

Dear Forensic Colleagues,

The Newberry College Speech and Debate Team invites you to the 1st Annual Southeast Squabble, a hybrid tournament to be held on Zoom and on our lovely campus September 25-26, 2026. We will be offering the 11 AFA-NST individual events plus Interviewing, IPDA Debate, and TIPDA Debate on campus. We will also be offering Public Forum Debate virtually on Friday and NPDA Debate virtually on Saturday. To accommodate our friends in the West, the online schedule has been modified to provide you with a more humane competition schedule. We reserve the option of making last-minute schedule changes and apologize for the uncertainty and any inconvenience that may cause.

Located along I-26 in the Midlands of South Carolina, Newberry is centrally located within the state and less than 60 miles from cities like Columbia and Greenville-Spartanburg. While advertised as a “PKD Provincial Tournament,” we encourage any school to participate in the weekend’s competition. Join us in Newberry or on Zoom as you begin your season and gear up for the rest of the 2026-2027 forensics season.

To help with our planning, we ***must insist*** on meeting our ***Tuesday, September 22 entry deadline***.

Please contact us with any questions. We hope to see you all in September!

Sincerely,

John Wallis
Director of Speech and Debate
Tournament Director

Elyssa Mersdorf
Assistant Coach
Assistant Tournament Director

Nia Quimby
President of Newberry Speech and Debate
Student Tournament Director

Land Acknowledgement Statement

It is important for us here at Newberry College, in alignment with our mission to enrich lives and build community through communication, to acknowledge that the land beneath us owes its vitality to generations who have come before us. In the spirit of making erased and silenced histories visible, Newberry Speech and Debate chooses to learn about, come to terms with, and share the truth of Westward Expansion. We acknowledge that our community spaces rest on the traditional land of Indigenous People that have stewarded and cared for this land for centuries. We further acknowledge that we are standing on the ancestral and occupied lands of the ᏊᏍᏏᏉᏚᏉ Tsalaguwetiyi (Cherokee, East) tribe. They are the people to whom we pay our respects. We acknowledge that this land was stolen and acquired through a history of violence. While Newberry College remains on these lands, we will attempt to honor their histories and ask you to join us in uncovering such histories at any and all public in-person and virtual events. We encourage you to learn more about Indigenous communities and land where you live and to honor those who made their homes on this land before us. To learn more about the Indigenous people whose land you occupy, please visit <https://native-land.ca/> or <https://www.whose.land/en/>.

Harassment and Discrimination Statement

Newberry Speech and Debate is committed to providing its participants, judges, coaches, staff, and all other members of the general public the opportunity to pursue excellence in their endeavors. This opportunity can exist only when each member of our community is assured an atmosphere of mutual respect. We prohibit all forms of harassment and discrimination. Accordingly, all forms of harassment and discrimination, whether written or oral, based on race, color, religion, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, marital status, citizenship, national origin, age, disability, genetic information, or any other characteristic protected by any applicable federal, state, or local law are prohibited, whether committed by participants, judges, coaches, or observers. Individuals who are found to have violated this policy will be subject to the full range of sanctions, up to and including removal from the tournament premises.

2026 Southeast Squabble Tournament Schedule

ALL TIMES ARE EASTERN (HIGHLIGHTED TIMES ARE VIRTUAL EVENTS)

Friday September 25

7:30AM-8:00AM - In Person Registration

8:00AM - EXTEMP DRAW
8:15AM - Rd 1 Flight A Events Start
8:30AM - IPDA Rd 1 Draw
9:00AM - IPDA Rd 1 Start

9:45AM - Extemp Draw/IPDA Rd 2 Draw
10:00AM - Rd 2 Flight A Events Start
10:00AM - Rd 1 Public Forum Start
10:15AM - IPDA Rd 2 Start

11:00AM - IPDA Rd 3 Draw
11:30AM - Rd 1 Flight B Events Start/IPDA Rd 3 Start
11:30AM - Rd 2 Public Forum Start

12:15PM - IPDA Rd 4 Draw
12:45PM - IPDA Rd 4 Start
1:00PM - Rd 3 Public Forum Start
1:30PM - Rd 2 Flight B Events Start

1:45PM - IPDA Rd 5 Draw
2:15PM - IPDA Rd 5 Start
2:30PM - Rd 4 Public Forum Start

3:15PM - Extemp Draw/IPDA Elim 1 Draw
3:30PM - Flight A Finals Start
3:45PM - IPDA Elim 1 Start
4:00PM - Rd 5 Public Forum Start

4:30PM - IPDA Elim 2 Draw
5:00PM - Flight B Finals Start/IPDA Elim 2 Start
5:30PM - Elim 1 Public Forum Start

5:45PM - IPDA Elim 3 Draw
6:15PM - IPDA Elim 3 Start (Awards ASAP After)
6:30PM - Elim 2 Public Forum Start

Saturday March 7

7:30AM-8:00AM - In Person Registration

8:00AM - EXTEMP Draw
8:15AM - Rd 1 Flight A Events Start
8:30AM - TIPDA Rd 1 Draw
9:00AM - TIPDA Rd 1 Start

9:45AM - EXTEMP Draw
10:00AM - Rd 2 Flight A Events Start
10:00AM - NPDA Rd 1 Topic Announce
10:15AM - TIPDA Rd 2 Draw
10:45AM - TIPDA Rd 2 Start

11:30AM - Rd 1 Flight B Events Start
12:00PM - NPDA Rd 2 Topic Announce
12:00PM - TIPDA Rd 3 Draw
12:30PM - TIPDA Rd 3 Start

1:30PM - Rd 2 Flight B Events Start
1:45PM - TIPDA Rd 4 Draw
2:00PM - NPDA Rd 3 Topic Announce
2:15PM - TIPDA Rd 4 Start

3:15PM - EXTEMP Draw
3:30PM - Flight A Finals Start
3:30PM - TIPDA Elim 1 Draw
4:00PM - TIPDA Elim 1 Draw
4:00PM - NPDA Rd 4 Topic Announce

5:00PM - Flight B Finals Start
5:15PM - TIPDA Elim 2 Draw
5:45PM - TIPDA Elim 2 Start
6:00PM - NPDA Elim 1 Topic Announce

**AWARDS WILL HAPPEN ONCE TIPDA
ELIM 2 IS FINISHED/TABULATED**

8:00PM - NPDA Elim 2 Topic Announce

General Tournament Notes

Awards

Awards will be presented to all students reaching elimination rounds--including duplicate awards for DUO, TIPDA, PF, and NPDA. Pentathlon, debate speaker, and top novice individual event awards will also be presented. Additionally, sweepstakes awards will be given to the top three teams in individual events, debate, and overall sweepstakes (a school must be entered in debate and individual events to be eligible for overall sweepstakes). Awards will also be given to the Pi Kappa Delta chapter and two-year school earning the most sweepstakes points.

Student Eligibility

Students must be currently enrolled at the college or university for which they are competing. Students are not eligible for competition if they have attended a collegiate national forensic/debate tournament in four or more academic years **OR** completed eight semesters of collegiate competition.. **Either** of these standards being met (eight semesters of college competition or four years of collegiate national tournament participation) will render a student ineligible to compete in this tournament. Novice debaters are defined as any competitor within their first year of competition while open debaters will be any student having competed beyond their first year.

Local Host Entries

Newberry may enter some events, although host entries will be very limited. Competing Newberry students will be eligible for awards, but the team will not be eligible for sweepstakes

Sweepstakes

Points will be awarded to a school's top three individual event entries per event and top six debate entries total (IPDA entries will count as half debate entries). ALL of a school's elimination round entries will count toward sweepstakes. The points system will be:

IEs	3-2-1 for a 1, 2 or 3 rank in preliminary rounds
	6-5-4-3-2-1 for 1st through 6th or 7th in finals
Debate	7 points per win, up to 5 wins per team/IPDA entry
	7 points per advancement to elimination rounds for teams and IPDA entries

Fees and Judging

The tournament fees schedule is...

IE entries (including duos)	\$ 12.00
PF/TIPDA/NPDA teams	\$ 50.00
IPDA entries	\$ 35.00

Uncovered IE entries	\$ 10.00 plus entry fee
Uncovered PF/TIPDA/NPDA teams	\$ 75.00 plus entry fee
Uncovered IPDA entries	\$ 50.00 plus entry fee
Changes after Wednesday, September 23rd	\$ 15.00 per change
Changes at registration check in	\$ 25.00 per change
Dropped judge after Thursday, September 24 th	\$100.00 per round dropped

One individual events judge will cover 8 entries. One debate judge will cover two teams/IPDA entries.

A single judge may cover the following:

- Two IPDA/NPDA/PF/TIPDA entries OR 8 IE entries

A judge may not cover:

- IEs AND Debate

Schools needing to hire a substantial number of judges should contact the tournament director before tournament week. PLEASE--we would rather have your judges.

Please make your checks payable to “Newberry Speech and Debate”. They can be mailed to:

John Wallis
Newberry College
Speech and Debate
2100 College St
Newberry, SC 29108

Please e-mail John with any questions at john.wallis@newberry.edu.

Virtual Judging

We ask that all judges go to the virtual ballot once they see their assignment for the current round and accept their ballot immediately. This will allow us to know that the round is covered and that we don't need to seek out a standby judge. Judges may wait for adjudicating the round until later, but initially accepting the ballot helps ensure that we don't have to locate a new judge for that round. If coaches, judges, or students need help, do not hesitate to email John or utilize the tournament contact option within FTN.

Entry Deadlines and Instructions

This year's Southeast Squabble is using the tournament entry services at www.forensictournament.net. The invitation, tournament notes, and tournament entry are all located at this site. Search for ***Southeast Squabble***. Schools not using this service in the past will need to enter a roster of students and judges prior to entering the tournament. Please make sure that emails and phone numbers are current and have been verified before the day of the tournament. Please also check that all judges' ballots are changed from "paper" to "e-mail" and that all competitors' communication preference is set to e-mail or text to ensure they receive updates. This site will also allow schools to view the entire tournament entry. ***All schools must submit entries on www.forensictournament.net by Tuesday, September 22. Entries will not be accepted in any other form.***

Fees are assessed at **10:00 pm EST Wednesday, September 23rd**. Direct questions to John Wallis at john.wallis@newberry.edu.

Individual Events Notes

Events/Flights

All 11 AFA-NST events plus interviewing will be offered in two flights.

Flight A-- Extemp, Persuasive, Dramatic Interp, Poetry, After Dinner, and Interviewing

Flight B-- Impromptu, Informative, Communication Analysis, POI, Prose, and DUO

Rules

AFA rules will be followed for all events. Students should not enter material that has been used in competition before September 1, 2026.

Extemp topics will be taken from economic, international, and domestic areas. Each round will be one of these three. In the instance that the tournament holds semifinals, final round topics will be **editorial cartoons**. There will be a physical draw room for topics. Competitors do not need to prep in the draw room.

Students in impromptu will have a choice of two topics that will vary by round and section. Topics will be selected from a number of areas. The judge should either assign the previous speaker to get the next speaker in the hallway or the judge should simply wait for the next speaker.

The event description for **Interviewing** is as follows:

Interviewing will mirror the rules to be used at the Pi Kappa Delta National Comprehensive Tournament. Rounds 1 and 2 will consist of an interview lasting no longer than 10 minutes, conducted by a judge utilizing the same question-set for each competitor. In round 3, judges evaluate/rank student résumés based on writing techniques and overall strength. Competitors entered in Interviewing must provide a copy of their résumé by registration. The third round is the final round for interviewing.

Cross-Entering

Individual event competitors may enter up to three events per flight. We are, however, committed to running a tournament that stays on time. Judges will be instructed to not wait beyond the allotted ending time for each round. A student may enter only two duos. We will make efforts to accommodate multiple entered students in flight A with early speaking positions in extemp.

Students may compete in either **Debate OR IEs** for both days. Students may only enter **one form of debate on Friday and one on Saturday**. A student may compete in IEs for both halves of the tournament. A student may compete in IEs one day and debate the other day.

Elimination Rounds

Semi-finals will be held in all events with 50 or more entries. Semi-final round brackets will be seeded into unbroken brackets. Final place finishes will be determined based on (1) majority of 1's, (2) ranks, (3) judges' preference, (4) points, and (5) seedings.

Pentathlon

In an attempt to reward diversity in competitive excellence, students must enter **a minimum of five events** and compete in **public address, limited preparation, and interpretation events** to be eligible for pentathlon. A maximum of five events will count toward a student's pentathlon score.

Novice Awards

The top novice in each event will be given a special award. To be eligible, the student should be in their first collegiate year in the appropriate genre of event (public address, interpretation, or limited preparation).

IMPORTANT IE JUDGING NOTE: In addition to the obligation of the final round in each flight, all judges are obligated for any semifinal rounds in either flight. Again, ***all individual event judges*** are obligated for final rounds, regardless of whether or not they are used in or qualify students for semi-final rounds. All judges are “clean” in elimination rounds.

Debate Notes

Divisions Defined

Any student may enter an open division. Novice division is open to students with less than two collegiate semesters of any debate experience.

IPDA

An open and novice division of IPDA will be offered. Debates will use a 5-2-6-2-3-5-3 format for IPDA with 30 minutes of preparation. Students and judges should go immediately to the designated strike area five minutes before the strike begins. Once the strike begins, the 30 minutes of preparation has begun. All divisions will adhere to the IPDA rules for debate. More information can be found at <http://www.ipdadebate.info/constitution--bylaws.html>

VERY IMPORTANT...we are committed to an efficient, on-time schedule. It is imperative that debaters respect the schedule so announcements can be sent out on time. This means...

- a three-minute grace period, meaning 33 minutes after topics are announced time begins for each debate
- teams not in their rooms, ready to debate, at the 33-minute point will be forfeited

Parliamentary

An open division of NPDA debate will be offered. Parliamentary rounds will follow suggested **NPDA** guidelines except where our tournament invitation outlines alternative procedures and policies. In instances wherein NPDA rules are inconsistent with rules of other associations, NPDA rules will be enforced. The 7-8-8-8-4-5 format will be followed with 20 minutes of pre-round preparation. The tournament will also allow flex time as described by NPDA. Topics will be announced in a designated announcement area (NPDA Topic Room). **VERY IMPORTANT...**we are committed to an efficient, on-time schedule. It is imperative that debaters respect the schedule so announcements can be sent out on time. This means...

- a three-minute grace period, meaning 23 minutes after topics are announced time begins for each debate
- teams not in their rooms, ready to debate, at the 23-minute point will be forfeited
- topics will be blasted via e-mail soon after announced and will also be placed on the splash page on FTN

Only the tournament invitation, NPDA constitution and by-laws, NPDA national tournament procedures, and materials prepared during the 20-minute preparation time period prior to the round may be brought into the debate room. There are no restrictions on pre-round coaching or consultation of materials during the preparation period.

Breaking Brackets

The tournament will not break brackets for elimination rounds.

Elimination Rounds and Speaker Awards

Appropriate elimination rounds will be held in accordance with the standards of the national organizations sanctioning the respective debate divisions. Teams/Debaters advancing will be determined and seeded based on (1) win/loss record, (2) adjusted points, (3) total points, (4) double adjusted total points, and (5) opposition record. Brackets will not be broken. All winning records will advance in all divisions.

Speaker awards will be determined based on (1) adjusted points, (2) total points, (3) double adjusted points, (4) z-score, and (5) speaker ranks.

Power-Matching

Rounds will be power-matched beginning with round three. Rounds three and five will be hi/hi while four and will be hi/low within brackets.

IMPORTANT DEBATE JUDGING NOTE: In addition to the obligation of the first elimination round after the point at which a school's competitors are eliminated, all judges are obligated for the first ***full*** elimination round for all formats in which they have debaters. If partial elimination rounds are held and a judge is assigned to that round, they ***remain*** obligated for the next elimination round.

Tournament Speech Statement

The St. Patrick Scrimmage affirms the importance of all tournament participants' cooperation in creating an educational and competitive environment that is fair, humane, and responsible while, at the same time, encouraging debates that are devoted to full and robust arguments about a diverse range of ideas. Specifically, this tournament affirms that:

1. Judges and students are encouraged to talk about the expectations that they have for creating a debate that focuses on ideas instead of personal attacks.
2. Debaters are encouraged to communicate with respect, not attacking each other or the judge.
3. Judges are encouraged to communicate with respect, not attacking or devaluing students.
4. Debaters and judges are encouraged to reject discourse which devalues other members of our community based on their race, age, gender, class, sexual or religious orientation, or any reason that is not directly related to the arguments that they present.
5. Students and judges are encouraged to communicate with each other when they observe instances of verbally aggressive attacks rather than silently watching something happen before them to which they object.
6. Judges are encouraged to reward courteous and respectful behavior toward the judge and other competitors in awarding speaker points.
7. If serious and/or repeated demeaning speech materially or substantially disrupts the opportunity for debaters to compete fairly or the judge to evaluate fairly, judges are encouraged to dock speaker points or give a team a loss.

Bartanen, K. & Hanson, J. (1994). Advocating humane discourse. *The Forensic of Pi Kappa Delta*, 80, 16-22.