

Western Ohio NSDA
District Congressional Debate Tournament
Saturday, March 15, 2025
Ohio Statehouse
1 Capitol Square, Columbus, Ohio 43215

Contact Information:
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Greetings!

On behalf of the Western Ohio NSDA District Committee, it is my pleasure to cordially invite you to the 2025 Western Ohio NSDA Congressional Debate District tournament! This year's tournament will take place on Saturday, March 15, 2025. For this event, we will once again be competing at the Ohio Statehouse.

REGISTRATION

Any REGISTERED Western Ohio NSDA team may send speakers to the District Congressional Debate Tournament, as long as those students are registered members of the NSDA. Registration for the tournament is free. The total number each team is permitted to register is based on your team's overall degrees and membership strength. The chart for this can be found on page 91 of the NSDA High School Unified Manual.

You may make changes to your registration on Speechwire until noon on Saturday, March 8. After this point, you will only be able to drop students. Finally, all students qualified to the National Tournament in another event must sign the NSDA's letter of intent form. This can be found by clicking on the following link:

<https://www.speechanddebate.org/wp-content/uploads/District-Tournament-Single-Entry-Letter-of-Intent.pdf>

LEGISLATION

All legislation must be submitted by Wednesday, February 19, 2025. Per NSDA rules, schools may submit legislation after this deadline, but a chamber may not consider that legislation until all other legislation has been heard. Legislation should be submitted via email at bprater@wls4kids.org. Please DO NOT simply share a Google Doc without emailing it. Templates can be found by clicking on the following link:

<https://www.speechanddebate.org/legislation-templates/>

Legislation may be accepted, rejected, or sent back for minor formatting and content revisions. All selected legislation will be posted on Speechwire at least 14 days prior to the District Tournament.

Chamber Numbers and Qualifiers

Speakers will qualify to the NSDA National Tournament based on the number of competitors at the District Tournament. The number of qualifiers will be determined by the number of entries as well as the requirement of a final round. More to come on that end as the time approaches.

When you register on Speechwire, you will specify which students you would like to group together for chambers. Chamber selection will be conducted according to NSDA rules. However, in order to comply with NSDA requirements, individual students may be moved to account for drops and balance the numbers in each chamber.

Rules and Procedures

Please be sure to familiarize yourself with the rules of Congressional Debate prior to the District competition. It is highly suggested to read the relevant sections of the manual prior to the start of the tournament. In particular:

1. We will be using Direct Questioning..
2. The rules for proper use, citation, and documentation of evidence will apply (though I would encourage students to be extremely judicious on whether or not to make an evidence-based challenge).

All additional rules are clearly outlined in the Unified Manual. If you have any questions, please contact Bill Prater @ bprater@wls4kids.org.

Judges and Tabulation

Tournament Schedule

Please see Speechwire. We have a limited amount of time in the Statehouse so ALL time schedules will be maintained. Please keep in mind that the time schedule will be adjusted to follow time rules of the NSDA once final numbers have been decided.

Lunch is NOT provided and there is no time to leave the building so make arrangements in advance!

Contact

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Bill Prater at (419) 392-7948. We look forward to seeing you at Districts!
