

Dear Forensic Colleagues,

The Webster University Forensic Program, Missouri Omega chapter of Pi Kappa Delta, and School of Communications invite you to the 23rd Gorlok Gala Forensic Tournament, to be held synchronously and virtually on January 29-31, 2021. We will be offering the 11 AFA individual events, plus Duo Improv along with open, junior and novice divisions of NFA-LD, NPDA and IPDA. There will also be an open division of Public Forum debate. We reserve the option of making last-minute schedule changes and apologize for the uncertainty and any inconvenience that may cause. **Special note—We will have IPDA this year only** as our campus is too small to host four debate divisions.

To help with our planning, we *must insist* on meeting our *Monday, January 25th entry deadline*.

We are also continuing two annual awards—a Webster Alumni Award and a Community Citizenship Award. Please see the descriptions in the invitation and consider submitting a nomination.

Please contact us with any questions. We hope to see each of you virtually in St. Louis for the Gorlok Gala!

Sincerely,

Gina Jensen
Director of Forensics
Tournament Director

Tom Serfass
Assistant Director of Forensics

John Wallis
President
MO Omega Chapter of PKD

2021 Gorlok Gala Forensic *Tentative* Tournament Schedule

All Times are Central Standard Time

Friday, January 29

7:45	Check in—Virtual Judges Lounge
8:45	Round 1, Lincoln- Douglas and IPDA (Draw and Debate Block)
10:30	Round 2, Lincoln-Douglas and IPDA
12:15	Round 3, Lincoln-Douglas and IPDA
2:00	Lunch
3:00	Round 4, Lincoln-Douglas and IPDA
4:45	Round 5, Lincoln-Douglas and IPDA
6:30	Round 6, Lincoln-Douglas and IPDA
8:15	Debate Awards

Saturday, January 30

7:30	Individual Events-Only Check in—Virtual Judges Lounge
8:00	Extemp Draw
8:30	Round 1, Individual Events “A” Elimination 1 LD
9:45	Round 1, Individual Events “B”, Elimination 1 IPDA
11:00	Extemp Draw
11:30	Round 2, Individual Events “A” Elimination 2 LD
12:30	Lunch
1:30	Round 2, Individual Events “B”, Elimination 3 LD, Elimination 2 IPDA
2:45	Extemp Draw
3:15	Finals, Individual Events “A”
4:45	Finals, Individual Events “B”, Elimination 4 LD, Elimination 3 IPDA
6:45	IE Awards
7:30	Elimination Round 5 LD, Elimination 4 IPDA

Sunday, January 31

7:30	Check in—Virtual Judges Lounge
8:00	NPDA Topic Announcement
8:20	Round 1 NPDA and Public Forum
9:30	NPDA Topic Announcement
9:50	Round 2 NPDA and Public Forum
11:00	Lunch
11:45	NPDA Topic Announcement
12:05	Round 3 NPDA and Public Forum
1:15	NPDA Topic Announcement
1:35	Round 4 NPDA and Public Forum
2:50	NPDA Topic Announcement
3:15	Round 5 NPDA and Elimination Round 1 Public Forum
4:30	NPDA Topic Announcement
4:50	Elimination Round 1 NPDA and Elimination Round 2 Public Forum
6:15	Debate Awards
6:45	NPDA Topic Announcement
7:05	Elimination Round 2 NPDA and Elimination Round 3 Public Forum
8:15	NPDA Topic Announcement
8:35	Elimination Round 3 NPDA

General Tournament Notes

Awards

Awards will be presented to all students reaching elimination rounds--including duplicate awards for dramatic duo, improvisational pairs, public forum debate, IPDA and parliamentary debate. Pentathlon, debate speaker, and outstanding novice individual event awards will also be presented. Additionally, sweepstakes awards will be given to the top three teams in individual events, debate, and overall sweepstakes (a school must be entered in debate and individual events to be eligible for overall sweepstakes). Awards will also be given to the Pi Kappa Delta chapter and two-year school earning the most sweepstakes points.

Student Eligibility

Students must be currently enrolled at the college or university for which they are competing. Students may not have attended a collegiate national forensic/debate tournament in four or more academic years **OR** completed eight semesters of collegiate competition. A semester is defined as having competed in more than two tournaments. **Either** of these standards being met (eight semesters of college competition or four years of collegiate national tournament participation) will render a student ineligible to compete in this tournament.

Local Host Entries

Webster University may enter some events, although host entries will be very limited. Competing Webster students will be eligible for awards.

Sweepstakes

Points will be awarded to a school's top three individual event entries per event and top six debate entries total (Lincoln-Douglas and IPDA entries will count as half debate entries). ALL of a school's elimination round entries will count toward sweepstakes. The points system will be:

IEs	3-2-1 for a 1, 2 or 3 rank in preliminary rounds 1 for all semifinalists 6-5-4-3-2-1 for 1st through 6th or 7th in finals
Debate	7 points per win, up to 4 wins per team/LD entry 7 points per advancement to elimination rounds for teams and LD entries

Fees and Judging

The tournament fees schedule is...

IE entries (including duos)	\$ 10.00
Parliamentary debate teams	\$ 60.00
Public Forum debate teams	\$ 50.00
Lincoln-Douglas entries	\$ 40.00
IPDA entries	\$ 40.00
Uncovered IE entries	\$ 10.00 plus entry fee
Uncovered parliamentary debate teams	\$100.00 plus entry fee
Uncovered public forum debate teams	\$ 80.00 plus entry fee
Uncovered Lincoln-Douglas entries	\$ 80.00 plus entry fee
Uncovered IPDA entries	\$ 80.00 plus entry fee
Changes after Wednesday, January 27 th	\$ 10.00 per change
Changes at registration check in	\$ 25.00 per change
Dropped judge after Thursday, January 28 th	\$100.00 per judge

One individual events judge will cover ten entries. One debate judge will cover two teams/L-D/IPDA entries.

A single judge may cover the following:

- Two LD/IPDA entries, 10 IE entries, and/or two NPDA/Public Forum teams.

A judge may not cover:

- both LD/IPDA and Flight B IE entries.

Judges covering both debate and IE's must identify their preference between flight B IE's and LD/IPDA.

For purposes of clarification one NPDA team will require three rounds of coverage since an odd number of preliminary rounds are being offered. A single judge may **not** cover both L-D/IPDA and flight B individual event entries. Schools needing to hire a substantial number of judges should contact the tournament director before tournament week. PLEASE--we would rather have your judges.

Special note regarding LD judges and uncovered LD entries...because of consistently having an overwhelming number of uncovered LD entries, we must insist at least half of any school's LD entries are covered. We will turn away entries not meeting this request. For example, a school with 12 LD entries must provide at least three judges who are able to cover LD commitments; with only three judges we will not accept a 13th entry. There are absolutely no exceptions to this rule.

Please make your checks payable to "Webster Forensics". They can be mailed to :

Gina Jensen
School of Communication
Webster University
470 E. Lockwood
St. Louis, MO 63119

Please e-mail Gina with any questions at jensen@webster.edu

Virtual Judging

We ask that all judges go to the virtual round once they see their assignment for the current round and accept their ballot immediately. This will allow us to know that the round is covered and that we don't need to seek out a standby judge. Judges may wait for the round time to enter the video round. If coaches, judges, or students need help, go to the virtual help desk and someone will help you. We will also have a virtual judges' lounge where judges are asked to go and wait on standby in case they are needed.

Entry Deadlines and Instructions

This year's Gorlok is using the tournament entry services at www.forensictournament.net. The invitation, tournament notes, and tournament entry are all located at this site. Search for **Webster University Gorlok Gala**. Schools not using this service in the past will need to enter a roster of students and judges prior to entering the tournament. For those who have used Forensictournament.net in the past, please be sure update your roster for all students and judges to make sure that e-mail addresses and phone numbers are current and have been verified

before the day of the tournament. Please also check that all judges' ballots are changed from "paper" to "e-mail". This will allow judges to get their ballots. This site will also allow schools to view the entire tournament entry. *All schools must submit entries on www.forensictournament.net by Monday, January, 25th. Entries will not be accepted in any other form.*

Fees are assessed at **7:00 pm CST Tuesday, January 26th**. Direct questions to Gina Jensen at jensen@webster.edu.

Individual Events Notes

Events/Flights

All 11 AFA-NIET events plus improvisational pairs will be offered in two flights.

Flight A--extemp, persuasive, impromptu, dramatic, poetry, improvisational pairs

Flight B--prose, informative, poi, duo, after-dinner, communication analysis

Rules

AFA rules will be followed for all events. Students should not enter material that has been used in competition before September 1, 2020.

Extemp topics will be taken from socio-political, international, and economic areas. Each round will be one of these three. In the instance that the tournament holds semifinals, final round topics will be **editorial cartoons**. There will be a virtual draw room for students to get their topics. They do not need to prep in the draw room.

Students in impromptu will have a choice of two topics that will vary by round and section. Topics will be selected from philosophical quotations and song lyrics. Students competing in impromptu should wait in the impromptu waiting room for their turn to speak. The judge should either assign the previous speaker to get the next speaker or the judge should themselves go to the virtual impromptu waiting room to get the speaker.

The event description for **improvisational pairs** is as follows:

DUO IMPROVISATION

EVENT RULES: Preparation time is four minutes. Preparation time is separate from performance time.

Performance time is a maximum of six minutes with a 30-second grace period. The judge should clarify with the students before they begin how time signals will be communicated and must then give hand signals as the contestants are performing to help them stay within the time limit. Students MAY time themselves. No make-up, costumes, props, or lighting are permitted, but a table and / or two chairs may be used. Doors and walls are considered props and must not be used. The scene must contain only two characters with equal sharing of dialogue. An introduction by one or both students is **REQUIRED** to set the scene, and a resolution of the conflict must be evident at the end of the scene. Excessive profanity, sexual innuendo, or excessive physicality (i.e. pushing, shoving, and striking) will not be tolerated. Contestants are to remain in the prep room until they

are called. Once they have finished with their performance they may remain in the room until the round is complete, but it is not required.

JUDGES: Judges for duo improv will go to the judges' lounge where they will receive a private message with characters, a situation, and a link to a waiting room. Judges will copy the text and report to their rounds, where they will go through time signal procedures with the competitors, and then dismiss everyone (except for the duo pair competing first) to the duo improv waiting room. Judges should then private message the competitors their characters and situation and begin prep time. After the duo pair is done, they should ask the judge for the names of the next contestants, and then go to the waiting room to acquire the next team. Judges should be aware that students may compete in the same room, may be wearing masks, or may compete in separate rooms. Please accommodate the needs of the students and recognize that they are bound by the rules established by their specific college or university, in particular when they compete in university or college academic or shared living spaces. Judges should not penalize students who have to compete in separate spaces, and we encourage judges to recognize that students will be interacting with each other differently than the duo teams who are competing in the same rooms.

COMPETITORS: GO TO YOUR DUO IMPROV ROOM FIRST! Check in with the judge on their time signals and then report to the waiting room to be called to your room. For those who are double or triple-entered, have a clear plan with your partner of each other's events and order. Keep your duo improv judge informed of your plans. If you are listed first or second in the round, you should plan on doing duo improv **FIRST** unless your judge excuses you to other events. Keep in mind that you may keep more than one 8x8 room open in your browser at the same time.

Competitors in duo improv may perform in the same room, masked or unmasked, depending upon the rules of their college or university. Students may also compete in separate rooms. Students who compete in separate rooms should make arrangements for their own virtual preparation space during prep (for example, you can have a Zoom room open as well as 8x8). If this creates a hardship, please contact us and we will be happy to create a space on the platform for you to use.

Cross-Entering

Individual event competitors may enter up to 3 events per flight. We are, however, committed to running a tournament that stays on time. Critics will be instructed to not wait beyond the allotted ending time for each round. A student may enter only two duos and two improvisational pairs. We will make efforts to accommodate multiple entered students in flight A with early speaking positions in extemp.

Students in IPDA may enter both IE flights, with the caveat that any student who breaks in IPDA **must drop their flight B individual events**. Students may not enter both Lincoln-Douglas and IPDA debate, nor both NPDA and Public Forum debate. **Students competing in Lincoln-Douglas may not enter IE's.**

Elimination Rounds

Semi-finals will be held in all events with 50 or more entries. Semi-final round brackets will be seeded into unbroken brackets. Final place finishes will be determined based on (1) majority of 1's, (2) ranks, (3) judges' preference, (4) points, and (5) seedings.

Pentathlon

In an attempt to reward diversity in competitive excellence, students must enter a **minimum of three events** and compete in **public address, limited preparation, and interpretation events** to be eligible for pentathlon. A maximum of five events will count toward a student's pentathlon score.

Novice Awards

The top novice in each AFA event will be given a special award. To be eligible, the student should be in his/her first collegiate year in the appropriate genre of event (public address, interpretation, or limited preparation).

IMPORTANT IE JUDGING NOTE: In addition to the obligation of the final round in each flight, all judges are obligated for any semifinal rounds in either flight. Again, **all individual event judges** are obligated for final rounds, regardless of whether or not they are used in or qualify students for semi-final rounds. All judges are clean in outrounds.

Debate Notes

Divisions Defined

Any student may enter an open division. Junior division is open to students in their first four semesters of collegiate debate (of any kind). Novice division is open to students with less than two semesters of any debate at any level (high school or college).

NFA Lincoln-Douglas

An open, junior, and novice division of NFA Lincoln Douglas will be offered. Debates will use a 6-3-7-3-6-6-3 format with 4 minutes of preparation. We will use the 2020-2021 NFA LD topic. All divisions will adhere to the NFA rules for Lincoln-Douglas debate.

IPDA

An open, junior, and novice division of IPDA will be offered. Debates will use a 5-2-6-2-3-5-3 format with 30 minutes of preparation. Students and judges should go immediately to the video round once pairings have been posted. Judges will flip a coin and strike resolutions with the competitors and then will allow them 30 mins to prepare. All divisions will adhere to the IPDA rules for debate. More information can be found at <http://www.ipdadebate.info/constitution--bylaws.html>

Parliamentary

An open, junior, and novice division of NPDA debate will be offered. Parliamentary rounds will follow suggested **NPDA** guidelines except where our tournament invitation outlines alternative procedures and policies. In instances wherein NPDA rules are inconsistent with rules of other associations, NPDA rules will be enforced. The 7-8-8-8-4-5 format will be followed with 20 minutes of pre-round preparation. The tournament will also allow flex time as described by NPDA. An open, junior, and novice division of NPDA debate will be offered. Topics will be announced via e-mail through forensictournament.net. **VERY IMPORTANT...**we are committed to an efficient, on-time schedule. It is imperative that debaters respect the schedule so announcements can be sent out on time. This means...

- a two-minute grace period, meaning 22 minutes after topics are announced time begins for each debate

- teams not in their rooms, ready to debate, at the 22-minute point will be forfeited
- critics not in their rooms within 22 minutes of topic announcement have their top seeded team forfeited from that given round
- topics will be blasted via e-mail soon after all ballots have been returned

Only the tournament invitation, NPDA constitution and by-laws, NPDA national tournament procedures, and materials prepared during the 20-minute preparation time period prior to the round may be brought into the debating chambers. There are no restrictions on pre-round coaching or consultation of materials during the preparation period.

Public Forum

An open division of public forum debate will be offered. The public forum division will utilize the national public forum topic released in January.

- Philosophy:** Public Forum focuses on advocacy of a position derived from the issues presented in the resolution. Competitors in this team event advocate or reject a position posed by a resolution (prepared by the College Public Forum committee and distributed via the IE-L). The clash of idea must be communicated in a manner persuasive to the non-specialist or “citizen judge”, i.e. a member of the American jury. Public Forum should:
 - **Display solid logic, lucid reasoning, and depth of analysis.**
 - **Utilize evidence without being driven by it.**
 - **Present a clash of ideas by countering/refuting arguments of the opposing team (rebuttal)**
 - **Communicate ideas with civility, clarity, organization, eloquence, and professional decorum.**
- This is not a debate event, per se, and as such, teams do not have prime facie burdens or the burden of rejoinder. Instead, teams are asked to advocate for (pro) or against (con) the ideas and policies represented within the resolution.
- Since this is not a debate event, in the traditional sense, teams are prohibited from utilizing plans (formalized comprehensive proposals for implementation), counterplans and kritiks (off-topic arguments). Multiple competitive venues exist for the application of these argumentative strategies.
- Procedure and order of speeches:** Prior to EVERY round and in the presence of the judge(s), a coin is tossed by one team and called by the other team. The team that wins the flip may choose one of two options: EITHER the SIDE of the topic they wish to defend (pro or con) OR the SPEAKING POSITION they wish to have (begin the debate or end the debate). The remaining option (SIDE OR SPEAKING POSITION) is the choice of the team that loses the flip. Once speaking positions and sides have been determined, the debate begins (the con team may lead, depending on the coin flip results). Note: The round begins at the conclusion of the coin flip/sides/positions discussion. Contestants may not leave the room or consult with coaches after the coin flip, which begins the round.
 - First Speaker – Team A 5 minutes
 - First Speaker – Team B 5 minutes
 - Crossfire (first question by speaker A1) 3 minutes
 - Second Speaker – Team A 5 minutes
 - Second Speaker – Team B 5 minutes
 - Crossfire (first question by A2) 3 minutes
 - Summary – First Speaker – Team A 3 minutes
 - Summary – First Speaker – Team B 3 minutes

- Closing Arguments – Second Speaker – Team A 3 minutes
 - Closing Arguments – Second Speaker – Team B 3 minutes
 - Prep Time 2 minutes per team
- e. **Timing:** Judges and/or debaters should keep track of speaking time.
- f. **Plans/Counterplans:** In College Public Forum, neither side is permitted to offer a plan nor a counterplan (formalized comprehensive proposal for implementation). Instead, each team should offer reasoning to support a position of advocacy. Debaters may offer generalized, practical solutions.

Breaking Brackets, and Sexual Harassment

The tournament will not break brackets for elimination rounds. The tournament will adhere to the NPDA statement on sexual harassment, as well as the Pi Kappa Delta Statement on Discrimination.

Elimination Rounds and Speaker Awards

Appropriate elimination rounds will be held in accordance with the standards of the national organizations sanctioning the respective debate divisions. Teams/Debaters advancing will be determined and seeded based on (1) win/loss record, (2) adjusted points, (3) total points, (4) double adjusted total points, and (5) opposition record. Brackets will not be broken. All winning records will advance in all divisions.

Speaker awards will be determined based on (1) adjusted points, (2) total points, (3) double adjusted points, (4) z-score, and (5) speaker ranks.

Power-Matching

Rounds will be power-matched beginning with round three. Rounds three and five will be hi/hi while four and six will be hi/low within brackets.

Cross-Entering

Students in Lincoln-Douglas and IPDA debate may enter both patterns of IE's but those advancing will be dropped from all B flight events in order to debate. Students may not enter both Lincoln-Douglas and IPDA Debate, nor both NPDA and Public Forum Debate.

IMPORTANT DEBATE JUDGING NOTE: In addition to the obligation of the first elimination round after the point at which a school's competitors are eliminated, all judges are obligated for the first *full* elimination round for all formats in which they have debaters. If partial elimination rounds are held and a judge is assigned to that round, s/he *remains* obligated for the next elimination round.

Tournament Speech Statement

The Gorlok Gala affirms the importance of all tournament participants' cooperation in creating an educational and competitive environment that is fair, humane and responsible while, at the same time, encouraging debates that are devoted to full and robust argument about a diverse range of ideas. Specifically, this tournament affirms that:

1. Judges and students are encouraged to talk about the expectations that they have for creating a debate that focuses on ideas instead of personal attacks.
2. Debaters are encouraged to communicate with respect, not attacking each other or the judge.

3. Judges are encouraged to communicate with respect, not attacking or devaluing students.
4. Debaters and judges are encouraged to reject discourse which devalues other members of our community based on their race, age, gender, class, sexual or religious orientation, or any reason that is not directly related to the arguments that they present.
5. Students and judges are encouraged to communicate with each other when they observe instances of verbally aggressive attacks rather than silently watching something happen before them to which they object.
6. Judges are encouraged to reward courteous and respectful behavior toward the judge and other competitors in awarding speaker points.
7. If serious and/or repeated demeaning speech materially or substantially disrupts the opportunity for debaters to compete fairly or the judge to evaluate fairly, judges are encouraged to dock speaker points or give a team a loss.

Bartanen, K. & Hanson, J. (1994). Advocating humane discourse. *The Forensic of Pi Kappa Delta*, 80, 16-22.

Webster Outstanding Forensic Alumni Award

An annual award will be presented each year to an alumna of the Webster University forensic and debate program. The winner will be selected from a list of nominees submitted by any individual familiar with the Webster forensic program. Nominees should be past members of the Webster University forensic and debate program and be committed to forensics as important life-preparation. This commitment should be a focus of any nomination for the award.

Nominations should include identification of the potential award winner, as well as a letter of support. There is no limit to the volume of support material that will be accepted in support of a single nomination.

2013—Ryan Louis

2015—Jason Roach

2017—Melissa Benton & Justin Raymundo

2019---Andy Hobin

2014—Deanna Beaton

2016—Kim Runnion

2018—Sierra Weber

2020—Kirby Weber

Community Forensic Citizenship Award

An annual award will be presented each year to a non-student member of the forensic community who advances the benefits of forensics in the broadest of terms. This should include but is not limited to outstanding teaching/coaching and service.

Nominations should include an identification of the potential award winner as well as a letter of support. There is no limit to the volume of support material that will be accepted in support of a single

nomination.

2013—Robert Markstrom, McNeese State University

2014—John Boyer, Lafayette College

2015—Kevin Minch, Truman State University

2016—Phillip Voigt, Gustavus Adolphus College

2017—M'Liss Hindman, Tyler Junior College & Scott Jensen, Webster University

2018—Gary Harmon, Kansas Wesleyan

2019—Jack Rogers, University of Central MO

2020—Richard Paine, North Central College

Nomination Procedures

Nominations should be submitted to Gina Jensen at jensen@webster.edu. All nominations should be received by Monday, January 25, 2021 to receive full consideration. Community Forensic Citizenship Award nominating packets will be distributed to a reading committee of intercollegiate forensic educators. Webster Outstanding Forensic Alumni Award nominating packets will be distributed to a reading committee of Webster alumni, students, and non-forensic faculty. Both awards will be presented at the Gorlok awards ceremony.