



University of Central Mo Mini-Mule

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Dear Speech and Debate Coach and Squad,

The University of Central Missouri in Warrensburg, Missouri cordially invites you to our 3rd annual UCM Mini-Mule to be held on February 7th & 8th, 2025. There will be a Novice Tournament at Lee's Summit High School the same weekend. Nate Smith, at Lee's Summit, is your contact for that tournament. I will send that invite out as soon as it is sent my way. **IN CASE OF BAD WEATHER, THE UCM TOURNAMENT WILL NOT BE RESCHEDULED!**

We will have a theme this year! We will have some decorations up and fun little things all themed around Scooby-Doo and the Mystery Gang. Featuring this episode "The Case of the Mini-Mule."

Our tournament will provide VARSITY COMPETITION ONLY in the following Individual Events: Original Oratory, U.S. Extemp, International Extemp, Student Congress, Duo Interp, Dramatic Interp, Humorous Interp, Program of Oral Interp, Informative Speaking, Improv Duet Acting, and Broadcast Journalism (Description below). Debate competition will be in Varsity CX, Junior Varsity CX, Varsity Lincoln-Douglas, Junior Varsity Lincoln-Douglas, Varsity Public Forum, and Junior Varsity Public Forum. Please read inside for all the information. Students may enter two individual events and one format of debate. The Mini Mule will also offer NIETOC bids in the following events as entry numbers allow: HI, DI, DUO, OO, POI, United States Extemp, and International Extemp. The 2025 NIETOC will be held in Liberty North High School in Liberty, Missouri, May 16-18. (Woohoo!) All other information concerning NIETOC can be found at www.NIETOC.com.

Each school must be accompanied by a coach or qualified sponsor. We will have a judge requirement of 2 judges. We are hopeful not to have to use these judges but in the event that we need to we would like to have extras on Standby. If this is a concern for your team, please feel free to reach out so that we can provide an alternative.

Entries will be a flat fee of \$8.00 per entry. Our entry deadline is Wednesday, January 29th, 2025 on Forensicstournament.net. At this time we cannot accept more than 3 entries per event per school. You will need to register new students to the tournament site before you can enter them into competition events. If you need any help with forensicstournament.net please don't hesitate to reach out to ask questions!

We are very hopeful that we will be allowed to accept everything. Extra entries, if desired, should be noted in the entry and will be released on a first come first serve basis. Should you have any questions, please call the Tournament Director Sydney Crank (660-281-8187) or the Tournament Chairs Hayden Etter (816-553-4478) or Shelby Cumpton (318-533-2864).

General Rules:

1. A student may enter two individual events and debate. Debaters may not enter multiple debate styles and extempers may not enter both Foreign and U.S. divisions. Students may add Broadcast Journalism as a 3rd individual event as it will be done by submission.
2. Coaches may be used as judges in rounds where alternative judges cannot be found.
3. Trophies will be awarded to the top six places in Individual Events, and the top four in Debate, and top 10 debate speakers.
4. No refunds for cancellations will be made after Thursday, February 6th, 2025.
5. There is a campus regulation against smoking. Failure to comply with this regulation will result in the contestant being eliminated from competition.
6. No playing of guitars or music without the use of headphones.
7. Laptops may be used following MSHSAA and NSDA guidelines.
8. Any student entering Improv Duet Acting CANNOT be entered in debate as these events are running concurrently.
9. Any competitor can add Broadcast Journalism as a 3rd Event as it is a submitted event. So an individual with 2 I.E's may also compete in Broadcast Journalism & Improv Duet. Debate students can compete in Broadcast Journalism but NOT Improv Duets.

Individual Events Rules:

1. **US and International Extemp:** Topics will be current events on national and international issues. Time limit will be 7 minutes.
2. **Original Oratory:** The speech must be written by the student. It must be memorized. The time limit is 10 minutes. Not more than 150 words may be direct quotations.
3. **Humorous and Dramatic Interp:** Selections must be memorized and possess literary merit. Time limit is 10 minutes.
4. **Duo Interp:** Must be memorized. Selections may be from any appropriate novel, play, or short story. An introduction must be provided. Time limit-10 minutes. Students must have offstage focus. (May not be from recorded material.)
5. **Student Congress: Advancing to the Semifinals** will be determined by: Ranks, reciprocals, and total points. **Finalists** will be determined by semi-ranks, judges' preference, reciprocals, Semi points, prelim ranks, prelim reciprocals, and prelim points. They will be available on the forensictournament.net website. We will be using the **JANUARY packet** for this tournament.
6. **Program Oral Interp:** A program of Prose, Poetry, and Drama, up to ten minutes in length using at least two out of the three genres. No props or costumes may be used except for the manuscript.
7. **Informative:** Students deliver a memorized, self-written, ten-minute speech on a topic of their choosing. All topics must be informative in nature. Visual aids are permitted.
8. **Broadcast Journalism:** A contestant will present a well-organized, clearly communicated simulated news program. The focus of this event is to demonstrate skill in the selection, organization, and presentation of a simulated broadcast news program. The student may create the script which contains news, weather, and sports. Use sources accessed no more than 24 hours before the deadline for entry. Can be recorded for any platform for which an audio recording would be an appropriate format for content. Call letters or other platform identification, as well as brief references to a day, weather, or programming to follow the recording are acceptable but not required. The speaking time shall be five (5) minutes. Due to the nature of the event, there is no grace period given in this event. **ALL SUBMISSIONS FOR Broadcast Journalism MUST be submitted through forensictournament.net by the deadline given THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6TH, 2025 @ 3:00 p.m. ALL SUBMISSIONS AFTER 3:00 p.m. on 2/6 will not be considered for judging.**
9. **Improv Duet Acting:** Students will begin the round by drawing three scenarios and choosing one to prepare for the competition. Scenes should be no longer than 5 minutes with a 2-minute prep time, totaling 7 minutes. Props are allowed. **DEBATE STUDENTS MAY NOT ENTER IDA AS THEY ARE RUNNING CONCURRENTLY.**

Cross-Examination Debate:

1. Novice will be defined as any student in his/her first year of any competition.
2. Time limits will be 8-3-5 with 5 minutes of prep time.
3. All teams must remain constant in personnel throughout the tournament.
4. The resolution for debate will be the NSDA national topic.
5. A team more than 10 minutes late to a round shall forfeit unless it is the fault of the tournament.
6. Since debate is oral communication, evidence shall be presented understandably. Judges will be instructed to refrain from reading any evidence after the round unless the truth of the evidence or its misinterpretation has been challenged by the opposing team in that round.
7. In case of a forfeit, the winning team will receive speaker rankings of 1-2 and the opposition record will be averaged. Byes will be tabulated as a win with 1-2 speaker rankings; the opposition record will be averaged.
8. At the end of preliminaries the eight top teams in each division will advance to the quarterfinals. Win/loss, speaker rankings, record of opponent lost to, total opposition record, and opposition speaker ranks (in that order) will be used to break ties.
9. All teams must consist of two people unless given permission by the tournament director.

Lincoln Douglas Debate:

1. Novice is defined as any student in his/her first year of any competition.
2. Rounds will be run at the same time as the cross-ex debate, so two L-D rounds will be held during one cross-ex debate.
3. The topic shall be the NSDA January/February topic.
4. In case of forfeit, the opposition record will be averaged. The opposition record for byes will be averaged.
5. Qualification for quarter-finals will be based on win-loss record; record of opponent lost to; total opposition record; and total opposition to the opposition.

Public Forum Debate

1. The topic will be the NSDA February topic.
2. In case of forfeit, the opposition record will be averaged. The opposition record for byes will be averaged.
3. At the end of the preliminaries the eight top teams in each division will advance to the quarterfinals. Win/loss, speaker rankings, record of opponent lost to, total opposition record, and opposition speaker ranks (in that order) will be used to break ties.

Sweepstakes Rules:

1. Sweepstakes points in debate will be awarded as follows:
Debate win-----5 points
Qualifying for quarters-----15 points
2. Sweepstakes points in IEs will be awarded as follows:
Semifinals-----5 points
Finals-----10 points
Third place-----5 points
Second Place-----10 points
First place-----15 points
3. Sweepstakes will be awarded to the THREE BEST ENTRIES
4. Debate Speaker awards will be awarded to top 10 students based on their preliminary rounds. Top Speakers are determined by High low first (adjusted), then total points, followed by ranks and, opp wins if needed.

Mini-Mule TOURNAMENT TIME SCHEDULE

University of Central Missouri

Friday, February 7th, 2025

2:00-Registration in the Student Union Atrium

PLEASE KEEP ALL STUDENTS EXCEPT EXTEMP IN THE Union UNTIL 2:35 P.M.

EXTEMP DRAW: Location Union Auditorium

2:35--Round 1 Extemp Draw

3:05--Round 1 Individual Events

4:00--Round 2 Extemp Draw

4:30--Round 2 Individual Events

6:00--Round 1 Debate/IDA

7:30--Round 2 Debate/IDA

Saturday, February 8th, 2025

8:30- Semi-Finals Extemp Draw (the Union does not open until 8. Please do not arrive before then as the doors will be locked.)

9:00--Semi-Finals Individual Events

10:30--Round 3 Debate Round/Semi-Finals IDA

12:00--Round 4 Debate/Finals IDA

1:30--Extemp Draw for Finals of Individual Events

2:00--Finals Individual Events

3:30--Quarterfinals Debate

5:00 or ASAP---Awards Assembly in Auditorium

5:30 Immediately after Awards--Semi-Finals Debate

7:30 Immediately after Semi Finals--Finals Debate