



THUNDERING WORD

**THE 8TH ANNUAL CHIEF JUSTICE
COMPREHENSIVE SPEECH AND
DEBATE TOURNAMENT
OCTOBER 29 – 30, 2015**

Dear Colleagues:

September 1, 2016

The Department of Communication Studies of Marshall University and the Marshall University Thundering Word Speech and Debate Team are pleased to invite you to attend the 8th Annual Chief Justice Invitational Tournament to be held on Saturday, October 29 – Sunday, October 30, 2016. The tournament will be held on the beautiful campus of Marshall University in Huntington, WV. The Chief Justice prides itself on being a comprehensive tournament that places equal value on individual events and multiple forms of debate and awards students who cross enter. As such, we will be offering the following preliminary rounds, all with appropriate elimination rounds and novice categories for events with substantial entries:

- 3 preliminary rounds of all 10 NFA Individual Events plus AFA POI and two experimental events: Broadcasting and Improvisational Duo
- 6 rounds of Lincoln – Douglas Debate
- 4 rounds of IPDA, Parliamentary Debate and Public Forum Debate

In the spirit of our late director, Danny Ray, we will continue to award as many students as possible for their hard work. For events too small to have separate novice and varsity categories, we will recognize the top non-advancing novice. We will also award Individual Sweepstakes trophies to the top six speakers and the top novice who enter four or more individual events, regardless of genre. Debate speaker awards will be given to the top six speakers in each debate category.

Congratulations to last year's team sweepstakes winners: Western Kentucky University, winners of Individual Events Team Sweepstakes, Debate Sweepstakes, Travelling Sweepstakes, and Top Pi Kappa Delta Program and Wayne State University, winners of Small School Sweepstakes.

This year we are being sponsored by The Holiday Inn & Suites – Civic Arena. This premium hotel is located in downtown Huntington adjacent to Pullman Plaza which has several restaurants and shops. The hotel is located just eight blocks from campus at 800 Third Avenue, Huntington, WV 25701 - (304) 523-8880. They are holding a block of thirty rooms for \$92.00 per night plus tax. They offer high speed internet, an indoor pool, and a health and fitness center. Reservations must be

made at least two weeks prior to the tournament and you must mention MU Speech and Debate in order to receive the discount. The rooms will be released on Wednesday, October 12, 2015.

The rest of this tournament invitation contains information regarding entries, hotels, food, scheduling, and other necessary information. If you have any questions regarding the tournament, please feel free to contact the Tournament Director Victoria Ledford by phone at 304-617-3178 or email at ledford9@marshall.edu.

You can register for the tournament online at

<http://www.forensicstournament.net/MUChiefJustice/15/home/>

Registration will close at 5:00 PM, Tuesday, October 25, 2016. We look forward to seeing you in October.

Sincerely,

The Coaches of The Thundering Word

Clara Adkins
Director of Forensics

Nancy Jackson
Assistant Director of Forensics

Garrett Walker
Graduate Assistant Coach

Victoria Ledford
Graduate Assistant Coach

SCHEDULE

Saturday, October 29

7:30 – 8:00 am	Breakfast & Registration, Smith Hall Atrium
8:00 am	IPDA Topic Draw
8:10 am	Parliamentary Debate Topic Announce
8:30 -9:30 am	Debate Round 1
9:30 am	IPDA Topic Draw
9:40 am	Parliamentary Debate Topic Announce
10:00 – 11:15 am	IE Round 1A (ADS, DI, ID, & PRO), Debate Round 2
11:15 – 11:45 am	Extemp Draw & Broadcasting Prep
11:45 – 1:00 pm	IE Round 1B (BRD, EXT, INF, POI, & RC)
12:45 – 1:45 pm	Lunch – Smith Hall Atrium
1:30 – 2:45 pm	IE Round 1C (DUO, IMP, PER & POE) LD Round 3
2:45 pm	IPDA Topic Draw
2:55 pm	Parliamentary Debate Topic Announce
3:15 – 4:30 pm	IE Round 2A (ADS, DI, ID, & PRO), Debate Round 3, LD Round 4
4:30 – 5:00 pm	Extemp Draw & Broadcasting Prep
5:00 – 6:15 pm	IE Round 2B (BRD, EXT, INF, POI, & RC)
6:15– 7:30 pm	IE Round 2C (DUO, IMP, PER & POE), LD Round 5
7:30 pm	IPDA Topic Draw
7:40 pm	Parliamentary Debate Topic Announce
8:00 – 9:00 pm	Debate Round 4, LD Round 6

Sunday, October 30

7:30 – 8:00 am	Breakfast
8:00 am	IPDA Topic Draw
8:10 am	Parliamentary Debate Topic Announce
8:30 – 9:45 am	IE Round 3A, (ADS, DI, ID, & PRO), Debate QF Round
9:45 am	Extemp Draw & Broadcasting Prep
10:15 – 11:30	IE Round 3B (BRD, EXT, INF, POI, & RC)
11:30 – 12:45 pm	IE Round 3C (DUO, IMP, PER & POE)
12:15 – 1:15 pm	Lunch – Smith Hall Atrium
1:00 pm	IPDA Topic Draw
1:10 pm	Parliamentary Debate Topic Announce
1:30 – 2:30 pm	Debate SF Round
2:30 – 3:00 pm	Extemp Draw & Broadcasting Prep
3:00 – 4:30 pm	IE Finals
4:30 pm	IPDA Topic Draw
4:40 pm	Parliamentary Debate Topic Announce
5:00 – 6:00 pm	Debate Finals
6:15 pm	Awards (ASAP)

The elimination rounds in all events will be consolidated as much as possible.

<i>FLIGHT A</i>	<i>FLIGHT B</i>	<i>FLIGHT C</i>
After Dinner Speaking Dramatic Interpretation Improvisational Duo Prose Interpretation Lincoln Douglas Debate IPDA Public Forum Debate Parliamentary Debate	Broadcasting, Extemporaneous Speaking Informative Speaking Programmed Oral Interpretation Rhetorical Criticism	Duo Interpretation Impromptu Speaking Persuasive Speaking Poetry Interpretation Lincoln Douglas Debate

NOVICE

A novice is defined as anyone who is in their first year of intercollegiate competition. We will offer Varsity and Novice divisions in all events if the number of entries dictates. Actual divisions will be based on the number of entries. If there is no novice division, the top non-advancing novice in that event will be recognized.

ENTRIES

Competitors may enter up to three individual events per pattern, but are personally responsible for making it to all rounds in a timely manner. There is no limit to the number of entries per school. Students who are entered in multiple events should always sign in to all rooms before the round begins. Students may enter up to 3 events per pattern, with some minor limitations. **Contestants may NOT enter BOTH Extemp and Broadcasting.**

Students competing in debate may cross enter in individual events, but can only enter ONE TYPE OF DEBATE. Students in ANY form of debate may only enter ONE individual event in pattern A. Students in LD Debate may only enter ONE individual event in both patterns A & C. DEBATERS MUST GO TO THEIR INDIVIDUAL EVENTS FIRST.

DEBATE

Lincoln-Douglas Debate – will follow the NFA-LD Debate rules located [here](#):

<https://sites.google.com/site/nationalforensicsassociation/competition/lincoln-douglas-debate> and utilize the 2016 - 2017 NFA-LD debate topic. Speech times for LD will be the standard 6-3-7-3-6-6-3 with four minutes of prep time. A ten-minute forfeiture rule will be in place for LD. If a debater is not present and prepared to begin the debate twenty minutes after the scheduled start time for the round, judges will be instructed to forfeit the absent debater. A forfeit will result in a loss and zero speaker points for the round. Any debater scheduled to debate an individual that forfeits will receive a win and averaged speaker points for the round. **Disclosure of decisions is not allowed in the round to facilitate an efficient tournament.**

Parliamentary Debate – will follow the NPDA rules located [here](#):

<http://www.parlidebate.org/pdf/npdarules-0608.pdf>

Public Forum Debate – will follow the rules located [here](#):

IPDA – will follow the IPDA rules located [here](#):

INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

Rules and Descriptions:

Competition will be offered in all 10 NFA events, and will follow the guidelines set forth by the NFA, located [here](#); and POI will follow the rules set forth by the AFA NIET, located [here](#):

Extemporaneous Speaking:

Competitors in extemporaneous speaking will be allowed to use the Internet during their preparation time. Marshall University will provide a guest account for internet access. However, a perfect Wi-Fi connection is not guaranteed. Access to electrical outlets will likely be limited in the preparation room. Also, students should not leave valuables unattended in the preparation room.

Impromptu Speaking:

Prompts for impromptu speaking will follow the guidelines as outlined by the National Forensics Association and may include the following: quotations (round 1), proverbs (round 2), single words (round 3), objects (finals). Examples for all of these prompts can be found [here](#)

Broadcasting – Contestants will be given a packet of source materials and will have 30 minutes to select, organize, and present a simulated radio broadcast. The source materials packet will include international, national, state, and local news. All material used in the broadcast must be provided by the tournament with the exception of any hypothetical station call letters, time, and current weather

conditions or forecast and any commercials. Maximum time limit for the speech is 5 minutes. Judges will **not** face the contestants during the speech.

Improvisational Duo – Preparation time for Improvisational Duo is three minutes. Preparation time is separate from performance time. Performance time must be a minimum of three minutes and a maximum of six with a 30-second grace period. Contestants going over or under the allotted time and grace period may not be ranked first in that round. 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. 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 outside of the room until it is their time to perform. Once they have finished with their performance they must remain in the room until the round is complete.

HINTS FOR JUDGES

The scene must be a self-contained unit holding together a story itself. Students must resolve the conflict presented in the topic. Criteria for judging include teamwork of the actors, timing, movement, consistent characterization, good speaking skills, pantomime of props, and the comedic or dramatic effect of the scene on the audience.

Extemp & Broadcasting Prep – The Extemp Prep room will be in Smith Hall. Marshall University is not responsible for any items lost or stolen from the prep areas.

Individual Sweepstakes – any contestant entered in at least four Individual Events is eligible for Individual Sweepstakes.

REGISTRATION & DEADLINE

Entries for the Chief Justice are due by 5:00 pm, Tuesday, October 25, 2016. You may manage your entry at Forensics Tournament. Net located [here](#).

FEES

Entry Fees:

Hospitality fee per person	\$7.00
LD or IPDA Entry	\$30.00

Parliamentary or Public Forum Debate Entry	\$60.00
Individual Event entries	\$8.00
Duo & Improv Duo entries	\$16.00
Individual Sweepstakes	\$8.00

Uncovered Entry Fees:

Uncovered Debate slots	\$50.00
Uncovered Individual Event entries	\$12.00

Drop Fees:

Drops after 5:00 PM on Tuesday, October 25	\$25.00
Drops after 5:00 PM on Friday, October 28	\$30.00
Drops at Registration or day of tournament	\$50.00
Dropped Judges on Thursday, October 27 or later	\$50.00 plus \$10.00 per round scheduled
No-Show/Unreported Drop	\$50.00

All fees (entries, judges, drops, and no-shows/unreported drops) must be paid before elimination rounds are posted. Failure to do so will result in all entries from that school being declared ineligible to advance to any elimination round or to be eligible to win any sweepstakes award.

JUDGES

Each school is required to provide one judge for every six IE slots entered. They are required to provide 1 judge for every two debate entries per debate type. These individuals must be made available for all rounds including elimination rounds.

DROPS

If you must drop an entry after the deadline, **PLEASE** e-mail or phone the drop in early so that we may make appropriate changes. Finally, there is no excuse for a student not showing up to a round or being an unreported drop; consequently, a stiff nuisance fee is included.

PAYMENT OPTIONS

If you are paying by check, please make your check out to: MUFC Debate Fund #207935. Of course, cash is always accepted.

AWARDS

Individual Awards:

Awards will be presented to all elimination round participants in individual events and debate. If no novice division is warranted, then the top non-advancing novice in each event will also be recognized. Additionally, we will recognize the top six debate speakers in each division and format. We will also award the top six speakers in individual sweepstakes. To be eligible for individual sweepstakes, awards competitors must be entered in at least four individual events regardless of genre.

Sweepstakes:

Combined Sweepstakes will be awarded to the top six schools; top three Individual Events schools, top three debate schools, top three limited entry schools, top three Pi Kappa Delta schools, and a quality award will be presented to the coach of the team with the highest average per slot. This will also be the second year that we award a traveling sweepstakes trophy to the school with the most cumulative points scored at our tournament. Once a school wins the traveling award, their sum will be set to zero for the next year.

TABULATION

Sweepstakes awards will be determined using the following point system:

Individual Events:

Prelims: 1st = 3 points, 2nd = 2 points, 3rd = 1 point.

Finals: 1st = 12 points, 2nd = 10 points, 3rd = 8 points, 4th = 7 points, 5th = 5 points, 6th = 3 points, 7th or SF = 2 points.

Debate Events:

Prelims: Win = 3 points

Elims: 1st = 12 points, 2nd = 9 points, Semifinalist = 6 points, Quarterfinalist = 3 points.

HOSPITALITY

To improve your tournament experience, we will be offering breakfast and lunch on both Saturday and Sunday for a nominal fee of \$7.00 per person.

HOST PRACTICES

Hired Judges:

All judges provided by the tournament will have prior judging experience and will have attended training sessions prior to the tournament. All ballots will be required to have remarks indicating reasons for a decision. Blank ballots will be returned to the judge for written comments.

Marshall Competitors:

Competitors from the host school will compete on a limited basis.

TOBACCO POLICY

Marshall University is a smoke-free campus. This includes all campus grounds and parking areas. Please refrain from smoking or using other tobacco products while on campus.

PARKING

Registration for both halves of the swing will be in the Atrium of Smith Hall which is located on 3rd avenue, near the corner of Hal Greer Blvd. It is recommended that you park in the lot across 3rd avenue from Smith Hall, however, parking is available on any University lot and at the meters along 3rd avenue. The university does not ticket university lots on Saturdays and Sundays, so parking will be free both of those days.

LODGING

We have reserved a block of 30 rooms at the tournament hotel, which is the Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites Huntington-Civic Arena – 800 Third Avenue, Huntington, WV 25701 - (304) 523-8880. At the exclusive tournament discounted price of \$92, you will have access to free WiFi and be located approximately one mile from campus. The Holiday Inn is also conveniently located next to Pullman Square Plaza and is in the center of downtown Huntington. There is a Starbucks within walking distance of the hotel and a plethora of both chain and local restaurants in the same area. Please call the hotel and inform them that you are booking for the “MU speech and debate tournament” to receive the tournament rate. Hotels must be booked by Wednesday, October 12, but those in the tournament block will go quickly. We recommend you book as soon as possible to receive this rate.

CONCLUSION

If you have any questions regarding the tournament, please feel free to contact Tournament Director Victoria Ledford at ledford9@marshall.edu or on her personal cell at 304-617-3178. Thank you for your interest in the tournament and we look forward to hosting you in October.