



THUNDERING WORD

**THE 44<sup>TH</sup> JOHN MARSHALL  
COMPREHENSIVE SPEECH &  
DEBATE TOURNAMENT**

**FEBRUARY 12 - 13, 2016**

Dear Colleagues:

June 15, 2015

The Department of Communication Studies of Marshall University, The Thundering Word and the WV Beta Chapter of Pi Kappa Delta are pleased to invite you to attend the 44<sup>th</sup> Annual John Marshall Invitational Speech and Debate Tournament to be held on the beautiful campus of Marshall University, Friday and Saturday, February 12-13, 2016. We offer three rounds plus elimination rounds in 14 individual events plus four rounds and the appropriate elimination rounds of Lincoln-Douglas debate and public forum debate and three sessions of congressional debate. The rules of the National Speech and Debate Association (NSDA) are adhered to where applicable. Students are encouraged to enter more than one event per flight and are encouraged to cross enter debate and individual events with some limitations. We are excited to host one of the region's most comprehensive high school / middle school speech and debate tournaments and we hope you will add our tournament to your annual competition schedule.

Awards will be presented to all event finalists, semifinalists and quarter finalists plus we will recognize the top novice in every event. Awards will be presented to the top ten speakers in Individual Sweepstakes; to those competitors who are entered in at least three events as well as the top six debate speakers in each debate format. Students are encouraged to enter more than one event per section and debaters may enter all debate formats as well as individual events with some limitations. The John Marshall Travelling Sweepstakes Trophy will also be awarded to the school with the most points cumulated from every year of competition. Huntington High School currently holds the trophy.

The tournament hotel will be The Super 8 Motel which is holding a block of forty rooms for \$72.00 per night plus tax. They offer high speed internet, an indoor swimming pool & Spa and a continental breakfast. The hotel is located right off the Hal Greer Blvd. exit of I-64. Hotel information is located at the end of the invitation. Reservations must be made ten days prior to the tournament and you must mention Marshall Speech and Debate in order to receive the discount. The rooms will be released on January 29, 2016.

We pride ourselves in offering great southern hospitality at all of our speech tournaments. On Friday a catered snack consisting of cookies, chex mix and beverages will be provided, along with a continental breakfast and a catered lunch for all participants on Saturday for a nominal fee.

This invitation should provide all the information you will need to attend our tournament. However, if you have any questions, please contact Tournament Director, Danny Ray at 304-654-0587 or [ray102@marshall.edu](mailto:ray102@marshall.edu).

Registration is at:

<http://www.forensicstournament.net/JohnMarshall/16>

Registration will close by 5:00 PM, Monday, February 22, 2016.

A copy of this invitation can also be found on <http://www.marshall.edu/commstu/>

Sincerely,

*Danny Ray*

Director of Forensics  
Marshall University

# ***SCHEDULE***

## Friday, February 12

9:30 Registration  
 10:00 PF Round 1  
 11:00 LD Round 1  
 12:00 Extemp and Extemp Interp Prep  
 12:30 IE Round 1A & PF Round 2  
 1:45 IE Round 1B & Congressional Debate  
 Session 1  
 3:00 IE Round 1C & LD Round 2  
 4:15 Extemp & Extemp Interp Draw  
 4:45 IE Round 1A & PF Round 3  
 6:00 IE Round 2B & Congressional Debate  
 Session 2  
 7:15 IE Round 2C & LD Round 3

## Saturday, February 13

7:30 Breakfast  
 8:00 Extemp & Extemp Interp Prep  
 8:30 IE Round 3A & PF Round 4  
 9:45 IE Round 3B & Congressional Debate  
 Session 3  
 11:00 Broadcasting Prep  
 11:15 IE Round 3C, LD Round 4  
 12:30 Lunch  
 1:00 IE Semi Finals & PF QF  
 2:15 Extemp & Extemp Interp Prep  
 2:45 IE Final Round A, PF & LD SF  
 4:00 IE Final Round B, Congressional  
 Debate Final Round  
 5:15 Broadcasting Prep  
 5:30 IE Final Round C, LD & PF Final  
 7:00 Awards

\*The elimination rounds will consolidate if possible and begin earlier  
 Please check postings

<b>FLIGHT A</b>	<b>FLIGHT B</b>	<b>FLIGHT C</b>
<b>Extemp</b> <b>Extemp Interp</b> <b>Programmed Oral Interp</b> <b>Prose</b> <b>Storytelling</b> <b>Public Forum Debate</b>	<b>Declamation</b> <b>DI</b> <b>Improv Duo</b> <b>Poetry</b> <b>Sales</b> <b>Congressional</b> <b>Debate</b>	<b>Broadcasting</b> <b>Duo</b> <b>HI</b> <b>Impromptu</b> <b>Original Oratory</b> <b>Lincoln-Douglas</b> <b>Debate</b>

## ENTRIES

A school may have unlimited entries in each event. Preliminary points from the top three entries in each individual event will count towards Sweepstakes. The top four debate entries in each debate event will count toward sweepstakes. All contestants will be eligible for elimination rounds. All elimination round points earned will count towards Sweepstakes. A contestant is allowed to enter up to three individual events per grouping; however it is their responsibility to make it to their rounds on time. Contestants in public forum debate are limited to one individual event in flight A. Contestants in Lincoln-Douglas debate are limited to one individual event in flight C. Contestants in Congressional debate may not enter flight B individual events. Contestants may enter all debate events. Debaters should go to their Individual Event first.

## NOVICE

A novice is defined as being in one's first year of forensic competition or a student in a middle school program.

## DEBATE

Debate topics will be the current debate topics offered by the National Speech & Debate Association (NSDA).

## JUDGES

Each judge covers six IE slots or two debate slots. Judges must be declared either IE or debate. All judges are to be knowledgeable of the tournament rules and event descriptions. *All judges must be made available to judge until the ballots for the last Final Round have been distributed.* Failure of a judge to do so will result in the school being fined \$50.00. If the fine is not paid within two weeks of the tournament's completion, the school will not be invited in the future. There will be at least one judge in preliminary rounds and at least 3 judges in elimination rounds of all events.

## ROUNDS

There will be three preliminary rounds in each individual event and three sessions of congressional debate. There will be four rounds in Lincoln – Douglas and Public Forum Debate if the number of entries dictates. All events will have final rounds if the number of entries permits. Any Individual

Event with 40+ entries will have semi-finals. There will be semi-final rounds in Lincoln – Douglas and Public Forum Debate if there are at least 8 contestants / teams entered. There will be quarter-finals if there are 16+ entries in the debate events.

## BREAKING TIES

### **Individual Events:**

The lowest total rank always advances first from preliminary rounds. In the event of ties, then the highest total speaker points advances. If a tie still exists then the contestants with the most number of 1 ranks will advance. If a tie remains then both contestants will advance. In final rounds, Judges Preference will be considered first, then total speaker points, then most number of 1 ranks in the event of a tie in determining placement. If a tie remains then the most sweepstakes points earned in that event will be counted.

### **Debate:**

Ties in debate will be broken based on the number of wins, followed by total number of speaker points. If a tie still exists, then the highest and lowest speaker points will be dropped. Judge variance will be used as a last resort.

## PAIRINGS

If at all possible, contestants from the same school will not meet in preliminary rounds. If there are more entries from a school than there are sections in an event then students from the same school will compete against each other. All rounds will be randomly paired. In debate the third and fourth rounds will be power matched, high/high within brackets. There will be more than one chamber of congressional debate if there are 12 or more entries. In the case of separate chambers being held a final round will occur. Semi-Finals in Public Forum and Lincoln – Douglas Debate will be 1 vs. 4 & 2 vs. 3. Quarter-Final pairings will be 1 vs. 8, 4 vs. 5, 2 vs. 7, and 3 vs. 6. IE semi-final pairings will be as follows: 1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 12 and 2, 3, 6, 7, 10, 11.

## PENALTIES

Any contestant going over the grace time or under the minimum time allowed in any event cannot be ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in that round.

## **EQUALIZING RANKS**

In preliminary rounds of individual events there will be no ranks of lower than 5 permitted. If there are more than 5 contestants in an event then judges will assign a rank of 5 to each contestant beyond 5th in the round. In final rounds contestants will be ranked 1<sup>st</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup>. If there are less than five contestants in a section, the tab room will equalize the ranks according to the number of contestants in the smallest section of an event.

## **AWARDS**

Awards will be presented to all finalists, semifinalists and quarter finalists in each event. The top six speakers in each debate event will be recognized. The top 10 contestants in Individual Sweepstakes will be awarded. The top novice competitors in each event will be awarded. The top 3 schools in limited entry (based on number entries received) will be recognized in a limited entry sweepstakes division. The top 3 middle schools / junior high schools will be recognized. The top 3 schools will be recognized in Debate Sweepstakes. The top 6 schools will be recognized in overall combined Grand Sweepstakes. The John Marshall Travelling Trophy will also be presented.

## **INDIVIDUAL SWEEPSTAKES**

Contestants are eligible for the Individual Sweepstakes event if they are entered in at least three events, regardless of genre. All points earned will count. There are no limits on the number of entries per school.

## **TABULATION**

Sweepstakes awards will be determined using the following point system:

### Individual Events:

Prelims: 1<sup>st</sup> = 3 points, 2<sup>nd</sup> = 2 points, 3<sup>rd</sup> = 1 point.

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

### Congressional Debate:

Prelims: 1<sup>st</sup> = 6 points, 2<sup>nd</sup> = 5 points, 3<sup>rd</sup> = 4 points, 4<sup>th</sup> = 3 points, 5<sup>th</sup> = 2 points, all other contestants receive 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.

Ties in all Sweepstakes events will be broken by the number points earned in elimination rounds of event champions per school, then by the number of final slots of each school and finally the number of event champions.

## FEES

### Entry Fees:

Hospitality	\$5.00	(per person)
Individual Event Entries	\$7.00	(per entry)
Duo, Improv Duo Entries	\$14.00	(per team)
Individual Sweepstakes Entries	\$7.00	(per entry)
Congressional Debate Entries	\$10.00	(per entry)
Debate Entries:	\$25.00	(per entry)

### Uncovered Entry Fees:

Uncovered Individual Event Entries	\$12.00	(per entry)
Uncovered Debate Entries	\$50.00	(per entry)

### Drop Fees:

Drops on Tuesday, February 9	\$5.00	(per drop)
Drops on Wednesday, February 10	\$10.00	(per drop)
Drops on Thursday, February 11 (before noon)	\$15.00	(per drop)
Drops on Thursday, February 11 (after noon)	\$20.00	(per drop)
Drops on Friday, February 12	\$25.00	(per drop)
Drops at registration	\$50.00	(per drop)
Dropped Judges	\$50.00	(per judge)

There is no charge for substitutions. Any drops on the day of the tournament must be phoned in by 8:00 am Friday, February 12, 2016. Drop fees must be paid before the posting of elimination rounds. **Failure to pay the drop fees will result in those schools' entries being disqualified and the forfeiture of all sweepstakes points for the tournament.**

## EVENT DESCRIPTIONS

*PLEASE READ CAREFULLY as some events have changed*

All events have a 5 minute minimum and a 10 minute maximum with a 30 second grace period unless otherwise specified. Contestants who go under or over, including the grace period may not be ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in that round. There is no need to automatically rank them last.

**Broadcasting – Round I (commercial)** 5 minutes of preparation time. No time limit. Contestants must present all of the copy as it appears in the script. The judge will call one contestant into the room at a time, obtain the contestant's code number and name, and hand the contestant a script. The judge will begin timing the five minutes of preparation and notify the student when he/she must begin. Contestants are not allowed to alter the script in any way, but may use transitions in the news program. **Round 2 (prepared news)** No preparation time. The students will prepare a news script using up-to-date material. The contestants may find material in AP script (available at local television stations), newspapers, internet sites, etc. Each contestant must compose/ prepare his/her own scripts. The three-minute time limit in the round must be observed (there is a 30 second grace period both above and below the time limit). Contestants must bring copies of the script for the judges. A brief commercial (15 seconds – suggested length) must be included in the broadcast. Contestants must present all of the copy as it appears in the script. Contestants should come into the room one at a time, give a copy of the script to the judge, and deliver their broadcast. An introduction and sign-off are required.

**Round 3 (news)** 15 minutes of preparation time. No time limit. Contestants must present all of the copy as it appears in the script. Contestants are not allowed to alter the script in any way, but may use transitions in the news program. An introduction and sign-off are required. **Semi-Final and Final Round (edited news.)** Contestants must edit the copy and include an impromptu commercial to fit the five-minute time frame. During the round, contestants may use a stopwatch while performing as judges will not give time signals. There is no grace period. If time limit is exceeded; the student may not be ranked first in the round. The prep room monitor will handle the scripts and send contestants to the judges at five-minute intervals. Preparation time is 30 minutes. An introduction and sign-off are required. When the student is finished, the judge should collect the script and call in the next contestant. Contestants must remain outside the room until it is their time to perform. The type of broadcast varies from round to round and, as noted above, rules vary according to the type of script being used for that round.

### HINTS FOR JUDGES

Do not permit other students to listen before they have performed. Contestants must remain outside the room until called upon to speak. Students will present their broadcasts seated at a table with the judge facing away from the contestants during the speech. Students may time themselves as no time signals will be given by the judge. Second round news script will be prepared prior to the tournament by the contestants and should include up-to-date material. The arrangement and choice of material should be considered as well as the delivery. The brief commercial does not have to be timed. The 15 seconds is only suggested. Do judge articulation, fluency, conviction, accuracy, clarity and variety of voice, understanding of content, appropriate tone, and pronunciation. In news



programs, transitions should be appropriate. In semi-finals and finals, editing skills should also be judged. Relevance of news selection and the arrangement of the articles should be considered.

**Declamation** – Contestants will present a pre-published speech which was written and performed by another person. An introduction must be presented and must include the author, occasion on which the original speech was delivered and the source of the publication. The speech must be delivered from memory. Notes are not permitted. This is open to freshmen and sophomores only and is considered a novice event.

**Dramatic Interpretation** – Each contestant will present a program, serious in nature, which represents one or more characters from material of literary merit. This material may be drawn from commercially available published stage, screen or radio scripts, short stories or novels. Programs may consist of single or multiple selections. Manuscripts are not permitted; the presentation must be delivered from memory. *Movement, pantomime and gesturing are allowed.*

**Duo Interpretation** – Contestants will present a cutting from a play, film or radio script, short story, novel, a single poem or multiple poetic selections, either humorous or serious, involving the portrayal of two *or more* characters presented by two individuals. Introductory and transitional materials are permitted. This is not an acting event. Thus, costumes, props, accompaniment, etc. are not permitted. Manuscripts are *not allowed*. Pantomime and movement is encouraged if it is used to enhance the plot and character development. *Contestants may enter two duos as long as they aren't from the same title. They must be with different partners.*

**Extemporaneous Interpretation** – Contestants will receive selections of literary material from published prose, poetic or dramatic literature and be given thirty minutes to prepare for oral interpretation. Selections must be cut and placed into a manuscript. Original introductory and transitional comments are permitted. Each contestant will select from the same materials provided. Round I will be selections from prose literature. Round II will be selections from poetic literature. Round III will be selections from dramatic literature. The Final Round will be selected from any or a combination of the afore mentioned areas of literature. The idea is for the contestant to show range and character in an improvisational style. Contestants will be expected to speak from 7 to 10 minutes with a 30 second grace period, so timing will be important. Contestants who go under or over the allotted time period may not be ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in that round. Manuscripts are required.

**Extemporaneous Speaking** – For each round, contestants will select one of three topics on current national and international events. The contestants will have thirty minutes to prepare a 5 to 7 minute speech on the topic selected. Notes are permissible but must be limited to 50 words or less. There is a 30 second grace period. Any contestant going under or over the time allotted may not be ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in that round. Accepted materials for preparation are defined as books, newspapers, internet sources, published annotated bibliographies, magazines and dictionaries. *Electronic devices are permitted in the Extemp prep room, but no access to the internet will be given. Any contestant discovered accessing the*

*internet will be disqualified.* Highlighting is permissible, but marginal notes are forbidden. Topics will be taken from major news sources, either magazines or internet sources of unquestionable repute. Round I will be US politics, Round II – International Affairs, Round III – Domestic Issues. In the Final Round all contestants will speak on the same question. They will be required to remain in the room once they have spoken until the round is complete.

**Humorous Interpretation** – The rules are the same as Dramatic Interpretation except contestants will present humorous cuttings from commercially-available published printed stage, film or radio scripts, short stories or novels.

**Impromptu Speaking** – Each contestant will receive three topics from which to choose one to speak on. The topics not chosen should be placed with the remaining topics for the other contestants to choose from. *Notes are permitted.* The speaker has seven minutes in which to prepare a response and deliver a speech. Students who go over the allotted speaking time and grace period may not be ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in that round. Topics will be, Round I – proverbs, Round II – Abstract Words, Round III – Quotations, the final round topic will be chosen from any of the previously mentioned categories or may be an object or a single framed editorial cartoon. All contestants in the final round will speak on the same topic and will not be permitted to enter the room until it is time for them to speak. Observers may not leave the room until the final round is completed.

**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. No profanity, sexual innuendo, or excessive physicality (i.e. pushing, shoving, and striking) will 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. Topics will alternate between humorous and serious.

### 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.

**Original Oratory** – Contestants will present an original speech either persuasive or informative in nature on any appropriate subject. The content must be written by the contestant and not more than 150 words of the oration may be direct quotation from any other speech or writing. Such quotations shall be identified in the typewritten copy and indicated during the presentation. Plagiarism is not acceptable. The speech must be delivered from memory. Notes are not permitted.

**Poetry Interpretation** – Each contestant will present a program of poetic literature. Original introductory comments and transitional remarks are permitted. Programs may consist of published single or multiple selections. Plays and film scripts are not permitted. Manuscripts are required.

**Programmed Oral Interpretation** – is a program of oral interpretation of thematically-linked selections chosen from two or three genres: prose, poetry, drama (plays). A primary focus of this event should be on the development of the theme or argument through the use of narrative, story, language, and/or characterization. Competitors are encouraged to devote approximately equal times to each of the genres used in the program. At least two pieces of literature that represent at least two separate genres must be used. The use of a manuscript is required.

### **HINTS FOR JUDGES**

An introduction should set the stage, enhancing the interpretation of the literature to the audience, providing information and analysis to the chosen theme. All selections must be verbally identified by title and author. However, where, when, and how these are accomplished are the speaker's decisions. The intact manuscript may be used by the contestant as a prop so long as it remains in the contestant's control at all times. No costumes or props other than the manuscript are permitted. Adaptations may be used only for the purpose of transition. This is a contest in oral interpretation. The contestant should be evaluated on poise, quality, and use of voice, inflection, pronunciation, and the ability to interpret characters consistently. The contestant should also be evaluated on how effective their argument/theme is projected in the total program. In developing a creative, thematic program, attention should be given to the design and organization of a cohesive and carefully conceived whole by linking authors and ideas inherent in the literature. There is an expectation to use at least two pieces of literature each presenting a different genre with approximately equal times devoted to each genre. This distinction pertains to these three genres as a whole, not types of literature within a genre, such as fiction/nonfiction. The contestant must address the script; however, introduction and transitional material may be memorized.

**Prose Interpretation** – Each contestant will present a program of published prose literature. Original introductory comments and transitional remarks are permitted. Programs may consist of single or multiple selections. Plays and film scripts are not permitted. Manuscripts are required.

**Sales Speaking** – Each contestant will present an original speech whose purpose is to promote and or sell to the audience a realistic tangible manufactured legal brand-named product or service. The

speech must be memorized. No more than 300 words of the speech may be direct quotations or statistics taken from another source. The contestant has a maximum of three minutes to set up their display. Anything over three minutes must be deducted from their overall speaking time. Visual aids are required, but the actual product need not be used. Contestants should persuade the audience as well as sell the product. It is not intended to be a sales pitch only. Notes are not permitted.

**Storytelling** – Each contestant will present a single published, printed story, anecdote, tale, myth or legend which must be retold without notes or props. The delivery must be memorized, not read. No book or script may be used. The contestant must not materially change the content of the story. Contestants may sit on the floor, stand or use a limited amount of room for movement. No chairs can be used. Original introductory remarks are permitted. ***Time limit for this event will be 5 – 8 minutes with a thirty second grace period.*** Contestants going over or under the permitted time may not be ranked first in that round.

**LincolnDouglas Debate** is designed to center on a proposition of value. A proposition of value concerns itself with what ought to be instead of what is. A value is an ideal held by individuals, societies, governments, etc. Debaters are encouraged to develop argumentation based upon a values perspective. To that end, no plan (or counterplan) will be offered by the debaters. In Lincoln-Douglas Debate, a plan is defined by the League as a formalized, comprehensive proposal for implementation. **The debate should focus on reasoning to support a general principle instead of particular plans and counterplans.** Debaters may offer generalized, practical examples or solutions to illustrate how the general principle could guide decisions.

The following time limits will be used:

- 6 minute affirmative constructive
- 3 minute cross examination
- 7 minute negative constructive
- 3 minute cross examination
- 4 minute affirmative rebuttal
- 6 minute negative rebuttal
- 3 minute affirmative rebuttal

Each contestant will receive 4 minutes of total prep time.

The hallmarks of Lincoln-Douglas debate include:

1. **Parallel Burdens** - No question of values can be determined entirely true or false. This is why the resolution is debatable. Therefore neither debater should be held to a standard of absolute proof. No debater can realistically be expected to prove complete validity or invalidity of the resolution. The better debater is the one who, on the whole, proves his/her side of the resolution more valid as a general principle.

- a. *Burden of proof*: Each debater has the equal burden to prove the validity of his/her side of the resolution as a general principle. As an LD resolution is a statement of value, there is no presumption for either side.
- b. *Burden of clash*: Each debater has an equal burden to clash with his/her opponent's position. After a case is presented, neither debater should be rewarded for presenting a speech completely unrelated to the arguments of his/her opponent.
- c. *Resolutional burden*: The debaters are equally obligated to focus the debate on the central questions of the resolution, not whether the resolution itself is worthy of debate. Because the affirmative must uphold the resolution, the negative must also argue the resolution as presented.

2. **Value Structure** -The value structure (or framework) is established by the debater to serve two functions: a) to provide an interpretation of the central focus of the resolution, and b) to provide a method for the judge to evaluate the central questions of the resolution. The value structure often consists of a statement of the resolution (if affirming), definitions (dictionary or contextual), the value premise (or core value), and the value criterion (or standard). This structure is commonly but not always employed.

- a. *Definitions*: The affirmative should offer definitions, be they dictionary or contextual, that provides a reasonable ground for debate. The negative has the option to challenge these definitions and to offer counter-definitions.
- b. *Value Premise/Core Value*: A value is an ideal held by individuals, societies, governments, etc. that serves as the highest goal to be protected, respected, maximized, advanced, or achieved. In general, the debater will establish a value which focuses the central questions of the resolution and will serve as a foundation for argumentation.
- c. *Value Criterion/Standard*: In general, each debater will present a value criterion (a standard) which the debater will use to:
  - i. explain how the value should be protected, respected, maximized, advanced, or achieved.
  - ii. measure whether a given side or argument protects, respects, maximizes, advances, or achieves the value.
  - iii. evaluate the relevance and importance of an argument in the context of the round.

The relationship between the value premise and the criterion should be clearly articulated.

During the debate, the debaters may argue the validity or priority of the two value structures. They may accept their opponent's value structure, prove the superiority of their own value structure, or synthesize the two.

3. **Argumentation** – Because Lincoln-Douglas debate is an educational debate activity, debaters are obligated to construct logical chains of reasoning which lead to the conclusion of the affirmative or negative position. The nature of proof may take a variety of forms (e.g., a student’s original analysis, application of philosophy, examples, analogies, statistics, expert opinion, etc.). Arguments should be presented in a cohesive manner that shows a clear relationship to the value structure. Any research should be conducted and presented ethically from academically sound and appropriately cited sources.

4. **Cross-Examination** -- Cross-examination should be used by the debater to clarify, challenge, and/or advance arguments in the round.

5. **Effective delivery:** Lincoln-Douglas debate is an oral communication activity that requires clarity of thought and expression. Arguments should be worded and delivered in a manner accessible to an educated non-specialist audience. This encompasses:

- a. **Written communication:** Cases and arguments should be constructed in a manner that is organized, accessible, and informative to the listener. The debater should employ clear logic and analysis supported by topical research.
- b. **Verbal communication:** The debater has the obligation to be clear, audible and comprehensible, and to speak persuasively to the listeners. Additionally, debaters should strive for fluency, expressiveness, effective word choice, and eloquence.
- c. **Non-verbal communication:** The debater should demonstrate an effective use of gestures, eyecontact, and posture.

Throughout the debate, the debaters should demonstrate civility as well as a professional demeanor and style of delivery.

### **Public Forum Debate –**

1. **Resolution:** Public Forum Debate focuses on advocacy of a position derived from the issues presented in the resolution, not a prescribed set of burdens.

### **2. Procedure and order of speeches**

- a. 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.
- b. Once speaking positions and sides has been determined, the debate begins. Each speaker has four minutes for constructive arguments, alternating between pro and con. (The debate may begin with a con speech.)
- c. Following the first two constructive speeches, the two debaters who have just given speeches will stand and participate in a three-minute “crossfire”. [In "crossfire" both

debaters "hold the floor"] However, the speaker who spoke first must ask the first question. After that question, either debater may question and/or answer at will.]

d. At the end of the first "crossfire", the four-minute constructive arguments are continued by the students yet to speak.

e. At the conclusion of the last two constructive arguments, another three-minute "crossfire" takes place between the two debaters who just spoke using the crossfire procedure discussed above.

f. Following the four constructive speeches and two "crossfire" segments, the 1st speakers for each team will each give a 2-minute summary continuing established alternation. The summary speeches should include the arguments his or her team is winning and refuting of arguments it is losing.

g. At the conclusion of the summary speeches, all four debaters will remain seated and participate in a three-minute "Grand Crossfire" in which all four debaters are allowed to cross-examine one another. The speaker who gave the first summary speech must ask the first question.

First Speaker – Team A	4 Minutes
First Speaker – Team B	4 Minutes
Crossfire	3 Minutes
Second Speaker – Team A	4 Minutes
Second Speaker - Team B	4 Minutes
Crossfire	3 Minutes
Summary, First Speaker, Team A	2 Minutes
Summary, First Speaker, Team B	2 Minutes
Grand Crossfire	3 Minutes
Final Focus, Second Speaker, Team A	2 Minutes
Final Focus, Second Speaker, Team B	2 Minutes
Prep time – 2 minutes per team	

h. At the conclusion of the "Grand Crossfire", the second speakers will each give a 2-minute "Final Focus" speech. The "Final Focus" is a persuasive final restatement of why a team has won the debate.

**3. Plans/Counterplans:** In Public Forum Debate, the League defines a plan or counterplan as a formalized, comprehensive proposal for implementation. Neither the pro or con side is permitted to offer a plan or counterplan; rather, they should offer reasoning to support a position of advocacy. Debaters may offer generalized, practical solutions.

### **Congressional Debate -**

Each session will be divided into houses of no more than 15 students each. Sessions will be no longer than 1:15 each. Parliamentary procedures, as outlined in Robert's Rules of Order, will be followed. Speakers will be ranked and rated by judges on their speaking and advocacy skills, as well as their understanding and use of parliamentary procedure. Additionally, a top legislator will be selected via peer voting for each chamber.

Individuals wishing to submit resolutions should do so in writing to the tournament director by March 1st. Every school entered in Congress must enter a minimum of one resolution.

Resolutions must be prepared according to the following guidelines:

1. The specific area must be typed at the top of the submitted resolution.
2. The author(s) and school affiliation must be listed.
3. The resolution must be typed, double-spaced, with each line numbers and no longer than one page.
4. Every resolution must contain a clause which begins "Be it Resolved..."
5. The "Be it Resolved..." clause must be preceded by one or more "Whereas..." clauses.
6. The introductory speaker supporting the resolution must be identified.
7. Properly framed resolutions which are submitted by March 5th will be copied and mailed to each team participating in student congress two weeks prior to the tournament.

Please indicate on the entry form students who are interested in serving as Presiding Officer.

### Procedural Rules

1. Parliamentary procedure for each House will be based on the guidelines specified in Robert's Rules of Order.
2. All student legislators will be assigned seating and must occupy their assigned seat when requesting recognition from the Presiding Officer.
3. A student legislator may speak any number of times as long as the Presiding Officer formally recognizes him/her. In order to be recognized by the Presiding Officer, a student legislator must stand and request recognition.
4. All speeches will be limited to three minutes each. The official scorer may penalize students who exceed their allotted time for any speech.
5. The agenda will be established within each House on the basis of one vote per team represented in that House.
6. Each House will observe the following General Order of Business:
  - a. Call to order
  - b. Roll call of members and confirmation of seating charts
  - c. Special orders
    1. Review of special rules
    2. Review of congress procedures
    3. Special announcements and questions
  - d. Consideration of the agenda
  - e. Floor debate on resolutions
  - f. Vote on resolutions
  - g. Adjournment
7. During any speech a student legislator may ask for recognition and ask the speaker if s/he will yield to a question. The speaker may or may not agree to yield to any question(s). Time used to ask and answer questions will be taken from the speaker's allotted time.



8. Any speaker may designate that s/he will not yield to questions. If the speaker makes such a designation, student legislators who interrupt the speaker before the speech has been completed will be considered out of order. The speaker's allotted time will not be affected by such interruptions.
9. If the speaker designates s/he will not yield to questions, student legislators may ask questions at the conclusion of the speech if any of the speaker's allotted time remains.
10. Each House may use prescribed parliamentary procedure to suspend the rules to allow for automatic cross-examination at the conclusion of every speech. Should a House elect to make such a procedural designation, it must specify how much time will be allocated for cross-examination. The House may not elect to suspend the rules to alter the speaking time allocated to speakers.
11. The Presiding Officer will continue to recognize speakers until such time that s/he determines that debate about the resolution is no longer advancing substantive consideration of the issue(s) relevant to the resolution, or such time that the House elects, through normal parliamentary procedure, to approve any motion which limits or terminates debate about the resolution.
12. In the case of any dispute about the parliamentary procedures of the House, the Presiding Officer will consult with the parliamentarian. The ruling of the parliamentarian and the decision of the Presiding Officer will be considered final unless the House elects, through normal parliamentary procedure, to appeal that decision.

## LODGING

**Super 8 Huntington** – 3090 16th Street Road, Huntington, WV 25701 – (304) 525-1410

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- Queen Double \$72.00 + taxes

**Holiday Inn & Suites Civic Center** – 800 Third Avenue, Huntington, WV 25701 (877) 863-4780

- 0.9 miles West of campus
- Free Wireless Internet
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- 2.2 miles SE of campus
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- Indoor Swimming Pool
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