

**2017 California State University at Northridge
Robert Barbera Collegiate Forensics Invitational Tournament**

Dear Forensics Colleagues:

On behalf of the CSUN Speech and Debate Team, the Department of Communication Studies, and the Mike Curb College of Arts Media and Communication at CSU-Northridge, we would like to invite you to participate in our 2016 tournament. Competition will be held from November 10-November 12 on our campus.

California State University at Northridge is located in the heart of the beautiful San Fernando Valley, just outside of Los Angeles. It is easily (and inexpensively) served by both Los Angeles International Airport and Bob Hope International Airport (Burbank). Travel times from either airport to our campus are usually 25-40 minutes.

Highlights include:

1) Parliamentary Debate will be 2 days, not 3: We have arranged the schedule to have NPDA on Friday and Saturday. This will save you money and time that you would have spent to be here all three days as in the past. It will also allow your parliamentary debaters to participate in the second half of the IE swing.

2) Hospitality: Besides the smiling faces of the Matador Speech and Debate team, we provide lunch on Saturday and breakfast on Saturday and Sunday, in addition to snacks throughout the tournament.

3) IEs are now a two-day swing: Students just doing IEs have double the chances to get legs, or those on a tight budget can bring their IE folks to compete on Saturday with the Parli debaters.

4) Four tournaments, one weekend. This will be a full service tournament offering two preliminary rounds in all 11 AFA individual events (both novice and open when possible) on Saturday and Sunday, two divisions of NPDA parliamentary debate (Friday and Saturday), and three divisions of policy debate (Fri-Sun).

Those participating in Parli will not be able to compete in the first half of the IE swing as they are going to run concurrently. In the past, we have had strong regional and national representation in all three events. We will not be hosting NFA LD this year.

We are committed to and will uphold the ethical standards outlined in the CEDA Statement on Discrimination and Sexual Harassment and the AFA Code of Ethics.

November is a fantastic time to visit Los Angeles and we will make every effort to host an excellent competition. Besides excellent hospitality, we run on time and we do our best to make the tournament fun and healthy for competitors, judges, and coaches.

Please contact me with any questions you may have. On behalf of CSUN forensics, we hope you can join us in November!

Sincerely,

Joel M. Lemuel Ph.D.
Director of Forensics

Calvin Abbasi, Michelle Brownlee, Alex Cadena and Aimee Newman
Assistant Coaches

Tournament Hotel

We are still in the process of negotiating for a tournament hotel. We will update you as soon as/if we book one, or if with local recommendations if we are unable to secure a competitive group rate.

Directions

* To CSUN

From Interstate 405: Exit at Nordhoff and go west. About 5 miles down Nordhoff the school will be on your right. Tournament HQ is in Manzanita Hall on the southwestern corner of campus. Park in lot B1 or B2. Buy a parking permit.

From Highway 101: Exit on Reseda. Go North. About 5 miles later you will come to Nordhoff, go right (east); take a quick left (the next street) for parking into B1 or B2. Buy a parking permit.

From Highway 118: Exit on Reseda and go south. About 4 miles later you will come to Nordhoff – go left (east); take a quick left (the next street) for parking into B1 or B2. Buy a parking permit.

Parking on Campus

You will want to park in student lot B1 (limited parking is available in B2). It is located at the corner of Nordhoff and Darby – on the very southwest corner of campus. **CSUN tickets people without passes every day of the week.**

Events

Team Policy Debate:

We will have six preliminary rounds on the 2017-2018 CEDA resolution with appropriate numbers of elimination rounds per division. There will be three divisions (Novice/Junior/Open). We will follow CEDA rules for eligibility. If collapsing of divisions is warranted, it will be our priority to maintain a pure novice division. Time limits will be 9-3-6 with 10 minutes of prep. Rounds 1 and 2 will be preset, 3 and 4 will be lagged off 1 and 2, and 5 and 6 will be powered separately. Teams will advance to elimination rounds based on the following criteria: win/loss, total speaker points, adjusted speaker points, double-adjusted speaker points, and ranks. Brackets will not be broken. Policy debaters will not be able to participate in individual events. CSUN students may compete. One critic covers two debate teams. We will use ordinal ranking for judge preference. A policy critic cannot judge IE's or Parli, since they will be run concurrently. Hybrid teams will be allowed on a case-by-case basis.

Tentative Policy Schedule:

Friday, November 10

12:00 – 1:00 Registration, Manzanita Hall

2:30 Release pairings at Manzanita Hall

3:00 Round 1

5:00 Round 2

Saturday, November 11

8:30 Release pairings at MZ. Light breakfast provided.

9:00 Round 3

11:30 Round 4

1:30 Lunch (provided)

2:30 Round 5

5:30 Round 6

Sunday, November 12

8:00 First elim pairing released at school. Light breakfast at school.

9:00 First elimination round

Immediately following 1st elim: Policy awards ceremony

Other rounds to follow as appropriate

Team Parliamentary Debate – NPDA:

We will offer two divisions (novice/open), following NPDA eligibility rules. There will be six preliminary rounds, followed by the appropriate number of elimination rounds. Teams will use the 7-8-8-8-4-5 format, with 20 minutes of prep and walking time, beginning at the end of the topic announcement. The first three rounds will be preset and then rounds 4 will be powered off 1 and 2. Rounds 5 and 6 will be straight powered. Teams will advance to elimination rounds based on the following criteria: win/loss, total speaker points, adjusted speaker points, double-adjusted speaker points, and ranks. Brackets will be broken if necessary, as per NPDA and NPTE. One critic covers two debate teams. All resolutions will be announced to the group outside of Manzanita Hall following the schedule below. You are allowed to consult materials and coaches during the 15-minute preparation period. Debaters must be in their rounds ready to debate no later than 25 minutes after the announcement of topics. Judges are allowed, but not required, to disclose their decisions but are limited to no more than 5-minute discussions with debaters after each round. Hybrid teams will be allowed on case-by-case basis. A “warm room” listing of team records will be posted following round 2.

Friday, November 10

12:00 – 1:00 Registration, Manzanita Hall
1:30 Release parli pairings at Manzanita Hall
1:40 Topic One Announcement at Manzanita Hall
2:00 Parli Round 1
3:00 Topic Two Announcement at Manzanita Hall
3:20 Parli Round 2
4:30 Topic Three Announcement at Manzanita Hall
4:50 Parli Round 3
6:00 Topic Four Announcement at Manzanita Hall
6:20 Parli Round 4

Saturday, November 11

8:45 Parli pairings released, light breakfast served at school
9:00 Topic Five Announcement at Manzanita Hall
9:20 Parli Round 5
11:00 Topic Six Announcement at MZ
11:20 Parli Round 6
1:00 Lunch provided behind MZ
1:15 Parli Elimination Round #1 Posted
1:30 Topic Elim Round #1 Announced at MZ
1:50 Elim #1 Parli
3:30 Topic Elim #2 Announced at MZ
3:50 Elim #2 Parli
5:30 Parli Awards Ceremony
At end of awards: Topic Elim #3 Announced at MZ

ASAP Continue NPDA Elim Rounds

Individual Events:

IE's will be run as a two-day swing. On both Saturday and Sunday, there will be two preliminary rounds followed by the appropriate number of elimination rounds. We will offer two divisions (novice/open) in each event, but reserve the right to collapse divisions if necessary. For novice division, contestants must be in their first year of competition in either high school or college. Students may be novice for new event areas, even if they are open in others (example: a student did interp in high school but no limited prep, they can go novice in the limited prep, but they must go open in the interp). We will have all 11 AFA events, and AFA rules will govern each event. Pattern groups will be as follows:

A: Extemp, Informative, ADS, Prose, Poetry

B: Impromptu, Persuasive, CA, POI, Drama, Duo

Competitors may enter up to three events in each pattern, but be warned: the tournament will make NO special accommodations for double or triple entered students who are late to a round. If you miss the judge because you are double/tripled entered you will NOT be able to make it up. Important note about triple-entries: the computer system might not take a third event per student – sometimes it only takes two. If you have students who are going to do three, you need to email me directly the student's name, school, and third event and I will add them to the system. Students may compete in two duos with two different partners. Competitors may not use selections used in competition prior to September 1, 2017. CSUN students may compete and will be allowed to advance to elimination rounds, but will not be counted in sweepstakes. One critic covers five IE slots per pattern, per day. Judges on Saturday cannot cover Parli as they will run concurrently.

Saturday, November 11 – Swing Part 1

8:45 Pairings released

9:00 Extemp Draw

9:15 A1 (Extemp, Informative, ADS, Prose, Poetry)

10:20 B1 (Impromptu, Persuasive, CA, POI, Drama, DUO)

11:45 Extemp Draw

12:00 A2

1:30 B2

3:15 Extemp Draw for Finals

3:30 Pattern A Finals

4:45 Pattern B Finals

6:00 Awards

Sunday, November 12 – Swing Part 2

7:45	Pairings released
8:00	Extemp Draw
8:15	A1 (Extemp, Informative, ADS, Prose, Poetry)
9:20	B1 (Impromptu, Persuasive, CA, POI, Drama, DUO) Extemp Draw
10:45	Extemp Draw
11:00	A2
12:30	B2
2:15	Extemp Draw for Finals
2:30	Pattern A Finals
3:45	Pattern B Finals
5:00	Awards

Fees

There will be a \$25 school fee for the weekend (so if you are here for the whole swing you only pay one fee). Each debate team entry is \$50.00 and each individual events slot is \$8.00. Each debate critic will cover two debate teams. Each uncovered debate team/competitor will be \$150.00. Each IE critic will cover five slots per pattern. Each uncovered IE slot will be \$10.00. IE judges may not cover debate commitments and vice-versa.

Please, please, **please** make every effort to cover your judging commitment. While we have had success with hired judges in the past, our recent growth has tested the limits of our ability to recruit enough outside judges, so it is imperative we are able to maximize our judging pool.

The online entry system will be turned off at 5 pm on Tuesday November 7. Drops only will be allowed until Noon on Thursday, November 9, by email; after that point, fees will be set and schools should expect to pay the set fee amount at registration regardless of subsequent drops.

Sweepstakes Awards

Sweepstakes trophies will be awarded to (1) the top three debate schools; (2) the top three IE schools; (3) the top three community colleges and (4) the top four year schools. Sweepstakes will include both IE parts of the swing and will be awarded at the IE awards on Sunday.

The following formula will be used for sweepstakes calculation:

IE: (top 3 competitors per school per event)

1st = 5 pts 2nd = 4 pts 3rd = 3 pts finalist = 2 pts semi's = 1 pt

Debate: (top 3 teams/competitor in each division per school)

3 points for each prelim win plus 2 points for each team/competitor that clears.

Entry Procedure:

Entries will only be accepted on-line.

To enter POLICY DEBATE go to <http://www.tabroom.com>. If you are new to the online system, you will need to first “Sign Up” for your school. The system will guide you to registering for the tournament.

To enter PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE or IEs, please go to www.forensicstournament.net.

The system will accept entries and changes until 5 pm on Tuesday, November 7. If you have drops or adds you need to go to the webpage and make them yourself. After the entries are closed we will allow drops free of charge until noon on Thursday November 9. As of noon on November 9, 2016, fees will be set regardless of subsequent drops, and changes will not be allowed on-line. If you have drops after that date, please email them to me at joel.lemuel@csun.edu. Please note that drops after the fees assessment deadline will be charged to your school at registration.

We look forward to hosting you in November. Please feel free to contact me with questions!

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