

**THE WESTERN STATES COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION FORENSICS
TOURNAMENT**

February 17-19, 2023

Hosted by

Arizona State University



Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Western States Communication Association and Arizona State University, we invite you to Phoenix, Arizona for the WSCA Forensics Tournament. The tournament will be held on February 17-19, 2023. This year, we plan to offer in-person competition opportunities in individual events, IPDA, NPDA, NFA-LD, and BP.

As the only remaining tournament sponsored in conjunction with a regional communication conference, we also encourage attendees to participate in the WSCA Conference. On Friday, February 17, 2023, undergraduate students will have the opportunity to present their original research at the Undergraduate Scholars Research Conference (please see www.westcomm.org for submission deadlines and details). Additionally, the Western Forensics and Argumentation interest group will sponsor a showcase of IE events during the WSCA convention.

We looking forward to seeing you in Phoenix!

Averie Vockel
WSCA Speech Activities Coordinator
University of Utah

Professor Adam Symonds
Director of Forensics
Arizona State University

EVENTS

NPDA: Junior and Open Divisions (with sufficient entries).
NPDA format (7-8-8-8-4-5). Prep time 20 minutes, 2-2-1-1 Flex times.
No ‘maverick’ (partner-less) entries will be permitted.
NPDA eligibility guidelines will be followed.

Forfeiture Rule: Any team that is late to a round will have that time deducted from their team’s first speech (the PMC or LOC). When the full speech time has elapsed (7 or 8 minutes), the team in question will be forfeited. In the event both teams are late, both teams will have time deducted from their first speech. A universal timer will be made available at the time of topic announcement. Time deductions and forfeiture rules will be enforced by the judge assigned to the round.

IPDA: Junior and Open Divisions (with sufficient entries)
IPDA format (5-2-6-2-3-5-3). Prep time 30 minutes. Forfeit at 5 minutes.
IPDA rules and guidelines will be followed.

NFA LD: (6-3-7-3-6-6-3; 4 minutes prep)
One open division (with sufficient entries)

2022-2023 resolution is: “Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially increase restrictions on political campaigns for public office in one or more of the following areas: political communication, campaign spending, interest groups.”

BP: One open division (with sufficient entries)
BP Format (7-7-7-7-7-7-7). Prep time 15 minutes (No internet or coaching)
WUDC rules and guidelines will be followed.

Individual Events: Junior and Open Divisions (with sufficient entries). Competitors may enter a maximum of three events per pattern. Students with multiple entries in a pattern are responsible for getting to their competition rooms on time. Events with more than 30 participants will have a semifinal round. AFA competition rules and eligibility guidelines will be followed. In all IEs, a minimum of two rounds will be held.

Pattern A: Extemp, Informative, ADS, Prose, Duo, Poetry; NFA LD

Pattern B: Impromptu, Persuasive, CA, DI, POI; NFA LD

ELIGIBILITY

School/Team Eligibility

To compete at the tournament, students must be enrolled in a collegiate debate organization recognized by and in good standing with their home university. Tournaments are open to any

regularly enrolled undergraduate in a two-year or four-year college or university in good standing with and representing the school's debate team/club.

Contestant Eligibility

The eligibility guidelines of the respective sanctioning organizations for each competitive event will determine the eligibility of individual competitors to take part in the WSCA tournament. No contestant may enter the tournament unless representing a school/team that meets the requirements identified above.

ENTRY LIMITATIONS

Students may enter no more than three individual events per pattern; or they may participate in NFA LD debate. Students are responsible for making it to all rounds on time; if a student does not perform by the end of the scheduled round, they may be dropped from the event. ***A student may not enter both LD and IEs; they MAY enter IEs and NPDA Debate/BP Debate/IPDA Debate.***

JUDGING REQUIREMENTS

1. Each institution must provide adequate judging to cover their entries. Obligations are as follows:
 - a. One judge covers two NPDA or IPDA debate teams. One judge covers 6 IE slots per pattern OR two LD entries. For BP Debate, schools must provide N-1 judges (where N is the number of teams entered, but all schools must provide at least one judge).
 - b. All NPDA & NFA-LD judges are committed through the first full elimination debate and/or one round past their school's elimination from the tournament. All BP judges are obligated through finals. All IE judges are obligated through finals. All IPDA judges are obligated through finals.
 - c. We will try to keep judging pools separate, but may require judges to cover events outside their designated pool due to logistical constraints.
 - c. Failure of a school to meet its judging obligation may result in the withdrawal of that institution's students and/or the assignment of judging fees.
2. We will gladly hire you if you can judge beyond your commitment. If you know of qualified individuals who would like to be hired, please have them contact the Speech Activities Coordinator.
3. Disclosure: **Ballots must be submitted before disclosure.** Disclosure is at the discretion of the judge in debate rounds and critics may disclose as much or as little information as they see fit so long as it *does not interfere with the tournament schedule*. Delays caused by coaches/judges may, at the tournament director's discretion, result in penalties to that school's teams including removal from the tournament. We don't want to do it, so don't put us in a position where we would need to do it. NOTE TO JUDGES: All debate rounds must have one winner and one loser.

Practices and Standards

The WSCA Tournament subscribes to and will abide by the NPDA, WUDC, NFA and IPDA rules and bylaws for debate, and the AFA rules and bylaws for individual events.

Brackets will be broken in the pairing of elimination rounds of NPDA and NFA-LD. As per the IPDA bylaws, brackets will not be broken in IPDA.

AWARDS

Competitor Awards

At minimum, the WSCA tournament will recognize and provide awards for the finalists in each division of debate, the top three IE competitors in each IE event, and the top junior competitor in each IE event.

Tournament Sweepstakes

At minimum, sweepstakes awards will be awarded to the top two four-year and the top 2 two-year institutions competing in the WSCA tournament.

Sweepstakes awards will be based on the following point system:

IEs

1st Place IE: 10 points

2nd Place IE: 8 points

3rd Place: 6 points

IE Finalists: 4 points

IE Semi-Finalist: 2 points

Debate

Debate sweepstakes will be awarded 5 points for each preliminary win for the top four teams/entries from any one school in each division. In BP, a team that finishes in the top half of a debate will be credited with points for a win.

“Best in the West” Traveling Trophy

Each year, the WSCA Tournament will award one “Best in the West” award, a travelling trophy determined by most cumulative points from past WSCA tournaments, beginning with the 2019 tournament. Schools will total their overall sweepstakes points from each WSCA tournament, accruing a cumulative total throughout their years of participation. Each year, the school with the highest total will win this award and have their points convert to “0” entering the next year of the tournament.

TOURNAMENT FEES

School Fee	\$50.00 per school
BP Debate	\$50.00 per team
NPDA Debate	\$50.00 per team
IE's	\$8.00 per slot/\$16 for Duo
NFA-LD & IPDA	\$20.00 per debater
Hired Judges	\$75.00 per uncovered debate team
	\$15.00 per uncovered IE slot
	\$30.00 per uncovered LD debater

Fees will be assessed as of 10:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 14, 2023.

Please make checks payable to the Western State Communication Association and write “Forensics Tournament Fees” in the memo

ENTRY DEADLINE

Entries must be received by 10:00 p.m. MST on Tuesday, February 14, 2023. Changes will be allowed on ForensicsTournament.net until 11:00pm MST Wednesday, February 15, 2023.

Any changes after Wednesday, February 13, 2023 should be e-mailed to Averie Vockel at: avockel@gmail.com

Entries will be facilitated through ***ForensicsTournament.net***

Forensics Showcase

The Western Forensics and Argumentation interest group will sponsor a showcase of IE events during the WSCA convention. If you have students that might be able to participate in this event, please let us know at registration Friday afternoon.

Food

TBD

Lodging

There is not a ‘tournament hotel’ for the 2023 WSCA tournament, attendees may stay at the WSCA conference hotel (Hyatt Regency Phoenix). Information about conference rates can be found at: <https://www.westcomm.org/page/Convention>.

2023 WSCA TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

Friday, February 17th

1PM-1:45PM: Registration
2PM: NPDA/IPDA/BP Rd 1
4PM: NPDA/IPDA/BP Rd 2
6PM: NPDA/IPDA/BP Rd 3

Saturday, February 18th

7AM: Late registration for schools not competing in NPDA/IPDA/BP.
8AM EXT Draw
8:30AM: Pattern A round 1, LD Rd 1
10AM: Pattern B round 1, LD Rd 2
11:30AM: NPDA/IPDA/BP Rd 4
1:30PM-2:30PM: Lunch Break
2:30 PM: Pattern B round 2, LD Rd 3
4PM: NPDA/IPDA/BP Elim 1
6PM: NPDA/IPDA/BP Elim 2
7PM: NPDA/IPDA/BP Elim 3 (if needed)

Sunday, February 19th

8AM: Extemp Draw
8:30AM: Pattern A round 2, LD Rd 4
10AM: Pattern B Semis/Finals, LD Elim 1
10:30 AM- 11:45 AM: Forensics Spotlight Showcase (AT THE CONFERENCE)
11:00AM: Extemp Draw
11:30AM: Pattern A Semis/Finals, LD Elim 2
1:00PM: All remaining Finals, LD Elim 3 (if needed)
3:00PM or ASAP: Awards