

PSCFA “John Vitullo” Spring Championships

January 10, 2021

Dear Colleagues:

On behalf of PSCFA, I am pleased to invite you to the PSCFA Fall Championship Tournament to be held online February 26-28, 2021.

At the Fall Championship Tournament your students will be able to compete in:

- On Friday, February 26th, we will offer rookie, novice, junior, and senior divisions of Parliamentary Debate.
- On Saturday, February 27th, we will offer novice, junior, and senior divisions of NFA-LD and IPDA as well as British Parliamentary Debate.
- On Sunday, February 28th, we will offer novice, junior, and senior divisions of 12 individual events.

All entries are due by 6:00pm on Monday, February 22nd, 2021. **YOU MUST USE THE WEB ENTRY SYSTEM.** Visit <http://www.forensicstournament.net> to enter. Tournament Entry will be available beginning on Monday, February 8th.

A Few Important Reminders:

- 1) The schedule has had changes to accommodate online competition. Please look at it!**
- 2) All times are Pacific Time.**
- 3) Judges are encouraged to accept ballots as soon as they are notified.**
- 4) Judges are encouraged to submit ballots ASAP after the round. Additional comments can be added to the ballots any time before the end of the tournament.**
- 5) Drops after the Wednesday deadline do not alter a school's judging commitment.**

Attached, please find more detailed tournament information, a description of tournament rules, and procedures and entry forms. Please refer to the PSCFA Handbook for the newest information on Rules, available at www.pscfa.org.

If you have any questions please contact me at rpetrello@vcccd.edu

Rolland Petrello
Tournament Director

PSCFA Rules for Online Tournaments

1. Internet Loss/ Connection During Competition:
 - 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.
2. Restrict competitors to the use of a "single camera set up" during the performance.
3. Physical audiences are prohibited from being present for the performance, with the exception of: involuntary audiences (ex: individuals/families who happen to be in the same room), and assistants/aids for individuals with disabilities. Enforcement is up to the discretion of the TD.
4. Prohibit competitors in Duo and RT from competing together in the same physical space in accordance with AFA rules.
5. Prohibit practices that would not be possible in a face-to-face environment (such as motion, video transitions, or audio manipulation) while allowing for the use of screen sharing and virtual visual aids in Individual Events.
6. No persons should participate or contribute to students who are competing during the course of the round.
7. Partners in debate rounds are allowed to communicate with their partner through other lines of communication such as chats, phone calls, other video conferencing platforms, etc.
8. In accordance with NPDA Bylaws; 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.

Helpful Info for Competing Online

1. If this is your first time (coaches/judges/students) using the virtual Forensics Tournament program, please refer to the following tutorials for step by step guides to help make the tournament run better for all of use:
 - a. [Competitors](#)
 - b. [Judges](#)
 - c. [General Information About How Virtual FTN Works](#)
2. The tournament will use various virtual rooms to simulate rooms we would normally have at a tournament. Please find the links to those below. They all use 8x8 and do not require login information. In fact, make sure you and your students DO NOT create 8x8 accounts or else this could affect access to competition rooms:
 - a. Extemp Prep: <https://8x8.vc/PSCFAExtemp>
 - b. Help Room: <https://8x8.vc/PSCFAHelpRoom>
 - c. Parli Topic Announce: <https://8x8.vc/PSCFAParli>
 - d. Judge Standby: <https://8x8.vc/PSCFAJudges>
3. Ballots: Judges will receive an email with a link to their ballot if they have been assigned one. Those who do not receive a ballot should get a notice that they are on “standby.” Judges who are on standby should go to the Judge Stand By Room listed in section 3 above to wait to be pushed a ballot. Once all ballots have been distributed, you should receive an all clear notice from the tournament.
4. Problems: Should you or your students run into any problems throughout the tournament, please seek assistance in the Help Room.
5. Topics: Please read the following for information about how topics will be distributed for various events:
 - a. Parli: Topics will be announced verbally and in the chat of the Parli Topics Room.
 - b. IPDA: Topics will be distributed in round by the judges. Judges should facilitate topic strikes for the competitors at the time the round is scheduled to begin. They will have a total of 30 minutes to strike topics and prep before the round will begin.
 - c. Extemp: Students will select their topics in the Extemp Prep Room and then show up to their round 30 minutes after they draw their topics. Please make sure your judges know they also MUST give students time signals during their speeches.
 - d. Impromptu: Judges will receive topics with their ballot. They will distribute topics to the relevant speakers and facilitate their prep. Please make sure your judges know they also MUST give students time signals during their speeches.
6. Constraints: Please review the judging list and make sure there aren't any judges who are unable to judge your students. These are not strikes, aka judges you do not want, but judges who have a conflict of interest with your students.

7. Rules: Please make sure you, your judges, and students are aware of the rules for the various events and the virtual tournament specific rules listed in the Tournament Invitation.

DEBATE – Friday, February 26th and Saturday, February 27th

Friday

Parliamentary Team Debate

We will offer four Divisions in Parliamentary Team debate, using the NPDA rules as guidelines. All Divisions (Rookie, Novice, Junior, and Senior) of Parliamentary debate will be held on **Friday**.

We will allow three person teams and hybrid teams according to PSCFA regulations. We will not allow one person to debate alone. In the event that one member of a team is unable to debate, the team will forfeit the round and both team members will receive zero speaker points for that round.

Parliamentary Team Debate times will be:

- Prime Minister (7 minutes)
- Leader of the Opposition (8 minutes)
- Member of the Government (8 minutes)
- Member of the Opposition (8 minutes)
- Leader of the Opposition (4 minute rebuttal)
- Prime Minister (5 minute rebuttal)

Saturday

International Public Debate Association (IPDA)

IPDA primarily utilizes a one-on-one debate format in which one debater takes the side of the affirmative and the other debater takes the side of the negative. For each round, the two debaters are given five possible resolutions. The negative begins the topic selection by striking one resolution and proceeds in a back-and-forth fashion until one resolution is left. After the topic has been selected, both debaters have thirty minutes to prepare a case. IPDA debate often utilizes lay judges to adjudicate the round and emphasizes conversational rhetoric. Visit ipdadebate.info to learn more. The speech times are:

- 1st Affirmative (5 minutes)
- Cross Examination (2 minutes)
- 1st Negative (6 minutes)
- Cross Examination (2 minutes)
- Affirmative Rebuttal (3 minutes)
- Negative Rebuttal (5 minutes)
- Affirmative Summary (3 minutes)

NFA LD

NFA Lincoln-Douglas Debate is a one-person, persuasive, policy debate on traditional stock issues. It is a communication event, by which we mean the philosophy of the activity is consistent with that which governs other individual events. Competitors in NFA Lincoln-Douglas will be evaluated on their analysis, use of evidence, and ability to effectively and persuasively organize, deliver, and refute arguments. Rapid-fire delivery,

commonly called "spread delivery," is considered antithetical to the purpose and intent of this event.

- Affirmative Constructive (6 minutes)
- Cross Examination (3 minutes)
- Negative Constructive / First Negative Rebuttal (7 minutes)
- Cross Examination (3 minutes)
- First Affirmative Rebuttal (6 minutes)
- The Negative Rebuttal (6 minutes)
- The Second Affirmative Rebuttal (3 minutes)

BP: British Parliamentary style debate is a common form of academic debate. It has gained support in the United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada, India, Europe, Africa, Philippines, Australia, New Zealand and United States, and has also been adopted as the official style of the World Universities Debating Championship and European Universities Debating Championship. Speeches will each be seven minutes in duration.

- Prime Minister (7 minutes)
- Leader Opposition (7 minutes)
- Deputy Prime Minister (7 minutes)
- Deputy Leader Opposition (7 minutes)
- Member Proposition (7 minutes)
- Member Opposition (7 minutes)
- Proposition Whip (7 minutes)
- Opposition Whip (7 minutes)

Debate Pairing: For all Debate Events, the first two rounds will be randomly matched. Power matching will be used in all subsequent rounds (time constraints may require some lag power matching). If 35% or more of the teams in junior or senior division come from the same school, then at the discretion of the tournament director, those teams from the same school could meet each other if meeting is necessary to run the event. If 25% or more of the teams in novice division come from the same school then, at the discretion of the tournament director, those teams from the same school could meet each other if meeting is necessary to run the event. When both teams are from the same school, we will allow the debate to be judged by a critic of the same school. For example, a CSULB vs. CSULB debate could be judged by a CSULB critic. However, we will make every reasonable effort to make sure that is not necessary.

Critic Responsibilities: We believe every debate in the tournament deserves attention from those critics assigned to listen. At a minimum, we expect our judges to give written criticisms. WE WILL NOT ACCEPT BALLOTS THAT SIMPLY STATE "ORAL CRITIQUE GIVEN." We also expect judges to return a ballot for each round to the teams entered. Thus, a packet will not be released until all judges representing that school have turned in ballots. Judges are also required to render a decision identifying a winner, loser, and speaker points for each debate round by the start of the next scheduled round. Judges should use respectful language on ballots.

INDIVIDUAL EVENTS – Sunday, February 28th

Double-Entered Guidelines: Students who are entered in more than one event per pattern are highly encouraged to sign in at the rounds they will go to last (you can sign in using the chat – however, there must be at least one person remaining in the room or the chat will disappear); it is the responsibility of the student to make it to the round if he/she is double entered. If a student does not sign in to a round and then misses the round, the student will be considered a no-show.

Novice competitors may not double enter. Junior and Senior competitors may double enter in both patterns.

Pattern A

- **Informative Speaking:** An original, factual speech by the student on a realist 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.
- **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.
- **Extemporaneous Speaking:** 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. Student will speak in listed order. Postings of topics will be staggered.
- **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.
- **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.
- **Cultural Artifact Speech:** to offer a discussion of some tangible aspect of culture. Five minutes maximum. Visual or audio aid required.

Pattern B

- **Impromptu Speaking:** An impromptu speech, substantive in nature, with topic selections varied by round and by section. Topics will be derived from quotations. Speakers will have a total of 7 minutes for both preparation and speaking. Timing commences with the acceptance of the topics sheet. Limited notes are permitted.
- **Duo Interpretation:** 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.
- **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.
- **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.

SWEEPSTAKES: We will award trophies to the top schools in the following categories:

- 1) Four Year – Top Five
- 2) Two Year – Top Five
- 3) Novice (Combines Two and Four Year Schools) – Top Three
- 4) Limited Entry – Top Three

JUDGING

Judges for all events must meet qualifications outlined in the PSCFA Handbook. All judges must complete the PSCFA “FRED” Judge Certification BEFORE being able to judge.

Coaches shall insure the competency of all judges covering your commitment.

Judging Guidelines:

- A school may not utilize novice and junior only judges in a greater proportion than its novice and/or junior entry warrants.
- Failure of a judge to appear for a ballot in the debate events will result in the forced withdrawal of those entries covered by that judge.
- Judges must remain at the tournament one round beyond the elimination of their last participant. (All judges are committed to judge the first elimination round).
- Drops after Wednesday, February 24th do not affect a school’s judging commitment.

Debate Commitment: All schools must provide one judge for every two (2) team or LD debate entries or fraction thereof. UNCOVERED SLOTS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED FOR DEBATE (except at the discretion of the Tournament Director).

Individual Events Commitment: All schools must provide one judge for every five individual event slots per conflict pattern or fraction thereof.

IPDA Judging: The by-laws of IPDA recommend lay judges to help foster the spirit of a public debate where technical knowledge is not needed. With this in mind, non-experienced judges will be utilized in IPDA when possible. Please consider bringing non-specialized judges to cover your IPDA entry.

Judging Fees

Schools not meeting their judging commitment will be assessed the following fees:

- IE Slots Uncovered - \$ 20.00 per slot
- NFA-LD/IPDA Debate Judges - \$100 per entry (if allowed*)
- Team Debate Judges - \$100 per team (if allowed*)

**Contact the Tournament Director for approval*

ENTRY DETAILS

Deadline: All entries are due by 6:00pm on Monday, February 22nd, 2021.

ENTER FALL CHAMPS AT <http://www.forensicstournament.net> .

- Fees will be assessed on Wednesday, February 24th, 2021 at 6:00pm
- A fee (\$5 for each IE / \$10 for debate) will be applied to all late entries (at Tournament Director's discretion) for a school between the Monday deadline and the Wednesday deadline.
- Adds after the Wednesday deadline will be at the discretion of the Tournament Director and fees will apply. (\$10 for IE / \$20 for debate).
- There will be a drop fee of \$5 for any drop after the Wednesday deadline until 30 minutes before the first round of competition.
- Drops after Wednesday, February 24th, do not affect a school's judging commitment.

Registration

- There will be a registration period from 8:00-9:00 am on Friday, February 26th for ALL NPDA. Debaters must "sign-in" in the Help Room or they will be dropped.
- There will be a second registration period from 7:30-9:15 am on Saturday, February 27th for IPDA, NFA L/D and BP Debaters. Debaters must "sign-in" in the Help Room or they will be dropped.
- There will be a third registration period for IE only schools from 8:00-8:45am on Sunday, February 28th
- Coaches can avoid a no-show fee by reporting drops at these times.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

REGISTRATION: Sign In for debaters will take place in the Help Room

JUDGES:

- Please accept your ballots as soon as you receive the notice.
- Please submit your ballot ASAP. You can always add more comments later in the day.

TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

Friday Schedule - Parli	
8:00-8:45	<i>Sign In – Any teams not signed in by 8:45 will be dropped</i>
9:00	Topic Announce Rd 1 & 2
9:45	Pattern C - Rd 1
11:00	Pattern C - Round 2
12:15	Lunch Break
12:45	Pattern C -Round 3 Topic
2:00	Pattern C -Round 4 Topic
3:45	Pattern C - Elim 1 Topic
5:15	Pattern C - Elim 2 Topic
7:00	Awards

SATURDAY			
7:45	Senior NPDA Semis Topic Announce		
	<i>Senior Finals to be flex scheduled</i>		
7:45 -8:45	<i>Sign In – Any teams not signed in by 8:45 will be dropped</i>		
NFA & IPDA		BP	
9:00	Pattern D - Round 1	8:00	Judge & Competitor Orientation
10:15	Pattern D - Round 2	9:00	Round 1
11:30	Lunch Break	11:00	Round 2
12:15	Pattern D - Round 3	12:45	Lunch Break
1:30	Pattern D - Round 4	1:30	Round 3
3:30	Pattern D - Elim 1	3:30	Round 4
4:45	Pattern D - Elim 2	5:30	Finals
6:30	Awards	7:00	Awards

SUNDAY	Individual Events
8:00 - 8:45	IE Drop Period
8:45	Extemp Draw - Round 1
9:00	Pattern A - Round 1
10:00	Pattern B - Round 1
11:00	Extemp Draw - Round 2
11:15	Pattern A - Round 2
12:15	Lunch Break
1:00	Pattern B - Round 2
2:15	Pattern A – Finals & Extemp Draw for Finals
3:45	Pattern B – Finals
5:30	Awards

PSCFA FALL CHAMPIONSHIPS FEE SHEET

School: _____
 Director of Forensics: _____
 Office Phone Number: _____
 Home/Cell Phone Number: _____
 Email Address: _____

PLEASE MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO "PSCFA."

	Total Entries	Fee	Total
PSCFA Dues	1	\$60.00	\$60.00
Entry Fees			
LD/IPDA		\$10.00	
Parli/BP		\$10.00	
Pattern A		\$5.00	
Pattern B		\$5.00	
Duo Interp		\$10.00	
Judging Fees			
NFA/IPDA		\$100 per entry, if allowed	
Parli/BP		\$100 per entry, if allowed	
Pattern A IE's		\$20 per entry, if allowed	
Pattern B IE's		\$20 per entry, if allowed	
Nuisance Fees			
No Show – Debate		\$40.00	
No Show – IE's		\$20.00	
Nuisance – Debate (Drop morning of)		\$10.00	
Nuisance – IE's (Drop morning of)		\$5.00	
No Show – Judge		\$50.00 per round	
Drop after Wed – Before morning of		\$5.00	
Late Add School		\$50.00	
Late Add Debate		\$20.00	
Late Add IE's		\$10.00	
		Total	