



August 1, 2020

Dear Forensic Coaches, Judges and Participants:

On behalf of the Duke Speech & Debate Team, it is our pleasure to invite you to the 2nd Annual Duke Invitational at Duke University on Saturday, September 19th and Sunday, September 20th.

The tournament will consist of competition in a variety of events. Our hope was to give you an outstanding experience and atmosphere on our beautiful campus, however due to the nature of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, this tournament will be an online tournament. We look forward to welcoming you back on the Duke University campus for the 3rd Annual Duke Invitational in 2021.

In debate events, we will offer Congressional Debate, Lincoln-Douglas Debate (both Varsity and Junior Varsity divisions), and Public Forum Debate (both Varsity and Junior Varsity divisions). In LD and PF, we will be offering six preliminary rounds and breaking all winning records. In Congressional Debate, we will hold two preliminary sessions which will then break to a Final Round.

In speech events, we will offer Declamation, Dramatic Interpretation, Extemporaneous Speaking, Humorous Interpretation, Impromptu Speaking, Informative Speaking, Oral Interpretation, Original Oratory, and Program Oral Interpretation. Each event will have four preliminary rounds and will advance no more than 1/3 of the entries. We have suspended Duo Interpretation for the 2020 Duke Invitational due to CDC guidance concerning physical distancing.

The 2020 Duke Invitational has been recognized as a qualifying tournament for the 2021 Tournament of Champions. In speech events, bids will be rewarded in conjunction with the TOC regulations on bid levels for speech events. In Lincoln-Douglas debate, bids will be rewarded to the debaters reaching the Final Round.

This packet should answer any questions you may have about the tournament. If you need any additional information, please email us at dukeuspeech@gmail.com.

Best,

Luke Truitt
Class of 2021
Tournament Director



2020 Duke Invitational

Duke University • Saturday, September 19th & Sunday, September 20th

Important Numbers

General Questions	Luke Truitt	(320) 333-8531
Registration/Tabulation	Crawford Leavoy	(205) 746-1907

Registration - Opens on August 1st, 2020, and Closes on September 16th at 5:00PM.

All registration will take place on Tabroom at www.duke.tabroom.com. We cannot accept email or phone registration, but we are happy to help you navigate the registration website. If you have questions concerning registration, please email us at dukeuspeech@gmail.com.

Caps and Limits

In order to keep the tournament manageable, we will impose limits on registration. All entries will be added to a waitlist. We will begin to clear the waitlist on August 22nd. We will give preference to equal number of students from schools in order to make sure we can accommodate the most diverse pool possible. We will follow the following entry caps:

- Lincoln-Douglas Debate & Public Forum Debate (per division): 65 entries
- Congressional Debate: 144 entries
- All Speech Events: 60 entries

Eligibility

Only teams representing degree-issuing high schools are eligible to register. We will not accept independent entries, camp entries, or for-profit club entries. Additionally, due to liability reasons, no teams will be accepted into the tournament without a responsible adult chaperone available for the duration of the tournament. An adult, for these purposes, is defined as someone twenty-one years of age or older, who is presumably an employee of the team's school or a parent. The contact information for this adult must be given to the Tab Room at registration.

Fees

Each main event entry is \$15. Thus, a student entered in LD would be \$15, but a PF team would be \$30. Additionally, speech students who choose to enter multiple events will pay for the number of events they are entered in (two events is \$30, three events is \$45, so on and so forth). All supplemental events may be entered for \$5 per student.

All payment is due by the beginning of Round One. Schools with unpaid fees will not be allowed to compete. Schools with unpaid fines will not advance to elimination rounds and will be noted for future tournaments.

Please make all checks payable to: Duke University. Checks for payment may be mailed before the tournament date. We do accept credit card payments through the Duke University interface. If you are having trouble submitting your payment on time, please email the tournament director.

If your team is experiencing financial difficulties, please contact the Tournament Director prior to September 1st.

Judge Requirements

Teams should bring the following number of qualified judges:

Public Forum:	1 Judge for every 3 teams
Lincoln-Douglas:	1 Judge for every 3 entries
Congressional Debate:	1 Judge covers 5 entries
Speech Events:	1 Judge for every 5 entries

All speech & congress judges are obligated for all rounds of the tournament. Congress judges may be swapped into another judging pool. Please indicate when registering which other pool a Congress judge would like to judge if we cannot use them in Congress. Likewise, qualified Speech judges may also be asked to judge Congress. We will permit AM and PM shifts for judges, but all obligations must still be filled.

Judges in Public Forum and Lincoln-Douglas are obligated to stay and judge one round past any round in which their students are actively competing. This means that all debate judges are obligated for the first full elimination round. If we have a partial elimination round, that does not count towards your obligation.

By registering a judge, a team is noting that the judge is qualified. Please keep in mind that a qualified judge understands that activity and is either experienced in sitting in the back of the room with a ballot and/or flow pad, or has been carefully trained by the team they are accompanying. A qualified judge knows how to assign ranks or wins/losses, speaker points, and knows how to fill out a ballot. Please do not try to sneak in an untrained judge. When you provide an incompetent judge, we usually find out only after a number of competitors have been unfairly adjudicated. **Judges cannot be current high school students.**

Hired Judges

Duke University is able to offer a limited number of hired judges. Requests for hired judges must be made through the registration website. No school may hire out their entire judge obligation.

Public Forum:	\$100 per hired judge (covering up to 3 entries)
Lincoln-Douglas:	\$100 per hired judge (covering up to 3 entries)
Congressional Debate:	\$100 per hired judge (covering up to 5 entries)
Speech Events:	\$50 per hired judge (covering up to 5 entries)

Fines

Unreported drops day of the tournament:	\$100 per drop
Arriving with fewer judges than registered:	\$250 per judge
Judge misses an assigned round:	\$50 per round

Tabroom.com

Duke University is working with the National Speech & Debate Association to utilize the NSDA Campus to host our virtual tournament. This service is integrated within Tabroom.com and offers video capabilities for our tournament. Therefore, all events will post updates on Tabroom. Please make sure that you have your notifications sent to your cell phones, and that all of your team, including students and judges, are correctly linked. This will be the only to receive updates, access debate spaces, participate in coin flips for debate events, and submit ballots.

Event Rules

Lincoln Douglas Debate – Lincoln-Douglas will follow the 6-3-7-3-4-6-3 format with 4 minutes of prep time. Ties will be broken based on record, points (drop high/low), total points, opponent's seed, and random methodology. Both divisions will break to an Octafinal. **Varsity & Junior Varsity LD will use the September/October topic from the NSDA.** This event will follow NSDA rules.

Public Forum Debate – Public Forum will follow the 4-4-3-4-4-3-3-3-2-2 format with 3 minutes of prep time. Ties will be broken based on record, points (drop high/low), total points, opponent's seed, and random methodology. Both divisions will break to a Octafinal. **Both PF divisions will use the September/October topic from the NSDA.** This event will follow NSDA rules.

Congressional Debate – There will be a single, open division of Congressional Debate. Chambers will be composed of no more than 20 members, although 18 is the target. Competition will feature two preliminary sessions that are 2.5 hours long. We will clear to one Final Round chamber that will last 2.5 hours. No legislation will be accepted from participating schools; instead, the tournament will release a legislation packet on or around September 1st. All chambers will be designated as a Senate, and will feature direct questioning. This event will follow NSDA rules.

Humorous & Dramatic Interpretation – The time limit for all interpretation events is 10 minutes with a 30 second “grace period.” Selections used in these contests must be cuttings from a single work of literature. The same selection used in the first round of competition must be used throughout the entirety of the tournament. The presentation may not use physical objects or costuming. The selection must be presented from memory. A student entered in two events may not use the same selection of literature in both events. These events will follow NSDA rules.

Program Oral Interpretation - The time limit for all interpretation events is 10 minutes with a 30 second “grace period.” The same selections of literature used in the first round of competition must be used throughout the entirety of the tournament. The presentation may not use physical objects or costuming, but the binder may be used as a prop. This event will follow NSDA rules.

Oral Interpretation - Students present selections in two categories – prose and poetry. The time limit for all interpretation events is 10 minutes with a 30 second “grace period.” The student must hold a manuscript and appear to be reading. The students alternate between rounds of prose and rounds of poetry. This event will follow NCFL rules.

Extemporaneous Speaking - This is a mixed division of both United States and International topic areas. We will procure topics phrased for contest use and based on subjects discussed in standard periodicals during the current school year; Each topic will be in the form of a question. Contestants may make notes during the preparation time, but the use of notes, cards, briefs or other aids is prohibited during the speech. The time limit is 7 minutes with a 30 second “grace period.” The Final Round will utilize a 2-minute cross-examination period. This event will follow NSDA rules.

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Event Rules (continued)

Informative Speaking - This contest comprises only memorized speeches composed by the contestants and not used by them during a previous contest season. Audio/visual aids may or may not be used. No electronic equipment is permitted. The use of live animals or any additional people is not allowed during the speech. The time limit is 10 minutes with a 30 second “grace period”. Not more than 150 words of the speech may be direct quotation. This event will follow NSDA rules.

Original Oratory - The contest comprises only memorized orations actually composed by the contestants and no used by them during a previous season. No visual aids are permitted. The time limit is 10 minutes with a 30 second “grace period.” Not more than 150 words of the oration may be direct quotation from any other speech or writing and such quotations must be identified in a printed copy of the oration supplied upon request of the tournament director. Extensive paraphrasing from other sources is prohibited. This event will follow NSDA rules.

Impromptu Speaking - A judge in each room shall be provided an envelope containing a uniform set of topics, with a different subject area used for each round. Topics will include proverbs, abstract words, events, quotations, and famous people. Once the first speaker is called, the other speakers shall leave the room, and wait outside the door. Each speaker will draw three topics, choose one, and return the other two to the envelope. The speaker has seven minutes in which to prepare a response and present a speech without consultation of prepared notes. The maximum time limit is 7 minutes with a 30-second “grace period,” which includes both preparation and speaking. No minimum time is mandated. This event will follow NSDA rules.

Time Violations in Speech Events

Each speech event has a 30 second “grace period.” If the judge in the round finds that the student has gone beyond the grace period, the student may not be ranked 1st, but need not be ranked last based on time. The ranking is up to the individual judge’s discretion. No minimum time is mandated.

Awards

Duke University will recognize students with the following awards:

- The Top 6 competitors in the Final Rounds of speech events
- The Top 6 competitors in the Final Round of Congressional Debate
- All Elimination Round participants in all debate events
- The Top 3 overall schools will receive Sweepstakes Awards

Bids to the Tournament of Champions

The 2020 Duke Invitational is recognized as a qualifying tournament to the 2021 Tournament of Champions in speech events. Bids are awarded as such:

- For events with 24 or fewer competitors, the Top 3 contestants will receive bids.
- For events with 25 to 72 competitors, all Finalists will receive bids.
- For events with 73 or more competitors, all Semifinalists will receive bids.

The 2020 Duke Invitational is recognized as a qualifying tournament to the 2021 Tournament of Champions in Lincoln-Douglas debate. Bids are awarded to the Champion and Runner-up.

Debate Schedule (All Times are Eastern)

Friday, September 18th, 2020

7:00 PM Registration Begins
10:00 PM Registration Ends

Saturday, September 19th, 2020

9:00 AM *Digital Bus Check-In*

9:15 AM *Pairings Released*
9:45 AM Round One
11:00 AM *Decision Time*

11:15 AM *Pairings Released*
11:45 AM Round Two
1:00 PM *Decision Time*

1:00 PM *Lunch Break Begins*
1:30 PM *Lunch Break Ends*

1:30 PM *Pairings Released*
2:00 PM Round Three
3:15 PM *Decision Time*

3:45 PM *Pairings Released*
4:15 PM Round Four
5:30 PM *Decision Time*

6:00 PM *Pairings Released*
6:30 PM Round Five
7:45 PM *Decision Time*

Sunday, September 20th, 2020

9:00 AM *Digital Bus Check-In*

9:15 AM *Pairings Released*
9:45 AM Round Six
11:00 AM *Decision Time*

11:30 AM *Pairing Released*
12:00 PM Elimination Round One
1:15 PM *Decision Time*

1:45 PM *Pairing Released*
2:15 PM Elimination Round Two
3:30 PM *Decision Time*

4:00 PM *Pairing Released*
4:30 PM Elimination Round Three
5:45 PM *Decision Time*

6:15 PM *Pairing Released*
6:45 PM Elimination Round Four
8:00 PM *Decision Time*



Speech Schedule (All Times are Eastern)

Friday, September 18th, 2020

7:00 PM Registration Begins
10:00 PM Registration Ends

Saturday, September 19th, 2020

9:00 AM *Digital Bus Check-In*

9:15 AM Round One – Flight A

11:00 AM *Extemp Prep Begins*
11:30 AM Round One – Flight B

12:30 PM *Lunch Break Begins*
1:00 PM *Lunch Break Ends*

1:00 PM Round Two – Flight A

2:45 PM *Extemp Prep Begins*
4:15 PM Round Two – Flight B

6:00 PM Round Three – Flight A

7:45 PM *Extemp Prep Begins*
8:15 PM Round Three – Flight B

Sunday, September 20th, 2020

9:00 AM *Digital Bus Check-In*

9:15 AM Round Four – Flight A

11:00 AM *Extemp Prep Begins*
11:30 AM Round Four – Flight B

1:15 PM Elimination One – Flight A

3:00 PM *Extemp Prep Begins*
3:30 PM Elimination One – Flight B

5:00 PM *Extemp Prep Begins*
5:30 PM Elimination Two – All Events

7:00 PM *Awards Ceremony*

Flight A Events

Humorous Interpretation
Impromptu Speaking
Informative Speaking
Oral Interpretation of Literature

Flight B Events

Oratorical Declamation
Dramatic Interpretation
Extemporaneous Speaking
Original Oratory
Program Oral Interpretation

Congress Schedule (All Times are Eastern)

Friday, September 18th, 2020

7:00 PM Registration Begins
10:00 PM Registration Ends

Saturday, September 19th, 2020

9:00 AM *Digital Bus Check-In*

9:30 AM Preliminary Session One

12:00 PM *Lunch Break Begins*
12:30 PM *Lunch Break Ends*

1:00 PM Preliminary Session Two

5:00 PM Preliminary Session Three

Sunday, September 20th, 2020

9:00 AM *Digital Bus Check-In*

9:30 AM Final Session

1:00 PM *Awards Ceremony*