

IPDA National Championships and Convention, April 12-15, 2024
Please note the Friday-Monday schedule for our National Tournament and Convention



The International Public Debate Association is pleased to announce our annual Individual IPDA National Championships and Convention will be held Friday through Monday, April 12-15 on the campus of Mississippi State University. We are setting up a face-to-face tournament/convention. MSU will not require masking or social distancing for this event. IPDA and MSU, however, reserve the right to change these protocols if the situation warrants it. IPDA will also need a Student Enrollment verification form from each competing school. The form is available on the IPDA webpage (listed with our April tournament) and on the FTN website for registration. This will apply to all divisions except Professional. The form should be signed by your Registrar and sent to Joe Ganakos; jganakos@lee.edu.

Cheryl Chambers and the fine folk at MSU are working hard to make this a memorable event. The National Championship tournament will start off with Team IPDA competitions on Friday, April 12. We are planning on 5 rounds of TIPDA. Our Convention events and individual IPDA competitions will then begin on Saturday, April 13. We will feature 8 rounds of IPDA Individual debate in our 4 divisions: Novice, Junior Varsity, Varsity, and Professional. Outrounds will start on Sunday and IPDA is planning on providing lunch that day. Then we will have the last outrounds and our Awards Ceremony on Monday. Please note that we will not be holding a Banquet this year. We will, however, have a full Awards ceremony. The impetus for this decision is to save everyone money.

One reminder is necessary: IPDA does not allow the use of any device that has a connection to the Internet while in competitive rounds. This includes but is not limited to timers, watches, Ipads, phones or laptops. The only exception to this is for a documented ADA competitor. The tab room is going to be quite adamant about enforcing this IPDA rule.

Please remember that our National Convention is an excellent opportunity for students and directors alike to feature debate-specific academic work in an educational and professional environment. Please encourage your students to attend the presentations or panels that will be scheduled on Saturday; right after tournament registration. We hope this will encourage everyone to attend these enlightening convention events. If you are interested in presenting a paper or research at our convention, please contact IPDA Managing Director, Mary G. Jarzabek, via email; listed in signature. Please join us in Starkville, MS for an educational and exciting weekend!

Sincerely,
Mary G. Jarzabek (LSU Shreveport) -318-797-5318
mary.jarzabek@LSUS.edu
IPDA Managing Director

TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

ENTRY PROCEDURE AND DEADLINE: Entry deadline is 5:00 PM, Wednesday, April 3. Each school will enter our tournament via the Forensics Tournament (FTN) website at <https://forensicstournament.net>. Entries and fees owed will be visible in the ForensicsTournament.net program. Changes will be allowed through Monday, April 8. After that only entry drops will be allowed. Entry drops made after 5:00 PM, April 10 will be assessed a \$20 drop fee per individual change. **PLEASE NOTE:** The Executive Committee of IPDA reserves the right to review and make changes to the names used to identify individuals or independent programs during the National Championship.

RULES AND ENTRIES: The tournament will follow IPDA guidelines and regulations as outlined in the Constitution and Bylaws which are available on the IPDADebate.info website.

JUDGES: You will notice on the entry form there is no price for uncovered entries. **This is not an option!** We require that each program cover its entries to ensure a diverse and unbiased judging pool. One judge will cover up to four debaters and/or two teams. Programs are mandated to meet this requirement (so for every four debaters or two teams you enter, you MUST bring a judge!). **All judges are obligated to ALL rounds including ALL outrounds.**

Judging for the National Championship Tournament

1. All judges are expected to deliberate independently. Each ballot should be decided by the assigned judge with no discussion or outside influences. Judges and contestants are required to abide by this judging caveat.
2. To maintain consistency and fairness for the National Championships Tournament, participating programs will be expected to provide the same judges throughout the duration of the tournament. The name of each judge should be submitted at the time of the team's entry. Judges unable to continue their duties for ANY reason during the tournament must be immediately replaced: even if this means removing a competitor from the tournament and placing them in the judging pool for the remainder of the tournament. Rounds **must** be judged by the person named at the top of the ballot – **NO "BALLOT SWAPPING" IS ALLOWED.**

Procedures for judging assignments and ballot distribution:

Judges' ballots for each program are going to be placed into a folder or packet designated for that program (e.g. ACU will get a folder with all the ballots assigned to the ACU judges for that round).

1. EACH program will be asked to submit the name of the person who will be responsible for picking up these ballot folders. EACH program must pick up their ballot packets no later than fifteen minutes prior to the start of each round to allow their judges enough time to start each round on time.
2. A "Three-Strike" penalty system will be used for failure to comply with these procedures.
 - a. A strike will be:
 - i. Failure of a judge to start the round five minutes after that round's prep time **has expired.**
 - ii. Failure of a program to notify the tab room of a name change on the designated ballot. IF a program encounters a problem, the tab room MUST approve any judging changes.
 - b. Any delay stemming from tab room procedures will NOT be considered a strike.
3. PENALTIES:
 - a. 1st strike-a warning will be issued to the program director. It is assumed that this will correct any problems with a program's judges.
 - b. 2nd strike – a competitor for that program may be shifted from competition to the judging pool.
 - c. 3rd strike – the program may be disqualified from the tournament.

HOTELS: Closest to the University - Please see the full listing of hotels on the FTN website.

Comfort Suites

0.8 miles

801 Russell St
Starkville MS 39759
(662) 324-9595

Courtyard

1.2 miles

600 Mercantile Street
Starkville MS 39759
(662) 338-3116

Hampton Inn Starkville

1.4 miles

700 Hwy 12 E
Starkville MS 39759
(662) 324-1333

Holiday Inn Express

2 miles

110-B Hwy 12 W
Starkville MS 39759
(662) 324-0076

Please see the full listing of hotels in a separate document on the FTN website.

Contact Cheryl Chambers at: cchambers@comm.msstate.edu

2024 NATIONAL IPDA TOURNAMENT and CONVENTION SCHEDULE

Please note that ADA accommodations should be requested by the entry deadline on April 3.

FRIDAY, April 12 – TIPDA competition

8:00 am	Team Debate Registration and team prep rooms , Old Main Bldg on MSU campus
8:30 am	TIPDA Round 1 - draw
10:00 am	TIPDA Round 2 - draw
11:30 am	TIPDA Round 3 - draw
1:30 pm	TIPDA Round 4 - draw
3:00 pm	TIPDA Round 5 - draw
4:30 pm	Coaches Review
5:00 pm	Breaks posted
ASAP	TIPDA Double Octofinals
7:00 pm	TIPDA Octofinals
8:30 pm	TIPDA Quarterfinals

SATURDAY, April 13 – Convention and IPDA competition

8:00 am	TIPDA Semifinal Round – Draw
8:30 am	Joint meeting of Governing Board and E.C. – Old Main (near tab room) at MSU
9:30 am	TIPDA Final Round - Draw
9-10 am	IPDA Registration – Old Main at MSU
10:00 am	Convention Panels and Presentation of papers – Rooms TBA on the MSU campus
11:15 am	Round 1 – IPDA Draw will be set by division and will take place in or near the main prep areas
1:00 pm	Round 2 - draw
2:45 pm	Round 3 - draw
4:30 pm	Round 4 – draw
6:15 pm	Round 5 - draw
8:30 pm	Student Social at MSU

SUNDAY, April 14

9:00 am	Round 6 – Draw
10:45 am	Round 7 – Draw – we will try to have packets ready for early review for the Coach’s Review
12:30 am	Round 8 - Draw
2:00 pm	Lunch Break – Food provided by IPDA – probably pizza (gluten free options may not be available)
2:45 pm	Coaches Review
3:15 pm	Breaks posted
3:30 pm	First Elimination Round - draw
5:15 pm	Second Elimination Round - draw
*7:00 pm	Third Elimination Round or “Partials” - if needed

* Times may vary depending on the need for additional outrounds!

* ALL participants need to hasten the outround process!

MONDAY, April 15 – All outrounds will be held on the MSU Campus

8:30 am	Quarterfinals for all divisions - draw
10:00 am	Semi Finals for all divisions - draw
11:30 am	Finals for all divisions - draw
1:15 pm	IPDA Awards Ceremony

ENTRIES – Due by Wednesday, April 3, at 5 pm. PLEASE REGISTER at <http://forensicstournament.net>

We prefer that you bring a check to the tournament for the Fees payment.

Please make checks payable to: **International Public Debate Association**

Payments (check or cash) will be accepted at the Tournament Registration on April 12 and April 13.

Credit Cards will be accepted, but are not preferred – contact Keith Milstead at president@IPDAdebate.info

If your school accounting office needs an address or W 9 for the check, you may contact:

Mary Jarzabek, IPDA Managing Director:

Email: mary.jarzabek@LSUS.edu

Phone: (318) 797-5318

Entries and fees will be finalized in the FTN registration process.

FEES:

**** Tournament Registration, Convention Fee and Annual IPDA dues will appear as a “School Fee” in the FTN registration.**

****If you need a separate invoice for the IPDA dues – please contact Mary Jarzabek: mary.jarzabek@LSUS.edu**

Calculate your Fees:

Program/School Tournament Fee	\$35.00
Program/School Convention Fee	\$20.00
Program/School Annual IPDA Dues	\$35.00 – Please request a separate invoice, if needed

_____ TIPDA – team fees @\$70.00 each = _____

_____ Individual IPDA @ \$40.00 each = _____

Total Fees..... \$ _____

Please remember to contact Mary Jarzabek for all ADA requests.

Documentation will be requested.

AWARDS:

Tournament trophies will be given to all competitors who break to out-rounds, the top five speakers in each division, and the top five overall sweepstakes programs. IPDA has a national tournament award for the top sweepstakes community college winner and the Scholastic Champion. The formula for calculating points will be the same as that detailed in the IPDA Constitution and Bylaws.

Season awards, which are based on this debate season’s cumulative points, will also be given to the top ten individuals in each division (the top 5 for TIPDA), the top five speakers in each division, and the top five programs in each division. The Founder’s Award will also be presented to the top five programs earning the most combined points over the course of six regular season tournaments. In addition, awards such as the Bennett Strange Coach of the Year Award, the Scholastic Championship Award, and other association-specific awards will be presented.