

Dear Colleagues,

The Governing Board of the Southern Forensics Championships invites you to its 14th tournament. The Southern Forensics Championship serves as the intercollegiate championships for the states of Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi, **but it is open to all who wish to participate**. We will be featuring the standard AFA-NIET events plus editorial impromptu, and our usual offerings of NPDA, Team IPDA, and IPDA.



Please read this invitation carefully to comply with all rules. Please pay particular attention to the tournament ethics statement, as well as guidelines regarding fees for late entry changes. Questions about the tournament can be sent to Preston Langley (PLangley@bpcc.edu), while questions about campus facilities and local amenities should be directed to AJ Edwards (AJ.Edwards@lsus.edu). We look forward to seeing you for a weekend of fun and collegial competition.

Sincerely,

The SFC Governing Board

Preston Langley, Bossier Parish Community College, Tournament Director
Anthony McMullen, University of Central Arkansas, Tournament Director (Honorary)
Cheryl Chambers, Mississippi State University
Elaine Eaton, Northwestern State University
Jim Evans, University of Arkansas at Monticello
Amorette Hinderaker, Texas Christian University
Hannah Morris, University of Arkansas at Fayetteville
Pat Richey, Middle Tennessee State University
L. Paul Strait, University of Southern Mississippi
Masey Hammonds, University of Louisiana at Lafayette

Tournament Ethics Statement: The last several years, we have included a statement requiring those participating in our tournament to abide by the [National Communication Association's Anti-Harassment Code of Conduct](#). This move was not novel, as many tournaments have statements requiring participants to abide by this policy. That being said, we are concerned that instances of harassing behavior go unchecked by the community. This could be for many reasons:

- It could be that those subject to harassing behavior do not come forward until long after the harassing behavior has occurred.
- It could be that those subject to harassing behavior do not come forward for fear of reprisal.
- It could be that those subject to harassing behavior did come forward, but those responsible for addressing the matter failed to do so properly.
- It could be that the matter was addressed but not sufficiently enough to change the perpetrator's behavior.

Whatever the reason, the SFC Governing Board reaffirms that no participant should be subject to harassing behavior.

All participants (coaches, judges, competitors, and observers) should review the [NCA Anti-Harassment Code of Conduct](#) before participating in our tournament. The SFC Governing Board expects that behavior between all participants be respectful and appropriate at all times. Procedures will be in place so that participants can report behavior that violates this code. In addition, any participant that has concerns over propriety or good sportspersonship should discuss the matter with their coaching staff. Any coach or judge should address any concerns with the Tournament Director. Serious violations of the policies may result in immediate disqualification from the tournament. As a condition of entry, all participants, coaches, judges, and guests agree that any decision issued by the Tournament Director is binding, and final.

Tournament Hotel: The following Hotels in the Shreveport area are recommended. Additional lodging options (if needed) can be found in the nearby Bossier City (within 30 miles of our campus). There are several other hotels in the area; please feel free to contact AJ Edwards at AJ.Edwards@lsus.edu if you need additional hotel listings.

Hampton Inn	318-798-1320	8340 Millicent Way, Shreveport, LA 71115
Home 2 Suites by Hilton	318-666-9880	6650 Eastbank Dr, Shreveport LA, 71105
Holiday Inn Express & Suites Shreveport South	318-629-0163	8751 Park Plaza Dr, Shreveport LA, 71105

Meal Options: The Port inside of the LSUS University Center will be open on Friday till 4:30 pm. This is our only on campus dining option. There are several restaurants and fast food options just minutes from campus. The University Center also has several vending and beverage machines. Nearby Youree Drive has a several dozen food options within less than 5 minutes of driving.

SFC Governing Board and Coach of the Year Awards: We will have elections for the SFC student representative from each state, all to serve a one-year term. Students desiring to run for Governing Board should submit their name and a brief candidacy statement along with the tournament entry. If there is a contested election, statements will be distributed at the tournament, and eligible voters (any undergraduate student competing in the SFC from the representative state) will cast their votes at the tournament.

Students will also select the SFC Coach of the Year. Each SFC state will be responsible for electing their state Coach of the Year. Each Coach will then be eligible for the SFC Coach of the Year.

Tab Room: The tab room will be closed to all competitors. It will be open to coaches during Team IPDA Round 4 and IPDA/NPDA Round 6.

Individual Event Information

1. We will offer the eleven AFA-NIET events, plus editorial impromptu. All individual events (except for persuasive speaking) shall following the rules established and followed by the American Forensics Association. Entries will be allowed to use the internet for Extemp. Preparation.
2. Persuasive speaking shall follow the rules of the Interstate Oratorical Contest. These speeches shall have no time limit, but speeches must not exceed 1800 words, with no more than 20% of the total number of words being directly quoted from a source other than the competitor. All quoted material must be documented. Participants and their respective programs are responsible for ensuring that the manuscripts adhere to that tournament's national guidelines.
3. Students may enter a maximum of three individual events per pattern. Competitors may enter two duos (with different partners), but this will count as two events in Pattern B. Students entered in multiple events will be responsible for making it to their rounds on time and should endeavor to sign in. The tournament directors reserve the right to limit the number of entries from a school, and to balance rounds to accommodate judging obligations from schools with large entries.
4. Individual Events will be flighted as follows:
 - a. Pattern A Events- Extemp, Persuasion, Communication Analysis, Duo, Prose, & Editorial Impromptu.
 - b. Pattern B Events- Impromptu, Informative, After Dinner Speaking, Programmed Oral Interpretation, Dramatic Interpretation, Poetry, and Radio Broadcast

Editorial Impromptu: Students will be given a 1-page op-ed article, and will have 9 minutes to read the article, prepare a response, and deliver it. Students must speak for at least 5 minutes. The speech should involve the development of an argument in response to the thesis developed or the opinion shared in the article. In agreeing or disagreeing with the position or thesis of the article, students should introduce new information and reasoning.

Radio 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 material packets will include international, national, state, and local news. All informational 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 (but students can choose what information they want to present and be creative with advertisements, presentational style, etc.). 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. Students may organize their material and notes however they choose (and may use scissors, highlighters, tape, or whatever other tools may help them stay organized). Maximum time limit for the speech is 5 minutes. Posting of source materials will be staggered.

Parliamentary Debate

1. There will be a single division of parliamentary debate, which shall follow the time limits and rules established under the National Parliamentary Debate Association. We will use flex time, with two minutes after the first proposition speech and first opposition speech and one minute after the second proposition speech and the opposition rebuttal.
2. There will be a common announce within the topic announcement area. Teams will have twenty minutes after the announcement to get to their rooms.
3. Maverick and three-person teams are not allowed.
4. We plan to offer six (6) preliminary rounds and the appropriate number of elimination rounds, but we reserve the right to reduce the tournament to four (4) preliminary rounds if we receive insufficient entries to hold a six-round tournament.
5. For purposes of elimination round seeding and speaker points, adjusted speaker points (total points minus high-low) will be considered first, then total speaker points. However, if less than six (6) rounds are offered, we will first consider total speaker points, then adjusted points.

Team IPDA Debate

1. There will be a single division of team IPDA for all competitors under the Varsity TIPDA Division, following IPDA's rules for eligibility.
2. All team IPDA rounds shall follow the times limits and rules established by the International Public Debate Association. ***This includes the prohibition against the use of electronic devices as timers, in-round flowing devices, or any other electronic device used in rounds.***
3. Students will have thirty minutes of preparation time (this includes time walking to the rounds).
4. We will offer four (4) preliminary rounds and three (3) elimination rounds. Should the need for partial outrounds arise, appropriate communication will be sent out prior to the tournament, along with any necessary adjustments to the schedule. If we have more than thirty-one (31) entries, we will add a fourth elimination round to take place Saturday evening after individual IPDA rounds have concluded.
5. For purposes of elimination round seeding and speaker points, total speaker points will be considered first, then adjusted speaker points.
6. **Please note – we will be emphasizing to all judges that everything other than ensuring everyone is “ready” shall be considered “on the clock” (this includes thank you's, roadmaps, arguments, etc.) and judges will be empowered to penalize competitors at their discretion (via speaker points and/or the assigning of the win) for violations of the time limits that are specified in the IPDA bylaws.**

IPDA Debate

1. We will offer novice, junior varsity, varsity, and professional divisions. *While any competitor may enter the professional division, only registered undergraduate students will be considered for sweepstakes calculations.*
2. All individual IPDA rounds shall follow the times limit and rules established by the International Public Debate Association. ***This includes the prohibition against the use of electronic devices as timers, in-round flowing devices, or any other electronic device used in rounds.***

3. We will offer (6) preliminary rounds and an appropriate number of elimination rounds. Should the need for partial outrounds arise, appropriate communication will be sent out prior to the tournament, along with any necessary adjustments to the schedule.
4. For purposes of elimination round seeding and speaker points, adjusted speaker points (total points minus high-low) will be considered first, then total speaker points.
5. **Please note – we will be emphasizing to all judges that everything other than ensuring everyone is “ready” shall be considered “on the clock” (this includes thank you’s, roadmaps, arguments, etc.) and judges will be empowered to penalize competitors at their discretion (via speaker points and/or the assigning of the win) for violations of the time limits that are specified in the IPDA bylaws.**

Sweepstakes Formula: In each event, a school’s top four entries will count toward sweepstakes totals (except for individual IPDA, where the top three *undergraduate* entries per division will count).

Awards and Sweepstakes: Awards will be presented to all individual event finalists, to all debate elimination round participants, to the top speakers in each debate division, the top five quadrathon, and the top three individual and team sweepstakes winners. 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.

The top four entries in each individual event, the top two parliamentary teams and team IPDA teams, and the top three *undergraduate* entries per division of IPDA debate will count toward sweepstakes.

Individual events will be scored as follows:

	Preliminary Rounds	Preliminary Rounds	Finals:
1 st Ranking	3 pts.	6 pts.	12 pts.
2 nd Ranking	2 pts.	4 pts.	10 pts.
3 rd Ranking	1 pt.	2 pts.	8 pts.
4 th Ranking		1 pt.	7 pts.
5 th Ranking		1 pt.	5 pts.
6 th Ranking		1 pt.	3 pts.
7 th Ranking			1 pt.

Debate will be scored as follows:

<u>Team IPDA and Parliamentary Debate</u>	<u>Speakers (for all events)</u>
6 points for each prelim round win	6 points for 1 st speaker
6 points for breaking	5 points for 2 nd speaker
	4 points for 3 rd speaker
<u>Individual IPDA</u>	3 points for 4 th speaker
3 points for each prelim round win	2 points for 5 th speaker
3 points for breaking	

Individual Event Sweepstakes (Quadrathon): To be eligible, students must compete in at least four events and in at least two of the three categories: limited preparation (extemp, impromptu, editorial impromptu), public address (after dinner speaking, persuasive, informative, communication analysis), and interpretation (dramatic, program, prose, poetry, duo). Multiple duos shall count as only one event for the purposes of this minimum. Only four events will be counted toward a student’s total, with at least one event from two of the three categories being included in those four events. Only one duo will be counted among the four. Points shall be calculated using the sweepstakes formula outlined herein.

Individual Overall Sweepstakes: To be eligible, students must compete in at least one individual event and one form of debate. All of a student's events will count toward this total. Points shall be calculated using the sweepstakes formula outlined herein.

Team Overall Sweepstakes: To be eligible for team overall sweepstakes and for the state championship, a school must have at least one individual event entry and one debate entry. (There will also be team sweepstakes in individual events and debate.)

State Championships (SFC schools only): The top entry in each event from each SFC state will be recognized as that state's champion, and the top school in each category (debate, individual events, and overall) will be recognized as the state champion. In debate events, the top entry will be competitor(s) who go the farthest in the competition. If a state's final competitors are eliminated in the same round, the higher seed will be recognized as the champion.

IE Schedule

Friday

10:30 am - Registration
11:30 pm - Rd. 1 EXT Draw
12:00 pm - Rd. 1 Pattern A
1:15 pm - Rd. 1 Pattern B
2:30 pm - Rd 2 EXT Draw
3:00 pm - Rd. 2 Pattern A
4:15 pm - Rd. 2 Pattern B
5:30 pm - Dinner Break
6:30 pm - Finals EXT Draw
7:00 pm - Finals A & Semis
8:15 pm - Remaining Finals

Saturday

***2:30 p.m. - Lunch Break/
Coaches and Student Meetings***

* Lunch provided

IPDA/TIPDA/NPDA Schedule (Times indicate start of draw or topic announce)

Friday

10:00 am - Registration
10:45 am - Team IPDA Rd. 1
12:30 pm - Team IPDA Rd. 2
2:15 pm - Team IPDA Rd. 3
4:00 pm - Team IPDA Rd. 4
6:00 pm - Dinner Break
7:00 pm - TIPDA Elim. Rd. 1
8:45 pm - TIPDA Elim. Rd. 2

Saturday

8:00 am - TIPDA Elim. Rd. 3
9:45 am - TIPDA Elim. Rd. 4
10am to 11am - Registration
11:30 am - IPDA/Parli Rd. 1
1:00 pm - IPDA/Parli Rd. 2
***2:30 pm - Lunch Break/
Coaches and Student Meetings***
3:30 pm - IPDA/Parli Rd. 3
5:00 pm - IPDA/Parli Rd. 4
6:30 pm - IPDA/Parli Rd. 5
8:00 pm - IPDA/Parli Rd. 6

Sunday

8:30 am - Elim. Rd. 1
10:30 am - Awards
11:15 am - Elim. Rd. 2
12:45 pm - Elim. Rd. 3
2:15 pm - Elim. Rd. 4
3:45 pm - Elim Rd. 5
* Lunch provided

Judges: Normally, there is an option for uncovered entries and a statement that we would rather have your judges rather than your money. Due to the challenges of running a comprehensive tournament, we strongly encourage all entries to be covered. In the event they are not, we will be enforcing uncovered entry fees. To be clear: **WE WANT YOUR JUDGES MORE THAN WE WANT YOUR FEES.** One judge may cover six (6) individual event entries, two (2) NPDA teams, two (2) Team IPDA teams, or four (4) IPDA debaters. A single judge may be used to cover multiple events except for NPDA and individual IPDA. In other words, a single judge could cover six (6) individual event entries, two (2) Team IPDA entries, and either two (2) NPDA entries or four (4) IPDA entries. Programs are committed to one round past their highest advancing eliminated

competitor. Every effort will be made to allow programs with extended drives to be released sooner, but this cannot be guaranteed.

Because of the tight schedule, it is essential that judges return ballots in a timely manner. Therefore, we ask that judges do not provide oral critiques at the end of the round. (We particularly request this for IPDA judges, as IPDA guidelines strongly discourage oral critiques.)

Entries: Entries should be submitted via FTN no later than Monday, January 15th at 5:00 p.m. Upon receipt of each entry, you will receive emailed confirmation to double-check your entry for accuracy. ***Please take this time to identify your novice competitors, if they are not already marked as such in your FTN entry.*** Changes will be accepted without charge until Wednesday, January 17 at noon. Each change after that will be charged \$15.00. (Create more blanks on the form if necessary.)

Uncovered Entries: IE entries are \$10, IPDA entries are \$25, and NPDA and Team IPDA entries are \$35. Uncovered IE entries are an additional \$10 each, uncovered NPDA and TIPDA entries are an additional \$25 each, and uncovered IPDA entries are an additional \$15 each.

Please make all check payable to LSUS (memo line of LSUS Debate). Checks can be mailed to:
LSUS Continuing Education
One University Place
Shreveport, La. 71115
Attention Angela Taylor

We can also make arrangements for a credit card transaction if needed.