

Dear Coaches:

The Chesapeake District Committee welcomes you and your team to the District Tournament, to be held (as previously announced at last year’s tournament) on February 24th at Loyola Blakefield High School in Towson, MD.

The tournament features competition in speech, debate, and congress events.  Top entries will qualify for the National Speech and Debate Association National Tournament, to be held this year in June in Ft. Lauderdale, FL.

Debate events will be using February topics.

To enhance the educational aspect of the tournament, critique sheets will be provided in all rounds this year, not just in debate.

At the conclusion of the tournament, in addition to announcing the qualifiers, the district will award the District Student of the Year, Alumnus of the Year, Communicator of the Year, Volunteer of the Year, and Principal of the Year. Information on nominations is contained in this packet.

Please read the information in these pages carefully, as this tournament is different than many others that you may be accustomed to attending.

If you have any questions, you can reach Charles Donovan, District Chair at cdonovan@loyolablakefield.org.

Sincerely,

Charles Donovan, Gavin Mease, Monty Crawford, Andrew Monteleone, & Steve Sprouse

The Chesapeake District Committee

**Directions to Loyola Blakefield:**

Loyola Blakefield High School

500 Chestnut Ave.

Towson, MD 21204

**From the Baltimore Beltway (I-695):** Take the Charles Street exit and go south. At Chestnut, there is a light. Make a left and then make another left into the parking lot, next to the tennis courts. For additional parking or for bus parking, drive further down Chestnut Ave. and turn left into the main entrance. Keep driving past Knott Hall (the clock tower building). There are additional parking lots ahead, and down the hill. Please do not park in the loop outside of Wheeler Hall.

**From Northbound on Charles Street:** Turn right onto Chestnut Ave. This is just north of the GBMC campus, and is the next light after the Towsontown Blvd. light.

**From I-95:** Take the I-695 exit towards Towson and follow the directions above.

**Date:**

February 24, 2018

**Eligibility:**

Schools must be registered members of the National Speech and Debate Association to enter this tournament (to register, visit [www.speechanddebate.org](http://www.speechanddebate.org)).  Students must be paid members of the National Speech and Debate Association, have an online account at www.speechanddebate.org, and hold at least the Degree of Merit (25 points).

**Entries:**

Schools may enter up to four entries in each speech or debate event, up to two entries in congress Senate, and as many congress House entries as permitted.  A school's total number of entries for the tournament, and congress House entries, are based on the school’s total NSDA degrees *on record seven days before the tournament* (see page 60 of the High School Manual, https://www.speechanddebate.org/wp-content/uploads/High-School-Unified-Manual-2016-2017.pdf)

**Registration:**

Registration will open on the Tabroom.com web site on January 1, 2018. Registration must be completed by Wednesday, February 21st at 8:00 PM (three days prior to the tournament). Online drops and name changes only (no adds) may be made until Friday, February 23rd at 8:00 PM.

On the day of the tournament, all schools should bring and submit the NSDA Entry form (https://www.speechanddebate.org/wp-content/uploads/District-School-Entry-Forms.pdf).

All students entering more than one event must complete the Single Entry Letter of Intent form (https://www.speechanddebate.org/wp-content/uploads/District-Tournament-Single-Entry-Letter-of-Intent.pdf).  This form must be submitted at registration on the day of the tournament.

On the day of the tournament, check-in will begin by 7:30 AM and close at 8:00 AM.

**Supervision Requirement:**

ALL schools participating in the District Tournament must have a supervising adult who will be present for the duration of the tournament. Unattended students will not be allowed to compete. All students from a school should know who the supervising adult is, and the supervising adult should know what students from the school are in attendance, and how to contact their parents if the need arises.

**Judging Requirements:**

LD, PF, POLICY:  1 judge per every 2 entries (or fraction thereof)

SPEECH:  1 judge per every 4 entries (or fraction thereof)

CONGRESS:  1 judge per school

Since this tournament is the national qualifier for the NSDA National Tournament, the district committee expects that ALL judges who attend the tournament are properly trained and have prior experience judging their event. Please do not register novice judges!

When registering judges, please list any alternate events that the judge is qualified to listen to (PF, LD, Policy, Speech, Congress) in the notes field.

Hired judges may be purchased at the cost of $100, subject to availability.  Entries not covered by judges will automatically be billed for hired judges when registration closes on 2/21 at 8:00 PM.  No judges are available for hire on the morning of the tournament. If you have uncovered entries at registration, you may be required to drop entries.

All judges are obligated for the duration of their respective events.  Early departures prolong the day for everyone, and are subject to a nuisance fee unless the judge is replaced.  If one of your judges can’t stay the entire day, please register an additional judge to fill in the gap (i.e. judge one works from 8:00-2:00 and judge two works from 2:00-finish).  Please make note of this when registering online.

**Multiple Entry Rules:**

For students in policy debate:  Triple entry is not permitted.  Double entry is permitted only with congress.

For students not in policy debate:  Triple entry is permitted only if one of the events is congress. Double entry is permitted.   A student may enter only one event in pattern A, and up to two events in pattern B.

Pattern A:  Policy debate, public forum debate, Lincoln-Douglas debate, duo interp, international extemp, domestic extemp

Pattern  B:  Original oratory, dramatic interp, humorous interp, informative speaking, program oral interp

**Debate Topics:**

We will use the FEBRUARY topics.

**Qualification:**

Speech and debate events will run according to the up/down system as described in the NSDA High School Manual, District Tournament section. If entry numbers are adequate (at least 12 entries in individual events, and at least 10 entries in team events), the top three entries in each speech and debate event will qualify to the NSDA National Tournament.  Otherwise, if there are at least 4 entries in a speech or debate event, the top two entries will qualify. For Congress, the top 2 entries in Senate and the top entry in House will qualify.

**SCHEDULE**

**\*\*SCHEDULE IS TENTATIVE AND WILL BE ACCELERATED WHERE POSSIBLE\*\***

PF and LD rounds will be single-flighted where possible. Awards will be held as events finish. Debate events will use the **FEBRUARY** topics.

7:30-8:00 Registration

8:15 Coaches’ Meeting / Extemp Round 1 Draw

8:30 Judges’ Meeting

8:45 Round 1A – DUO, PF, POLICY, LD, IX, DX

9:30 Senate & House Session I Convenes

10:00 Round 1B – OO, INF, POI, DI, HI

10:45                      Extemp Round 2 Draw

11:15 Round 2A – DUO, PF, POLICY, LD, IX, DX

12:30 Round 2B -- OO, INF, POI, DI, HI

 Senate & House Session I Adjourns

1:15                        Extemp Round 3 Draw

1:30 Senate & House Session II Convenes

1:45 Round 3A – DUO, PF, POLICY, LD, IX, DX

3:00 Round 3B -- OO, INF, POI, DI, HI

3:45                        Extemp Round 4 Draw

4:15 Round 4A – DUO, PF, POLICY, LD, IX, DX

4:30 Senate & House Session II Adjourns

5:30 Round 4B -- OO, INF, POI, DI, HI

6:30 Round 5 – Remaining Events

7:30 Round 6 – Remaining Events

**Fees**$30 school registration

$20 per duo, public forum, or policy debate entry

$10 per entry in other events

$100 per hired judge

Fees are due at registration.  Checks should be made payable to "Chesapeake NSDA District".

**Example Registration**

Sunshine HS has 36 NSDA degrees, which allows it 12 speech/debate, 4 Student Congress House and 2 Student Congress Senate entries at the District Tournament.  It registers 2 policy debate teams, 4 House and 2 Senate entries, and 2 OO and 2 DI entries.  Sunshine also registers 1 congress judge, 1 policy judge, and 1 speech judge.  Tournament fees would be as follows—

$30 school fee + $40 policy debate entry fees + $60 congress entry fees + $40 speech entry fees = $170 tournament fees

**Congress Legislation**

Congess bills and resolutions should be submitted to the district committee by Saturday, February 10th.  Bills will be uploaded to the Tabroom web site shortly thereafter.  The district committee reserves the right to publish unsponsored legislation or previously debated BCFL and WACFL bills if needed to fill out the docket.

Legislation should be emailed to cdonovan@loyolablakefield.org.

**District Awards**

Please make note of the deadline for each of these award nominations. Nominations received after the deadline will be considered for 2019, if applicable.

**District Student of the Year**

The **District Student of the Year Award** is presented to a graduating senior in each district who best represents the tenets of the Association’s Code of Honor: integrity, respect, humility, leadership, and service. Nominees must also demonstrate strong academic credentials and a commitment to the speech and debate community. The 2017 recipient was Quinn Crawford from Marriotts Ridge High School. Each year, six students who win the district award are selected as finalists for the William Woods Tate, Jr., National Student of the Year award.

Nominations may be filled out at:  <https://www.speechanddebate.org/student-of-the-year-nomination-form/>

Nominations must be received by the national office one week prior to the district tournament, by Saturday February 17th.  The district student of the year will be announced at the tournament at the awards ceremony.

**District Alumni Achievement Award**

The **District Alumni Achievement Award** showcases a speech and debate alumni from the district who has utilized their speech and debate talents to achieve success for themselves and the speech and debate community. The 2017 recipient was Kurt Imhoff from Northwestern University and Loyola Blakefield High School.

Nominees should be submitted to the district committee by Saturday, February 17th.  Email nominations to cdonovan@loyolablakefield.org.

**District Communicator of the Year Award**

The **District Communicator of the Year Award** showcases individuals who utilize their speech and debate talents in ways that profoundly impact the lives of others. The 2017 recipient was Carl Klein from Catonsville High School.

Nominees should be submitted to the district committee by Saturday, February 17th.  Email nominations to cdonovan@loyolablakefield.org.

 **District Principal of the Year Award**

The **District Principal of the Year Award** honors principals who have succeeded in providing high-quality opportunities for students in speech and debate programming as well as demonstrating exemplary contributions to the profession. The 2017 recipient was Tom Durkin, then from St. Vincent Pallotti High School.

Nominees should be submitted to the district committee by Saturday, February 17th.  Email nominations to cdonovan@loyolablakefield.org.

**District Volunteer of the Year Award**

The **District Volunteer of the Year Award** showcases individuals who has given extraordinary time and talents to the mission of meaningfully involving more students in speech and debate. The 2017 recipient was Kelli Midgley from Wilde Lake High School.

Nominees should be submitted to the district committee by Saturday, February 17th.  Email nominations to cdonovan@loyolablakefield.org.