Dear Colleagues,

The SRJC Growling Bear Cubs are pleased to invite you to the Santa Rosa Invitational Forensics Tournament, which will be held on October 7-8, 2016, in Sonoma's beautiful wine county. The tournament will be held on the Santa Rosa Junior College campus, 1501 Mendocino Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95401. Please, do not exit in Petaluma and try to compete at SRJC’s Petaluma campus. You’ll be the best team there, but you’ll be alone!

We will continue with the two day format of the past few years. On Friday, we will offer four preliminary rounds of parliamentary debate and elimination rounds, as permitted by National Parliamentary Debate Association rules. On Saturday, there will be two preliminary rounds of pattern A and B individual events, with final rounds for each event. In addition, we will offer four rounds of NFA-LD with two elims.

**Please Note: Saturday competitors may enter NFA-LD and Pattern A individual events. As a result, we will double flight NFA-LD rounds 1-2 and also rounds 3-4. Students may choose to enter only individual events, Pattern A and/or B. Alternatively, they may enter only NFA-LD or both NFA-LD and Pattern A. However, students may not compete in NFA-LD and Pattern B individual events!**

Key tournament administration sites and posting locations are mostly the same as in recent years**,** in the Bertolini building. **Those functions and rooms are: Tab Room and Registration is Bertolini 4643 (Center for Student Learning), Judge’s Ballot Pick-Up Room is Bertolini 4638 (The Senate Chambers), the Extemporaneous Speaking Preparation is Bertolini 4608 (The Student Activites Center), and Postings of Event Rooms and Times are on the main glass windows, facing toward the open quad area. If it rains, postings will be in the Bertolini Cafeteria 4612. The awards ceremony will also be held in the Bertolini Cafeteria 4612.** Let’s hope for a dry two days! It can rain on Sunday.

The **Tournament Hotel** continues to be the **Best Western Inn,** located at 6500 Redwood Drive, Rohnert Park (approximately five miles south of Santa Rosa, off Highway 101). Their phone number is (707) 584-7435. Rooms are $81, plus tax ($92.34 total), for 1-4 occupants per room. The price includes a free continental breakfast with waffles, cereal, muffins, coffee, juice, etc. **To guarantee your room and rate, you need to reserve rooms by Monday, September 26, 2016. However, we strongly recommend you make your reservations early, ASAP. The recent addition of a casino in Rohnert Park has made lodging more competitive than years past. NOTE: When *either* the room block sells out or Tuesday, September 27, 2016 arrives, the hotel may cancel the discounted rate of $81 per night and charge the standard, $154/$140, plus tax! Please, call and reserve rooms ASAP!!! Thank you.** ***When registering, ask for the “SRJC Speech Tournament” special rate.***

**Directions to the Best Western Inn** **Hotel:**

If driving on the 101 South,exit on the Rohnert Park Express Way, turn right, then turn left on Redwood Drive.

If driving on the 101 North,exit on the Rohnert Park Express Way, turn left, then left again on Redwood Drive.

**Directions from the Best Western Inn** **to SRJC:** Get on highway 101, heading North. Exit on College Ave. and turn right. Drive until you can take a left on Mendocino Ave. The college is two miles down, on the left.

We eagerly anticipate hosting this venerable tournament, currently in its fourth decade of service to the forensics community. Our intention is to do everything possible to make your experience in wine country a pure joy. As your hosts, please, let us attempt to handle your concerns so you won’t have anything to *whine* about in beautiful wine country! We look forward to seeing you in Santa Rosa for two days under our beautiful oak trees. Travel safely.

Sincerely,

Hal Sanford (hsanford@santarosa.edu cell: (707) 508-7411), Mark Nelson, and Susan Houlihan

Santa Rosa Junior College is located at 1501 Menocino Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95401, just off the College Avenue exist, off Highway 101. **Parking** is available in the new Bailey Parking Structure or Emeritus Hall parking lot. You will need to ***buy*** a parking permit each day or you will be ticketed. Permit machines are located in the various parking lots. Please, only park in spaces between white lines, **not** yellow or red lines.

**registration Procedure**

Entries will be accepted on-line at forensicstournament.net. The system will accept entries and changes until noon on Thursday, October 6th, 2016, the day before the tournament begins. If you have drops or additions before this, you need to go to the site and make them yourself. As of noon on Thursday, October 6th, fees will be set and changes will not be allowed on-line. If you have drops after that date, please email them to me at **hsanford@santarosa.edu**. My cell is (707) 508-7411. Please note that drops after fees assessment are still charged.

**FEES**

Each college pays a $25 school fee.

Parliamentary debate teams, with a covering judge, will be assessed at $60 each.

NFA Lincoln-Douglas debaters, with a covering judge, will be assessed at $40 each.

Individual Event entries, including duo, with a covering judge, will be assessed $10.00 per slot.

Each uncovered parliamentary debate team is assessed an ***additional*** $100. That means a school pays $160 per uncovered team. We want your judges, not your extra fees!

Each uncovered NFA-LD entrant will be assessed $60, in addition to the $40 entry fee.

Each uncovered IE entry will be assessed $15, in addition to the $10 entry fee.

Fees are collected at registration and are based on the fee calculation when registration closed. If paying by check, please make the amount within $50 of your fees, calculated using the forensicstournament.net fee tab. I will be able to make some change but please realize I cannot act as a bank. Cash or exact amounts in a check are much appreciated. Checks should be payable to: "Santa Rosa Junior College Foundation". In the check's "For:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_" section, please write: "Speech Tournament." Thank you.

**Judging Commitments**

If judging both days, each debate critic could cover two parliamentary debate teams on Friday and two NFA-LD entries on Saturday. Each individual event critic covers six slots per pattern. However, **because individual events for Pattern B and NFA- LD debate run concurrently on Saturday, a single judge will be only able to meet the commitment for *either* IE Pattern B *or* NFA-LD, but not both**. Also, we strongly encourage schools to cover their judging commitments. Please bring judges that will be able to judge.

*Judges are expected to judge one round beyond the point their students are eliminated from competition*. Judges with students in elimination rounds who fail to pick up their ballots may have their students disqualified. Because of the difficulty of finding enough qualified debate judges, **we ask schools to bring judges to cover their teams. While some uncovered teams can be accommodated, our goal is to use your judges, not use your penalties to pay our hired judges.**  If you know you will have uncovered entries, please, notify us ASAP.

**COMPENSATION FOR HIRED JUDGES**

If you know of potential judges for hire, in addition to those required for your school’s commitment, please contact Hal Sanford at hsanford@santarosa.edu or (707) 508-7411. Judging I.E.s, Parli and NFA- LD pays $15 per round. As per school policy, I will need to pay out funds after the tournament, by check, through the SRJC Foundation, which requires a judge’s social security number, phone number, and address.

**Food**

While the tournament hotel provides a free hot buffet breakfast to customers, the tournament will not provide food. However, the SRJC Bertolini cafeteria is open until 2:00 pm on Friday, but it is closed Saturday. Within walking distance of campus, on the opposite side of Mendocino Avenue, there are numerous food options, including Mexican, Italian, Chinese, Indian, Subway, Deli, etc. These food options are easily and quickly accessible.

**AWARDS**

**School Sweepstakes**

1. **Overall Sweepstakes for 2 and 4 year colleges: Top three schools for each division**
2. **Debate sweepstakes: Top three schools, combined**
3. **IE Sweepstakes Top three schools, combined**

There will be two Sweepstakes Divisions: University and Community College. Awards will be given to the first, second, and third place schools in each division. Points are awarded as follows:

1. Individual Events: First = 10 pts; Second = 8 pts; Third = 6 pts; Finalist = 3 pts.
2. NFA-LD: Gold = 10 pts; Silver = 8 pts; Bronze = 6 pts;
3. Parli Debate: First = 20 pts, second = 16 pts; semis = 12 pts, quarters = 6 points; octo = 3 pts.

**Individual Awards**

Winning individual event and debate competitors will receive gold, silver, bronze, or finalist awards, as appropriate.

Additionally, individual open and novice speaker awards will be presented to parliamentary debaters.

**Jack Perella Top Speaker Award**

 This special award, named in honor of the man who contributed so much to SRJC forensics from the1960s through the 1990s. It will be given to the speaker who accumulates the most ***OPEN*** division sweepstakes points for her/his school. This is a change from past award calculations where novice points were included. We value achievement in novice division, as reflected in our awarding sweepstakes points without distinction between divisions. However, we wish to recognize the highest accomplishment for individual excellence in the open division. In debate events, students will earn half of the points that event produced, or 1/3 if on a three-person team. Ties will be broken based on most gold awards won. If necessary, further ties will be broken. For individual events (including duo), points will be awarded as follows: Gold – 10 points, Silver – 8 points, Bronze – 5 points, Finalist – 3 points. For debate points will be awarded as follows:1st – 10 points, 2nd – 8 points, Semis -5 points, Quarters – 3 points, Octos – 1 point.

SRJC is not eligible for school sweepstakes awards, but all its students may compete for all other awards.

**INDIVIDUAL EVENTS (Tabulation by Jim Dobson, Las Positas College)**

 We offer two preliminary rounds of Pattern A and Pattern B accompanied by the appropriate number of final rounds. For individual events, Saturday will feature 2 prelim rounds for both pattern A (Extemp, ADS, Prose, Poetry, and Informative) and pattern B (Impromptu, Persuasive, Communication Analysis, Dramatic Interpretation, POI, and Duo). Finals will be held for each pattern's events.

 NFA-LD will be offered as an alternative event to pattern B on Saturday. It will have 4 preliminary rounds, followed by two elimination rounds. **Students may enter pattern A and NFA-LD. However, students may not enter NFA-LD and pattern B!**

General Tournament Procedures for Individual Events:

1. There will be a novice and open division for all events. We reserve the right to collapse divisions if entries warrant. We will follow AFA and NCFA protocol regarding collapsed divisions.
2. AFA rules will govern each event.
3. Novice division is limited to students who are in their first year of college competition and have not placed in the top three at three tournaments. A student may go novice in a non-like event even if they are in a higher division in another event. For example, a student who is in open division in platforms event may still go novice in an interpretation event.
4. Competitors may enter up to three events in each pattern, but be warned: the tournament will make **NO** special accommodations for double or triple entered students who are late to a round. If you miss the judge because you are double or tripled entered you will **NOT** be able to make it up. Students may compete in two duos with two different partners.
5. Competitors may not use selections used in competition prior to September 1, 2016.
6. One critic covers six IE slots, per pattern. A single judge on Saturday ***MAY NOT*** cover both NFA-LD debate and Pattern B Individual Events because these run concurrently.

**DEBATE (Tabulation by Ryan Guy, Modesto College)**

**NPDA (governed by National Parliamentary Debate Association rules)**

1. A different resolution will be used each round.

2. The Team Parliamentary format shall be: 7-8-8-8-4-5.

3. There will be 4 preliminary rounds and the appropriate number elimination rounds, as permitted by NPDA.

4. There will be two divisions (Novice/Open). We will follow NPDA rules for eligibility. The student may not have

 more than two semesters of high school debate experience and must also be in the first two semesters of

 collegiate debate.

5. After topic announcement, teams will have twenty minutes to get to their respective rooms. Prepare as needed.

4. There will be no “Warm Room”. The official records will be kept in a closed tab room.

5. A strict 5 minute forfeit rule will be enforced. Teams should be in their room, ready to debate 20 minutes after topic announced. Any team not ready to debate 5 minutes after that 20 minutes has elapsed will be forfeited.

6. It is tournament policy that students should be prepared and willing to debate on either side of a topic. If a team refuses to debate a topic, it will be treated as a forfeit and the offending team will be given a loss and zero speaker points for that round.

7. Coaches, please instruct your judges as follows. Time blocks are 1 hour and 30 minutes for each round. It is expected that all parliamentary debates on Friday will be concluded in this time. That includes topic announce, the 20 minutes of prep, the debate itself and the completed ballot returned to the tab room. ONLY PROVIDE ORAL CRITIQUES AFTER THE COMPLETED BALLOT IS RETURNED!!! Please, instruct your judges to submit ballots ASAP or the tournament will grind to a halt! I’m going to be redundant here because this is vital: Please, instruct your judges to return their completed ballots ***before*** launching into an oral critique. Decisions may be disclosed and oral critiques provided ***after*** ballots are submitted. Directors, inform your judges!

8.Special Parliamentary Debate Teams

A. Three person Teams

Schools with an odd number of debaters may enter a three person team. The coach may select which two debaters participate in each round. For purposes of speaker awards, points will not be averaged for rounds, if any, a speaker misses. In other words, if debater A makes all four rounds, his points are totaled for speaker awards. Debaters B and C, each of whom did not compete in all four rounds, will only be eligible for an award earned through their actual earned points, whether that is one, two, or three actual competition rounds.

B. Hybrid Teams

A hybrid team may be allowed, at the tournament director’s discretion, if the directors of both programs involved in the partnership agree, e.g. Chabot and DVC. The intent of this rule is to allow debaters who have no available partner at their school to participate in the tournament. If a hybrid team member is matched against a team from his/her own school in elimination rounds, the higher seeded team will automatically advance. No brackets will be broken in this instance.

C. Maverick Debaters are NOT allowed. All debate teams must consist of two individuals. No 2-on-1.

**NFA-LD (governed by NFA-LD rules)**

1. For NFA-LD the debate proposition for the current academic year shall be used. You know, about the moon.

2. The format shall be: 6-3-7-3-6-6-3 with 4 minutes running prep time per person.

3. There will be 4 preliminary rounds and two elimination rounds.

4. There will be two divisions (Novice and Open). We will follow NFA-LD rules for eligibility. We reserve the right to collapse if necessary.

5. A 5 minute forfeit rule will be strictly enforced. Any team not ready to debate 5 minutes after the scheduled

 start time forfeits unless the delay has been created by the tournament.

6. Time blocks are 1 hour and 45 minutes for each double-flight round (two rounds). This includes debating, returning the ballot, and any oral critique AFTER returning the ballot. Disclosure of decision is permitted. Please, observe these time requirements! We do not want the entire tournament to be late because of one or two critic’s lengthy oral critiques! Return the ballot BEFORE beginning the critique! Directors, inform your judges!

**Debate Elimination Round Advancement and Seeding will be based on the following (Brackets will be broken for debate events, except for hybrid teams, as explained above.)**

1. won-lost record, 4. adjusted speaker points (dropping double high-low)

 2. adjusted speaker points (dropping high-low) 5. strength of opponents’ record

 3. overall speaker points 6. opponents’ points

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

One final note. The administration, faculty, and staff of Santa Rosa Junior College are committed to providing a safe and pleasant tournament experience. For the protection, comfort, and enjoyment of all, we urge each tournament attendee, be they competitor, coach, judge, or guest, to conduct themselves with dignity and respect for others.

**Guidelines for Maintaining a Professional and Respectful Educational Environment:**

All tournament attendees are to be protected from an intimidating, hostile, or threatening work or educational environment. All attendees will be held to the standards established by [California Education Code 212.5](http://law.onecle.com/california/education/212.5.html) and/or [Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972](http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/tix_dis.html).  Failure to follow these guidelines may result in being removed from the tournament and/or being disqualified from the round in question.  All incidences of such violations should be reported to the tournament director, Hal Sanford.

**SCHEDULE**

**Friday, October 7th, Parliamentary Debate Schedule:**

7:00 to 7:45 am…….….…Registration

8:00 am…………….….…Round 1 - topic announce; round begins 20 minutes later.

9:30 am..............................Round 2 - topic announce; round begins 20 minutes later.

11:00 am............................Round 3 - topic announce; round begins 20 minutes later.

12:30 pm............................LUNCH

1:30 pm..............................Round 4 - topic announce; round begins 20 minutes later.

3:00 pm..............................Elimination round 1 - topic announce; round begins 20 minutes later.

4:30 pm………..................Elimination round 2 – topic announce; round begins 20 minutes later.

6:00 pm…………………..Elimination round 3 – topic announce; round begins 20 minutes later.

7:30 pm…………………..Awards

**Saturday, October 8th, I.E. and NFA-LD schedule:**

**Individual Event Patterns:**

A: Extemporaneous, ADS, Prose, Poetry, Informative

B: Impromptu, Persuasive, Communication Analysis, Dramatic Interpretation, Duo, POI, ***or*** NFA-LD. **Note: A single student may not enter both Pattern B *and* NFA-LD debate.**

7:15-8:00 am……………..Registration

8:15 am .............................Extemporaneous Speaking Draw

8:30 am..............................Round 1, pattern A

9:45 am...............................Round 1, pattern B or **NFA-LD RD1 & RD2**

11:30 am.............................Extemporaneous Speaking Draw

11:45 am............................ Round 2, pattern A

12:45 pm.............................Lunch

1:45 pm...............................Round 2, pattern B OR **NFA-LD RD3 & RD4**

3:30 pm...............................Extemporaneous Speaking Draw for Finals

3:45 pm.............................. Pattern A Finals

5:00 pm…………………...Pattern B Finals & LD Semis

6:15 pm…………………. LD Finals & Awards