

2025 NPDA Fall Championships

December 5th-6th, 2025 – hosted via Discord by Whitman College

Dear Colleagues,

The Forensics Team at Whitman College invites you to participate in the **NPDA Fall Championship Tournament** on **Friday, December 5th** and **Saturday, December 6th, 2025**. Competition will be held **virtually** and hosted on Discord. Preliminary rounds of competition will take place on Friday afternoon/evening and Saturday morning, with elimination rounds taking place on Saturday afternoon and evening. All teams with a winning record (3-2 and better) will advance to single-elimination debates.

The remainder of the details are provided below. Please contact me (weilerba@whitman.edu) if you have any questions. We hope that you will be able to join us virtually for an outstanding weekend of competition to conclude the Fall semester of NPDA debate.

For Whitman Forensics,

Baker Weilert, Director of Forensics
Whitman College

TOURNAMENT DETAILS

ENTRIES: Please submit your squad's entries by Tuesday, December 2nd at 6:00 pm (Pacific time) to www.forensicstournament.net. A complete entry includes not only the teams competing, but also the names (and availability) for each judge, and a complete judging philosophy for each critic. The tournament will charge \$50.00 per team. There are no additional fees, since programs cannot enter uncovered teams. Payments can be made via check, or by using FTN's payment link.

DIVISIONS: The tournament will offer 5 rounds of NPDA-style debate. Novice, Junior and Senior divisions will be offered. Division specifics are:

- Novice division is open to any debaters in their first semester of competition. Competitors who have high school experience in debate or other formats of oral argumentation (e.g., Mock Trial, Model Congress, Model UN) should not be entered into novice division.
- Junior division is open to competitors who have competed, in any format of intercollegiate debate, for more than 3 semesters. This division is intended for debaters who are in their second year of intercollegiate debate competition.

It is our intent to maintain distinct divisions, whenever possible. However, if the number of entries makes a division untenable, we will need to collapse it into another division.

JUDGING: Each program **MUST** cover all its entries. One full-time judge can cover two (2) NPDA teams. Debate judges are obligated for one elimination round past the elimination of their program's last team. All events will use e-ballots. Judges will need an email address or cell phone number where they can receive a link to their ballots, as well as a device with Internet access.

PAIRINGS: The first two rounds will be randomly matched. Subsequent rounds will be high-low power-matched. A limited number of judge strikes (approximately 15% of the judge pool) will be offered to schools whose judges have posted judging philosophies.

TIE BREAKERS: Teams will first be ranked by wins, followed by adjusted speaker points, total speaker points, opposition record and Z-Score. Per NPDA rules, brackets will be broken in elimination rounds.

AWARDS: The tournament will offer awards to both competitors and participating schools.

- **INDIVIDUALS:** All debaters advancing to elimination debates will receive an award. Additionally, the top 5 speakers in each division will be recognized. Awards will be mailed to winner during the week following the tournament.
- **SCHOOL:** The top 5 schools will be recognized, as well as the top 3 community college programs. Points are earned as follows:
 - *Preliminary Rounds:* Teams earn 2 points per preliminary round win. Each school's top four teams, regardless of division, will count toward school sweepstakes.
 - *Elimination Rounds:* Teams earn 2 wins per elimination round win. Each school's top four teams, regardless of division, will count toward school sweepstakes.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY, Dec 5		Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
Digital Check-In		1:30 PM	2:30 PM	3:30 PM	4:30 PM
ROUND 1	Pairings Released	2:00 PM	3:00 PM	4:00 PM	5:00 PM
	Motion Announced	2:10 PM	3:10 PM	4:10 PM	5:10 PM
	Debates Begin	2:35 PM	3:35 PM	4:35 PM	5:35 PM
	Ballots due to Tab	3:50 PM	4:50 PM	5:50 PM	6:50 PM
ROUND 2	Pairings Released	3:50 PM	4:50 PM	5:50 PM	6:50 PM
	Motion Announced	4:00 PM	5:00 PM	6:00 PM	7:00 PM
	Debates Begin	4:25 PM	5:25 PM	6:25 PM	7:25 PM
	Ballots due to Tab	5:40 PM	6:40 PM	7:40 PM	8:40 PM
DINNER BREAK		5:45 PM	6:45 PM	7:45 PM	8:45 PM
ROUND 3	Pairings Released	6:15 PM	7:15 PM	8:15 PM	9:15 PM
	Motion Announced	6:25 PM	7:25 PM	8:25 PM	9:25 PM
	Debates Begin	6:50 PM	7:50 PM	8:50 PM	9:50 PM
	Ballots due to Tab	8:05 PM	9:05 PM	10:05 PM	11:05 PM

SATURDAY, Dec 6		Pacific	Mountain	Central	Eastern
Digital Check-In		6:45 AM	7:45 AM	8:45 AM	9:45 AM
ROUND 4	Pairings Released	7:00 AM	8:00 AM	9:00 AM	10:00 AM
	Motion Announced	7:10 AM	8:10 AM	9:10 AM	10:10 AM
	Debates Begin	7:35 AM	8:35 AM	9:35 AM	10:35 AM
	Ballots due to Tab	8:50 AM	9:50 AM	10:50 AM	11:50 AM
ROUND 5	Pairings Released	9:00 AM	10:00 AM	11:00 AM	12:00 PM
	Motion Announced	9:10 AM	10:10 AM	11:10 AM	12:10 PM
	Debates Begin	9:35 AM	10:35 AM	11:35 AM	12:35 PM
	Ballots due to Tab	10:50 AM	11:50 AM	12:50 PM	1:50 PM
LUNCH BREAK		10:45 AM	11:45 AM	12:45 PM	1:45 PM
OCTOS	Pairings Released	11:15 AM	12:15 PM	1:15 PM	2:15 PM
	Motion Announced	11:25 AM	12:25 PM	1:25 PM	2:25 PM
	Debates Begin	11:50 AM	12:50 PM	1:50 PM	2:50 PM
	Ballots due to Tab	1:05 PM	2:05 PM	3:05 PM	4:05 PM
QUARTER	Pairings Released	1:30 PM	2:30 PM	3:30 PM	4:30 PM
	Motion Announced	1:40 PM	2:40 PM	3:40 PM	4:40 PM
	Debates Begin	2:05 PM	3:05 PM	4:05 PM	5:05 PM
	Ballots due to Tab	3:20 PM	4:20 PM	5:20 PM	6:20 PM
AWARDS CEREMONY		3:30 PM	4:30 PM	5:30 PM	6:30 PM
SEMI	Pairings Released	4:00 PM	5:00 PM	6:00 PM	7:00 PM
	Motion Announced	4:10 PM	5:10 PM	6:10 PM	7:10 PM
	Debates Begin	4:35 PM	5:35 PM	6:35 PM	7:35 PM
	Ballots due to Tab	5:50 PM	6:50 PM	7:50 PM	8:50 PM
FINALS	Pairings Released	6:15 PM	7:15 PM	8:15 PM	9:15 PM
	Motion Announced	6:25 PM	7:25 PM	8:25 PM	9:25 PM
	Debates Begin	6:50 PM	7:50 PM	8:50 PM	9:50 PM
	Ballots due to Tab	8:05 PM	9:05 PM	10:05 PM	11:05 PM

