



Dear Colleagues,

The SFCT Governing Board invites you to the Fifth Annual Southern Forensics Championship Tournament, to be held at John Brown University in Siloam Springs, Arkansas, on January 30-February 1, 2015. This tournament serves a regional championship for Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi, **but it is open to all who wish to participate.**

The competition will feature parliamentary debate, public debate (both team and individual), and the standard eleven AFA-NIET events. In addition, we will have elections for representatives for the Southern Forensics Championship Tournament student representative from each state, all to serve a one-year term.

We have offered NPDA debate since the inception of the Southern Forensics Championship; however, we have never had sufficient entries to run this portion of the tournament. If you are an NPDA school, please let us know what would make this tournament more appealing, and we will try to make it happen.

You will find all of the pertinent information in this invitation. Questions regarding university facilities should be directed to Erick Roebuck (eroebuck@jbu.edu), while questions about tournament administration should be sent to Anthony McMullen (amcmullen@ucal.edu). We look forward to seeing you for a weekend of fun and forensic competition.

Sincerely,

The SFCT Governing Board

Erick Roebuck, John Brown University (Tournament Host)
Trey Gibson, Louisiana State University at Shreveport
Anthony McMullen, University of Central Arkansas
Jennifer Talbert, William Carey University

Tournament Headquarters

The tournament will be headquartered at Simmons Great Hall on the John Brown University campus. There should be plenty of parking near the building. **John Brown University is a Non-Smoking Campus. The prohibition against smoking extends to all JBU property, including parking lots.**

Directions

John Brown University located is near the Arkansas/Oklahoma border. From Highway 412, turn north onto Holly Street (left turn if coming through Oklahoma, right turn if coming through Arkansas) Turn left at the next stop sign. You are now on campus. The road will curve right. Simmons Great Hall (and ample parking) will be on your right.

Hotels

Please find lodging at any one of the places listed below. No block has been reserved. Hotels are listed in order of high quality to budget options.

1) Hampton Inn, (479) 215-1000, 2171 Ravenwood Plaza, Siloam Springs, AR
<http://hamptoninn.hilton.com/en/hp/hotels/index.jhtml?ctyhocn=FYVSSHX>

2) Cherokee Casino and Hotel, (800) 754-4111, 2416 U.S. 412, West Siloam Springs, OK 74964
<http://cherokeecasino.com>

3) Best Western Stateline Lodge, (918) 422-4444, 273 S Highway 59, W Siloam Springs, OK

4) Quality Inn, (479) 524-8080, 1300 US Highway 412 West, Siloam Springs, AR

5) Super 8, (479) 524-8898, 1800 Hwy 412 West Siloam Springs, AR
<http://www.super8.com/>

6) America's Best Value Inn, (479) 524-2025, 1801 Highway 412 West, Siloam Springs, AR 72761
<http://www.americasbestvalueinn.com/>

7) Super 7 Inn, 1951 Highway 412 East, Siloam Springs, AR
<https://reservation.magnusonhotels.com/bbe/page1.aspx?propertyID=8703>

8) Budget Inn, (479) 524-5127, 2400 Highway 412 East, Siloam Springs, AR
<http://budgetinnsiloamsprings.magnusonhotels.com/>

9) Stone Inn, (479) 524-5172, 1150 Highway 412, Siloam Springs, AR

SFCT Governing Board and Coach of the Year Awards

We will be having elections for the SFCT student from each representative state, all to serve a one-year term. Election procedures will be announced at the tournament. Any student desiring to run for Governing Board should submit their name and a statement of candidacy along with the team's entry. Statements for any contested election will be distributed at the tournament, and eligible voters (any

undergraduate student competing in the 2015 SFCT from the representative state) will cast their votes at the tournament.

We will be having elections for the SFCT coach of the year awards. Each SFCT state will be responsible for electing their "Coach of the Year". Each of the three coaches will then be eligible for the overall SFCT "Coach of the Year" award. Election procedures will be announced at the tournament.

Event Information

1. We will offer all eleven AFA events; novice and open parliamentary debate; novice, varsity, and professional public debate; and varsity team public debate.
 - A. All parliamentary debate rounds shall follow the time limits and rules established under the National Parliamentary Debate Association. Debaters will have fifteen minutes of preparation time (plus five minutes to walk to the round). We will offer open and novice divisions, but divisions may be collapsed if necessary due to limited entries. If entries are collapsed, we will still recognize the top novices in parliamentary debate. We will offer six preliminary rounds and the appropriate number of elimination rounds.
 - B. All team public debate rounds shall follow the time limits and rules established by the International Public Debate Association. Students will have thirty minutes of preparation time (includes walking time to rounds). We will offer a varsity division only. Team public debate will take place during individual events (students may not compete in both). We will offer four preliminary rounds and three elimination rounds.
 - C. All individual public debate rounds shall follow the time limits and rules established by the International Public Debate Association. Students will have thirty minutes of preparation time (includes walking time to rounds). We will offer professional, varsity, and novice divisions. *While any competitor may enter the Professional division, only registered undergraduate students will be considered for sweepstakes calculations.*
 - D. All individual events (except for persuasive speaking) shall follow the rules established and followed by the American Forensics Association. Persuasive speaking shall following the rules of the Interstate Oratorical Contest. These speeches shall have no time limit, but the speeches must not exceed 1800 words, with no more than 20% of the total number of words in the speech being words directly quoted from a source other than the student. The rules also require that all quoted material be documented. It is the responsibility of each participant and their respective program to ensure that the manuscripts submitted to the Interstate Oratorical Association adhere to that tournament's national guidelines.

Flight A: Ext, Per, CA, Duo, Prose, POE

Flight B: Imp, Inf, ADS, POI, DI

2. For the purposes of elimination round seeding and speaker points in debate events, adjusted speaker points (total points minus high-low) will be considered. Total points will be used to break a tie.

3. Schools shall not be limited in entries per event, but only the top four *undergraduate* entries in each event/division will count for sweepstakes awards. *Exception: under circumstances involving valid educational justifications, students who have received bachelor degrees may be included in sweepstakes calculations if the coach who desires to have the student to be eligible makes this request of the Governing Board of this tournament before the entry deadline for the competition, and a majority of the Governing Board agrees that the student has valid educational reasons for participating.*
4. Awards shall be presented to the elimination round participants in all debate events, the top five speakers in every division of debate, the top six competitors in every individual event, and the top five quadrathon competitors. The top three schools in debate, individual events, and overall sweepstakes will receive awards. No minimum number of entries is required for schools to count toward debate or individual events sweepstakes awards, but schools must be entered in both debate and individual events to be eligible for the overall sweepstakes competition.
5. Judges: We need and want your judges. We prefer judges over money. One judge covers four IPDA debaters, two NPDA teams, two IPDA teams, or six IE entries per pattern. Judges may cover multiple events if the events **do not conflict**. For example: one judge could cover four IPDA debaters and six IE entries per pattern, as those events do not occur at the same time, but that same judge could not cover two IPDA teams and six IE entries.

Sweepstakes formula

1. All of a school's top four *undergraduate* entries will count toward sweepstakes totals.
2. Individual events will be scored as follows:

Preliminary rounds:

3 points for 1st place
 2 points for 2nd place
 1 point for 3rd place

Semifinals:

2 points for non-advancing contestants

Final rounds:

6 points for 1st place
 5 points for 2nd place
 4 points for 3rd place
 3 points for 4th place
 2 points for 5th place
 1 point for 6th place and below

3. Debate will be scored as follows

5 points for each preliminary round win/bye
 6 points for breaking to elimination rounds
 (These are halved for individual debate.
 Speaker points are not halved.)

6 points for 1st speaker
 5 points for 2nd speaker
 4 points for 3rd speaker
 3 points for 4th speaker
 2 points for 5th speaker

4. To be eligible for quadrathon, students must compete in (1) a minimum of four individual events (multiple duo's shall count as only one event for purposes of this minimum), and (2) in at least two of the three categories of individual events: limited preparation (extemp, impromptu), public address (after-

dinner, persuasive, informative, communication analysis), and interpretation (dramatic, program, prose, poetry, duo). Points to determine quadrathon placing will be according to the individual events sweepstakes formula outlined herein. Only four events will be counted toward a student's final quadrathon placing (for students with multiple duo entries, only their one best duo may be counted among these four), with at least one event from two of the three categories being included in those four events.

Tentative Schedule

Friday, January 30

1:00	Registration		
2:45	Extemp Draw	1:30	Team IPDA Rd. 1
3:00	Pattern A Round 1	3:00	Team IPDA Rd. 2
4:30	Pattern B Round 2	4:30	Team IPDA Rd. 3
5:45	Extemp Draw		
6:00	Pattern A Round 1	6:00	Team IPDA Rd. 4
7:30	Pattern B Round 2	7:30	Team IPDA Coaches Check
		8:00	Team IPDA Quarters

Saturday, January 31

8:30	Finals Extemp Draw		
9:00	Pattern A Finals	9:00	Team IPDA Semifinals
10:30	Pattern B Finals	10:30	Team IPDA Finals
12:00	NPDA/IPDA Rd. 1		
1:00	Lunch		
1:30	IE Awards		
2:00	NPDA/IPDA Rd. 2		
3:30	NPDA/IPDA Rd. 3		
5:00	NPDA/IPDA Rd. 4		
6:30	NPDA/IPDA Rd. 5		
8:00	NPDA/IPDA Rd. 6		

Sunday, February 1

8:30	IPDA Rd. 7 / NPDA Elim Round 1 (NPDA may be condensed depending on entry size.)
10:00	Coaches Check
10:30	Debate Elim Rd. 1
12:00	Lunch and Awards
1:30	Remaining Elimination Rounds

Judges: One judge covers six IE entries per pattern, two debate teams, or four individual IPDA debaters. Please list judges and the events they are qualified to judge (if qualified to judge multiple events, please indicate preferences). WE WANT YOUR JUDGES, NOT YOUR MONEY!

Judges	Events

Entry Fees: Please make all checks payable to John Brown University

Entries	Event	Fee
1	Tournament Fee	\$35.00
	Covered Ind. Events (\$8.00)	
	Uncovered Ind. Events (\$15.00)	
	Covered NPDA (\$35.00)	
	Uncovered NPDA (\$60.00)	
	Covered IPDA (\$25.00)	
	Uncovered IPDA (\$40.00)	
	Covered IPDA Team (\$35.00)	
	Uncovered IPDA Team (\$60.00)	
	Late and Drop Fees (\$15)	
	Total Fees:	