**NATIONAL SPEECH AND DEBATE ASSOCIATION**

 **FLORIDA PANTHER DISTRICT TOURNAMENT**

**Speech and Debate: March 10, 2018**

**Congress: March 11, 2018**

**All events at Lake Mary Prep**

**Please read EVERYTHING carefully!**

**Questions about entry or NSDA rules?**

**Contact: Nathan Johnston, FL Panther District Chair**

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**803-582-8572**

 An Overview

All NSDA chapters in the Florida Panther District are cordially invited to participate in this year’s District Tournament, to be held on the campus of ***Lake Mary Prep***on ***Saturday March 10 and Sunday March 11***.  Lake Mary coaches, students and parents are working hard to get ready for this event!

**This tournament determines all of our district’s qualifiers to the 2018 NSDA National tournament in Fort Lauderdale, FL, June 17-22.**

**NSDA District Tournament entry procedures and event rules are quite different from CFL and FFL tournaments; please expect to meet all of the requirements established by NSDA.**The NSDA staff in Des Moines, Iowa, will audit the entire tournament.  Our failure to follow NSDA procedures could result in the invalidation of our results, **so it is imperative that you meet all deadlines and follow all NSDA rules.**  The District Committee must follow and enforce NSDA policies!

Note: We will be registering on Tabroom instead of Joy of Tournaments this year.

The District Tournament Philosophy

In **all events**, students are guaranteed two preliminary rounds.  **All participation after round two is on the basis of surviving elimination.**  In speech events, any student who finishes in the bottom half of his/her section twice is eliminated.  In debate events, any student who loses two rounds is eliminated.  **Because of the use of double elimination, it is impossible to know how many rounds will be held or establish a schedule for this tournament.**Some events will finish earlier than others.  A final round in each event will be held as soon as 7 or fewer contestants remain in a speech event or 4 or fewer contestants remain in a debate event.  The awards assembly will take place after all events have held a final round.

Get All of the Facts!

While this website will highlight major rules and procedures, each member school has an affirmative responsibility to review the rules that are published by NSDA.  Specifically, all coaches should go to the NSDA website and review the Unified High School Manual. Here is a link to that document: http://www.speechanddebate.org/aspx/content.aspx?id=1344

**Coaches should copy the event-specific rules and judging guidelines for their students and judges so that everyone will know what to expect.  Coaches have an affirmative duty to verify that their students’ interpretation pieces and oratories conform to NSDA publication guidelines.  Coaches should also confirm that their debaters’ case citations conform to NSDA citation guidelines AS OUTLINED IN THE NEW DEBATE EVIDENCE RULES.  All of this information is available in the publication mentioned above.**

**The District Committee strongly encourages every member school to enter the maximum number of students possible so that we can maximize the number of qualifying slots in each event. The number of entries from a school shall be based upon the number of active members and degrees on record in the National Office for that chapter by 4 p.m. (CST) seven (7) days before the tournament begins.  The District Committee shall not allow any excess entries. Current school strength can be found on the school profile page of the NSDA points website.**

**Judges**

NSDA rules require that panels of 3 judges be used in interpretation events after round 2 and when 8 or fewer contestants remain in debate events.  For that reason, the District Committee has no choice but to raise the judge requirements accordingly. Failure to satisfy the judge quota will result in forfeiture of the uncovered entry slots.  To help you meet this judge quota, we are requiring that judges enter three of the four judge pool categories. Please let your judges know which of the three pools they will be in. **Judges must be available for the ENTIRE TOURNAMENT; there is no “one round past elimination” rule at this tournament.**

**The judge quota for this tournament is as follows:**

 Pool 1: Lincoln Douglas Debate (1 per 2 or fraction thereof)
Pool 2: Public Forum Debate (1 per 2 or fraction thereof)
Pool 3: IE (DI, HI, DUO, IX, DX, OO, POI and INF) (1 per 5 or fraction thereof)
Pool 4: Policy Debate (1 per 2 or fraction thereof)

### Schedule

**Student Congress:**

Will be held on SUNDAY MORNING AND AFTERNOON, MARCH 11TH. Students MAY enter both Congress and other Main events, with the normal preferencing of qualifying events being submitted before the Tournament. Two (2) Sessions will be held: 9:00-12:00  and 1:00-4:00.  Students should report NO LATER than 8:45 am, as Chambers will convene immediately at 9:00am.

**General Timeframe**

Registration will begin at 8 am on Saturday March 10th at Lake Mary Prep. With the first extemp draw being at 8:30 am and all other round beginning at 9 am. The schedule will run as quickly as possible throughout the day as students are eliminated through the double elimination process.

 School Eligibility

NSDA Membership

 Student Eligibility and Requirements

 Only NSDA members in good standing are allowed to participate in the district tournament. It is the affirmative duty of each coach to provide proof of NSDA membership for each student entered in the district contest.The district committee must disqualify any non‐member student from competition.

a. Students must be members seven days or 168 hours prior to the official start time of the contest. All necessary points and fees must be submitted to the national office by this deadline.

b. Students must also have registered themselves in the NSDA. Directions on how to do so can be found on the FAQ page at  [www.speechanddebate.org](http://www.speechanddebate.org)

Please update all of your points on the NSDA website. If you are having difficulties with point entry, please reach out to one of the NSDA Committee Members. They are more than happy to help.

b. A student may not have attended a secondary school more than nine semesters and must meet the age/eligibility requirements of his or her state activities association.

### Double Entry

Students that double enter in the District Speech/Debate Tournament Series are still eligible to participate in the District Student Congress.

Students may only enter one team debate event at the District Tournament. [Policy Debate or Public Forum Debate] *Students may enter in one team debate event as partners and duo as the same partnership.*A student may not enter a team debate event and duo with different partners.

IF THE STUDENT QUALIFIES IN A TEAM EVENT (PFD, POLICY OR DUO) AND A SOLO EVENT, THE STUDENT MUST ATTEND NATIONALS IN THE TEAM EVENT UNLESS

            -two students are entered in a team event as partners and both also qualify in an individual event, these students may choose to enter the individual event at the National Tournament if, pre-registered on the “Single Entry Letter of Intent” form prior to the ending of the District Tournament pre-registration.

            -two students are entered in a team debate event as partners (and qualify to Nationals) and the same partnership also qualifies in duo, these students may chose to enter ONE of the team events (as partners) at the National Tournament, if pre-registered on the “Single Entry Letter of Intent” form prior to the ending of the District Tournament in which the students will potentially double qualify.

Each contestant who elects to participate in more than one event must complete the *Single Entry Letter of Intent Form.*On this form, students must designate which event they will compete in at nationals if they qualify in multiple events.  This step is necessary because students may only compete in one event at nationals.  These decisions must be made in advance, and the choice must be affirmed by signature of the student, parent, coach, and principal.  All intent letters are due with entry forms; any double-entered student who does not have a completed intent form will be disqualified.

Entry Limits

To maximize your school’s entries and increase the district’s chances of qualifying more students to nationals, all schools MUST enter NSDA points for all tournaments attended.  This information must be entered by 4:00 pm on Friday, March 4 (no exceptions!).  Failure to keep your NSDA points up-to-date will cost your school entry slots and cost our district qualification slots.

### Big Questions Debate

We will also be hosting a Big Questions Debate qualify this year. There is no entry fee for this event. We must have 15 competitors in order to be able to host the event. The tournament will run in conjunction with the Congress qualify on Sunday, March 11. Students who have not qualified to nationals in another event may re-register for Big Questions on Saturday night after they are eliminated from their main event competition.

**Entry limits for the District Tournament are different for each school.  Limits are determined by the number of members and degrees that an NFL school has on record 7 days before the tournament.  The following chart from NFL shows how many entry slots your school can have:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Members and Degrees | Speech, LD, Policy and Public Forum Entries Allowed |
| 1-15 | 3 |
| 16-20 | 5 |
| 21-30 | 8 |
| 31-40 | 10 |
| 41-50 | 12 |
| 51-60 | 13 |
| 61-70 | 15 |
| 71-80 | 17 |
| 81-90 | 19 |
| 91-100 | 20 |
| 101-120 | 22 |
| 121-140 | 24 |
| 141-160 | 26 |
| 161-180 | 27 |
| 181-200 | 28 |
| 201-230 | 29 |
| 231-260 | 30 |
| 261-300 | 31 |
| 301-350 | 32 |
| 351-400 | 33 |
| 401-500 | 34 |
| 501-600 | 35 |
| 601+ | 36 |

For purposes of this calculation, each TD, PF, and DUO teams counts as ONE entry.  A student entered in two events counts as two entries.

The entry limit for each event is four (4) slots.

The District Committee strongly encourages all schools to use ALL of the entry slots that they can, including the use of double entry where necessary.

Reserve Entries & Bonus Entries

There is a space on the entry form to place additional students on a reserve entry list.  In the event that a student becomes ill or cannot attend, a substitute may be chosen from the reserve list. If the substitute is not listed, the coach must produce a letter from the principal certifying the eligibility of the substitute contestant. No substitutions may be made after the close of final registration on the day of the District Tournament.

Any school that has 2 entries in EVERY event (TD, LD, PF, UX, IX, OO, HI, DI, DUO) who actually compete by participating in at least one round earns 2 bonus entries above its member & degree allocation.  The bonus slots can be used in any event, but the limit of 4 entry slots in each event still applies.

 Auto Qualification

In any given year at the National Tournament, any student who places in the top 14 in any main event, has not completed more than six semesters of high school, and is still enrolled in high school (as a student in good standing) may enter the following year’s National Tournament in the same solo event or in the same team event with the same partner. The district will permit an auto‐qualified student to participate in the district contest and to double enter as specified by the district’s uniform double‐entry policies. No rule regarding double entry may be violated by auto‐qualification. The entry must indicate acceptance of the auto‐qualification through his or her Single Entry Letter of Intent prior to its district competition. The district chair should notify the national office of acceptance of the auto‐qualification in reporting district results. A student who accepts auto‐qualification may double‐enter based on rules above but must sign his/her single letter of intent, which is binding, in favor of the event of their auto‐qualification. If the entry signs the single letter of intent and rejects auto‐qualification, the results of the district contest are binding.
NOTE: An entry that accepts auto‐qualification is above and beyond the number of qualifiers a district may earn as per the Level 1‐3 requirements above, whether or not the entry participates in the current year’s district tournament series. However, an auto‐qualifier may participate and help a district meet its quota requirements.

**A SPECIAL NOTE ABOUT JUDGES**

**Please consider your judging options carefully!**

**If you have a judge whom you know cannot be objective… LEAVE THAT PERSON AT HOME!**

**This is a high-stakes tournament.  For some schools and students, NSDA Nationals is the most important tournament of the year, and the NSDA District Tournament is thus the second most important tournament.  As a community of dedicated coaches, we ought to have enough respect for one another and enough consideration for students from other schools to eliminate untrained or biased judges from our rosters.  It reflects poorly on your school and your integrity when you place poorly qualified or prejudiced judges into the pool.**

**We are at  Level 2, which means we qualify 2 students per event to nationals.**

**It is imperative that all member schools update NSDA points no later than March 4, 2018.**

### World Schools Debate

If you have a student who is interested in being on the district world schools debate team, please email a short list of their accomplishments to the Nathan Johnston by March 9 so the district committee can pick the team members.

### Entry Fees

1. Entry fees are as follows (this will include meals on the students respective competition day):
	1. Student Congress (House and Senate) $15
	2. All partner events (CX, PF, Duo) $30
	3. Individual Speech and Debate events $15
	4. Big Questions – no entry fee
	5. $20 team entry fee to cover custodians, school facility costs, etc.

*Additionally, please note the following penalty fees (in addition to loss of entry fees):*

--Drops after Wednesday, March 7 at 4:00 pm:                                  $10/student/event

--Drops at registration:                                                                              $20/student/event

--Hidden drops:                                                                                           $40/student/event

--Judge changes at registration:                                                               $10/instance

--Missed Judge Call:                                                                                   $10/instance

 **2. Make fees payable to “Florida Panther NSDA District”**

### Entry Check List

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 1.  Login to Tabroom.com

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 2.  Verify that you are linked with the correct school.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 3.  Determine the number of entries you are allotted.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 4.  Register students via Tabroom.

a.  You may up to four entries in any one contest

b.  You may enter up to your entry allotment

c.  Student may enter up to two speech and debate events AND congress

d.  Students may not cross enter debate events.

e.  Students may not cross enter extemporaneous events.

f.  If a student wishes to enter two team events (CX/Duo or PF/Duo), they must have the same partner in both events.3e.  Students must be members of the NFL prior to March 6 in order to compete at the Florida Panther District Qualifier.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 5.  Enter your student's interp selection/documentation information on Tabroom.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 6.  Print the entry form for Speech, Debate, and Congress.

a.  Click on "Download NFL District Tournament Registration Form"

b.  Fill in the blanks.

c.  Print form.

d.  Have all competing students sign the form.

e.  Click on "Download NFL District Tournament Registration Form (Congress Green Sheet)"

f.  Fill in the blanks.

g.  Print form.

h.  Have all competing students sign the form.

CONGRESS INSTRUCTIONS

Determine which students you wish to group together.  There are three columns - one to fill out if we have two chambers, one to fill out if we have three champers, and one to fill out if we have four chambers.  You need to have roughly an equal number of students in each chamber.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 7.   Fill out the [Single Entry Letter of Intent](http://www.speechanddebate.org/DownloadHandler.ashx?File=/userdocs/publicDocs/SELOI.pdf) for each student.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 8.  Enter your judges.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 9.  Prepare copies of oratories.

a.  Underline all direct quotations.

b.  Prepare a coversheet with the student's name, the number of quoted words, and a statement that the oratory is the original work of the student.

c.  Signed by both the coach and student

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 10.  Email as an attachment (preferred) to Nathan Johnston by March 9.

 a.  District Tournament Entry Form with all appropriate signatures and interp selecton info

b.  District Tournament Congress Entry Form

c.  Single Entry Letters of Intent for all your students - with preference order

d.  Oratories - with quotes underlined and quoted words counted, signed by students and coach

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 11.  Pay any outstanding membership fees to the NSDA.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 12.  Bring the following with you to the tournament

a.  Entry Fees

b.  Separate check for any outstanding NSDA Fees and Dues