



Coaches & Competitors,

You are invited to the inaugural **DVC Viking Middle School Winterfest**. We look forward to welcoming competitors, coaches, and judges *in person* for years to come! Our goal is to host an event featuring a schedule that we think offers competitive rigor while also prioritizing the wellness of students, coaches, and judges who give their time to this activity that has so much to offer its participants.

In addition to our experience annually hosting our college tournament, DVC served as the hosts for the California Community College State Championship Tournament in 2024, so we are fully prepared to run a quality event. We believe that speech and debate is a vehicle for students to develop their research, communication, and advocacy skills and to be able to identify and engage with the problems facing both the world and their communities. We also believe this does not have to sacrifice the quality of a competitive and, more importantly, fun experience.

The tournament will take place February 8th 2025, at Diablo Valley College in Pleasant Hill, California.

If you have any suggestions, comments, or recommendations to help us improve the tournament or have questions you would like clarified, please feel free to reach out to us. We look forward to seeing you and your team and wish you the best of luck!

Sincerely,

Paul Villa
Co-Director of Forensics
Tournament Director
Contact: pvilla@dvc.edu

Robert Hawkins
Co-Director of Forensics
Tournament Host
Contact: rhawkins@dvc.edu

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND LOGISTICS

Location:

We will be hosting the tournament at Diablo Valley College located at 321 Golf Club Rd, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523.

Events:

Debate

Lincoln Douglas (LD)
Public Forum (PF)
Spontaneous Arg. (SPAR)
Congress (CHSSA)

Speech

Declamation (DEC)
Dramatic Interp (DI)
Duo Interp (DUO)
Humorous Interp (HI)
Impromptu (IMP)
Informative (INFO)
Extemp (EXT)
Storytelling (STO)
Original Oratory (OO)

The DVC Viking Invitational is an **OPEN MIDDLE SCHOOL** competition in all events. Coaches must only enter students who are competing at the middle school level in their events.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND LOGISTICS

Tournament Schedule

Event	Time
Debate Round 1	8:30 AM - 9:30 AM
Debate Round 2	9:30 AM - 10:30 AM
Speech Round 1	10:30 AM - 11:30 AM
Lunch	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Debate Round 3	12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
Speech Round 2	1:00 PM - 2:00 PM
Debate Round 4	2:00 PM - 3:00 PM
Speech Round 3F	3:00 PM - 4:00 PM
Debate Round 5	4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Awards	5:30 PM

Entry Details

- Speech: extempers can double-enter speech, no cross-entry into DEBATE.
- All Events: 10 minute no-show forfeit rule STRICTLY ENFORCED.
- Debate: 5min judge critique/disclose ENFORCED.
- Debate: Cross-Entry competitors are instructed to rush to speech rounds and speak early / late / out of order as needed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND LOGISTICS

Supervision Requirements

Each school must be accompanied by a qualified adult supervisor who is physically at the tournament site and reachable at all times. No unaccompanied entries will be permitted. Non School entities will use the *independent entry* form on the last page of the Invitation. All schools and programs must be “accompanied” by an adult reachable by phone, *physically on site*, and must remain under adult supervision throughout the tournament. No exceptions! If your student(s) are unsupervised, we reserve the right to remove your entries from the tournament for liability reasons with no refund.

Decorum

Please remember to conduct proper communication between competitors and judges. Students will not ask questions about decisions until the judge has submitted their ballot. Judges will not ask questions about arguments or speeches, with the exception of asking to see evidence, until decisions are submitted and confirmed. *There is no recording of minors in California without parental permission.*

Event Rules

We will adhere to NSDA rules (section 2 of the High School Manual) for all national circuit/NSDA events (except Congress): this includes Lincoln Douglas, Public Forum, DI, Duo, HI, Info, EXT, OO, and STO. PF and LD will be using the Jan/Feb 2025 NSDA topics. Debate events will NOT be using the NSDA novice topics. We will be following CHSSA rules & regulations for all California state events which include Declamation (previously Oratorical Interp).

We will additionally be following CHSSA rules for Congress. SPAR will be following the [format and rules](#).

If there are questions or concerns that arise regarding the rules during rounds, please have a coach come to the tabulation room.

LD - Jan/Feb Topic

Public Forum - Feb Topic

Note: We may open a division of LD Nov/Dec topic if interest permits.

Dates & Deadlines

Wednesday, February 5, 2025

- The recommended registration deadline for all events is by 11:59 PM PST.
- Please input competitors' names into forensicstournament by this date.
- All payments must be received no later than this date.
- If your registration is not received by this deadline, your team's entries will be immediately waitlisted.
- Drops after this date will not be refunded.
- Any outstanding fees must be paid prior to the start of the tournament.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND LOGISTICS

- Judge registration deadline is at 5:00 PM PST.
- All drops and name changes are due by 5:00 PM PST.
- Drops made after this deadline will incur the full registration fee penalty for that event.
- Nuisance fines will apply after 5:00 PM PST.

Breaks

- Speech: Breaks will be determined based on entries and announced at the registration deadline.
- Congress: Chambers will break into a final round of 12–16 competitors, depending on entry
- Debate: No elimination rounds will be held for Public Forum or Lincoln-Douglas.
- SPAR breaks will be based on entries and announced at the registration deadline.

Entry Fees

School Fee: 50 per school
Speech/SPAR - \$20 per entry
Congress - \$25 per entry
Duo - \$35 per team
LD - \$40 per entry
PF - \$50 per team

All tournament payments must be made online via Forensics Tournament before competition begins. There is a 3.5% processing fee. Once payment is submitted you will receive a confirmation email.

Judging Obligations

Please register judges accurately. Because we will be using entirely electronic ballots in debate, it is important that judge registration be accurate. The deadline to register judges is also **Wednesday, February 5th, 2024, at 5:00 PM**. If you do not have judges registered by this deadline, you will be charged for missing/hired judges regardless of whether you bring additional judges to the tournament. There will be no AM/PM judge split.

Judge Coverage

PF/LD: 1 judge per 3 teams/entries.

Speech/Spar/Congress: 1 judge for every 5 entries.

Uncovered Fees (**Subject to change*)

IE/Congress/SPAR _____ x \$15.00

LD entry _____ x \$25.00

PF _____ x 30

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Drops/changes at Registration _____ x \$20.00

I.E/Debate No Shows _____ x \$20.00 (Per Round)

Elim Commitment:

All Speech/Congress judges are committed for all Speech/Congress rounds. all judges are obligated to judge the first full elimination round AND one round beyond their last school's best competitive finish. Whichever requirement is later will apply.

DVC VIKING INVITATIONAL SCHEDULE

Diablo Valley College

Independent Entry Form Parent Letter authorizing participation by independent entries
(template--copy/paste the text and fill in the blanks as appropriate):

Date _____

Dear Diablo Valley College:

This letter is to inform you that we would like our child, _____, to attend The Viking Middle School Tournament February 8th and that she/he/they does so with our full consent and permission. We have arranged for our child to be fully chaperoned and for transportation to our satisfaction, and accept full responsibility and liability for our child during the entire course of the event. We understand and agree that Diablo Valley College, its employees, and its agents provide no chaperones for the event, and further agree that Diablo Valley College, its employees, and its agents are hereby relieved of any responsibility or liability of any sort for the supervision of our child.

The following person will be chaperoning our child:

Name: _____

Cell phone: _____

Relationship to our child: _____

By signing this we are certifying that we are in fact the legal guardians of the listed child, and

have full legal authority to act on the listed child's behalf. _____

Parent Name Parent Signature Date Parents' contact information: _____

Cell phone Email Child's insurance # _____ Medical Provider _____

This form will be required to be on the chaperon's person, and presentable to the tournament by the chaperon on request (preferably at the tab-room when the team first arrives at the tournament).