THE FINAL COUNTDOWN INVITATIONAL

AT ODESSA HIGH SCHOOL TOURNAMENT INVITE

Dear Coach and Team,

The Odessa Chapter of the National Speech and Debate Association cordially invites your team to enter The Final Countdown on February 23rd & 24th, 2024. This will be an Open invitational, meaning students of all experience levels are welcome to attend and compete.

**Odessa will host Open divisions of the following events:** Lincoln-Douglas Debate, Public Forum Debate, Policy Debate, Dramatic Interpretation, Humorous Interpretation, Duo Interpretation, Program Oral Interpretation (POI), Prose Reading, Poetry Reading, Storytelling, LIVE Radio, International Extemp, U.S. Extemp, Original Oratory, Informative Speaking, and Congressional Debate.

Policy, LD, & PF debaters will have four rounds of preliminary competition, breaking to semifinals and finals on Saturday. *(possibility of 6 rounds straight for CX debate if entries are low)*

Individual Events will have two preliminary rounds, breaking top 6 to finals. Congress will have two preliminary sessions breaking to a final Super Session.

Please note that as per MSHSAA regulations, laptops and all other electronic devices are permitted; HOWEVER, Odessa does not guarantee power sources. Students using electronic devices in classrooms may not unplug any electronic device in order to utilize an electrical outlet.

**Each school is responsible to provide a minimum of 1 judge and an additional judge for every 8 entries.**

*(Any additional judges will be graciously accepted, as this will be our second time hosting in over five years and will need all the help we can get with recruiting.)*

***Registration will be on Speechwire. Entries are due Friday, February 16th at 4:00pm***

Due to our school’s small size we will be limiting entries to only two per event. Any additional entries will be waitlisted until we determine if space is available.

If you have any questions please email or call Mike Brown at (816) 633-5533 ext. 5130 (school) or (480) 580-5898 (cell).

Sincerely,

Mike Brown Samantha Hall

Odessa Speech & Debate Coach Tournament Chair

**Tournament Schedule:**

| **FRIDAY FEBRUARY 23rd** | **SATURDAY FEBRUARY 24th** |
| --- | --- |
| **Team Registration in entranceway -**  **3:00 - 3:30**  **Round 1 Debate - 3:30 pm**  **Round 2 Debate - 5:00 pm**  **Round 3 Debate - 6:30 pm**  **Round 4 Debate - 8:00 pm** | **IE Registration (check in for returning teams) 7:30am-9:00am**  **Debate Semifinals - 8:00 am**  **Extemp Draw Round 1 - 9:30 am**  **Round 1 IE’s & Congress - 10:00 am**  **Extemp Draw Round 2 - 11:00 am**  **Round 2 IE’s & Congress - 11:30 am**  **Debate Finals - 1:00 pm**  **IE Finals & Congress Super Session - 2:30 pm**  **Awards - 4:00 pm or ASAP** |

**General Rules:**

* A student may enter a maximum of two individual events plus debate; Congress may only enter that specific event during IEs plus debate; debaters may only enter one debate event and extempers may only enter IX or USX, not both.
* Each school must provide 1 qualified school judge and an additional judge for every 8 entries for each day of their school competition.
* Trophies will be awarded to the top 3 places in Individual Events *(4th-6th will receive medals)*, and 1st through *semifinalists* in Debate.
* Entry fees are $8 per event. Schools are financially responsible for all entry fees as of 2/20/24
* All NSDA, MSHSAA, and Odessa High School policies will be in effect; competitor misconduct (smoking, harassment, assault, vandalism, etc.) could result in disqualification.
* No playing of musical instruments (guitars, mandolins, harmonicas, harps, spoons, etc.) or electronic music without the use of headphones is permitted in the school.
* A concession stand for competitors will be open, as well as a hospitality room for adults. Please have students keep food and drink in the team table area.
* Tab will be in the Library and open throughout the tournament.
* Awards will be in the Auditorium.
* Extemp Draw will be in the Auditorium.

Sweepstakes Rules:

1. Sweepstakes points in debate will be awarded as follows:

Debate win------------------------------------5 points

Qualifying for Semis-----------------------10 points

Qualifying for Finals—--------------------10 points

2. Sweepstakes points in IEs will be awarded as follows:

Finals---------------------------------------10 points

Third place----------------------------------5 points

Second Place------------------------------10 points

First place-----------------------------------15 points

3. Sweepstakes will be determined by the **TWO BEST ENTRIES** in each event.

Individual Events Rules:

1. US & International Extemp: Question topics will be current events on national and international issues. Time limit will be 7 min.

2. Original Oratory: The speech must be written by the student. It must be memorized. Time limit is 10 minutes. No more than 150 words may be direct quotation.

3. Humorous & Dramatic Interp: Selections must be memorized and possess literary merit. Time limit is 10 min.

4. Duo Interp: Selections must be memorized and possess literary merit. Selections may be from any appropriate novel, play, or short story. Time limit-10 min. Movement is limited and students must have offstage focus.

5. Storytelling: All MSHSAA rules and regulations apply.

6. Prose and Poetry Reading: All MSHSAA rules and regulations apply.

7. Congressional Debate: We will use the NSDA January 2024 Legislation. A set docket will be sent with entry confirmation. No extraneous motions or legislation will be allowed from the floor.

8. Informative Speaking: The speech must be written by the student. It must be memorized. Time limit is 10 minutes. The purpose of the speech is for the audience to gain understanding and/or knowledge of a topic. NSDA rules for visual aids will be followed. No more than 150 words may be direct quotations.

9. Program Oral Interpretation (POI): The use of a manuscript is required. Time limit is 10 minutes. At least two separate pieces of literature from at least two separate genres must be used. The primary focus of the program should be on the development of the theme or argument through the use of narrative, story, language, and/or characterization. The intact manuscript may be used as a prop as long as it remains in the contestant’s control at all times.

**Advancing in Individual Events**

Advancing in IEs will be based on ranks, preferences (if paneled), reciprocals, and quality points. The top 6 will advance to finals. In Congressional Debate, the top 4-5 from each chamber will. *(if numbers are low we will “advance” all competitors and make finals placement based on accumulative performance)* advance using judge ranks, preferences (if paneled), reciprocals, and Parli rankings to break ties. Prelim ranks may be used to break ties for placing in Congress finals.

Policy Debate:

All NSDA/MSHSAA rules apply.

Time limits will be 8-3-5, with 8 minute prep time.

The 2023-2024 NSDA policy resolution, “**Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially increase fiscal redistribution in the United States by adopting a federal jobs guarantee, expanding Social Security, and/or providing a basic income.”**

A team more than 10 minutes late to a round shall forfeit, unless it is the fault of the tournament.

At the end of preliminaries the four top teams will advance to semifinals based on the following determinant order: Win/loss, speaker rankings, record of opponent lost to, total opposition record, opposition to opposition record.

Rounds will be power matched incrementally *(round 3 will be based on round 1 results, 4 will be based on 1 & 2)*

Lincoln Douglas Debate:

All NSDA/MSHSAA rules apply.

Time limits will be 6-3-7-3-4-6-3 with 4 minute prep time.

Rounds will be flighted. Competitors serving as timekeepers for the opposite flight are appreciated.

The resolution will be the NSDA January/February 2024 topic.

**“Resolved: The United States ought to substantially reduce its military presence in the West Asia-North Africa region.”**

A competitor more than 10 minutes late to a round shall forfeit, unless it is the fault of the tournament.

At the end of preliminaries the four top teams will advance to semifinals based on the following determinant order: Win/loss, record of opponent lost to, total opposition record, opposition to opposition record, speaker quality points.

Rounds will be power matched incrementally *(round 3 will be based on round 1 results, 4 will be based on 1 & 2)*

Public Forum Debate:

All NSDA/MSHSAA rules apply

Time limits will be 4-4-3-4-4-3-3-3-3-2-2 with a 3 minute block of prep time.

Rounds could be flighted depending on judge/room numbers. Competitors serving as timekeepers for the opposite flight are appreciated.

The resolution will be the NSDA February 2024 topic.

**“Resolved: The United States federal government should ban single-use plastics.”**

A team more than 10 minutes late to a round shall forfeit, unless it is the fault of the tournament.

At the end of preliminaries the four top teams will advance to semifinals based on the following determinant order: Win/loss, speaker rankings, record of opponent lost to, total opposition record, opposition to opposition record.

Rounds will be power matched after round 2.

**Advancing in Debate**

At the end of preliminaries the four top teams will advance to semifinals based on the following determinant order: Win/loss, speaker rankings, record of opponent lost to, total opposition record, opposition to opposition record.

Rounds will be power matched incrementally *(round 3 will be based on round 1 results, 4 will be based on 1 & 2)*