

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the Louisiana State University Shreveport Debate Team, I would like to extend an invitation to the 51st annual “Red River Classic” hosted on our campus in Shreveport, LA! This season our tournament will be hosted November 6th-8th.

This year, our tournament will feature TIPDA, IPDA (Novice, Junior Varsity, Varsity, and Professional) and welcome back several Individual Events outlined below!

We will offer four preliminary rounds for TIPDA competitors and seven preliminary rounds for all IPDA divisions. Over the last year, I’ve spoken with many coaches and competitors. Some LOVE that 7 rounds, others dread it. I have found it really difficult to measure which side is louder. So, this year, we intend to collect that data and will implement it moving forward! In other words, *this could very well be the last season in which we offer the 7 preliminary rounds.*

We do hope that even if you are from a program who is not particularly fond of these 7 rounds of competition, that you join us and participate in that discussion. We will do our best to make this tournament run smoothly and stay on time! If nothing else, we hope this will be a good test run for your team leading up to the 8-round sprint at Nationals in the Spring!

Lunch will be provided on Saturday, with a designated lunch break on the schedule. As always, we ask that you bring judges to cover all entries. We would rather have your judges than your money! This is particularly true in regards to your IE entries. In fact, if you have a Pro competitor that is qualified to judge for IEs and sign them up to do so for Friday, we will *waive their entrance fee* for Saturday’s competition!

All entries must be received by Tuesday, November 3rd, 2026, at 5:00 P.M. CST via ForensicsTournament.net. Changes will be accepted via FTN without charge until Wednesday, November 4th, 2025, at 12:00 P.M. CST. Late fees will be charged for any changes after noon on the 4th.

Details of this tournament may be different from years past so I encourage you to read through the information on this document and reach out with any questions or concerns.

Lastly, we are looking forward to hosting our awards ceremony early Sunday morning! You can expect one or two surprises here that we are excited to share with you and have a feeling you might enjoy!

Best,
Lindsay Duede
Director of Debate
Louisiana State University—Shreveport
LDuede@lsus.edu

Registration and Fees:

Registration

Registration will be hosted on ForensicTournament.net at the following link:

<https://forensicstournament.net/RedRiverClassic/26>

Fees

Covered TIPDA Fee: \$50 per team

Uncovered TIPDA Fee: \$75 per team

IPDA Fee: \$25 per competitor

Uncovered IPDA Fee: \$40 per competitor.

Covered IE Entry: \$15 per entry

Uncovered IE Entry \$30 per entry

We reserve the right to refuse entries for any reason, including based on the inability of teams to cover their entries.

Late fees of \$5 per alteration will be added for any changes made after noon on Wednesday, November 4th. Changes made on the day of registration will be subject to a fee of \$20 per drop, alteration, or correction.

Judges

One judge may cover:

- 4 IPDA Competitors
- 2 TIPDA Teams
- 6 IE entries

NOTE: A judge may cover both IPDA and IEs or IPDA and TIPDA. However, **a judge may not cover IES and TIPDA** as they are occurring at the same time.

NOTE: To further incentivize judges for IEs, if you have Pro competitors that are qualified to judge IEs on Friday, we will *WAIVE* their entrance fee for Saturday! **Please add this in the judge and entry notes to have this waived!**

Sweepstakes, Divisions, and Points:

Sweepstakes & Awards

We will recognize sweepstakes for Individual Events, Individual IPDA, TIPDA, Combined IPDA-TIPDA, and a Comprehensive Sweepstakes Award that celebrates participation in IES, IPDA, and TIPDA. We will also be recognizing the Top Community College in each category.

We will also offer awards for the top 3 competitors in the IE Quadrathon and the top 3 competitors who participate in both IEs and IPDA.

Debate Calculations

We will host all four divisions (Nov, JV, Var, Pro) of IPDA competition. The top three debaters in each division will count towards Sweepstakes calculations. For TIPDA, the top 3 teams will count towards Sweepstakes calculations.

Debate points will be awarded according to the following formula:

- 3 points for each preliminary round win
- 3 points for breaking to elimination rounds
- 5 points for 1st speaker
- 4 points for 2nd speaker
- 3 points for 3rd speaker
- 2 points for 4th speaker
- 1 point for 5th speaker

IE Calculations

Individual events will be scored as follows: 6 points for 1st place, 5 points for 2nd place, 4 points for 3rd place, 3 points for 4th place, 2 points for 5th place, and 1 point for 6th place

Debate Advancing & Tie Breaker Formula

Debate: For determining competitors advancing to elimination rounds in individual debate we will look first to the number of wins, second to high/low adjusted speaker points and third to the number of total speaker points. For determining speaker awards in individual debate, we will look first to high/low adjusted speaker points and second to total speaker points.

TIPDA: Determination for advancing to elimination rounds will first to the number of wins, second to the total number of speaker points, third to competitor ranks. For speaker awards we will look to total points and then adjust to high/lows to break any ties.

Events & Rules

IPDA & TIPDA

All IPDA & TIPDA rounds will follow the guidelines set forth by the IPDA and can be seen in the IPDA Constitution.

All IPDA debate rounds shall follow the 5-2-6-2-3-5-3 time format with 30 minutes preparation time. Divisions offered will be Novice, Junior Varsity, Varsity, and Professional. 7 preliminary rounds and the appropriate number of elimination rounds will be offered. See IPDADebate.info for division eligibility requirements (or simply ask us if you need clarification).

TIPDA will follow the 4-2-5-2-5-2-4-2-3-4-4-3 time format. We will offer 4 preliminary rounds with the appropriate amount of elimination rounds to follow.

Individual Events (IEs)

I.E.'s will be conducted in accordance with the AFA-NIET guidelines.

Conflict Patterns

Flight A: Communication Analysis, Duo Interpretation, Extemp, Persuasion, Poetry, Program of Oral Interpretation

Flight B: After Dinner Speaking, Prose, Drama Interpretation, Impromptu, Informative

A student may enter up to 3 events in both conflict patterns. However, it is the student's responsibility to make it to their rounds on time! No student may enter in more than 2 Duos.

Any student who enters in a minimum of 4 events in 2 genres (limited prep (EXT, IMP), platform (ADS, PERS, INF, CA), and/or interpretation (DUO, POE, POI, DI, PRO) will be eligible for Quadrathon.

Schedule:

Friday 11/6/2026

DEBATE SCHEDULE	IE SCHEDULE
8:00 AM - TIPDA Registration	8:00 AM - IE Registration
9:30 AM - TIPDA Round 1 Draw	8:45 AM - Extemp Round 1 Draw
11:00 AM - TIPDA Round 2 Draw	9:00 AM - Round 1, Pattern A
12:30 PM - TIPDA Round 3 Draw	10:30 AM - Round 1, Pattern B
2:00 PM - Lunch Break (not provided)	11:45 - Extemp Round 2 Draw
3:00 PM - TIPDA Round 4 Draw	12:00 - Round 2, Pattern A
4:00 PM - Coaches Check	1:30 - Lunch Break (not provided)
4:45 PM - TIPDA ELIM 1 DRAW	2:30 - Round 2, Pattern B
ASAP - TIPDA ELIM 2 DRAW	4:00 - Extemp FINALS DRAW
	4:30 - FINALS Pattern A
	6:00 - FINALS Pattern B

Saturday 11/7/2025

7:30 AM - TIPDA ELIM 3 DRAW / IPDA Registration Open

9:00 AM - Draw IPDA Round 1

10:30 AM - Draw IPDA Round 2

11:30 AM - **Lunch Provided**

12:30 PM - Draw IPDA Round 3

2:00 PM - Draw IPDA Round 4

3:30 PM - Draw IPDA Round 5

5:00 PM - Draw IPDA Round 6

6:30 PM - Draw IPDA Round 7 / Early Coaches Check

Sunday 11/8/2026

8:00 AM - Coaches Check

8:15 AM - Draw IPDA ELIM 1

Awards ASAP

Additional elimination rounds will follow ASAP

General Event Information:

General Information:

1. No minimum number of entries is required for schools to count toward debate sweepstakes awards.
2. **We will provide ADA accommodations upon request; please let us know at the time you enter if you need any special arrangements.**
3. The tab room will operate on a closed basis; tab staff will be available via chat and cellphone.

IPDA/TIPDA Considerations

1. Please adhere to all rules expressed in the Bylaws and Constitution of the IPDA.
2. In order to keep the tournament running on time, please remind your competitors that they should activate their timers when draw begins, not after the strike process ends.
3. Please remind your judges that electronic devices are NOT permitted for anyone in a round, including the judge.
4. Please be aware that the **5 minute late** penalty will be **strictly** enforced to keep this tournament on time. Students arriving more than 5 minutes late to their debate rounds *will* receive an automatic loss.

Tournament Ethics Statement

1. The behavior of all attending the Red River Classic will be in keeping with the NCA Policy on Anti-Harassment Code of Conduct. We encourage all programs to review these expectations prior to entering this tournament.
2. The LSUS Red River Classic expects that behavior between all participants, coaches, judges, and guests be respectful and appropriate at all times. If any participant has concerns over propriety or good sportspersonship, they should discuss the matter with their coaching staff. Any coach, judge, or guests should address any concerns with the Tournament Director exclusively.
3. As a condition of entry, all participants, coaches, judges, and guests agree that any decision issued by the Tournament Director is binding and final.

4. The Tournament Director and host University reserve the right to remove anyone for any reason at any time particularly to protect the safety and well being of all persons on campus. We take threats to safety *very* seriously and will not hesitate to ask someone to leave should it become necessary.

Judges

IPDAs

All entries must be covered. One judge during debate rounds covers four (4) IPDA debaters. 1 judge covers two (2) TIPDA teams. As is commonplace in IPDA, once eliminated from competition, IPDA competitors may be used to judge IPDA elimination rounds. **All judges are obligated to judge one round past the last round of their team's elimination.** We will reserve the right to limit entries to make certain we can provide sufficient judging pools needed to keep clean rounds throughout the tournament.

IEs

All judges must meet standard judging qualifications.

Travel and Hotel Accommodations

We are currently working to secure a block of hotel rooms near campus. This update should be posted on FTN as a supplementary file within the week!

Electronics Policy:

In keeping with the policies outlined in the IPDA Bylaws, NO ELECTRONIC DEVICES that can access the internet are permitted in any Debate room for use by the Debaters or Judges. If judges receive an e-ballot, they are expected to remain ONLY on the ballot and not to utilize other tabs for *anything*.

Recording of Rounds:

We believe in supporting the continued online presence of excellence of IPDA online. For this reason, we will be *recording all IPDA and TIPDA final rounds to upload onto our YouTube Channel*. We believe that students reaching finals deserve to have their rounds celebrated and believe they can work as a fantastic educational tool for those new to this activity.

To opt out of this for a particular competitor or for your team, please contact the Tournament Director by the entry deadline. We respect the rights of all to their individual privacy.

Further, absolutely no recordings of rounds including minors will be permitted on this campus by our team or by individuals in rounds without a signed permission slip from that individual's parent or guardian. Please contact the Director to receive this permission slip in advance if this is desired.

Lastly, any competitor wishing to record their rounds must have the explicit permission of all parties in the room before attempting to do so.

Entries and Fee Payment

Entries

Entries must be made at <https://forensicstournament.net/RedRiverClassic/26>

Please email Lindsay Duede at LDuede@lsus.edu with any questions as you work through your entries.

Fee Payment

Fees can be paid by cash, check, or card.

For checks:

Please make any checks payable to "LSUS" With a memo line of Red River Debate. If you anticipate *mailing* a check, please connect with the Director for shipping instructions.

Checks, Cash or Card payments may be collected at the time of registration on campus. To arrange alternate payment options please connect with the Director.

Entry confirmations will be emailed to all coaches on Thursday, November 6th by 8:00 p.m.

Any program that has previously attended the Red River Classic and is experiencing financial hardship please contact Lindsay Duede and LDuede@LSUS.edu to discuss options.

As is our tradition at the Red River Classic, any programs new to the event or new to the Red River will receive a reduction in fees. This will be judged according to program size and number of entries. We want everyone to have the best possible chance to compete and are willing to make all possible financial accommodations. PLEASE LET US KNOW if this is your first time attending!