

Sleet and Snow Swing

Concordia University – Seward, NE
January 17th-18th, 2015

December 1, 2014

Dear Forensics Colleague:

You are cordially invited to join us for the tenth annual **Sleet and Snow Swing** to be held **January 17-18, 2015** on the Concordia University campus in Seward, Nebraska. Our past swing tournaments have attracted a wide variety of colleges and universities; therefore, we hope schools looking for an excellent weekend of competition will join us this January. As in past years, the swing will be competitive and efficiently run.

We plan to offer the same set of events as in previous years. Each swing half will offer two rounds of AFA individual events with appropriate elimination rounds. The first (Sleet) tournament will include four preliminary rounds of NFA Lincoln-Douglas debate with appropriate elimination rounds. Four preliminary rounds of NPDA debate (with appropriate elimination rounds) will be offered at the second (Snow) tournament. Students must choose between the IE portion and the NPDA debate portion at the Snow tournament.

The schedule is constructed with wellness in mind while offering additional opportunities for competition. Two meals are included during the weekend—lunch breaks on Saturday and Sunday—served in the Janzow Campus Center. We hope you will take advantage of this budget-stretching weekend.

Because wellness is not only about physical well-being but also mental and spiritual well-being, we will offer a chapel service at 8:00 a.m. on Sunday morning. We encourage each of you to take advantage of this worship service.

We hope to see you and your squad in Seward, Nebraska, on January 17-18. If there is anything we can do, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Joy Johnson, Director of Forensics
Concordia Univ., Nebraska—(402) 643-7257
joy.johnson@cune.edu

Michael Dreher, Director of Forensics
Bethel University—(651) 638-6052
mdreher@bethel.edu

Bryan Moore, Associate Director of Forensics
Concordia Univ., Nebraska—(402) 643-7440
Bryan.moore@cune.edu

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GENERAL GUIDELINES:

Tournament Rules – AFA, NFA and NPDA regulations will govern their respective divisions, unless specified elsewhere in this invitation. Except in NFA L-D, no one may debate alone. Undergraduate students enrolled in six (6) or more units are eligible. No person who has competed for eight (8) or more semesters or has competed at a collegiate national tournament in four (4) different years may compete.

Host Student Participation – While many Concordia and Bethel University students will help run the tournament, Concordia and Bethel University students will also participate. These students are eligible to advance to elimination rounds, but not school sweepstakes.

ADA Accommodations – If anyone has concerns about accessibility on campus, please contact Prof. Johnson or Prof. Moore. We will gladly accommodate as needed.

TOURNAMENT ENTRIES:

Entry Deadlines – All entries will be submitted using Professor Erick Roebuck's online entry system. This webpage can be found at <http://www.forensicstournament.net>. You must enter your entry for each tournament separately. **Entries are due by 5:00 p.m. (Central Time) on Monday, January 12th, 2015.**

Entry Fees – Fees will be assessed at noon on Tuesday, January 13th. Two fee structures will be in place—individual tournament and swing entry. A single \$25.00 school fee applies to each tournament to assist with defraying food costs.

The following fees will be assessed for competing in **only one** tournament:

- \$6.00/Individual Events slot
- \$20.00/NFA LD Debate slot.
- \$12.00/Duo slot (2 awards).
- \$35.00/NPDA debate team.

The following fees will be assessed for competing in **both halves** of the swing:

- \$10.00/Individual Events slot
- \$20.00/ Duo slot (2 awards).
- \$20.00/NFA LD Debate slot.
- \$35.00/NPDA debate team.

Drop Fees – A \$5 dropped entry fee will be assessed for drops made between noon on Tuesday, Jan. 13th and Thursday, Jan. 15th at 5:00 pm CST. A \$10 dropped entry fee will be assessed for drops made after Thursday, Jan. 15th at 5:00 pm, including at registration or between halves of the swing. Substitutions within events are NOT considered drops. Schools are responsible for paying their full fees. **We will take late entries for parli through Saturday night awards.**

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 Speaking, Informative, After Dinner Speaking, Prose, and Poetry.
Pattern B: Impromptu Speaking, Persuasive, Communication Analysis, Dramatic Interp, Program Oral Interp, and Duo Interp.

Students are limited to six (6) individual events slots (limit of two duos), with no more than three (3) per pattern. LD participants are limited to one added event (NOT Extemp or Duo) per flight, and should go to their LD round first. Electronic retrieval will be allowed for extemp; however, internet access will not be allowed.

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NFA L-D DEBATE (Sleet Invitational/Saturday)

A single division of NFA L-D debate will be offered at the first half of the swing. Four preliminary rounds of competition will break (as entries warrant) to Quarterfinals. The 2014-2015 NFA resolution and times will be used. Consult the NFA website for more information on NFA L-D Debate. **Note that students should go to LD rounds before IE rounds.**

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

Elimination Rounds – Seeding will be based upon wins, followed by total speaker points, adjusted speaker points, opposition record, and finally judge variance (Z-Score). A partial elimination round will be held, as necessary.

NPDA DEBATE (Snow Invitational/Sunday):

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. Twenty (20) minutes of preparation time will be given before each debate. Motions will be announced in the Janzow Campus Center.

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 power-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, opposition record, and finally judge variance.

JUDGES:

Commitment – At the Sleet Invitational, one judge can cover up to five I.E. slots per pattern **OR** two L/D debaters. At the Snow Invitational, each judge can cover up to five I.E. slots per pattern **OR** two NPDA teams. Debate judges are needed one round beyond their team's/debater's elimination. An I.E. judge is committed through finals.

Sleet Tournament – For the Sleet Invitational (Saturday), uncovered judge fees will be assessed on the following basis:

- \$12.00 per Individual Events slot.
- \$25.00 per NFA L/D Debate slot.

Snow Tournament – For the Snow Invitational (Sunday tournament), uncovered entry fees will be assessed on the following basis:

- \$12.00 per Individual Events slot.
- \$50.00 per NPDA Debate team.

Available Judges – We REALLY want you to bring judges. We will reduce school fees or pay judges with bachelor's degree \$15.00 per NPDA round or \$12.00 per IE/LD round. Please alert us to critics willing to judge beyond their commitment.

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Critic 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 L-D/NPDA or an LD judge for IE's). 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.

AWARDS:

Individual Events – Awards will be presented to the top six finishers in each Individual Event. Additionally, the top three Individual Events Sweepstakes speakers in each portion of the swing will receive handsome awards. To be eligible, individuals must participate in four Individual Events. IE Swing Sweepstakes awards will be presented to the top three competitors for the entire swing; students must participate in at least four IE events in both halves to qualify.

Debate Events – An appropriate number of speaker awards based on entry size will be given in parliamentary debate. All parli teams and LD debaters advancing to elimination rounds will receive awards.

School Sweepstakes – Points will be assigned by the following formula:

Individual Events:

- First Place = 12 points
- Second Place = 10 points
- Third Place = 8 points
- Fourth Place = 7 points
- Fifth Place = 5 points
- Sixth Place = 3 points
- Other Finalist = 2 points
- Semifinalist = 1 points

NFA L/D Debate AND NPDA Debate:

- First Place = 12 points
- Second Place = 10 points
- Semifinalist = 8 points
- Quarterfinalist = 5 points
- Octofinalist = 3 points

For all events, points will be given in preliminary rounds for the top three entries from each school. All elimination round points will count toward sweepstakes.

School Awards – Each tournament will present awards to the top three individual events schools. Three overall swing awards will be presented, as well as three small entry sweepstakes awards. Schools must participate in both halves of the swing to qualify for the swing award.

The swing will be divided into two equal parts—debate and individual events. Each school's points will be calculated as a percentage of the total points earned by all schools in each portion of the tournament. The percentage scores for both halves will be added together to determine rankings for each school.

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ARRIVAL/DIRECTIONS:

Seward, Nebraska (Concordia's location) is approximately 30 miles west of Lincoln and about 85 miles west of Omaha. Both airports offer multiple carriers and rental car agencies at reasonable prices.

From Highway 34, when on the east edge of town, turn onto N. Columbia (at the St. John Child Development Center). Travel to University Lane, turn right, and then left into the TLEC/Jesse parking lot. Use the visitor parking spaces. Registration will be in the Janzow Student Center.

From Highway 15, turn east at Jones Bank and City Square and travel east. Follow the directions above from N. Columbia to the school.

From I-80, take the Seward exit and travel Highway 15 north to Jones Bank. Follow the directions above.

LODGING INFORMATION:

Seward

Cobblestone Hotel & Suites off of Hwy. 15 behind McDonalds (2575 Progressive Rd.) offers a "Concordia event special rate" of \$72 plus tax for a standard double (or king bed) room when reserving a group block of 8 or more rooms; less than 8 rooms, the room price is \$89 plus tax. A continental breakfast is available. The number is 402-646-1004.

East Hill Inn & Suites, a mom and pop at the corner of Hwy. 34 and Columbia (131 E. Main St.), offers twenty-five rooms. The room rate for one queen bed is \$54.80 plus tax; two queen beds is \$63.80 plus tax. Continental breakfast available. The phone number is 402-643-3679.

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

La Ruche Bed and Breakfast at 1027 N. 2nd St., which just opened, 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. 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

(Except for the hotel near the airport, take Exit 403/27th St. off of I-80 for each of these hotels)

Motel 6 at 6501 N. 28th St. is a new building with modern rooms. Prices are the following for two queen beds: 2 adults - \$59.99 plus tax; 4 adults - \$61.99 plus tax. The number is 402-438-4700.

AmericInn Lodge & Suites at 6555 N. 27th St. offers a "Concordia University rate" of \$69.90 plus tax for two queen beds. Free hot breakfast available. The number is 402-435-1600.

Countryside Inn and Suites located at 6750 Wildcat Dr. (also right off of I-80) has a rate of approximately \$75 for a standard room of two queens. Call 402-742-7575 for reservations.

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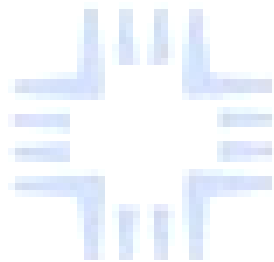
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Hampton Inn & Suites right off of I-80 (7343 Husker Cir.) offers rooms with two queen beds or a king bed for the “Concordia University rate” of \$80. Continental breakfast available. The number is 402-435-4600.

Country Inn & Suites by Carlson located near the airport at 1301 W. Bond Circle, offers a king or double room for \$83 plus tax if you tell them that you are with Concordia University; continental breakfast available. The number is 402-474-2080.

Quality Inn & Suites located immediately off of I-80 (7333 Husker Cir.) also offers rooms with two queen beds for \$89 or a king bed for \$84. If you need a block of 10 or more rooms, the rate goes down to \$79 for two queens or \$74 for one king. Continental breakfast available. The number is 402-435-8100.

Country Inn & Suites by Carlson (5353 N. 27th St.), also right off of I-80, is holding a block of 15 rooms until December 20 at a “Concordia University rate” of \$94.99 for two queen beds or one king. Continental breakfast available as well as a 10% discount at the Beacon Hills Grill and Bar. The number is 402-476-5353.



CONCORDIA
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2015 (Tentative) Tournament Schedule

We will adjust this schedule if entry sizes warrant different numbers of outrounds; 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 = EXT, INFO, ADS,
PRO, POE**

**Pattern B = IMP, PER, CA, DI,
POI, DUO**

SATURDAY, January 17th – Sleet Invite

7:45-9:00	REGISTRATION – Janzow
8:30	Extemp Draw
8:45	Round One: NFA L/D Debate
9:00	Round One: Pattern A
10:00	Round Two: NFA L/D Debate
10:15	Round One: Pattern B
11:30	LUNCH
12:15	Extemp Draw
12:30	Round Three: NFA L/D Debate
12:45	Round Two: Pattern A
1:45	Round Four: NFA L/D Debate
2:00	Round Two: Pattern B
3:15	Extemp Prep
3:30	Elim 1: NFA L/D Debate
3:45	IE Finals 1 & ALL IE Semis
4:45	Elim 2: NFA L/D Debate
5:00	IE Finals 2
6:30 or ASAP	AWARDS CEREMONY– TLEC 115
ASAP	Additional debate elims as needed

SUNDAY, January 18th – Snow Invite

****Students compete in IE OR Debate****

7:30-8:00	REGISTRATION – Janzow
8:00-8:30	WORSHIP SERVICE – Weller
8:45	Extemp Draw/ Parli Rd 1 Announce
9:05	Parli Round 1
9:15	Round One: Pattern A
10:05	Parli Rd 2 Topic Announce
10:25	Parli Round Two
10:30	Round One: Pattern B
11:30	LUNCH
12:15	Extemp Draw/ Parli Rd 3 Announce
12:35	Parli Round Three
12:45	Round Two: Pattern A
1:35	Parli Rd. 4 Topic Announce
1:55	Parli Round Four
2:00	Round Two: Pattern B
2:45	Parli Elims Start
3:15	Extemp Draw—Finals
3:45	IE Finals 1 & ALL IE Semis
5:00	IE Finals 2
6:30 or ASAP	AWARDS CEREMONY– TLEC 115