**Valley Forge District**

**National Speech and Debate Association**

1 February 2018

Dear Colleagues,

The NSDA Valley Forge District Tournament this year will be held Saturday and Sunday, March 10-11, following the schedule that was sent out at the beginning of the year.  It is at the end of this message as well. Congress will begin the day.  Please note the schedule is also subject to change as the tournament numbers warrant.  In order to accommodate double entries between events, we are trying to make the schedule as fair and workable as possible.  Please also note the following:

The tournament will be held at **William Tennent HS** 333 Centennial Rd, Warminster, PA 18974.

Registration should be open on Tabroom.com on or around February 10.  Registration will close Saturday March 3rd at 8:00 AM.  If you have questions about how to access this, please feel free to contact me.

Success at this tournament qualifies students for competition at the NSDA National Tournament, to be held in Ft. Lauderdale, FL June 17-22, 2018.  Nationals’ registration is on Sunday this year with competitions beginning on Monday.  The tournament will conclude on Friday.  **IF YOUR STUDENTS KNOW NOW THAT THEY CANNOT ATTEND NATIONALS TO REPRESENT US, PLEASE DO NOT REGISTER THEM AT DISTRICTS.**

**FORMS:**

**Please bring all money, copies of orations, etc., to the registration at the tournament.  Registering on Tabroom this year ELIMINATES the need for the District Tournament Registration Form and District Congress Registration Form. However, double entering students must still fill out the Single Letter of Intent at the following link, District Tournament Single Entry Letter of Intent.**

**[Single Entry Letter of Intent Form](http://www.speechanddebate.org/resources/?tag=forms-&-manuals" \t "_blank) 2nd form from the bottom**

https://www.speechanddebate.org/rules-forms-manuals/

**REGARDING ENTRIES**:

The following tables give entry quotas for schools based upon their memberships and degrees. Feel free to check the NSDA 2017-18 Unified Manual in case I made an error entering the values.

IE, LD, PF and Policy

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Members and Degrees | Entries |
| 1-15 | 4 |
| 16-20 | 6 |
| 21-30 | 10 |
| 31-40 | 12 |
| 41-50 | 15 |
| 51-60 | 16 |
| 61-70 | 18 |
| 71-80 | 21 |
| 81-90 | 23 |
| 91-100 | 24 |
| 101-120 | 27 |
| 121-140 | 29 |
| 141-160 | 32 |
| 161-180 | 33 |
| 181-200 | 34 |
| 201-230 | 35 |
| 231-260 | 37 |
| 261-300 | 38 |
| 301-350 | 39 |
| 351-400 | 40 |
| 401-500 | 42 |
| 501-600 | 43 |
| 601+ | 44 |

Congress

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Members and Degrees | Senate | House |
| 1-20 | 2 | 2 |
| 21-35 | 2 | 3 |
| 36-55 | 2 | 4 |
| 56-75 | 2 | 5 |
| 76-100 | 2 | 6 |
| 101-150 | 2 | 7 |
| 151-200 | 2 | 8 |

For every 50 members/degrees after 100, up to 400, add another House entry. Schools with 401+ members/degrees are allowed 13 House entries at most.

·        The NSDA will not permit any double-entering at the National tournament but left it entirely to District Committees to determine double-entry on the district level.  The only thing that NSDA will not sanction is doubling between two partner debate events.  The Valley Forge Committee decided to permit doubling in all cases **except between LD Debate and Public Forum -- or between CX Debate and any of the speech events**. Double entry between CX and Public Forum is prohibited by NSDA rules.

·        If a student qualifies in a team event and an individual event – s/he will go to nationals in the team event, unless both members of the team qualify in individual events and preferred their individual event on the Single Entry Letter of Intent.

·        **PLEASE NOTE**:  According to National Speech and Debate Association rules, a student must establish (prior to entering a second event at the district tournament) which event s/he prefers to attend at the National Tournament, should the student qualify in more than one event. This form MUST be completed PRIOR to the beginning of the district tournament date in which a student potentially double qualifies. Failure to produce this signed form will result in disqualification from the tournament or denial of double entry.  The Single Entry Letter of Intent is found at the link above.

The 2017-18 edition of the NSDA Unified Manual governs all District Tournament procedures.  The Tournament will be administered by the District Committee, which will adjudicate all disputes that may arise.  The tournament manual may be found at the link above.  
  
**Entries:**

An “entry” means a student contestant, a duo, CX debate team or a PF debate team.  Duos, CX teams and PF teams (partner events) count as one entry.  A student who is double-entered counts as **TWO** entries.  Each school may enter no more than **FOUR** contestants in each individual event or more than **FOUR** CX, PF debate teams or Duo teams.

**Bonus Entries:**

If a school enters two students in each contest category, they may enter two additional students, regardless of their chapter strength, but totaling no more than **FOUR** entries in each category.

Judge Quota: In order to run our district tournament effectively with three judge panels, the following quotas must be met:

Debate: 1 entry – 2 judges 2 entries – 3 judges 3 entries – 5 judges 4 entries – 6 judges

Speech/Interp: 1 judge for every two entries

Congress: While no set quota is in place if you have judges willing to judge congress, please let me know.

**World Schools Debate Team for the Valley Forge District:**

NSDA has expanded World Schools Debate to allow two teams from each district.  These teams will NOT be just from one school, but from the district itself.  The first team will be formed after the district tournament using the following criteria in this order, Placement, NFL Points and Graduating Year.  The district committee felt this would give a stronger team to represent us at nationals.  Since we are using NFL points before our district tournament, I should be able to contact the coaches of the first five qualified students and start our process.

Our second team will be formed by an application process.  The application form is also attached to this email.  Once the first team is formed, we will create an ad hoc committee from coaches of teams that do not have applicants in the running for the team.  They will then select students for the second World Schools Debate team.

Once we have the two teams organized, I will email the entire district about the list.  In terms of a coach of these teams, that is up to the district. The district committee is discussing how we want to handle this position.  If you have any ideas for this part, feel free to let your district committee know.  If you have any questions about this event, feel free to check the NSDA website about this new debate event.

**NSDA District Student of the Year:**

The National Speech and Debate Association calls on coaches to nominate a deserving graduating senior NSDA member for the District Student of the Year award, making her/him eligible for the National Student of the Year, who will become a spokesperson for the activity of debate and speech, and the benefits it brings young people. The NSDA has several mechanisms for recognizing competitive achievement, but this program annually rewards students whose attitude transcends trophies and accolades; a student who characterizes the very traits of humility, integrity, leadership, respect and service touted by our Code of Honor.  
  
Eligibility – the nominee must:

* be an NSDA member in his/her senior year of high school
* demonstrate strong academic standards
* actively engage his/her community through service and action
* exhibit dedication to forensics and commitment to values of the NSDA

If you want to nominate someone for this honor this year, please complete the form found on the NSDA website, and send it to me as an attachment to an email before the start of the district tournament on March 10.  You will need to log in to your account and Search for ***High School District Student of the Year Nomination Form***.  The district committee will review the applications and decide our winner.

**Principal of the Year/Volunteer of the Year**

As part of their effort to build the community for Speech and Debate, the National Speech and Debate Association is allowing districts to offer recognitions to those who have helped foster the activity in our area.  The Valley Forge District is offering a Principal of the Year award and a Volunteer of the Year award.  The nomination form will be found attached to this email.  It is the same form for either award.  If you wish to make nominations, you should be able to.  If there are any problems with this form, please let me know.

**Program Ad Competition**

Every year the NSDA publishes a tournament program including ads from the districts competing, wishing their competitors well. We would like to offer a program ad competition with a prize of a $50.00 gift certificate at the NSDA store. Competitors can submit designs by April 1. The committee will decide on a winner. Further details, will be provided closer to the district tournament date. We just wanted to get the word out now.

Please feel free to contact me at (610) 419-9677 or at longdr@hotmail.com if you have any questions.  I hope to see you at LaSalle College H.S. in March!

Dave Long - Valley Forge NFL District Chair

NFL Valley Forge District Tournament Tentative Schedule

Saturday 3/10/18 at William Tennent HS

Full or Congress Only Registration 7:30-8 AM

Congress Assembly 8:15 AM

Congress Session 1 8:30-11:30 AM

Registration for all other events 10:30-11:30 AM

Lunch 11:30-12:00

Congress Session 2 12:00-3:00 PM

Congress Awards will NOT be announced Saturday night, but Sunday at the Awards Assembly

Assembly for all other events 12:00 PM

IE/CX 12:30-8:30 PM

PF/L-D 2:00-5:00 PM

Dinner 5:00-5:30 PM

Sunday 3/11/17 at William Tennent HS

The tournament will alternate between PF/LD and IE/CX beginning as follows. The final rounds may overlap depending upon entries remaining at that point.

IE/CX 9:00 AM

PF/LD 10:00 AM