

PSCFA Spring Championships

January 5th, 2026

Dear Colleagues:

On behalf of PSCFA, I am pleased to invite you to the PSCFA Spring Championship Tournament to be held at Moorpark College - February 20-22, 2026.

At the Fall Championship Tournament your students will be able to compete in:

- On Friday, February 20th, we will offer rookie, novice, junior, and senior divisions of NPDA Debate.
- On Saturday, February 21st, we will offer novice, junior, and senior divisions of NFA-LD and IPDA.
- On Sunday, February 22nd, we will offer novice, junior, and senior divisions of 12 individual events.

All entries are due by 6:00pm on Monday, February 16th, 2026. **YOU MUST USE THE WEB ENTRY SYSTEM.** Visit <http://www.forensictournament.net> to enter. Tournament Entry will be available beginning on Monday, February 2nd.

A Few Important Reminders:

- 1) Judges are expected to accept ballots as soon as they are notified through ftn.
- 2) Judges are encouraged to submit ballots ASAP after the round. Additional comments can be added to the ballots any time before the end of the tournament.
- 3) Drops after the Wednesday deadline do not alter a school's judging commitment.

New Rules for 2025:

- 1) **Code of Conduct** - Judges are expected to respect our students identities, including their identified pronouns, and to require students in their rounds to do the same. Intentional or repeated violations of this may result in removal of judge from the judging pool and/or forfeiture of the round where the violation occurs.
- 2) **Speed in Debate** - Rate of speed in debate rounds should not have a deleterious impact on other students ability to engage in the activity. Violations of this principle may result in the loss of the round in which the violation occurs.
- 3) **Coach of the Day Sign-In** - Each attending school must designate a "Coach of the Day." A sign-in sheet will be located at the judges table where coaches will list their name and contact information.
- 4) **Definitions of Division eligibility in debate have been adjusted as follows:**
 - a. **Rookie** - A student with no previous competitive experience in debate or individual events at any level.
 - b. **Novice** - A team comprised of debaters, neither of whom has participated in more than two semesters of debate and/or participated in elimination rounds at three or more debate tournaments or won any medal at CCCFA or Phi Rho Pi or won an elimination round award at the NPDA, CEDA or NDT National Championship Tournaments or any national championship tournament
 - c. **Junior** - A team comprised of debaters neither of whom has participated in more than four semesters of NDT/EDA or Parliamentary debate and/or who has not participated in elimination rounds of a

junior or open division of three CEDA and/or NDT and/or Parliamentary tournaments. A gold or silver medal at CCCFA or Phi Rho Pi or winning an elimination round award at the NPDA, CEDA or NDT National Championship Tournaments or any national championship tournament shall count as a final round.

5) Fees - A \$50 nuisance fee will be added to a school's tournament invoice if the school does not meet with the treasurer in-person prior to awards on the school's last competition day to: (1) obtain an invoice, and (2) confirm the anticipated method and timing of payment for fees and/or notify the treasurer that fees have been paid electronically. Ballots will not be made available to a school until the above conditions are met.

Attached, please find more detailed tournament information, a description of tournament rules, and procedures and entry forms. Please refer to the PSCFA Handbook for the newest information on Rules, available at www.pscfa.org.

If you have any questions please contact me at rpetrello@vcccd.edu

Rolland Petrello
Tournament Director

DEBATE – Friday, February 20th & Saturday, February 21st

Friday

Parliamentary Team Debate

We will offer four Divisions in Parliamentary Team debate, using the NPDA rules as guidelines. All Divisions (Rookie, Novice, Junior, and Senior) of Parliamentary debate will be held on **Friday**.

We will allow three person teams and hybrid teams according to PSCFA regulations. We will not allow one person to debate alone. In the event that one member of a team is unable to debate, the team will forfeit the round and both team members will receive zero speaker points for that round.

Parliamentary Team Debate times will be:

- First Proposition Constructive Speaker (7 minutes)
- First Opposition Constructive Speaker (8 minutes)
- Second Proposition Constructive Speaker (8 minutes)
- Second Opposition Constructive Speaker (8 minutes)
- Opposition Rebuttal by First Speaker (4 minutes)
- Proposition Rebuttal by First Speaker (5 minutes)

Saturday

International Public Debate Association (IPDA)

IPDA primarily utilizes a one-on-one debate format in which one debater takes the side of the affirmative and the other debater takes the side of the negative. For each round, the two debaters are given five possible resolutions. The negative begins the topic selection by striking one resolution and proceeds in a back-and-forth fashion until one resolution is left. After the topic has been selected, both debaters have thirty minutes to prepare a case. IPDA debate often utilizes lay judges to adjudicate the round and emphasizes conversational rhetoric. Visit ipdadebate.info to learn more. The speech times are:

- 1st Affirmative (5 minutes)
- Cross Examination (2 minutes)
- 1st Negative (6 minutes)
- Cross Examination (2 minutes)
- Affirmative Rebuttal (3 minutes)
- Negative Rebuttal (5 minutes)
- Affirmative Summary (3 minutes)

NFA LD

NFA Lincoln-Douglas Debate is a one-person, persuasive, policy debate on traditional stock issues. It is a communication event, by which we mean the philosophy of the activity is consistent with that which governs other individual events. Competitors in NFA Lincoln-Douglas will be evaluated on their analysis, use of evidence, and ability to effectively and persuasively organize, deliver, and refute arguments. Rapid-fire delivery, commonly called "spread delivery," is considered antithetical to the purpose and intent of this event.

• Affirmative Constructive	(6 minutes)
• Cross Examination	(3 minutes)
• Negative Constructive / First Negative Rebuttal	(7 minutes)
• Cross Examination	(3 minutes)
• First Affirmative Rebuttal	(6 minutes)
• The Negative Rebuttal	(6 minutes)
• The Second Affirmative Rebuttal	(3 minutes)

Debate Pairing: For all Debate Events, the first two rounds will be randomly matched. Power matching will be used in all subsequent rounds (time constraints may require some lag power matching). If 35% or more of the teams in junior or senior division come from the same school, then at the discretion of the tournament director, those teams from the same school could meet each other if meeting is necessary to run the event. If 25% or more of the teams in novice or rookie division come from the same school then, at the discretion of the tournament director, those teams from the same school could meet each other if meeting is necessary to run the event. When both teams are from the same school, we will allow the debate to be judged by a critic of the same school. For example, a CSULB vs. CSULB debate could be judged by a CSULB critic. However, we will make every reasonable effort to make sure that is not necessary.

Critic Responsibilities:

- We believe every debate in the tournament deserves attention from those critics assigned to listen. At a minimum, we expect our judges to give written criticisms. WE WILL NOT ACCEPT BALLOTS THAT SIMPLY STATE "ORAL CRITIQUE GIVEN."
- We also expect judges to return a ballot for each round to the teams entered. Thus, a packet will not be released until all judges representing that school have turned in ballots.
- Judges are also required to render a decision identifying a winner, loser, and speaker points for each debate round by the start of the next scheduled round.
- Judges should use respectful language on ballots.
- Judges should respect students identities and preferred pronouns at all times.

INDIVIDUAL EVENTS – Sunday, February 22nd

Double-Entered Guidelines: Students who are entered in more than one event per pattern are highly encouraged to sign in at the rounds they will go to. It is the responsibility of the student to make it to the round if he/she is double entered. If a student does not sign in to a round and then misses the round, the student will be considered a no-show.

Novice competitors may not double enter. Junior and Senior competitors may double enter in both patterns.

Pattern A

- **Informative Speaking:** An original, factual speech by the student on a realist subject to fulfill the general aim to inform the audience. Audio-visual aids may or may not be used to supplement and reinforce the message. Multiple sources should be used and cited in the development of the speech. Minimal notes are permitted. Maximum time is 10 minutes.
- **Prose Interpretation:** An original or selections of prose material of literary merit, which may be drawn from more than one source. Focus of this event is on the development of the narrative/story. Play cuttings and poetry are prohibited. Use of manuscript is required. Maximum time is 10 minutes including introduction.
- **Extemporaneous Speaking:** Contestants will be given three topics in the general area of current events, choose one, and have 30 minutes to prepare a speech that is the original work of the student. Maximum time limit for the speech is 7 minutes. Limited notes are permitted. Student will speak in listed order. Postings of topics will be staggered.
- **After Dinner Speaking:** An original, humorous speech by the student, designed to exhibit sound speech composition, thematic coherence, direct communicative public speaking skills, and good taste. The speech should not resemble a night club act, an impersonation, or comic dialogue. Audio-visual aids may or may not be used to supplement and reinforced the message. Minimal notes are permitted. Maximum time limit is 10 minutes.
- **Poetry Interpretation:** A selection or selections of poetry of literary merit, which may be drawn from more than one source. A primary focus of this event should be on the development of language. Play cuttings and prose works are prohibited. Use of manuscript is required. Maximum time limit is 10 minutes including introduction.
- **Cultural Artifact Speech:** to offer a discussion of some tangible aspect of culture. Five minutes maximum. Visual or audio aid required.

Pattern B

- **Impromptu Speaking:** An impromptu speech, substantive in nature, with topic selections varied by round and by section. Topics will be derived from quotations. Speakers will have a total of 7 minutes for both preparation and speaking. Timing commences with the acceptance of the topics sheet. Limited notes are permitted.
- **Duo Interpretation:** A cutting from one or more texts of literary merit, humorous or serious, involving the portrayal of two or more characters presented by two individuals. The material may be drawn from any genre of literature. This is not an acting event; thus, no costumes, props, lighting, etc, are to be used. Presentation is from the manuscript and the focus should be off-stage and not to each other. Maximum time limit is 10 minutes including introduction.
- **Communication Analysis:** An original speech by the student designed to offer an explanation and/or evaluation of a communication event such as a speech, speaker, movement, poem, poster, film, campaign, etc., through the use of rhetorical principles. Audio-visual aids may or may not be used to supplement and reinforce the message. Manuscripts are permitted. Maximum time limit is 10 minutes.
- **Drama Interpretation:** A cutting that represents one or more characters from a play or plays of literary merit. The focus of this event is on the development of characterization. This material may be drawn from stage, screen, or radio. Use of manuscript is required. Maximum time limit is 10 minutes including introduction.
- **Persuasive Speaking:** An original speech by the student designed to inspire, reinforce, or change the beliefs, attitudes, values or actions of the audience. Audio-visual aids may or may not be used to supplement and reinforce the message. Multiple sources should be used and cited in the development of the speech. Minimal notes are permitted. Maximum time limit is 10 minutes.
- **Program Oral Interpretation:** A program of thematically-linked selections of literary merit, chosen from two or three recognized genres of competitive interpretation (prose/poetry/drama). A primary focus of this event should be on the development of the theme through the use of narrative/story, language, and/or characterization. A substantial portion of the total time must be devoted to each of the genres used in the program. Different genre means the material must appear in separate pieces of literature (e.g., A poem included in a short story that appears only in that short story does not constitute a poetry genre.) Only one selection may be original. Use of manuscript is required. Maximum time limit is 10 minutes including introduction.

SWEETSTAKES: We will award trophies to the top schools in the following categories:

- 1) Four Year – Top Five
- 2) Two Year – Top Five
- 3) Novice (Combines Two and Four Year Schools) – Top Three
- 4) Limited Entry – Top Three

JUDGING

Judges for all events must meet qualifications outlined in the PSCFA Handbook. All judges must complete the PSCFA “FRED” Judge Certification BEFORE being able to judge.

Coaches shall insure the competency of all judges covering your commitment.

Judging Guidelines:

- A school may not utilize novice and junior only judges in a greater proportion than its novice and/or junior entry warrants.
- Failure of a judge to appear for a ballot in the debate events will result in the forced withdrawal of those entries covered by that judge..
- Drops after Wednesday, December 4th do not reduce a school’s judging commitment.

Debate Commitment: All schools must provide one judge for every two (2) team or NFA LD debate entries or fraction thereof. One judge must be provided for every three (3) IPDA entries or fraction thereof. UNCOVERED SLOTS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED FOR DEBATE (except at the discretion of the Tournament Director).

Individual Events Commitment: All schools must provide one judge for every **five** individual event slots per conflict pattern or fraction thereof.

IPDA Judging: The by-laws of IPDA recommend lay judges to help foster the spirit of a public debate where technical knowledge is not needed. With this in mind, non-experienced judges will be utilized in IPDA when possible. Please consider bringing non-specialized judges to cover your IPDA entry.

Judging Fees

Schools not meeting their judging commitment will be assessed the following fees:

- IE Slots Uncovered - \$ 40.00 per 1st four slots \$50 for each slot over
- NFA-LD/IPDA Debate Judges - \$150 per 1st four entries (if allowed*) \$200 for each subsequent uncovered entry
- Team Debate Judges - \$150 per 1st four teams (if allowed*) \$200 for each subsequent uncovered team

**Contact the Tournament Director for approval*

ENTRY DETAILS

Deadline: All entries are due by 6:00pm on Monday, February 16th, 2026.

ENTER FALL CHAMPS AT <http://www.forensictournament.net>

- Fees will be assessed on Wednesday, February 19th, 2026 at 6:00pm
- Adds after the Wednesday deadline will be at the discretion of the Tournament Director and fees will apply. (\$10 for IE / \$20 for debate).
- There will be a drop fee of \$5 for any drop after the Wednesday deadline until 30 minutes before the first round of competition.
- Drops after Wednesday, December 4th, do not reduce a school's judging commitment.

Registration

- There will be a registration adjustment period from 10:00-10:45 am on Friday, February 20th for ALL NPDA. Debaters must "sign-in" in at the sign in table (**Location TBA**) or they will be dropped.
- There will be a second registration adjustment period from 7:30-8:45 am on Saturday, February 21st for IPDA and NFA L/D Debaters. Debaters must "sign-in" in at the sign in table (**Location TBA**) or they will be dropped.
- There will be a third registration adjustment period for IE only schools from 8:00-8:45am on Sunday, February 22nd
- Coaches can avoid a no-show fee by reporting drops at these times.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

REGISTRATION: Sign In for debaters will take place in the Campus Center

JUDGES:

- Please accept your ballots as soon as you receive the notice.
- Please submit your ballot ASAP. You can always add more comments later in the day.

TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

Friday Schedule - Parli	
10:00 10:45	Debate Sign In
11:00	Topic Announce Rd 1 & 2
11:45	Pattern C - Rd 1
12:45	Pattern C - Round 2
1:30	Lunch Break
2:30	Pattern C -Round 3 Topic
4:00	Pattern C -Round 4 Topic
6:00	Pattern C - Elim 1 Topic
7:30	Pattern C - Elim 2 Topic
9:15	Awards

SATURDAY	IPDA NFA LD	
8:00	Senior NPDA Finals Topic Announce	
7:45am - 8:45am	<i>Debate Sign-in</i>	
NFA Start	IPDA Topic	
9:45	9:15	Rd 1 Flight A
	9:45	Rd 1 – Flight B
11:15	11:15	Rd 2 – Flight A
	11:45	Rd 2 – Flight B
12:30 – 1:30	Lunch	
1:15	1:15	Rd 3 – Flight A
	1:45	Rd 3 – Flight B
3:00	3:00	Rd 4 – Flight A
	3:30	Rd 4 – Flight B
5:00	5:00	Elim 1 – Flight A
	5:30	Elim 1 – Flight B
6:45	6:45	Elim 2
8:15		Awards

SUNDAY	Individual Events
8:00 - 8:45 am	IE Drop Period
8:45 am	Extemp Draw - Round 1
9:00 am	Pattern A - Round 1
10:30 am	Pattern B - Round 1
11:45 am	Extemp Draw - Round 2
12:00 pm	Pattern A - Round 2
1:00 – 2:00	Lunch
2:00 pm	Pattern B - Round 2
3:15 pm	Extemp Draw - Finals
3:30 pm	Pattern A – Finals
5:00 pm	Pattern B – Finals
7:00 (or ASAP)	Awards

PSCFA FALL CHAMPIONSHIPS FEE SHEET

School: _____

Director of Forensics: _____

Home/Cell Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

PLEASE MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO "PSCFA."

	Slots	Fee	Total
PSCFA Dues	1	\$60.00	\$60.00
Facilities Fee	1	\$35.00	\$35.00
School Fee \$35 for 1-5 students, \$40 for 6-10 students, \$45 for 11+ students	1		
Wellness surcharge (Choose your number of students below – pattern continues) \$20.00 for 1-5 students, \$25.00 for 6-10 students, \$30.00 for 11-15 students, \$35.00 for 16-20 students, \$40.00 for 21-25 students, \$45.00 for 26-30 students, \$50.00 for 31-35 students, \$55.00 for 36-40 students, \$60.00 for 41-45 students \$65.00 for 46-50 students, \$70.00 for 51-55 students, \$75.00 for 56-60 students,	1		
Entry Fees			
LD/IPDA		\$15.00	
Parli/BP		\$25.00	
Pattern A		\$9.00	
Pattern B		\$9.00	
Duo Interp		\$18.00	
Judging Fees			
NFA/IPDA		\$150 per 1 st 4 entries	
		\$200 for addt'l entries	
Parli/BP		\$150 per 1 st 4 entries	
		\$200 for addt'l entries	
Pattern A IE's		\$40 per entry 1 st 4 entries	
		\$50 for addt'l entries	
Pattern B IE's		\$40 per entry 1 st 4 entries	
		\$50 for addt'l entries	
Nuisance Fees			
No Show – Debate		\$40.00	
No Show – IE's		\$20.00	
Nuisance – Debate (Drop morning of)		\$10.00	
Nuisance – IE's (Drop morning of)		\$5.00	
No Show – Judge		\$50.00 per round	
Drop after Wed – Before morning of		\$5.00	
Late Add School		\$50.00	
Late Add Debate		\$20.00	
Late Add IE's		\$10.00	
		Total	