Dear Forensics Colleagues:

You are cordially invited to join us for the Fourth annual Bulldog Tournament, to be held in-person on our campus in Seward, NE **Saturday September 30th, 2023.** Registration should be open and accessible on speechwire.com. Our past tournaments have attracted a wide variety of colleges and universities; therefore, we hope schools looking for an excellent day of competition will join us this early! Both current and alumni members of the Concordia University, Nebraska Forensics Team look forward to hosting you in this virtual setting.

We will offer 2 prelim rounds and one final of the 11 AFA individual events as well as 3 prelims and out-rounds as necessary of Parliamentary Debate. To provide a concise tournament experience students will only be able to compete in Individual Events OR Parliamentary Debate.

We hope to see you and your squad here in-person. If there is anything we can do, please do not hesitate to contact us!

Sincerely,

Joe Davis, Director of Forensics

Concordia University, Nebraska

(402) 643-7257

[joseph.davis@cune.edu](mailto:joseph.davis@cune.edu)

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**GENERAL GUIDELINES**

**Tournament Rules –** AFA/NFA regulations will govern their respective events, unless specified elsewhere in this invitation.

**ADA Accommodations –** If anyone has concerns about accessibility virtually, please contact Joe Davis. He will gladly seek out accommodations as needed.

**Internet Access-** Concordia is working on providing internet access for all competitors and coaches. Further information on access will be given to coaches as the tournament gets closer. Competitors in Extemp willbe allowed to access the internet during prep time. Debaters will also have internet access during their 15 minutes prep (5 minutes to find/arrive at room).

**TOURNAMENT ENTRIES:**

**Entry Deadlines –** All entries will be submitted using SpeechWire. **Entries are due by 5:00 p.m. (CST) on Tuesday, Sep 26th**.

**Entry Fees –** Fees will be assessed at noon on Wednesday, September 27th.

The following fees will be assessed for competing each day of the tournament:

* $8.00/Individual Event slot
* $40.00/Parli Debate Team

**Drop Fees –** Any judge drops made after 5:00 p.m. (CST) on Tuesday Sep. 26th will be charged a $50 fee. Schools are responsible for paying their full fees.

**Meals-** The most affordable meals will be off-campus: Runza, Jimmy Johns, Subway, Dairy Queen. If you prefer to eat on campus meal tickets can be purchased on speechwire for our cafeteria at $12.00 per person.

**Checks –** Checks should be made out to **Concordia University, Nebraska**. On the memo line, put “Speech Team”. Checks should be mailed to the school as follows:

Joe Davis

800 N. Columbia Avenue

Weller 202

Seward, NE 68434

**INDIVIDUAL EVENTS:**

All competitors in individual events compete in open division. All events with 8 or more competitors will have a final round. Events with more than 35 competitors will have a semifinal round. Two preliminary rounds of competition in all eleven AFA Individual Events will be offered in these flights:

**Pattern A**: Extemporaneous, Informative, After Dinner Speaking, Prose, and Poetry.

**Pattern B**: Impromptu, Persuasive, Communication Analysis, Dramatic Interp, Program Oral Interp, and Duo

Students are limited to six (6) individual events slots (limit of two duos), with no more than three (3) per pattern. The tournament reserves the right to institute and utilize event caps based on the number of teams and number of entries at the registration deadline.

**Parliamentary DEBATE**

**General Rules –** Two divisions of NPDA debate will be offered—Junior and Open. The NPDA Rules for Debating and Judging will govern NPDA debate. Internet access will not be allowed. Fifteen (15) minutes of preparation time will be given before each debate.

**Preliminary Rounds –** Power-matching for all preliminary rounds will be high-low in win-loss brackets. When brackets are uneven, teams with the weakest opposition record will be pulled up to the next highest bracket.

The computer will randomly match rounds 1 and 2. If rounds stay on schedule, Rounds 3 and 4 will be powered-matched based upon all available previous rounds; otherwise, they will be lag power-matched if necessary.

**Elimination Rounds –** In elimination rounds, brackets will be broken (per NPDA by-laws). Partial elimination rounds will be held, as necessary. In each division, the number of teams advancing will be determined by NPDA bylaws. Seeding in elimination rounds will be based upon wins, then total speaker points, adjusted total points, opp. record, and finally judge variance.

**JUDGES:**

**Commitment –** One speech judge can cover up to six I.E. entries. One debate judge covers 2 teams. Judges are committed for all three rounds. If debate judges are unavailable, individual speech judges may be asked to join the debate judge pool.

**Uncovered Entries –** Uncovered judge fees will be assessed at $15 per entry. Uncovered parliamentary debate teams will be assessed at $20 per team.

**Available Judges** **–** Additional judges beyond your requirements can be paid $15.00 per IE round.

**Code of Ethics** **–** In accordance with our school’s values, we believe it is important to create a positive environment for all participants. Any judge found to be making comments on ballots that are deemed to be racist, sexist, or otherwise discriminatory will be removed from the judging pool immediately. Judges are expected to make supportive comments and not use overly penal speaker points. Judges to be found violating these expectations will be asked to change or be removed from the judging pool. Any schools that have judges removed from the pool will be charged for uncovered slot fees.

**Judge Flexibility –** If entry size prevents critics from judging the events for which they registered, we may slot them to judge events in which your participants are not involved (e.g. an IE judge for Parli). If you DO NOT wish for us to use one or more of your judges in this fashion, please indicate this on your entry. If you do not make such an indication, we will assume that your judges are flexible and willing to serve the tournament in whatever way is needed. This flexibility is greatly appreciated and helps make the most efficient use of the judges you provide.

**In-Person**

There are currently no campus or tournament mandates concerning vaccines, face coverings or social distancing. Individual requests/concerns can be directed to the tournament directors, otherwise, participants should operate safely and mindfully at their own responsible discretion.

**AWARDS:**

**Individual Events –** Awards will be presented to the finalists in each Individual Event. Additionally, the top three Individual Events Sweepstakes speakers in this portion of the swing will receive awards. To be eligible, individuals must participate in three Individual Events.

**Parliamentary Debate –** Awards will be presented to (at minimum) top two debate teams and top five speakers in the tournament.

**School Awards –** Three overall school sweepstakes awards will be presented. Speech and Debate will be separate. \*If the numbers permit, we may also recognize the top schools in both Speech and Debate combined.

**TIEBREAKING SCHEME REFERENCE:**

**Prelims:** Ranks this round, Speaker pts this round

**Finals:** 1s this round, Ranks this round, JP (AFA-NIET elim. style), Reciprocals this round, Speaker pts this round

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| **Bulldog Tournament**  **In-Person September 1st**  2023 (Tentative) Tournament Schedule  *We will adjust this schedule if entry sizes warrant different numbers of out rounds; if changed, we will provide an updated schedule to attending schools. Our goal will be to complete the tournament as early as possible.* | **Pattern A = ADS, EXT, INFO, POE, PRO**  **Pattern B = CA, DI, DUO, IMP, PER, POI** |

**SATURDAY, September 30th**

**7:45 REGISTRATION – Dunklau**

8:30 Extemp Draw

8:45 Round 1: Parli Debate

9:00 Round 1: Pattern A

10:15 Round 1: Pattern B

10:30 Round 2: Parli Debate

**LUNCH**

12:15 Round 2: Pattern B

12:15 Round 3: Parli Debate

1:15 Extemp Draw

1:30 Round 2: Pattern A

1:30 Semi- Finals: Parli Debate

2:45 IE Finals B

4:00 Extemp Draw Finals

4:15 IE Finals A

5:30 Parli Finals

**ASAP AWARDS – Dunklau Lecture Hall 109**

**PARKING DIRECTIONS:**

Unlike in previous years **please do not park in the Thom/Jesse lot.** Continue down N. Columbia Avenue to the 4-way intersection, then turn right. Follow the road until you encounter a parking area on your right, the Dunklau parking lot.

**LODGING INFORMATION:**

**Seward**

Cobblestone Hotel & Suites East Hill Inn & Suites

2575 Progressive Rd 131 E. Main St.

(402) 646-1004 Offers 25 rooms. 402-643-3679

**For those with a small team, there are two bed and breakfasts in Seward:**

La Ruche Bed and Breakfast at 1027 N. 2nd St., is located 3 blocks from CUNE in a grand old Victorian. The four guest rooms feature private baths and range in price from $80 - $125/night including a hearty breakfast. Prices are negotiable, especially if you fill up the place! Call Bonnie at 402-643-3037.

The Liberty House Bed and Breakfast in Seward next to Amigos (411 N. 5th St.) has three rooms at $85 each—extra accommodations available; weekend rates for an entire team are negotiable. The first floor has a common room, and the hostess is wonderful. Call Pat at 402-643-2555.

**Lincoln**

Motel 6 AmericInn Lodge & Suites

6501 N. 28th St. 6555 N. 27th St.

402-438-4700 402-435-1600

Countryside Inn and Suites Hampton Inn & Suites

6750 Wildcat Dr 7343 Husker Cir.

402-742-7575 402-435-4600

Country Inn & Suites by Radisson Quality Inn & Suites

5353 N 27th St 7333 Husker Cir.

(402) 403-1601 402-435-8100.