Dear Coaches, Judges, and Participants,

Welcome to the first annual 2017 NJSDL Season Opener at Millburn High School! We invite you and your team to share in this fun and educational day of speech and debate competition. We recognize that we are an early tournament, and therefore welcome any newcomers to your team to come and observe rounds throughout the day. We are so excited to have all of you join us in officially opening the 2017-2018 New Jersey Speech and Debate League season!

Speech Events Offered:  
We are offering ten individual events, including: Humorous Interpretation, Dramatic Interpretation, Duo Interpretation, Oral Interpretation (Prose and Poetry), Original Oratory, Extemporaneous Speaking, Declamation (only open to 9th and 10th graders), Program Oral Interpretation, Impromptu, and Informative Speaking. Students may double-enter in speech events only.

Debate Events Offered:  
On the debate side, we are offering Novice and Varsity Congress, Novice, Junior Varsity, and Varsity Public Forum, and Novice, Junior Varsity, and Varsity Lincoln Douglas. A novice is defined as a 9th or 10th grader in their first year of debate. Students may not double-enter if entered in a debate category.

Congressional Debate:

Congressional Debate legislation submission is due Friday, October 13th at 9:00pm. We will post the legislation on tabroom on Saturday, October 14th in the morning. We will provide two pieces of legislation that will be used to debate in the final round.

Public Forum:

Public Forum debaters will be debating the September/ October resolution:  
Resolved: Deployment of anti-missile systems is in South Korea’s best interest.

Lincoln Douglas:

We will not be using the NSDA LD novice topic. All Lincoln Douglas debaters will be debating the September/October resolution:  
Resolved: In the United States, national service ought to be compulsory.

Tournament Procedure/ Awards:  
There will be four preliminary rounds for Lincoln Douglas and Public Forum, two sessions and a one hour final for Congressional Debate, and three prelims and a final for all speech events. Awards will be presented to the top six competitors in each event and the top five schools in overall sweepstakes. Regarding novice recognition, if there are less than six novices registered in a speech category, the top three novices in each speech event will be recognized (so please make sure to note if your student is a novice). If there are more than six novices registered in a speech category that do not advance to the open final event, we will have a novice honors finals.

We encourage your students and judges to make tabroom accounts so that they have the opportunity to learn how tabroom works from the student side prior to competing at tournaments such as Princeton, Harvard, and Penn. However, we will also post paper postings, so it is NOT REQUIRED to have a tabroom account. Paper ballots will be used for all events, not online ballots.

Entry Deadline:

The entry deadline is Wednesday, October 18th at 10:00pm. Please note that unlike other NJSDL tournaments, our registration is to be completed through [www.tabroom.com](http://www.tabroom.com), NOT SPEECHWIRE.

Entry Limits:  
We have limited all entries to six per school per event, but it is certainly possible to have more (however, they will automatically be waitlisted). Since we are a new tournament, we are waiting to see how many entries we will have overall, which will dictate how many additional entries we will take off of our waitlist for each school. We apologize if this creates any inconvenience for you, and we appreciate your understanding.

Judges:

We will do a brief judging overview of all of the categories prior to beginning the tournament, but expect that each judge has already had a judge training from their school. Additionally, if parents who want to learn how to judge would like to shadow other judges from your school, they are welcome to do so as long as they are not conferring with the actual scoring judge during the round or trying to influence the judges decision while completing ballots.

We require that you provide one judge per five speech contestants, one judge per three PF teams, and one judge per 3 LD debaters. We will provide all Congressional Debate judges so you don’t have to (you’re welcome!) Please let your parents know that if we have a shortage in one pool, we may need to move judges around (but this will be a last resort). IF you drop contestants on the day of the tournament, you will still be responsible for providing judges for those dropped entries. If you drop a judge, your school will be charged a $125 hired judge penalty fee.

PLEASE LET YOUR JUDGES KNOW THAT THEY ARE EXPECTED TO JUDGE THE ENTIRE TOURNAMENT - INCLUDING FINAL ROUNDS.

If you have extra judges that you can provide - please contact Jordy Barry at [millburnspeechanddebate@gmail.com](mailto:millburnspeechanddebate@gmail.com). We may be able to reimburse you some entry fees to compensate you!

Schedule:

Schedule information will be available shortly and added to our tabroom.com tournament page, found here: [http://millburnnjsdl.tabroom.com](http://millburnnjsdl.tabroom.com/).

Please do not hesitate to contact head coaches Jordy Barry and Doron Darnov at millburnspeechanddebate@gmail.com if you have any additional questions!

Thank you in advance for supporting our program. We strive to bring you a high quality, well-run tournament that coaches, students, and judges will all enjoy! We hope to see you there!

Warmest Regards,

Jordy Barry and Doron Darnov

Millburn High School Head Speech and Debate Coach