

# Winter Classic Invitational Independent Entries

## Independent Entry Information

**DEFINITION OF AN INDEPENDENT ENTRY:** An independent entry is an entry which does not meet either of two important criteria: 1. Official sanctioning by their school. 2. Accompaniment by a chaperone who is an employee of the school.

**PROCESS:** Students wishing to attend Winter Classic Invitational as an independent entry or as an entry from a home school must accurately complete the process below. Incomplete documentation can and usually will result in denial of entry, even if this is identified at registration, as we are not equipped to receive, review, and confirm this paperwork once the tournament has begun.

**SUBMITTING LETTERS:** Please either scan and submit completed letters to **Teja Vepa at [tejavepa@gmail.com](mailto:tejavepa@gmail.com)**. It is the obligation of each Independent "Squad" to clearly label each letter with the "Squad name" and submit all of their documents in a single transmission, whether it be a single PDF email attachment or a single fax transmission. We can't accept or process piecemeal transmissions of letters, as it is extremely difficult to match up names to entries.

### PROCEDURES:

1. **CHAPERONES:** Even though an entry is "independent," the attending students must still be accompanied by a parent or designated ADULT chaperone.
2. **FEES:** Independent entry payment **MUST** be in the form of a guaranteed payment (cash, money order or cashier's check) and **MUST** be received no later than December 9th, 2016.
3. **TEAM NAME:** The students must use a variant of the school name if the students attend a "school," but may use the addition "Independent" as a portion of the name. If the entry is of a "home school" nature, the entry should reflect the geography of the entry - example: "Long Beach Independent" for a home school independent entry from Long Beach, CA.
4. **DECLARING INDEPENDENT/HOME SCHOOL STATUS:** Students must clearly indicate that they are an independent or home school entry upon signing-up. Entries discovered to be independent or home school during the tournament who did not correctly declare their status on the Tabroom entry program at point of entry and fully complete the required paperwork in advance of the tournament as specified in this list may be dropped from the tournament without refund.
5. **DUAL ENTRY:** Any given school cannot have both "regular school sanctioned entry" status and also have students enter from that school as "independent" entries - if a school is attending as a regular school sanctioned entry then ALL students who attend that school must enter as a part of that regular school sanctioned entry or they may not attend. Further, all students from a given school must be entered from the same account. We will not accept multiple independent entries from the same school submitted from multiple "independent" accounts.
6. **LETTERS/PERMISSION:** To be accepted as an independent entry the attending group must include complete and correctly executed authorization letter from the school and each set of parents or guardians no later than December 9th, 2016.

For an independent entry to be accepted, we must have:

- A letter signed by a school administrator (principal or vice-principal) on school letterhead, with the text as in the template below. This letter must list the names of all students competing, and must also list the name of the chaperone. **THE TEXT OF THE LETTERS CANNOT BE CHANGED OR ADDED TO IN ANY SUBSTANTIVE WAY;**

FOR EXAMPLE, WE CANNOT AND DO NOT INDEMNIFY SCHOOLS AGAINST LIABILITY - that is an issue between the family of the attending student, their school, and their respective legal counsels; and Stanford Debate has no jurisdiction, legal or otherwise, to oversee, rule upon, or pass judgment on such assertions or declarations.

- A letter from a parent of each participant, with the text as in the template below.
- All entries, including independents, must have an adult chaperone with them at the tournament.

## THE TEXT OF THE LETTERS SHOULD READ AS FOLLOWS:

### Parent Letter (template--copy/paste the text and fill in the blanks as appropriate):

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Dear La Costa Canyon Speech & Debate Society:

This letter is to inform you that we would like our student, \_\_\_\_\_, to attend the Winter Classic Invitational from December 9-11, 2016 and that she / he does so with our full consent and permission. We have arranged for our student to be fully chaperoned and for transportation to our satisfaction, and accept full responsibility and liability for him/her during the entire course of the event. We understand and agree that La Costa Canyon High School Speech & Debate and, their employees, and their agents provide no chaperones for the event, and further agree that La Costa Canyon High School Speech & Debate, their employees, and their 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 student:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to our student: \_\_\_\_\_

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 student's behalf.

Name, Sign, Contact info:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**School Letter (template--copy/paste the text and fill in the blanks as appropriate):**

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Dear La Costa Canyon Speech & Debate Society:

This letter is to inform you that we have no objection to students from our school attending Winter Classic Invitational speech & debate tournament December 9-11, 2016 as independent entries. We understand that the parents of the children have arranged for their children to be transported and fully chaperoned to their satisfaction, and they have agreed to accept full responsibility and liability for their children during the entire course of the event. We further understand and agree that La Costa Canyon High School Speech & Debate, their employees, and their agents provide no chaperones for the event, and we have explained this to the parents of the students listed in this letter. These are the names of the students who attend our school for whom we are certifying that we do not object to their participation in the above described event:

**[List of students, with full names, goes here]**

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

By signing this, I am certifying that I am the **Principal / Asst. Principal (circle one)** of \_\_\_\_\_ **(name of school)** and that I have full authority to act on the school's behalf in matters of this kind.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_