March 25:

10:30 - Opening Announcements, Prayer
11:00 - Round 1A (Impromptu, Inform, CA, Prose, Duo, LD)
12:30 - Break
1:15 - Extemp Draw
1:45 - Round 1B (Extemp, Per, ADS, DI, POI, Poetry)
3:00 - Break
3:45 - Round 2A (round 2, LD)
5:00 - Extemp Draw
5:30 - Round 2B
6:45 - Round 3A (round 3, LD)

Saturday, March 27:

10:30 - Round 5 Draw IPDA and Round 5 Topic Announce, NPDA
10:50 - Round 5 NPDA
11:00 - Round 5 IPDA
12:00 - Break
12:45 - Round 6 Draw IPDA and Round 6 Topic Announce, NPDA
1:05 - Round 6 NPDA
1:15 - Round 6 IPDA
2:00 - Break
2:50 - Announce Elim Breaks/Judges
3:00 - Elim 1 Draw IPDA and Elim 1 Topic Announce, NPDA
3:20 - Elim 1 NPDA
3:30 - Elim 1 IPDA
4:15 - Screen break!
4:30 - Elim 2 Draw IPDA and Elim 2 Topic Announce, NPDA
4:50 - Elim 2 NPDA
5:00 - Elim 2 IPDA
6:10 - Elim 3 Draw IPDA and Elim 3 Topic Announce, NPDA
6:30 - Elim 3 NPDA
6:40 - Elim 3 IPDA

Friday, March 26

10:30 - Opening Announcements
11:00 - Round 1 Draw IPDA and Round 1 Topic Announce, NPDA
11:20 - Round 1 NPDA
11:30 - Round 1 IPDA
12:30 - Break
1:15 - Round 2 Draw IPDA and Round 2 Topic Announce, NPDA
1:35 - Round 2 NPDA
1:45 - Round 2 IPDA
2:30 - Break
3:15 - Round 3 Draw IPDA and Round 3 Topic Announce, NPDA
3:35 - Round 3 NPDA
3:45 - Round 3 IPDA
4:45 - Screen break!
5:00 - Round 4 Draw IPDA and Round 4 Topic Announce, NPDA
5:20 - Round 4 NPDA
5:30 - Round 4 IPDA

Sunday, March 28

10:00 - Chapel
10:30 - Extemp Draw
11:00- Round 3B
12:15- Break
1:00 - Semifinals as needed, Round 4, LD
2:30 - Break
3:15 - Final A, Semis, LD
4:30 - Extemp Draw
5:00 - Final B, Finals, LD
7:15 - Awards Ceremony

Tournament director's note: We recognize that a Thursday/Sunday schedule is not optimal for IE. Here's what went into the decision making process: given what would have been long days, as well as the increased time some rounds take due to technology, we early on decided on a 4-day schedule as being best for wellness and for the tournament, given that we have schools in all four time zones. The next consideration was judges. The Executive Committee believed that it would be better to have the events for which it is hardest to find judges on Friday and Saturday, knowing that Thursday would likely be used for school judges. We do encourage schools to bring as many judges as possible both for allowing for breaks for judges and for ensuring that the tournament has sufficient judges to function.

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.

WHAT ARE THE BIG CHANGES FOR THE 2021 TOURNAMENT?

- Since we are using AFA rules, there is an important rule change for duo: the two competitors may NOT be in the same room while performing.
- We'll have special asynchronous events for those who would rather compete asynchronously. Faith Lit and Readers' Theater will be asynchronous this year.
- NPDA rules as outlined by the NPDA execurive council for online tournaments will be followed.
- You asked for an electronic payment option - we now have Venmo!
- We've also reduced entry fees. While we can't eliminate them due to expenses we have (Speechwire, Yaatly, etc.), we've reduced costs as much as possible.
- Physical Awards will be sent to schools after the tournament.

Miscellaneous Information: Judges, Fees, Entries, ADA

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 can provide judges who would like to work beyond your team's commitment, please note their willingness to be hired on the entry form. We will 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.

ADA: Should any of your students or judges need accomodations in order to compete in an online tournament, please contact Michael Dreher (mdreher@bethel.edu).

JUDGING *(This is changed for the 2021 tournament!)*

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 (**If only entering Asynchronous IE events, 1 judge per 4 entries**)
- One RT judge for every 2 Readers' Theaters (asynchronous)
- 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 2 RT and 10 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.

We ask that you cover as much judging as possible. You can definitely have judges for certain days, and we'll use them appropriately.

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

Entry fees: **At the 2018 business meeting, the membership voted to have a $50 per year membership fee that starts with the 2019 tournament.** We recognize that budgets may be an issue for some schools this year. please let us know if finances are a barrier to your participation, and we'll work with you. We have dropped fees this year to make it easier to attend.

- Each Individual Event Slot: $8.00
- Each NFA LD entry: $25.00
- Each IPDA entry: $25.00
- Each NPDA Debate team: $40.00
- Each RT entry: $25.00

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

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 will be set up with Venmo this year.

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)	• 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)

Entries for the 2021 Tournament:

This year's tournament will be a combination of asynchronous and synchronous events. Here are the directions for each type of event:

Asynchronous Events: You'll enter those events (RT, Event 1, Event 2) as you normally would in Speechwire. However, there will be one additional step. You will need to upload the video of the speech and provide the URL. **We suggest that you have the video as unlisted.** There will be a spot in Speechwire to place the URL of each entry. Please notice on page 1 the deadlines for asynchronous events.

Synchronous Events: These will be entered as normal on Speechwire. Please be sure to include the pronunciation of students' names so that we can use those pronunciations for the awards ceremony! Also, please make sure that student email addresses are entered in Speechwire.

If you've not yet done so, you'll want to set up your team roster in Yaatly. To do so, go to https://www.yaatly.com. Click on the signup/login button. You'll then want to follow the directions at:
https://info.yaatly.com/user-guides/guide-for-organization-managers. After you've created your team ("organization" in Yaatly), you'll then be able to invite your members. You'll also want to make sure that your students (and judges) respond to their RSVP's so that they are ready to go in Yaatly! (You'll see a join date when they have.)

You'll also have to invite them to the NCCFI tournament in Yaatly. We will send further details closer to the tournament. Yaatly recommends Google Chrome as the browser.

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: 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. This will be held in Yaatly.

All IPDA debate topics will be presented via draw in round by judges.

Special NPDA rules for this year:
Written preparation: Work written during prep, other than where an ADA accommodation has been made, somewhat defines our format. With the need for online/virtual debates, this presents an obvious problem. For the coming semester, the EC considers material typed during preparation time to be written. This does not include cutting and pasting from a file. This obviously excludes simply reading from a prepped file that already resides on a drive. Obviously, handwritten preparation is still fine, but the EC is concerned about partners who may be debating from different locations being able to prep. ADA accommodations take precedence over anything in conflict here.

In-round messaging: For partners who are debating from different locations, communicating is also a challenge. The EC considers messaging between partners appropriate in this case. As in any other round, debaters should not communicate with anyone else who is not involved in the round.

Shared commitment to prep: The limited preparation aspect of our format is what makes it unique and continues to do so even as contemporary argument forms and performances have found their place in Parli. Virtual debating will challenge the format as it has not been challenged before. Only a shared commitment to honestly conducting prep will make the format workable in this situation. The EC asks everyone to commit to that.

Flowing: Electronic/laptop flowing by debaters in a round is also acceptable for the coming season. This excludes cutting and pasting previously prepared material as well as flowing done by anyone not in the round on a shared spreadsheet.

Use of Electronic Devices (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. 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.

Information on Using Yaatly During Competition

This is adapted from information originally created by Joe Gantt at Lewis & Clark University.

Room Type	Description
LOBBY	Where round-by-round postings are made available shortly before each round including finals. We will send out an announcement shortly before they post. These look like regular tournament postings and participants, including judges, only need find their section and click JOIN to enter their COMPETITION ROOM.
COMPETITION ROOM	Once you enter the room, participants designate themselves as speakers, judges or observers. Speakers note their STATUS (DE, TE, READY) At the bottom there is a toggle switch allowing judges to TOGGLE DUO which sets up the room as split screen for DUOS with partners participating from different remote locations and a ROOM TIMER to time speeches. Of course, you can mute audio and video and judges can remove people from the round if needed. To speak, competitors will see the podium, just click on "TAKE THE FLOOR" and you are on your way!
AUDITORIUM	This will be for opening announcements, chapel, and between rounds, a place to hang out with another team! Most likely this will be in Zoom; further details will be available in pre-tournament announcements.
TEAM ROOM	Each team will have a private meeting room for warmups, hanging out, prep, etc.
EXTEMP DRAW	This will be hosted in Yaatly. It will be visible in the lobby, next to the Auditorium, and in your team's lounge.
IPDA DRAW	IPDA Draw will take place in the round. The judge will be given the topics, and will conduct the strikes
HELP DESK	Your friendly executive council will be in here when not posting. We may have some special surprises in this room, so don't be afraid to drop by the help desk! Students: If you have any problems getting to a round, drop by here. Coaches/judges: If you have any concerns that would normally have you come to the tabroom, start here first. If needed, we'll provide you a link to the tabroom.
JUDGES' LOUNGE	A place for judges to hang out when not judging. We ask that all judges report to the judge's lounge before each round in case we need to reassign ballots.

Navigating the Site: Debate Events
Here is an instructional video on how to enter a speech room on Yaatly:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rbZFlCOP5X4&feature=emb_logo.
Please watch this if you are a competitor OR a judge.

Navigating the Site: Speech Events
Here is an instructional video on how to enter a speech room on Yaatly:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xtSjFb8MWrg&feature=emb_logo.
Please watch this if you are a competitor OR a judge.

Tournament guidelines governing technical difficulties:

a. IE's: Competitors who are giving a speech and lose their internet connection are allowed 3 minutes to reconnect before they forfeit their opportunity to finish the speech. They will then be judged on what was presented before they lost internet.

b. Debate Competitors who have their internet disconnect during their speech: the judge will start a running clock until they return to the round, then that amount of time over 3 minutes will be deducted from their speech time. If the time for the speech has expired then the debate round will continue with the following speech. Note: In partnered debate, partners cannot finish the speech for the person who dropped.

How we'll do awards at NCCFI this year...
Adapted from Dr. Mallory Marsh's guide for awards...

STEP 1: Enter the Zoom room and please remain muted (so as to prevent disruption and digitized feedback).

STEP 2: Once the awards assembly has begun, ensure you are using "Gallery View" rather than "Speaker View." (This can be done in the top right-hand corner of your screen.)

STEP 3: We next ask that you hide non-video participants. To do this you'll simply click on the three vertical dots of someone whose video is not hidden and choose "hide non-video participants."

We will call for finalists in each event to turn on their video. When finalists in an event are being announced, we ask that only the finalists for that particular event leave their camera on while everyone else keeps their camera off!

For individual sweepstakes and debate speakers, we will announce an alphabetical list of students earning awards before calling them out in order.

When we call for team sweepstakes, everyone from that school should turn on their video.

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

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.

2020-2021 NFA-LD Resolution: Resolved: The United States federal government should implement immigration reform that removes substantial statutory restrictions on legal immigration into the United States.

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 Monday, March 22. Coaches MAY encourage students to participate in the topic submission process. Those should be emailed directly to mdreher@bethel.edu.

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

INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

- **Flight A: Impromptu, Inform, CA, Prose, Duo, LD**
- **Flight B: Extemp, Per, ADS, DI, POI, Poetry,**
  (NOTE: For this year only, Faith Lit will be moved out of flight A and RT will be moved out of flight B, and both will be asynchronous.)

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.*

No material used at NCCFI should have been used in competition prior to September 1, 2020.

Event Definitions: All events will follow AFA guidelines, except when another organization's rules (IPDA, NFA, NPDA) prevail, or as listed below.

- 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 Speaking:* 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. Contestants will be given three topics in the general area of current events, choose one, and have 30 minutes to prepare a speech that is the original work of the student. Maximum time limit for the speech is 7 minutes. Limited notes are permitted. Draw will be adjusted for cross-entries. Postings of topics will be staggered.

- Dramatic Duo: A cutting from one or more texts of literary merit, humorous or serious, involving the portrayal of two or more characters presented by two individuals. The material may be drawn from any genre of literature. This is not an acting event; thus, no costumes, props, lighting, etc, are to be used. Presentation is from the manuscript and the focus should be off-stage and not to each other. Maximum time limit is 10 minutes including introduction. Duo competitors may NOT be in the same room when performing.

- Informative Speaking: An original, factual speech by the student on a realistic subject to fulfill the general aim to inform the audience. Audio-visual aids may or may not be used to supplement and reinforce the message. Multiple sources should be used and cited in the development of the speech. Minimal notes are permitted. Maximum time is 10 minutes.

- Persuasive Speaking: An original speech by the student designed to inspire, reinforce, or change the beliefs, attitudes, values or actions of the audience. Audio-visual aids may or may not be used to supplement and reinforce the message. Multiple sources should be used and cited in the development of the speech. Minimal notes are permitted. Maximum time limit is 10 minutes.

- Program Oral Interpretation: A program of thematically-linked selections of literary merit, chosen from two or three recognized genres of competitive interpretation (prose/poetry/drama). A primary focus of this event should be on the development of the theme through the use of narrative/story, language, and/or characterization. A substantial portion of the total time must be devoted to each of the genres used in the program. Different genre means the material must appear in separate pieces of literature (e.g., A poem included in a short story that appears only in that short story does not constitute a poetry genre.) Only one selection may be original. Use of manuscript is required. Maximum time limit is 10 minutes including introduction.

- Prose Interpretation: An original or selections of prose material of literary merit, which may be drawn from more than one source. Focus of this event is on the development of the narrative/story. Play cuttings and poetry are prohibited. Use of manuscript is required. Maximum time is 10 minutes including introduction.

- After Dinner Speaking: An original, humorous speech by the student, designed to exhibit sound speech composition, thematic, coherence, direct communicative public speaking skills, and good taste. The speech should not resemble a night club act, an impersonation, or comic dialogue. Audio-visual aids may or may not be used to supplement and reinforced the message. Minimal notes are permitted. Maximum time limit is 10 minutes.

- Communication Analysis: An original speech by the student designed to offer an explanation and/or evaluation of a communication event such as a speech, speaker, movement, poem, poster, film, campaign, etc., through the use of rhetorical principles. Audio-visual aids may or may not be used to supplement and reinforce the message. Manuscripts are permitted. Maximum time limit is 10 minutes.

- Drama Interpretation: A cutting that represents one or more characters from a play or plays of literary merit. The focus of this event is on the development of characterization. This material may be drawn from stage, screen, or radio. Use of manuscript is required. Maximum time limit is 10 minutes including introduction.

- Poetry Interpretation: A selection or selections of poetry of literary merit, which may be drawn from more than one source. A primary focus of this event should be on the development of language. Play cuttings and prose works are prohibited. Use of manuscript is required. Maximum time limit is 10 minutes including introduction.

This year, there will be three asynchronous events.

- **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. All RT's will be asynchronous for this year only. Light editing will be allowed for continuity purposes. Phi Rho Pi rules are mandating that students shall not compete together in the same physical space.

- **Homiletic Speaking:** Students will have up to 10 minutes to deliver a speech that is designed either as a sermon or a devotional. Students may utilize visual aids and/or limited notes if desired. Students should not perform a sermon already written by another preacher. A copy of the outline or notes should be submitted directly to mdreher@bethel. edu at the beginning of IE competion. The speaker may choose any desired audience, and should make mention of that audience in the introduction (for example, a devotion for a group of athletes).

- **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.

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 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.
- 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.

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 (or fewer, based on entry size). Since NFA LD Debate and IPDA are single-person events, no speaker awards will be given in those events.

AWARDS (CONTINUED)

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.

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