

Biggest Little City Classic

October 21-22, 2023
University of Nevada, Reno

Dear Colleagues,

We are excited to be hosting the Biggest Little City Classic on Oct 21-22, 2023 in Reno, NV. The University of Nevada, Reno has been rated a tier one institution and an R1 Carnegie institution. The city of Reno offers all kinds of exciting activities for members of your team of all ages. Excellent dining options and affordable accommodations await you. The weather in Mid-October is usually quite nice.

We are offering 4 preliminary rounds of LD, 4 preliminary rounds of IPDA, 4 preliminary rounds of NPDA, and 2 patterns of AFA-NIET Speech Events with 3 prelim rounds. We will recognize sweepstakes for IEs, Debate, Overall 2-year, Overall 4-year, and Top Novice.

IPDA will conflict with Pattern B IEs and NPDA on Saturday, IPDA contestants may enter one Pattern B event. LD will conflict with Pattern A IEs on Sunday: LDers may compete in one speech event other than Extemp. (NOTE: ALL ENTRIES MUST HAVE 100% JUDGE COVERAGE. Judges covering IPDA can cover a slot of IEs for each debater they are over-committed. For example, If I have 2 IPDA entries, then my judge can also cover 2 entries in Pattern B.)

This year we are not charging fees for the tournament. However, we are not allowing uncovered entries. We look forward to seeing you all in Reno. If you have any questions, please reach out to us.

Sincerely,

Phil Sharp and Ben Krueger



Lodging and Transportation

Hotel

We have been offered a block of rooms at a discounted rate by The Nugget in Sparks, NV. Stunning mountain or Reno cityscape views from our hotel combine with sophisticated contemporary decor in these spacious Casino Tower rooms. Amenities include oversized mattresses, luxurious bedding with 300 thread-count sheets, a 42-inch plasma TV, tasteful furnishings, a well-lit work desk, an iron and ironing board, mini-fridge, a hairdryer, and a Keurig brand coffeemaker. Tower guest rooms offer easy access to the brand-new state-of-the-art fitness center and indoor/outdoor atrium pool with hot tub.

The Nugget is located East of campus about 4 miles down I-80. It is easy to access I-80 from both campus and the hotel

The rates for a Casino Tower 2 queen room is \$109 plus 13.5% tax, a \$2.00 Tourism Fee, and a reduced \$15 Resort Fee. I believe this comes out to \$140.72.

Reservations can be made under the UNR Debate Room Block (Code: GUNRDB3) at **1-800-648-1177** or by going online to <http://bookings.ihotelier.com/bookings.jsp?groupID=4062647&hotelID=96145>. The block will be held until Oct 4.

Feel free to research other hotel options on your own. Please consider that most of the hotel/casino resorts have resort fees.

Directions to Campus

To Campus from I-80

Take the Virginia St exit. Head up the hill. The University is on the right about ½ mile up Virginia St. You can't miss it. Park in the Whalen Parking Garage just before the Fitness Center.

Most of you will be coming from the West. Driving from the hotel, you will come from the East.

Directions can easily be found and printed out on Mapquest.com.

Parking on Campus

Park in the Brian Whalen Garage on Saturday and Sunday. Brian Whalen is immediately off of N Virginia St just before the basketball arena. Parking is free on the weekends.

NOTE: IF YOU NEED ADA ACCESS TO CAMPUS, PLEASE EMAIL ME.

Tournament Schedule

<u>Friday, Oct 20th</u> 8 pm Early Registration and Social Hour (The Nugget Resort)	
<u>Saturday Oct 21st</u>	<u>Sunday Oct 20th</u>
8:00 AM Registration (Pattern B, C, and D) 8:30 AM IPDA 1 (flighted)/NPDA R1 10:00 AM IPDA 2 (flighted)/NPDA R2 Lunch (on your own) NOON Late Registration (Pattern B) 12:30 PM IPDA 3 (flighted)/Pattern B1/NPDA R3 2:00 PM IPDA 4 (flighted)/Pattern B2/NPDA R4 3:45 PM IPDA Elim 1 (flighted)/Pattern B3/NPDA 1 st Elim 5:30 PM IPDA Elim 2 (flighted)/ Pattern B Finals/NPDA 2 nd Elim 7 PM Day 1 Awards 7:30 PM IPDA Elim 3/NPDA 3 rd Elim	8:00 AM Late Registration (Pattern A and E) 8:30 AM LD 1/Pattern A1 10 AM LD 2/ Pattern A2 11:30 AM LD 3/Pattern A3 Lunch (on your own) 1:45 PM LD 4/Pattern A Finals 3:15 PM Day 2 Awards 3:45 PM LD Elim 1 4:45 PM LD Elim 2 5:45 PM LD Elim 3

Pattern A: Extemporaneous speaking, After Dinner Speaking, Prose Interpretation, Poetry Interpretation, and Informative Speaking

Pattern B: Impromptu Speaking, Persuasive Speaking, Communication Analysis, Duo Interpretation, Programmed Oral Interpretation, and Dramatic Interpretation

Pattern C: IPDA

Pattern D: NPDA

Pattern E: LD

Tournament Details

Entry Procedure

You will find the tournament on [Forensics Tournament](#). Entry deadline is Wed, October 18th at 8:00pm.

Please provide an email and judge philosophy for each judge. Feel free to discuss your pedagogy/rubric for evaluating IEs and debate. All judges must provide an email address and have a device from which they can send their ballot upon completion of the round. Nevada students may compete and will be eligible for elimination debates and awards.

Fees

There are no fees for the tournament. We would like to thank everyone for their years of support. We know that it is a difficult time for Forensics Programs. That being said, we do not have the ability to recruit a lot of local judges. Please plan to bring judges with you or find them in Reno. In the event that the tournament has sufficient volunteer judges to help with tab, judging, and tournament operations, some local judges may be available for you to hire. Contact Phil.

Each LD judge will cover up to 2 LDers for all rounds. Each NPDA judges will cover up to 2 NPDAers for all rounds. Each IPDA judge will cover up to 4 IPDAers for all rounds. Each IE critic will cover up to five slots for all rounds by pattern. Due to the limited pool of teams in some events, we will use a single pool of judges for each round. This means that a judge covering Pattern B could be assigned to judge an IPDA round or an NPDA round and vice-versa. Each school in IPDA/NPDA may designate one judge as IPDA/NPDA only so that they can help prep debaters in Flight 1 IPDA or NPDA prep. The use of anyone over the age of 18 to judge in IPDA is permitted.

Logistics

Friday night at 8 pm there will be an early registration and meet and greet in The Nugget. We encourage students to socialize and enjoy the arcade and/or pool area. We will meet in the lounge area near the front desk.

Saturday and Sunday morning we will have registration in AB 106. The tabroom will be in AB 102.

You can contact Tournament Director Phil Sharp at (360) 747-2944 if you have questions or need assistance.

Rationale for Changes

This year the tournament attempts to maximize the judge to student ratio and room usage by flighting IPDA. This decision also allows students in IPDA to do one Pattern B speech event. Review of previous tournament entry data suggest large numbers of students in IPDA also enter Impromptu.

Moving IPDA and LD to separate days is in-line with the customs of other regional tournaments. It may also allow some schools to limit the days they compete.

Offering 3 prelims of IEs and finals allows students to have extra rounds and a more complete set of data to determine elimination round participants. Events with small entry numbers (7 or fewer) that do not warrant a final round will use cumulative results from the first three rounds. I recognize that the custom of “swings” allows for more legs to nationals, but it also means two longer days. As designed, an IE-only squad would not need to arrive until noon on Saturday and would finish in the afternoon on Sunday.

Events and Patterns

Conflicts and Cross-pattern Entry

Pattern B, C, and D happen concurrently. A competitor may enter one event in Pattern B if they are entered in IPDA. As Pattern C is flighted, competitors who are entered cross-pattern would need to compete based on the flight they are assigned in IPDA. Do Pattern B first if they are in Flight 2. Do Pattern B after their debate if they are Flight 1. Judges in IEs will need to wait for cross-pattern entered competitors. It is the responsibility of all cross and double-entered participants to complete all events before the conclusion of the time block for the round. Judges can contact tab with questions. They can also check the IPDA entries to see if someone is cross-entered and what flight they are in for a given round.

Pattern A and E happen concurrently. A student entered in LD may enter in one Pattern A event (except Extemp). These competitors should first go to their IE round and compete first and then go an immediately start their LD round. No pre-round prep allowed if you are cross-entered. ALL LD rounds must begin within 30 minutes of the posted start time. No Exceptions.

Patterns A and B: NFA-NIET Individual Speech Event Guidelines

Pattern A: Extemporaneous Speaking, After Dinner Speaking, Prose Interpretation, Poetry Interpretation, and Informative Speaking.

Pattern B: Impromptu Speaking, Persuasive Speaking, Communication Analysis, Duo Interpretation, Programmed Oral Interpretation, and Dramatic Interpretation.

1. Open and Novice IE's will be offered in accordance with AFA-NIET rules.
2. Students in their first year of collegiate competition are eligible for novice division in IE's. Students with substantial high school experience should be entered in Open division. We trust that directors will put their students in the right division.
3. We reserve the right to collapse open and novice divisions in small events (fewer than 5 entries in a division). If we collapse divisions, we will recognize the top novice competitor.
4. Students may triple enter in IE's. All double and triple-entered competitors assume the responsibility for making it to their rounds on time. We will not average scores for a missed round. Please note that IPDA and LD do not count as an individual event.
5. Competitors may not use selections used in competition prior to September 1, 2022 (the only exception is rookies who competed at the NCFA Spring Fling last spring.) One critic covers six IE slots per pattern.
6. Advancement to Elimination Rounds - Students will be rank ordered first by lowest cumulative rankings, then by the highest reciprocal score (a.k.a. decimal conversion), and finally by the highest cumulative ratings (a.k.a. speaker points).
7. Placement/Advancement in Elimination Rounds - Students will be rank ordered first by lowest cumulative rankings, then by judge's preference, then by the highest reciprocal score (a.k.a. decimal conversion), and finally by the highest cumulative ratings (a.k.a. speaker points).
8. Judging – One critic covers up to 5 slots per pattern. Please ensure all your judges are available for the entire tournament, All IE judges are committed through finals.

Pattern C: International Public Debate (IPDA) Guidelines

1. Open, Junior, and Novice LD will be offered in accordance with the [IPDA best practices manual](#).
2. Students in their first year of collegiate competition are eligible for novice division in LD. Students with substantial high school experience should be entered in Junior division. Those who have received more than 4 trophies in Junior should be entered in Open. We trust that directors will put their students in the right division.
3. We reserve the right to collapse divisions if there are fewer than 8 entries in a division. We will provide exhibition elims as possible.
4. Please note that students entered in IPDA can enter only one Pattern B IE.
5. Topic strikes will be done centrally. There are no restrictions on where, with whom, or what resources a student may use in their 30 minutes of prep. Students more than 5 minutes late to the round (after prep has expired) will be forfeited. Students more than 5 minutes late to strikes will be forfeited.
6. We will use the 5-2-6-2-3-5-3 format with thirty (30) minutes of preparation time. Students more than 5 minutes late to the round (after prep has expired) will be forfeited.
7. Advancement to Elimination Rounds – **All winning records will be advanced to elims.** Students will advance to elimination rounds based on the following criteria: win/loss, total speaker points, adjusted speaker points, judge variance, opp record, random number.
8. Judging – One critic covers up to 4 IPDA entries. Please ensure all your judges are available for the entire tournament. IPDA debate encourages a diverse judging pool. To that extent, we encourage community and student involvement. Anyone over the age of 18 (lay judges) are able to judge this event.

Pattern D: NPDA Parliamentary Debate (LD)

1. Open and Novice NPDA will be offered in accordance with AFA-NIET rules.
2. Students in their first year of collegiate competition are eligible for novice division in LD. Students with substantial high school experience should be entered in Open division. Those who have received more than 4 trophies in Junior should be entered in Open. We trust that directors will put their students in the right division.
3. We will use all NPDA rules and Guidelines. Speech/flex times are 7,2,8,2,8,1,8,4,1,5.
4. We reserve the right to collapse divisions if there are fewer than 8 entries in a division. We will provide exhibition elims as possible.
5. Please note that students entered in NPDA can not enter Pattern B IEs.
6. Advancement to Elimination Rounds – **All winning records will be advanced to elims.** Students will advance to elimination rounds based on the following criteria: win/loss, total speaker points, adjusted speaker points, judge variance, opp record, random number. Brackets will not be broken in elims.
7. Judging – One critic covers up to 2 NPDA entries. Please ensure all your judges are available for the entire tournament, All NPDA judges are committed through two elims.

Pattern E: NFA Lincoln-Douglas Debate (LD)

8. Open, Junior, and Novice LD will be offered in accordance with AFA-NIET rules.
9. Students in their first year of collegiate competition are eligible for novice division in LD. Students with substantial high school experience should be entered in Junior division. Those who have received more than 4 trophies in Junior should be entered in Open. We trust that directors will put their students in the right division.
10. We will use the 2022-23 NFA LD topic and all NFA-LD rules. Time limits will be 1AC 6, cx 3, 1NC 7, cx 3, 1AR 6, 1NR 6, 2AR 3. 4 minutes prep time per person.
11. We reserve the right to collapse divisions if there are fewer than 8 entries in a division. We will provide exhibition elims as possible.
12. Please note that students entered in LD can not enter Pattern A IEs.
13. Advancement to Elimination Rounds – **All winning records will be advanced to elims.** Students will advance to elimination rounds based on the following criteria: win/loss, total speaker points, adjusted speaker points, judge variance, opp record, random number. Brackets will not be broken in elims.
14. Judging – One critic covers up to 2 LD entries. Please ensure all your judges are available for the entire tournament, All LD judges are committed through two elims.

Awards

Due to the lack of fees, we will be giving out limited awards this year to students. We do have some swag from prior years and will attempt to provide 1st and 2nd place with something meaningful.

Sweepstakes trophies will be awarded to (1) the top two debate (LD and IPDA) schools; (2) the top two IE schools; (3) the top two community colleges overall and (4) to the top two universities overall; and (5) the top Novice competitor. The following formula will be used for Team sweepstakes calculation:

Speech: 1st = 10 pts, 2 nd = 8 pts, 3rd = 6 pts, 4th = 4 pts, finalist = 2 pts	Debate: 2 points for each prelim win, +3 pts for each elim round, +3 for a W in last elim of tournament
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Pattern A Schedule

Sunday, October 22

8:00 AM Late Registration

8:30 AM Round 1

10 AM Round 2

11:30 AM Round 3

Lunch (on your own)

1:45 PM Finals

Pattern A: Extemporaneous speaking, After Dinner Speaking, Prose Interpretation, Poetry Interpretation, and Informative Speaking

Competitors are permitted to triple enter in the pattern, but they are responsible for making it to all events during the scheduled time block. Pattern A and E happen concurrently. A competitor may enter one event in Pattern A if they are entered in LD. They should complete their IE before going to their LD round.

All Pattern A judges are obligated for all rounds. Judges in IEs should allow LD competitors, those who are triple entered, and double entered to speak first (in that order). Please complete a thorough evaluation of the speakers and provide clear feedback and a Rationale for Rankings on forensicstournament.net (FTN). Thank you for everything you do.

Pattern B Schedule

Saturday, October 21

Noon Late Registration

12:30 PM Round 1

2 PM Round 2

3:45 PM Round 3

5:30 PM Finals

Pattern B: Impromptu Speaking, Persuasive Speaking, Communication Analysis, Duo Interpretation, Programmed Oral Interpretation, and Dramatic Interpretation

Competitors are permitted to triple enter in the pattern, but they are responsible for making it to all events during the scheduled time block. Pattern B, C, and D happen concurrently. A competitor may enter one event in Pattern B if they are entered in IPDA. If you are Flight 1 of IPDA, do your IE after the debate. If you are Flight 2, do your IE first and then go to topic strike.

All Pattern B judges are obligated for all rounds. Judges in IEs will need to wait for any cross-pattern entered competitors. This includes 30 minutes of prep and a 30-minute debate. Judges can contact tab with questions. They can also check the IPDA entries to see if someone is cross-entered and what flight they are in for a given round. Please complete a thorough evaluation of the speakers and provide clear feedback and a Rationale for Rankings on forensictournament.net (FTN). Thank you for everything you do.

Pattern C IPDA Schedule

Saturday, Oct 21

8:00 AM Late Registration

8:30 AM RD 1 Flight 1 Topic Strike (Debate at 9 am)

9 AM RD 1 Flight 2 Topic Strike (Debate at 9:30 am)

10:00 AM RD 2 Flight 1 Topic Strike (Debate at 10:30 am)

10:30 AM RD 2 Flight 2 Topic Strike (Debate at 11 am)

Lunch (on your own)

12:30 PM RD 3 Flight 1 Topic Strike (Debate at 1 pm)

1 PM RD 3 Flight 2 Topic Strike (Debate at 1:30 pm)

2:00 PM RD 4 Flight 1 Topic Strike (Debate at 2:30 pm)

2:30 PM RD 4 Flight 4 Topic Strike (Debate at 3 pm)

3:45 PM Elim 1 Flight 1 Topic Strike (Debate at 4:15 pm)

4:15 PM Elim 1 Flight 2 Topic Strike (Debate at 4:45 pm)

5:15 PM Elim 2 Flight 1 Topic Strike (Debate at 5:45 pm)

5:45 PM Elim 2 Flight 2 Topic Strike (Debate at 6:15 pm)

7:30 PM Elim 3 Topic Strike (Debate at 8 pm)

All rounds have 30 minutes of prep between topic strike and debate start. Judges must begin debate promptly. Any debater more than 5 minutes late should be forfeited.

All Pattern C judges obligated thru Elim 2. All Pattern C judges for programs advancing debaters to elimination rounds are committed thru Elim 3. In flighted rounds, a judge will usually be assigned to judge a debate in both flights in the same room back-to-back. Please wait for the competitors to enter for Flight 2 and start the round on-time. Ballots are due (decision and points) in FTN.NET ASAP after the round ends. Thank you for everything you do.

Pattern D NPDA Schedule

Saturday, Oct 21

8:00 AM Late Registration

8:30 AM RD 1 Topic (Debate at 8:52 am)

10:00 AM RD 2 Topic (Debate at 10:22 am)

Lunch (on your own)

12:30 PM RD 3 Topic (Debate at 12:52 pm)

2:00 PM RD 4 Topic (Debate at 2:22 pm)

3:45 PM Elim 1 Topic (Debate at 4:07 pm)

5:15 PM Elim 2 Topic (Debate at 5:37 pm)

7:30 PM Elim 3 Topic (Debate at 7:52 pm)

All rounds have 22 minutes of prep between topic announce and debate start. Judges must begin debate promptly. Any team that is late should have the time they are late deducted from their first constructive speech time until they reach 0 minutes (at which time they forfeit).

All Pattern D judges obligated thru Elim 2. All Pattern D judges for programs advancing debaters to elimination rounds are committed thru Elim 3. Ballots are due (decision and points) in FTN.NET ASAP after the round ends. Thank you for everything you do.

Pattern E LD Schedule

Sunday, October 22

8:00 AM Late Registration

8:30 AM Round 1

10 AM Round 2

11:30 AM Round 3

Lunch (on your own)

1:45 PM Round 4

3:45 PM Elim 1

4:45 PM Elim 2

5:45 PM Elim 3

Debaters must be present and ready to begin the round within 15 minutes of the scheduled start time (official forfeit time). If a competitor is double entered, they should go to Pattern A events first and then go to their LD round directly. No pre-round prep will be allowed for cross-entered competitors. Cross-entry in Extemp is not permitted due to time constraints.

All Pattern D judges are obligated for all rounds thru Elim 2. Judges representing schools advancing to Elim 2 are obligated for Elim 3 (if needed). Judges are asked to ensure that debaters (and their coaches) do not abuse pre-round prep time and cause the tournament to run behind. Ballots are due (decision and points) in FTN.NET ASAP after the round ends. Please submit ballots before giving post-round critiques or written feedback. All ballots should contain adequate written feedback and a clear RFD before the conclusion of the tournament. Thank you for everything you do.