Dear Forensics Friends,

Start your engines! The 7th annual Charlotte Motor Speechway Invitational will be on Saturday, January 25th and 26ty, 2024. We will offer all eleven AFA events as well as IPDA in what we hope is a lively, fun, and *warm* environment. Charlotte is a welcoming city full of great food, charm, mediocre professional sports teams, and so much NASCAR ;). We hope your team will find time to enjoy our part of the country!

Leave your walking shoes at home; we will host the entire tournament in one or two buildings that are divided by a small courtyard. There’s a Starbucks across the street and tons of lodging and dining less than a mile from campus. (If you have a student who may need additional accommodation needs that we haven’t anticipated, please let your tournament hosts know!) You can also leave your laptops at home! We’re using old school paper ballots.

There’s a strong chance that final rounds may be collapsed into two rounds (or one? Who knows?). We’ll let you know as soon as we do. Students may enter up to two events per flight.

**SATURDAY JANUARY 27th**  
9:30 a.m. Registration  
10:15 a.m. Extemp Draw

IPDA 1  
10:30 a.m. Round 1B: Extemp, POI, Duo, Persuasion   
11:45 a.m. Round 1A: Impromptu, Info, Prose

IPDA 2  
1:00 p.m. Round 1C: DI, ADS, CA, Poetry  
2:15 p.m. Extemp Draw

IPDA 3  
2:30 p.m. Round 2B

IPDA 4  
3:45 p.m. Round 2A   
5:00 p.m. Round 2C

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 28th**  
8:15 a.m. Extemp Draw

IPDA Quarters  
8:30 a.m. Round 3B  
9:45 a.m. Round 3A 

IPDA Semis  
11:00 a.m. Round 3C  
1:00 p.m. Extemp Draw

IPDA Finals  
1:15 p.m. Finals B  
2:30 p.m. Finals A   
3:45 p.m. Finals C  
5:30 p.m. Awards

\*Students may enter two events per flight.\*

\*Students may enter EITHER IE’s or IPDA\*

Please let us know if you require any assistance and we’re happy to be your pit crew. Oh, and we love taking cash for fees. But if that doesn’t work for you, please make checks payable to Nancy Riffe (I know. No one calls me Nancy.)

We look forward to hosting you this January! See you at the starting line,

Nance Riffe, Director of Forensics

nriffe@uncc.edu

Sabrina Reed, Graduate Assistant

sreed29@uncc.edu

**IMPORTANT! - How to submit entries for your team**

1. In your preferred web browser, go to [http://www.SpeechWire.com](http://www.speechwire.com/) and click on the 'Your account' tab at the very top of the screen.

2. Log in with your email address and account password. If you have forgotten your password, click the 'Forgot password?' button. If there is a new head coach this year, please email accounts@speechwire.com to get the email address on the head coach account changed.

3. Click the 'Tournament registration' icon and then click on the Charlotte Motor Speechway tournament to submit your entries.

If you have trouble registering, please email SpeechWire account support at accounts@speechwire.com for assistance.

**GENERAL RULES**

* We will adhere to the ethical standards and event descriptions of the American Forensic Association National Speech Tournament. They can be accessed online.
* No material may have been performed by a student in any competition (high school or college) prior to this academic year (2023-2024) **including Impromptu Speeches**. Students in violation of this rule will be disqualified.
* Tabulation procedures will be similar to AFA-NST practices.
* UNCC is committed to providing a safe educational environment for all.
* Each school may enter an unlimited number of students per event.
* Each student may enter a maximum of two events per group. Two duos count as two events.

Flight A: Info, Prose, Impromptu

Flight B: Duo, Persuasion, POI, Extemp

Flight C: CA, ADS, Poetry, DI

Semi-Finals will be held for events containing over 50 entries.

* Entries must be submitted via Speechwire.com. Entries must be received by 5:00 p.m. EST, Tuesday, January 23, 2024.

**FEES**

1. A fee of $10 will be charged for each IE entry.
2. A fee of $20 will be charged for each IPDA entry.

**Payment of Fees:**

**Please make checks payable to Nancy Riffe. We also gladly accept cash. If you need to Venmo or PayPal your entry fees, just send Nance an email and we can do that too.**

2. One judge is needed for every six IE slots one judge is needed for every two debate slots entered. Uncovered slots will be charged $15 for every entry slot.

*We prefer your judges, not your money!*

3. Drop penalties are as follows:

* Anytime before 12:00 noon EST, Wednesday, January 22, 2024: NO CHARGE
* Anytime before 12:00 noon EST, Friday, January 24, 2024: $15 charge per dropped or changed slot plus original entry fee / $20 per dropped judge plus new uncovered slot fee.
* Anytime after 12:00 noon EST, Friday, January 24, 2024: $25 charged per dropped or changed slot plus original entry fee / $30 per dropped judge plus new uncovered slot fee.

**AWARDS**

1. Team trophies will be awarded to the top three schools in both Open and Limited Entry sweepstakes.

1. Sweepstakes eligibility will be calculated based on entry size at the time of registration.
2. All schools are entered in Open sweepstakes
3. Entries in the bottom 50% of overall entry sizes will be eligible for Limited Entry sweepstakes

3. Individual sweepstakes trophies will be awarded to the top three speakers of the tournament based on overall points accumulated throughout preliminary and final rounds. All speakers are eligible for Individual sweepstakes. In addition to final round points assigned as described in #4 Team sweepstakes, preliminary points will be assigned for the purposes of Individual sweepstakes as follows:

3 points: 1st place

2 points: 2nd place

1 point: 3rd place

4. Team sweepstakes are calculated according to the following point scale.

12 points: 1st place in final

10 points: 2nd place in final

8 points: 3rd place in final

6 points: 4th place in final

4 points: 5th place in final

2 points: 6th place in final

1 point: 7th place or lower in final

5. Tiebreaks, whenever possible, will be first accomplished by judges preference.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

Nance Riffe Sabrina Reed

Director of Forensics Graduate Assistant

nriffe@uncc.edu sreed29@uncc.edu