

VERSION 1.0

Any changes will be noted here:

- **THERE ARE NO RULE CHANGES FOR 2016**
 - **HOWEVER PLEASE REVIEW ALL RULLES. BALLOTS AND CRITIQUES ARE ON THE NYCFL WEBSITE. READ THEM!**
- Information about SACRAMENTO Nationals can be found here:
<http://www.ncflnationals.org/>
- Pre-Register Judges by Friday, March 4 (President@NYCFL.org) or input into TABROOM.
- Register Deadline is TUESDAY, March 8th – TABROOM for all.
- EMAIL REGISTRATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED
- Eating in the classrooms or disregard for Stuyvesant School rules and regulation will result in immediate removal from the tournament!
- All judges must be college level or higher – student judging is not allowed.
- Judges in **speech** must be at least college sophomores (However, 2015 Fr. Rippon/Sr. Raimonde nominees MAY judge)
- *If you wish to compete in Policy Debate you need to email me immediately if you have not already discussed the allocation of Policy Debate slots.*

Dear Moderator,

Let me begin by thanking all of you for making year as Tournament Director a pleasant experience. I think the contests have run well. Our NCFL Membership Cards are in. We are a couple tournaments away from concluding a very productive season.

However, as March arrives, it is important to recognize that there is a lot at stake at the upcoming contests.

On Saturday, March 12, 2015, the NYCFL will hold its NCFL Qualifying Tournament at **Stuyvesant High School.**

CONGRESS NOW INCLUDED AS WELL

The tournaments are:

- The Public Forum Grand – LAPTOP USE IS PERMITTED IN PF**
- The Lincoln-Douglas Debate Grand – LAPTOP USE IS PERMITTED IN LD**
- The Speech Grand – LAPTOP USE IS PERMITTED IN EXTEP**
- The Congress Grand – LAPTOP USE IS PERMITTED IN CONGRESS**

Rules: www.NYCFL.org/documents/extlaprules.pdf

Connectivity is not allowed in any round of competition.
Students should restrict cell phone use to the lobby and cafeteria.

These contests are particularly important, as the Grand tournaments will determine our League's six entries in Lincoln-Douglas Debate, Public Forum, and our 36 Speech Entries to the National Catholic Forensic League Grand National Tournament to be held in Chicago over Memorial Day weekend.

***** PLEASE READ *****

PARTICIPATION

- **Event Participation**
 - In order to compete in the Speech Grand Tournament, speech schools must have participated in at least 4 NYCFL speech tournaments and paid for a total of 15 entries.
 - In order to compete in the Debate (LD or PF) Grand Tournament, the school must have participated in at least one of the NYCFL debate tournaments. There is no minimum number of speakers required
 - In order to compete in Congress, a school must be eligible either under the SPEECH or DEBATE rules
- All team dues and outstanding fees up until January of 2016 must be paid in full. If you have questions about your current bill, please contact Chris Franz at St. Joseph Hill Academy.

JUDGES:

The Following is NEW.... PEASE READ CAREFULLY

It is our goal that all decisions that determine whether or not a student represents our league at the NCFL tournament are made by qualified judges that are making conscientious decisions. Therefore, ALL judges must be pre-registered a week and a half prior to the grand tournament.

Let me repeat that – ALL judges must be pre-registered a week prior to the grand tournament.

That means that in order to register your team for the grand tournament, I must know the names of all judges by Friday, March 9th.

For each judge registered, I need 4 pieces of information.

- 1) The name of the judge
- 2) Any School or Student conflicts that judge may have
- 3) A list of tournaments that judge has seen (minimum of 2)
***** Please – for my sake – do not overdo this *****
*If a person has been judging for 10 years,
I do not need to know
EVERY contest that they have been to.*
- 4) Your personal appraisal of the judges abilities:

*A – Top Judge,
B – Good, Competent Judge,
C – New, Inexperienced Judge or a judge that you have some reservations about*

This information should all be entered into TABROOM.

All judges submitted will be reviewed by the executive council.

Your entries for the Grand Tournament will not be accepted until your judges are approved. In the event that a judge does not meet the league's requirements, the coach will be given an opportunity to find a replacement.

If a judge is unable to attend, then it will be the coach's responsibility to find a replacement of comparable quality and let me know as soon as possible.

LOGISTICS:

Registration will be held in the Lobby of Stuyvesant High School from 8:00 – 8:30 a.m.
*** (Please note the earlier starting time.) ***

GENERAL INFORMATION ALL CONTESTS:

***** Please read the following information very carefully, as there are a number of procedural changes from our normal tournaments. *****

School Fee:

In order to provide adequate judging, each school competing will be charged an additional \$10. This does not excuse schools from fulfilling their judging quota, rather it will ensure that the contest will run smoothly.

Drops/Adds/Changes:

All drops MUST be made in tabroom up until 8am on the morning of the tournament!

There are NO ADDS after the pre-registration deadline has passed.

Prior to the Awards Ceremony:

The winners of the Rev. Rippon and Sr. Raimonde Memorial Scholarships will be announced. I would urge you to encourage all of your speakers to remain for the presentation of this award after the semi-final round. The candidates for the award should be young men and women who deserve to receive the recognition of all of our league members.

After the Contest:

Ballots will be released only AFTER the awards ceremony. Following the ceremony, there will be a very important meeting of all moderators of schools

which qualify speakers, congresspersons, or debaters for the National Tournament. At this meeting, important information concerning the National Tournament will be discussed.

Contact Information:

*** Please use the following Numbers Sparingly ***

- 1) HOME PHONE – (914) 739-2770
Please Do NOT call After 10pm!
- 2) **Cell Phone – (914) 649-8246**
Use if you have trouble getting to the tournament
Use for last minute drops

Hired Judges:

- There are no hired judges available
- Uncovered slots will have to be dropped

***** E V E N T I N V I T A T I O N S *****

There is a lot of information (I know, I typed it). Please read it all very carefully. Some mistakes can be quickly corrected. Others may jeopardize your students' participation in this contest.

The Debate Grand Tournament:

Registration:

8:30 to 9:00 a.m.

*** Note earlier than usual starting time ***

Entries:

Each school, which has met the requirements for active membership, may enter up to three (3) public forum teams and up to three (3) Lincoln-Douglas debaters. All competition is at the varsity level.

Resolutions:

L-D will use the NFL March/April topic:

Resolved: The United States ought to promote democracy in the Middle East.

Public Forum will use the NFL March topic:

Resolved: The United States should withdraw its military presence from Okinawa.

Judging requirements:

L-D Debate
One judge per speaker

PF Debate
One judge per PF team

Please remember the importance of this contest when recruiting judges. All judges must be experienced, qualified adults.

**** Please note ****

League rules state that all judges must have judged at least three previous tournaments in the area in which they will be judging. (These tournaments need not be CFL contests.) Please make every attempt to provide judges who need not be constrained against other teams besides your own entries.

Judge Qualifications MUST be provided prior to Pre-Registration they must be submitted on or before February 27.

*****This policy is different from the rest of the year *****

Pre-Registration:

Grands Registration for Debate is on <http://www.tabroom.com/>. Before you register on TABROOM, you MUST have sent me your judge names and qualifications.

Please provide the following information:

- 1) Your Name
- 2) A Contact Number or E-Mail Address
- 3) The School Name
- 4) The Number of Entries in LD and PF Debate
- 5) The number of Judges you will be providing for LD and PF Debate
- 6) Names Must Be Provided at the Time of Registration

Additional Comments:

- Please do not register students unless you are positive they will attend the tournament.
- There are no hired judges, if you cannot cover your judging requirement, then your students cannot compete
- If your school has been pooling judges during the year, that's fine. However, I need to know all judges and any constraints.
- If your judges are being supplied by someone else, tell me that when you register.

Fees:

- \$8.00 per student
- Please be certain that you have paid all other outstanding fees prior to this contest.

Tournament procedure:

- The tournament will run four (4) rounds.
 - The first two will be randomly paired, and schools will draw into the prepared schematic.
 - Round 3 will be paired high-low within bracket
 - Round 4 will be paired high-low within bracket
- Judges
 - All P-F and L-D rounds will be heard by three judges. (unless 20 or fewer teams are registered in an event, then that event would use 2 judges per round)
- At the end of the four rounds, the six national qualifiers will be selected based on total number of ballots received during the tournament.
 - If there is a tie, it will be broken on points for L-D and PF.
 - Under rare circumstance, a runoff round may be necessary.
- Contestants MAY be eliminated after Round 2 if they have not picked up any ballots
- Contestants MAY be eliminated after Round 3, if;
 - they cannot mathematically finish in the top 6
 - they would be certain to qualify even if they lost both ballots in Round 4 (they would BYE into nationals)

Swing Teams:

Any school which is already entering its full quota in PF, or L-D may offer to provide the “swing.” In this way, there will be no ‘byes.’ The “swing” WILL be eligible to win a slot to the national tournament, but no more than three entries from a school may qualify for the national tournament (unless a qualifying team drops.) Swing teams are not guaranteed all rounds. Drops and changes through the tournament may activate/deactivate the swing. If you wish to offer a “swing” for the contest, please let me know when you register. I will draw from a “hat” to determine which school will provide each “swing,” and I will notify you on Wednesday evening, so that your “swing” can be prepared for the contest. Please be aware that the “swing” should arrive at the contest even if there are an even number of entries. A last minute drop on the morning of the contest would activate the “swing.”

If your school is providing a “swing” team,
that school must be prepared to cover the entry with a judge,
or the swing team will NOT be used

It would be helpful to the tournament if the swing judge judged even if the swing
didn't swing.

Prep Time:

For all Debates will use the same prep times as those used at NCFL Nationals.

Forfeit Time:

Published schematics will indicate the time at which each round is to begin. If a team is not prepared to begin at that time, prep time will begin, and if prep time elapses, a forfeit will be declared.

Final Remarks:

- At the end of a Debate round, the judges should clear the room
- Judges must reach their decisions independently and absolutely no communication in any form of the judges' decisions is to take place, either among the judges or between any judge and anyone else
- The judge must clearly indicate their decision on the ballot along with a clear RFD
- Judges must not reveal their decision to ANYONE at any time before the end of the tournament
- Be certain that your judges are aware of these rules

The Speech Grand Tournament:

I am providing these reminders in order to prevent as many difficulties as possible. Your attention and cooperation are greatly appreciated. Speakers HAVE BEEN disqualified from the Grand Tournament. The guidelines below are intended to protect you and your speakers. They are not intended to be all-inclusive, but rather to highlight areas that may be problematic.

Also, if you have seen or heard a piece throughout the year that you deem may be in violation of the rules, please bring it to my attention PRIOR to the Grand Tournament. Disqualifying speakers at a National Qualifier is unpleasant to all involved and should be avoided if at all possible.

Please feel free to share this with your students and your judges.

1) Manuscripts

- In Duo, DP, and OI, you must bring the original manuscripts (not just the cuttings that your students are using).
- If a cutting is challenged, it is up to you to be able to defend it, rather than the executive council's responsibility to prove it is illegal.

2) Original Oratory

- Students must have a copy of the speech that matches the one that they are using in the rounds.
- Any words inside quotation marks must be highlighted and counted.
- Do not exceed 150 quoted words.

4) Cuttings

- Cuts can be made for time and continuity only.
- No words can be added to the original text.

- Offensive language may be substituted with less graphic references (However at the National Grand Tournament, no word substitutions may be made at all!).

5) Duo

- Presentations must be memorized
- Multiple Characters are Allowed, but not Required
- Students must remain standing (squatting and jumping is not permitted).
- Movement is allowed, but presentation must be delivered from center stage.

6) Drama

- Presentations may be from a published play or book.

7) Extemp

- Topic areas will be – Foreign, Domestic, Domestic Economic, Potpourri
- Use of NOTE CARDS is prohibited
- Foreign Economics will be used in the event a tie breaking round needs to be run
- Extemp draw will be done with individual topic slips (turn over 3 and select 1)
- Computer use will be allowed in the Extemp Prep room. No connectivity is allowed.

Registration:

8:30 to 9:00 a.m. on Saturday morning.

**** NOTE EARLIER TIME ****

Categories:

Extemp (One Level Only)
 Original Oratory
 Oral Interpretation of Prose/Poetry (One Level Only)
 Duo Interpretation of Literature (Memorized, Multi-Character Allowed)
 Declamation
 Dramatic Performance

Entries:

Each school which has met the requirements for active membership may enter up to 18 entries, with no more than 3 in any one category.

Fees:

\$8.00 per speaker

Please be certain that you have paid all other outstanding fees prior to this contest.

Pre-Registration:

**** Pre-Registration Deadlines Will Be Strictly Enforced ****

All Registrations for Speech will be handled entirely on
 TABROOM.COM. Emailed Registrations will have to be
 resubmitted.

Judging Requirements:

You must provide one judge for every three (3) entries or fraction thereof. Please make every attempt to provide judges which will not have to be constrained against other schools. All judges must be qualified adult judges (college SOPHOMORES or older) who have judged at least two previous tournaments (not necessarily CFL tournaments). Because of the importance of this tournament, it is **IMPERATIVE** that all judges be of the highest quality. **ALL** judges must attend the judges' meeting on the morning of the tournament. But it is also the responsibility of the moderator to be certain that each judge provided is **WELL BRIEFED BEFORE COMING TO THE CONTEST.**

ONE qualified judge for every **THREE** entries or fraction thereof. If schools (especially ones with a small number of entries) could bring 1 more judge than their judging quota, the contest will run much faster. If there are not sufficient judges available, then semi-final rounds may have to be flighted.

A judge is qualified to judge at this tournament under NYCFL rules, if
He or she is a college SOPHOMORE or older
AND
Is the coach of a program
OR
Has judged at least 2 prior tournaments
OR
Participated in forensics as a student

Judge Qualifications MUST be provided prior to Pre-Registration they must be submitted prior on or before February 27th.

Tournament procedure:

The tournament will include three preliminary rounds with two judges hearing each round. The lowest of these six preliminary round scores for each speaker will be discarded, and on the basis of the five remaining ranks, the top 12 speakers will advance to a semi-final round. Each semi final round will be heard by three judges. Based on the cumulative total of their eight ranks, the top six speakers will qualify for the national tournament. There will be no final round held. However, in the case of an unbreakable tie, the tied speakers will be heard by three (or five, if possible) judges, to determine the winner of the national qualifier slot(s).

Extemp Topics:

Extemp topics will be based on current events since January 1, 2015

I would request that the following people provide 12 extemp topics in the requested areas:

Joe Vaughan – Foreign
Eric DiMichele – Domestic Economics
Chris Franz – Domestic Social
Ed Walsh – Domestic Politics

Foreign Economics (in case a run-off round is required) – Joe Vaughan

These **MUST** be emailed to Mr. Madonna by 3pm on Tuesday, March 8 –
jmadonna@ionaprep.org

The Congress Grand Tournament:

Entries:

Each school which has met the requirements for active membership may enter up to 3 Entries in Congress.

Fees:

\$8.00 per speaker

Please be certain that you have paid all other outstanding fees prior to this contest.

Pre-Registration:

**** Pre-Registration Deadlines Will Be Strictly Enforced ****

All Registrations for Speech will be handled entirely on
TABROOM.COM. Emailed Registrations will have to be
resubmitted.

Judging Requirements:

You must provide one judge. Please make every attempt to provide judges which will not have to be constrained against other schools. All judges must be qualified adult judges (college SOPHOMORES or older) who have judged at least two previous tournaments (not necessarily CFL tournaments). Because of the importance of this tournament, it is **IMPERATIVE** that all judges be of the highest quality. **ALL** judges must attend the judges' meeting on the morning of the tournament. But is it also the responsibility of the moderator to be certain that each judge provided is **WELL BRIEFED BEFORE COMING TO THE CONTEST**.

ONE qualified judge is required to cover your Congress obligation.

A judge is qualified to judge at this tournament under NYCFL rules, if

He or she is a college SOPHOMORE or older

AND

Is the coach of a program

OR

Has judged at least 2 prior tournaments

OR

Participated in forensics as a student

Judge Qualifications MUST be provided prior to Pre-Registration they must be submitted prior on or before February 27th.

Procedures:

We will run two preliminary sessions of approximately 1.5 hours each, with a lunch break in between. Then the top twelve (12) will advance to a final 2.5 hour session. National Qualifiers will be based solely on final placement in the Super Session.

New NYCFL Rules:

Pre-Lims (2 sessions – hour and a half each)

- **Mandatory 2 min questioning for authorship and first neg**
- **New Bills must be given priority over re-used legislation**
- **Top 6 students will be ranked by every judge in the chamber and unranked students will receive a score of 8**
- **Top 6 students from EACH chamber will advance**
- **The next two speakers with the lowest scores (regardless of chamber) will also be advanced**
- **Drop high/low score in pre lims**

Supers (Top 14 speakers – two and a half hour session)

- **No authorships**
- **No mandatory questioning periods**
- **Top 10 students will be ranked by every judge in the chamber and unranked students will receive a score of 12**
- **NCFL Advancing students are based on final rounds only**
- **If more than 5 judges are used for the round - drop high/low score in super session**

Legislation Deadlines:

Schools must submit at LEAST one piece of legislation by Tuesday, March 1. This date is inflexible. The bill packet WILL be finalized the Wednesday a week and a half before the Grand Tournament. If your school fails to submit legislation by the deadline, then it is assumed that your school does not wish to compete in Student Congress. Please remember that no bill may be submitted more than 3 times during the course of the NYCFL season. SuperSession Legislation will be taken from all the packets through the course of the year and will be presented without Authorship.

Final Remarks:

Please don't hesitate to call me if you have any questions. Good luck to you and to your team at the contest, and I'll see you on the 12th at Stuyvesant

Sincerely,

Charles J. Sloat Jr.
Tournament Director, NYCFL