



# 1ST ANNUAL SHARK INVITATIONAL

**Hosted by Southeast Arkansas College | October 23-24, 2020**

Hello IPDA friends and colleagues!

The SEARK Shark Speech and Debate Team would like to invite you to the first annual Shark Invitational hosted virtually from the campus of Southeast Arkansas College on Friday October 23 through Saturday October 24. We will offer 6 rounds of IPDA debate advancing to appropriate elimination rounds. Anthony McMullen of UCA has graciously offered to run tab for the tournament. No other events will be offered during this weekend, however, a joint IE/debate prize will be awarded for those who also enter our asynchronous speech tournament later in November.

All entries must be received by Tuesday October 20 at 5:00 pm CDT on [ForensicsTournament.net](https://ForensicsTournament.net). Changes will be accepted until Thursday October 22 At 12 noon CDT. Each judge will cover 2 debaters. Please try to cover all of your entries as we have a very limited supply of hired judges.

All elimination round participants will receive emailed awards that can be printed and framed. Champions and top speakers in each event will be mailed a special award for their win. We will also make a special video for each team that can be shared on social media to publicize your squad's success!

We hope you can join us for what we hope will be the first of many future Shark Invitationals!

Erick Roebuck  
Speech and Debate Team Director  
Southeast Arkansas College  
Tournament Director/Host  
[eroebuck@seark.edu](mailto:eroebuck@seark.edu)

Anthony McMullen  
Director of Forensics  
University of Central Arkansas  
Tabulation Director  
[amcmullen@uca.edu](mailto:amcmullen@uca.edu)

## TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

All rounds will be single-flighted in order to encourage an on-time schedule.

### Friday October 23rd

1:00 Welcome/announcements  
1:30 Draw Round 1  
3:00 Draw Round 2  
4:30 Draw Round 3  
6:00 Draw Round 4  
7:30 Draw Round 5

### Saturday October 24th

10:00 Draw Round 6  
11:30 Lunch Break  
12:30 Awards  
1:00 Draw Elimination 1  
2:30 Draw Elimination 2  
4:00 Draw Elimination 3  
5:30 Draw Elimination 4 (if needed)

## ENTRIES

### VIRTUAL ARRIVAL & REGISTRATION

- Registration will be conducted via ForensicsTournament.net, and all competition rounds through Yaatly.
- Registration Link: <https://forensicstournament.net/SEARKShark/20>
- User guides for coaches and students, including instructional videos for ForensicsTournament.net and Yaatly guides, can be found on the IPDA Website at: <http://www.ipdadebate.info/virtual-debate-resources.html>
- All entries must be received by Tuesday October 20 at 5:00 pm CDT on ForensicsTournament.net. Changes will be accepted until Thursday October 22 at 12 noon CDT, when fees and invoices are calculated.
- **We reserve the right to limit uncovered entries! We will let teams with uncovered entries know if their uncovered debaters can debate on Thursday afternoon.**

### FEES

- Debate entries—\$15 (1 judge covers 2 debaters)
- Uncovered entry fee—\$35
- Late Change/Drop Fees—\$25 (AFTER the change deadline at 12 noon on Thursday)
- Additional observers—\$5 (Head coach pays no observer fee. Each 5 teams = 1 additional complimentary observer)

Please make checks payable to Southeast Arkansas College. For PayPal, Venmo, or Credit Card payment, contact Erick Roebuck at [eroebuck@seark.edu](mailto:eroebuck@seark.edu) for options.

### JUDGES

- All entries should be covered. We have a limited number of hired judges, but that is not a guarantee that we can cover your uncovered judges. One judge during debate rounds covers two (2) IPDA debaters.
- As is commonplace in IPDA, once eliminated from competition, IPDA competitors may be used to judge IPDA elimination rounds.
- All judges are obligated to judge for the entirety of the tournament. We will reserve the

power to limit entries to make certain we can provide sufficient judging pools needed to keep clean rounds throughout the tournament.

- Your Judges and Competitors **MUST** provide email addresses (in ForensicsTournament.net) to receive their ballots, and providing cell phone numbers is **STRONGLY** encouraged.

## **AWARDS AND COMPETITION PROCEDURES**

### **AWARDS**

- Certificates will be presented to all elimination round participants in all events (via emailed files).
- Tournament champions will be mailed a physical award.
- Awards shall be presented to the top five speakers in each debate division.
- The three top programs and the topcommunity/junior college shall receive awards for Sweepstakes.

### **DIVISIONS & POINTS FORMULA**

- The tournament reserves the right to limit entries if necessary.
- We will host all four divisions (Nov, JV, Var, Pro) of IPDA competition.
- The top three debaters in each division will count towards Sweepstakes calculations.
- All IPDA debate rounds shall follow the 5-2-6-2-3-5-3 time format with 30 minutes preparation time.
- 6 preliminary rounds and the appropriate number of elimination rounds will be offered.
- See IPDA Debate.info for division eligibility requirements (or simply ask us if you need clarification).
- Debate points will be awarded according to the following formula:
  - 3 points for each preliminary round win
  - 3 points for breaking to elimination rounds
  - 5 points for 1st speaker
  - 4 points for 2nd speaker
  - 3 points for 3rd speaker
  - 2 points for 4th speaker
  - 1 point for 5th speaker
- TIEBREAKER FORMULA:
  - Debate: For determining competitors advancing to elimination rounds in individual debate we will look first to the number of wins, second to high/low adjusted speaker points and third to the number of total speaker points.
  - For determining speaker awards in individual debate, we will look first to high/low adjusted speaker points and second to total speaker points.

## **EVENT INFORMATION AND RULES**

### **General information**

- No minimum number of entries is required for schools to count toward debate sweepstakes awards.

- We will provide ADA accommodations upon request; please let us know at the time you enter if you need any special arrangements.
- The tab room will be headed by Anthony McMullen in a virtual room on Yaatly. Additional tab staff members will be announced the week of the tournament.

### **IPDA Considerations**

- Please adhere to all rules expressed in the Bylaws and Constitution of the IPDA.
- In order to keep the tournament running on time, please remind your competitors that they should activate their timers when the draw begins, not after the strike process ends.
- Please remind your judges that electronic devices are NOT permitted for anyone in a round other than for accessing the Yaatly platform or ballots, including the judge.

### **Tournament Ethics Statement**

- The behavior of all attending will be in keeping with the NCA Policy on AntiHarassment Code of Conduct. We encourage all programs to review these expectations prior to entering this tournament.
- Southeast Arkansas College expects that behavior between all participants, coaches, judges, and guests be respectful and appropriate at all times. If any participant has concerns over propriety or good sportsmanship, they should discuss the matter with their coaching staff. Any coach, judge, or guests should address any concerns with the Tournament Director exclusively.
- As a condition of entry, all participants, coaches, judges, and guests agree that the decision issued by the Tournament Director is binding and final.

### **Virtual Tournament Rules and Regulations**

- All competitors and judges should be in their competition room 5 minutes before the start of the round and test their audio. If a competitor or judge is not present in the room by the start of the round please contact Tournament Director Erick Roebuck through Yaatly chat immediately. Competitors who are over 5 minutes late will be forfeited.
- Coaches should confirm that all team judges have their ballots five minutes prior to the beginning of each round. All ballots will be delivered electronically via the email addresses the team's coach has provided. All schools must have their judges and competitors in the virtual rooms within 5 minutes of start times. Schools will be given 1 warning, then the offending judges and the competitors may be removed from the tournament.
- Competitors and judge webcams must be activated the entire debate round, and they should not change their backgrounds.
- Competitors should mute their video during competitor speeches, only during cross-ex should both microphones be turned on. It is useful to use headphones during the round to help ensure everyone can hear you properly. Judges should also mute their microphones once the round has started.
- Judges should activate the in-round timer function appropriate for each debate segment.

- Oral critiques by the judges ARE PROHIBITED after the round. This is important for keeping the rounds on-time

### Notes on In-Round Disconnects

- Competitors should maintain an active video feed throughout a round.
- Competitors must run independent timers in accordance with IPDA Constitution & Bylaws whether or not a judge utilizes the in-round timer in Yaatly.
- Judges will freeze the clock for no more than five minutes to allow a competitor who has lost connection to reenter the round. If the competitor does not reestablish connection within that period then the round is forfeited.
- Any drops in connection by a competitor or a judge must be noted on the judge's ballot.
- If a competitor loses connection a second time in a single round then the competitor will not be readmitted to the round. In this case, the judge may assign speaker points based on the affected speaker's performance up to the point of the second disconnect.
- If a competitor has more than three disconnections in a tournament then they will forfeit any remaining rounds.

### FINAL IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- **Familiarizing Your Team With Yaatly:** Accessing this platform prior to the start of the tournament will be especially useful to familiarize your team with the interface and to confirm that cameras and microphones are functioning properly in your Team Room. We encourage anyone new to Yaatly to get a quick feel for the layout and functions.
- **Yaatly Functions & Features:** We have a "Tab Room" and "Coaches'/Judges' Lounge" set up where you can interact with other coaches or confer with the Tab Room staff regarding questions and concerns (though we will not discuss student records or performance). We know that the social element of tournaments is sorely missed, and we hope this provides you with a chance to reconnect with your peers and plan for the rest of the semester.
- **Coaches' Check & Review of Ballots:** We will NOT be offering a Coaches' Check due to the logistical challenges imposed in a virtual environment.



**Speech and Debate Team**  
[speechsharks.com](http://speechsharks.com)