

# Virginia NSDA District Tournament

The Virginia District of the National Forensics League will conduct its national qualifier tournaments on March 17, 2018 at Fluvanna County High School (Speech events) in Palmyra, VA, and April 13-14, 2018, at John Handley High School in Winchester, VA. The tournament is open to all schools listed as members of the Virginia District of the National Speech and Debate Association. Check the NSDA website to determine your school's eligibility ([www.speechanddebate.org](http://www.speechanddebate.org)).

## Locations

The **speech** portion of the tournament will be held on **March 17**, at Fluvanna County High School, in Palmyra, VA.

The **congress** tournament will be held on **Friday, April 13**, at Lord Fairfax Community College-Middletown Campus, 173 Skirmisher Lane, Middletown, VA 22645. The **debate** portion of the tournament will be held on **Friday and Saturday, April 13-14**, at John Handley High School, Winchester, VA.

## Hotels

Contact Craig Edgerton for hotel information for the speech tournament. Contact Arch Painter for information regarding hotels for the debate tournament. We will not be reserving a block of rooms for either weekend this year since we are not using a hotel facility for the congress tournament.

## Events

The tournament will feature competition in all NSDA events, including Original Oration (OO), International Extemporaneous Speaking (IX), US Extemporaneous Speaking (USX), Dramatic Interpretation (DI), Humorous Interpretation (HI), Duo Interpretation, Program of Oral Interpretation (POI), Informative Speaking (INF), Lincoln-Douglas debate, Public Forum debate, Policy Debate, Big Questions Debate and Student Congress. The tournament will follow NSDA rules for all events, so schools are encouraged to check the NSDA website (<https://www.speechanddebate.org>) to obtain the specific rules for each event. Coaches are encouraged to watch the final round of these events from last year's national tournament to see how to prepare students to compete in these categories.

## **Entry limits:**

Entry limits are determined by the NSDA based upon the number of memberships and degrees the school has on file with the national office one week prior to the tournament. Points from the speech tournament will not be added to the school's total until after the debate tournament. **Coaches should make sure they are entering all points for all students into the NSDA database on a monthly basis. No student will be allowed to register unless he/she has earned NFL membership by the date of registration.**

In order to send a full delegation to the national tournament, the district tournament must meet the following minimum quotas:

- Congress—minimum of eight schools entering at least one person in the Senate chamber.
- Paired events (CX, PF, DUO)—minimum of 10 teams in each event.
- Individual events (IX, USX, HI, DI, OO, POI, INF)—minimum of 12 entries in each event.

The district committee asks that each school attending the tournament commit to entering at least one person in the Senate chamber of Congress and one student in either USX or IX to help us meet these minimum requirements.

Schools are limited to a maximum of four entries in each separate category (except congress, which has its own quota.)

To determine the maximum number of entries allowed to a school, go to the NSDA website, click on your Account page, then click on District Info tab, located on right. This listing will identify the number of entries each school can enter in speech and debate combined, as well as the number of senate and house entries.

## **Double Entry:**

Because the speech and debate portions of the tournament are being held on separate weekends this year, students will be allowed to double enter between speech and debate events. Double entry in two debate events is absolutely not feasible. All competitors are welcome to enter the Congress portion of the tournament since it is technically a separate tournament and precedes the opening of the debate and speech portions of the tournament.

## **Students will NOT be allowed to double enter in both US and International Extemp.**

Competitors may double enter in speech events. Students competing in duo interpretation should not enter PF or CX unless they do so with the same partner as their duo.

Students who double enter in two speech events MUST provide a single-entry letter of intent at registration on March 17.

Students who double enter in a speech event(s) and congress OR one speech event, congress, and a debate event must provide single-entry letter of intent form at registration on April 13.

Students who enter congress and debate events must provide single-entry letter of intent form at registration on April 13.

Each student is allowed to enter two events PLUS Congress. In other words, each student has the following options:

- One speech event, one debate event, congress
- Two speech events, congress

## Fees

In order to keep the cost of the tournament to a minimum while providing trophies, hospitality for the judges lounge and covering operational costs, tournament fees will be as follows:

School Entry Fee	\$35
DI, HI, OO, LD, INF, POI, IX, DX	\$15
PF, DUO, BIG Q	\$30
CX	\$100
CONGRESS	\$30.00

Please make checks payable to: **Virginia NFL**.  
**Payment is expected at the time of registration for each tournament.**

## Late Entries:

Late entries will NOT be accepted UNLESS acceptance of said entries would allow the tournament to meet the minimum quotas for competition. Any late entry that is accepted will be charged \$25 per entry in addition to the regular entry fees stated above.

## Registration

Registration will only be accepted through the Tabroom website. Go to <http://virginia.tabroom.com> and register your school if you do not already have an account there –there is no charge to set up an account. Once you have registered your school with the website, the link for tournament registration will be <http://virginia.tabroom.com>. If you encounter problems, email me, and I will try to guide you through the process. **Registration must be complete by 8:00pm, March 10 for the Speech tournament. Registration must be complete by 8:00pm, April 6 for Student Congress and the Debate tournament.** After the deadline dates, all fees are final. If a student cannot attend and must drop, please email me immediately—on-site drops will throw the entire tournament off schedule.

## Judge Quotas:

HI, DI, DUO, DX, IX, OO , INF, POI	1 judge for every 3 entries.
LD, PF, BIG Q	1 judge for every 3 entries
CX	1 judge per two teams

We will need a lot of judges to make this tournament run. NSDA requires that we use multiple judge panels in each speech event starting with round one. In the debate events, we will use single judge panels until eight teams/LDers remain; at that point we must use three judge panels.

If a team is hiring a judge to cover their entries and that judge does not have a close affiliation with that team's competitors, please email me the name of that judge and the areas he or she is qualified to judge.

**It is vital that we be able to use all of the judges who are at the tournament site. For this reason, we ask that each coach specify EVERY event that a judge is qualified to judge. If a team brings John Doe to cover their obligation in LD, and John Doe is also qualified to judge PF, then the coach should write “can also judge PF ” in the comments section for that judge when completing the registration on the website.**

The school entry fee will be used to cover custodial expenses and provide hospitality to the judge's lounge.

## Awards

Awards will be presented to the finalists in individual speech events and the top six competitors in the debate events. The top 2 Senators and the top congress person in each chamber of the house will qualify for the national tournament IF the minimum requirement of 12 participating schools is met.

The top three entries in each of the speech and debate events will advance to the national tournament IF the minimum number of entries is met in the event.

## Concessions:

Food for students will be available for purchase at the school site.

## Congress

**Congress Legislation:** Each **school** may submit up to three pieces of legislation (one economic, one domestic, and one foreign) for consideration. The legislation should be signed as being submitted by the school, not by an individual student. Please follow the formatting guidelines in the NFL district tournament manual (available at [nationalforensicleague.org](http://nationalforensicleague.org)).

**Email all legislation to [archpainter@earthlink.net](mailto:archpainter@earthlink.net) by March 9, 2018.** Coaches, please proofread the legislation and make sure it makes sense. The chair reserves the right to reject any legislation that is improperly formatted or is incoherently phrased. Once potential legislation has been received, it will be perused and 10-15 items will be selected for the docket. The docket will be pre-set for the tournament. Students may amend the docket once the first three pieces of legislation have been debated. Handling the docket in this manner allows all competitors to prepare speeches on at least one piece of legislation and be assured the assembly will actually get to debate that legislation.

## Tentative Schedules

### SPEECH - Saturday

8:00am	Registration at FCHS cafeteria
8:30	Extemp draw
9:00	Round One
11:00	Round Two
1:30pm	Round Three
3:00	Semifinals
5:30	Finals
7:00	Awards

### DEBATE & CONGRESS

#### Friday - Student Congress:

8:00-8:30am	Registration at LFCC
8:30-11:30	Session One
11:30-12:15pm	Lunch (lunch is NOT provided as part of the reg fee)
12:15-3:15	Session Two

#### Friday - Debate:

3:30-4:00pm	Registration in room 2313 at John Handley HS
4:30	Round One (CX)
5:00	Round One (all other events)
6:15	Round Two (CX)
6:45	Round Two (LD, PF)
8:30	Round Three (LD, PF, CX)

We hope to have all rounds finished by 10 pm.

#### Saturday

7:30am	Registration & Judge check-in
8:00	Round Four (LD, PF, CX)
10:00	Round five (LD, PF)
11:00	Round five (CX)
12:00pm	Round Six (LD, PF)
1:30	Round Six (CX)
2:00	Round Seven (LD, PF)
4:00	Round Seven (CX)
4:30	Round Eight (LD, PF)
6:30	Round eight (CX)
6:30	Round Nine (LD,PF)

Awards as soon as the last tabulation is completed.

## NSDA Rules

It is the responsibility of the coach to review and be familiar with all NFL rules regarding the events offered at the district tournament and the conduct of the tournament itself. Please review the District Tournament Manual prior to registration or at least prior to the tournament.

## Virginia NSDA Rules

Competitors are expected to arrive at rounds ON TIME. Any student who arrives at a debate or speech round more than ten minutes late may forfeit that round (a loss in debate or a rank of last place on all judge ballots in a speech round.) Exceptions will be made in speech rounds for students who are double entered.

In speech events, it is expected that students will perform an original interpretation of the material used for DI, HI, POI, or DUO. In the past there have been complaints that some competitors were simply replicating the gestures, choreography and cuttings found on the national final round videos. If the district committee finds that this form of artistic plagiarism is being committed by a performer or duo team, the committee reserves the right to inform the judges in all subsequent rounds that the performance is an imitation and not an original interpretation.

Students competing in OO and INF need to bring one copy of their speech, with sources cited, to be turned in at registration.

## Deadlines

March 9	Congress legislation due by email to <a href="mailto:archpainter@earthlink.net">archpainter@earthlink.net</a>
March 2	Registration deadline for point entry for speech competitors
March 30	Registration Deadline/ deadline for point entry for debate competitors
March 10	Deadline for drops/changes to <b>speech</b> registration/fees become final
April 6	Deadline for drops/changes to <b>debate/congress</b> registration/fees become final