



**MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™**  
SPEECH & DEBATE COUNCIL



Dear Colleagues,

The Governing Board of the Southern Forensics Championship invites you to its tenth annual tournament. This year, we are honored to be hosted by Mississippi State University on January 24-26, 2020. This tournament serves as a regional championship for Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi, **but it is open to all who wish to participate**. The competition will feature one division of NPDA debate, one division of Team IPDA debate, all four divisions of IPDA debate, and the standard eleven AFA-NIET events plus editorial impromptu.

You will find all pertinent information below. Questions regarding tournament administration and registration should be sent to Anthony McMullen ([amcmullen@uca.edu](mailto:amcmullen@uca.edu)), while questions about campus facilities and local amenities should be directed to Cheryl Chambers ([cchambers@comm.msstate.edu](mailto:cchambers@comm.msstate.edu)). We look forward to seeing you for a weekend of fun and forensic competition!

Sincerely,  
The SFC Governing Board

Anthony McMullen, University of Central Arkansas (Tournament Director)  
Cheryl Chambers, Mississippi State University (Host Director)  
Gabe Adkins, Arkansas Tech University  
Chris Brown, University of Arkansas—Monticello  
Molly Brown, Oral Roberts University  
Amorette Hinderaker, Texas Christian University  
Kina Reed, Louisiana State University  
Megan Smith, Louisiana Tech University  
Paul Strait, University of Southern Mississippi

**2020 SFC Student Representative Service Project:** The 2019 SFC Student Representatives are pleased to present service project for this tournament: T-shirts! We will be selling shirts with the SFC logo and the profits will benefit Fight Like Emilie. Each shirt will cost \$15 if pre-ordered and \$20 at the tournament. Orders can be sent in at any point, but the pre-order deadline is Wednesday, January 8. [Click on this link to see the shirt design.](#) Order by going to [sfct.tabroom.com](http://sfct.tabroom.com) (go to the concessions link) or by sending an email to Cheryl Chambers.

Alicia Brown, Mississippi State University  
Charlie McBride, Louisiana Tech University  
Leah Sparkman, University of Arkansas—Monticello

**Tournament Headquarters:** The tournament will be headquartered at the Colvard Student Union. **Mississippi State University is a non-smoking campus. The prohibition against smoking (including vaping and e-cigarettes) extends to all MSU property, including parking lots.**

**Tournament Hotel:** The following Hotels in Starkville are recommended. There are several other hotels in the area; please feel free to contact Cheryl Chambers ([cchambers@comm.msstate.edu](mailto:cchambers@comm.msstate.edu)) if you need additional hotel listings.

**Hampton Inn**

700 Hwy 12  
662-324-1333

**Marriot**

100 Mercantile St  
662-338-3116

**Comfort Suites**

801 Russell St  
662-324-9595

**Holiday Inn**

110 B Hwy 12 West  
662-324-0076

**Hilton Garden Inn**

975 Hwy 12 East  
662-615-9664

**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.

**Event Information**

1. We will offer all eleven AFA-NIET events (plus editorial impromptu), open parliamentary debate, all four divisions of IPDA debate, and varsity team IPDA.

- a. All parliamentary debate rounds shall follow the time limits and rules established under the National Parliamentary Debate Association. *We will use flex time.* Debaters will have fifteen minutes of preparation time (plus five minutes to walk to the round). We plan to offer six preliminary rounds and the appropriate number of elimination rounds, but we reserve the right to reduce the tournament to four preliminary rounds.
  - b. All team IPDA rounds shall follow the time limits and rules established by the International Public Debate Association. Students will have thirty minutes of preparation time (this includes time walking to the rounds). We will offer a varsity division only. We will offer four preliminary rounds and three elimination rounds.
  - c. All individual IPDA rounds shall follow the time limits and rules established by the International Public Debate Association. Students will have thirty minutes of preparation time (this includes time walking to the rounds). We will offer professional, varsity, junior 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. Teams will be allowed to use the internet for Extemp.
  - e. Persuasive speaking shall follow 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 being directly quoted from a source other than the competitor. All quoted material must be documented. Each participant and their respective program is responsible for ensuring that the manuscripts submitted to the Interstate Oratorical Association adhere to that tournament's national guidelines.
2. For the purposes of elimination round seeding and speaker points in debate events:
    - a. In events with four or five rounds, total speaker points will be considered. Ties will be broken by ranks, then by adjusted speaker points (total points minus high-low).
    - b. In events with six rounds, adjusted speaker points will be considered. Ties will be broken by ranks (if any), then total speaker points.
  3. Schools shall not be limited in entries per event, but only *undergraduate* entries will count for sweepstakes awards.
  4. Awards shall be presented to the elimination round participants in all debate events, the top five speakers in every division of debate, the finalists in every individual event, and the top five quadrathon and individual overall sweepstakes 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.

**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 ten IE entries. Judges may cover multiple events if the events do not conflict. For example: one judge could cover four IPDA debaters and

ten IE entries, as those events do not occur at the same time. That same judge could not cover two IPDA teams and six IE entries.

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.)

**Tab Room:** The tab room will be run by the SFC Governing Board. 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.

**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).

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 (if any):

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

Debate will be scored as follows:

5 points for each prelim round win/bye  
6 points for breaking

(Win and break points halved  
for individual IPDA.)

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

Quadrathon Sweepstakes:

1. To be eligible, students must compete in a minimum of four individual 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.
2. Points shall be calculated using the sweepstakes formula outlined herein. Only four events will be counted toward a student's final quadrathon placing, with at least one event from two of the three categories being included in those four events. For students with multiple duos, only their best duo will be counted among the four.

Individual Overall Sweepstakes:

1. To be eligible, students must compete in at least one individual event and one form of debate.

2. Points shall be calculated using the sweepstakes formula outlined herein. All of a student's events will count toward this total.

**Entries:** Go to [sfct.tabroom.com](http://sfct.tabroom.com) to register. (Tabroom will not be used to tab IPDA or TIPDA. There are just too many quirks in the system for it to be a reliable replacement system.) If you need help registering, contact Anthony McMullen at [AMcMullen@uca.edu](mailto:AMcMullen@uca.edu). Please have at least an initial entry posted no later than Monday, January 21 at 5:00 p.m. Changes will be accepted without charge until Wednesday, January 23 at 5:00 p.m. Each change after that period will be \$15.00.

**Entry Fees:** Please make all checks payable to the MSU Foundation

Tournament Fee	\$35.00
Covered IEs	\$10.00
Uncovered IEs	\$15.00
Covered NPDA	\$35.00
Uncovered NPDA	\$60.00
Covered IPDA	\$25.00
Uncovered IPDA	\$40.00
Covered Team IPDA	\$35.00
Uncovered Team IPDA	\$60.00
Late and Drop Fees	\$15.00

## **Tentative Schedule**

### **Friday, January 24**

12:30 p.m. Registration

#### **Individual Events Schedule**

1:00 p.m. - Round 1 Extemp Draw  
1:30 p.m. - Round 1A  
2:45 p.m. - Round 1B  
3:45 p.m. - Round 2 Extemp Draw  
4:15 p.m. - Round 2A  
5:30 p.m. - Round 2B  
6:30 p.m. - Dinner Break  
7:00 p.m. - Finals Extemp Draw  
7:30 p.m. - Finals A & Semis (if necessary)  
8:45 p.m. - Remaining Finals

#### **Team IPDA Schedule**

1:30 p.m. - Draw Team IPDA Rd. 1  
3:00 p.m. - Draw Team IPDA Rd. 2  
4:30 p.m. - Draw Team IPDA Rd. 3  
6:00 p.m. - Dinner Break  
6:30 p.m. - Draw Team IPDA Rd. 4  
8:30 p.m. - Draw Team IPDA Elim Rd. 1

**Flight A: Ext, Per, CA, Duo, Poe, Ed Imp    Flight B: Imp, Inf, ADS, POI, DI, Pro**

### **Saturday, January 25**

8:00 a.m. - Draw Team IPDA Elim Rd. 2 & Late Registration  
9:30 a.m. - Rd. 1 IPDA Draw & NPDA Topic Announce  
11:00 a.m. - Rd. 2 IPDA Draw & NPDA Topic Announce  
12:30 p.m. - Lunch Break  
1:00 p.m. - Draw Team IPDA Elim Rd. 3  
1:30 p.m. - Coaches' Meeting and First Student Meeting  
2:30 p.m. - Rd. 3 IPDA Draw & NPDA Topic Announce  
4:00 p.m. - Rd. 4 IPDA Draw & NPDA Topic Announce  
5:30 p.m. - Rd. 5 IPDA Draw & NPDA Topic Announce  
7:00 p.m. - Rd. 6 IPDA Draw & NPDA Topic Announce  
8:30 p.m. - Second Student Meeting (if necessary) and Coaches Check

### **Sunday, January 26**

8:30 a.m. - Elim Rd. 1 IPDA Draw & NPDA Topic Announce  
10:30 a.m. - Awards, Remaining Elim rounds to follow