



APRIL TOURNAMENT INVITATION

You and your team are cordially invited to attend the Wilson Wyatt Debate League December Tournament, to be held on April 22 in person at Trinity High School and online at Tabroom.com utilizing NSDA Campus.

******* Because Thunder Over Louisville is this day, we will be utilizing a shorter and compressed Lightning Schedule (trademark pending, pun intended). It is **IMPERATIVE** you, your students, and your judges are on time to the tournament and every round so we can start and finish the tournament on time and enjoy the – hopefully wonderful – day, for those who may have plans elsewhere. *******

Wilson Wyatt Debate League Tournaments are open to all school-aged individuals in 6th grade or higher at accredited public, private, or parochial institutions, or to students being homeschooled.

The tournament will begin with registration from 7:00AM-7:45AM with the first round of competition starting at 8:00AM.

Registration:

Registration will be handled solely through Tabroom.com. Registration opens at the close of the previous WWDL tournament and will remain open until **April 18** at 5pm EST. At that time all new entries must be registered. Only designated adult coaches may register entries.

You may drop teams and judges from, as well as continue to add judges to, your registration until **April 20** at 5:00PM without penalty. After that time, each registration change will be assessed a \$25 penalty. Additionally, you will be assessed a \$50 hired judge fine for any missing judges.

Entry Fees:

Registration is free for members of the Wilson Wyatt Debate League. Please visit [our website](#) for more information on membership.

Entry fees are \$5 per student for non-members. All registration may be paid after the close of the tournament, along with any assessed nuisance fines or penalties, by check.

Events:

WWDL offers the following events and divisions: Novice, Junior Varsity, and Varsity Lincoln Douglas debate; Novice, Junior Varsity, and Varsity Public Forum debate; and Congressional debate.

Novice is open to all debaters in their first year of debate. Eligibility is exhausted at the end of the year in which a debater has competed at three or more tournaments, regardless of the division(s) or event(s) in which they competed. In Public Forum, both debaters must meet the eligibility requirement to compete in the Novice division.

In the event that a division of a debate event has fewer than six entries, two or more divisions may be collapsed at the discretion of the tab room and tournament director. Director preference is to collapse Novice into JV.

Technology:

This tournament will use electronic balloting for all rounds, as well as NSDA Campus integrated with Tabroom.com for online and hybrid rounds. As a result, **all coaches, judges, and competitors** must have a **linked** Tabroom account to compete or judge at this tournament. A Tabroom account is the only way to properly receive posting and ballots, enter the video conference room, and submit ballots after the round.

Additionally, **all coaches, judges, and competitors on-site at Trinity High School must have a device capable of joining NSDA Campus rounds using the Chrome browser (PC/Mac) or Jitsi app (iOS/Android).** Laptops or tablets with keyboards are highly recommended, especially for judges.

Functionality can be tested at <https://campus.speechanddebate.org/>.

During the round, all competitors and judges are asked to keep video recording devices turned on if possible. The tournament staff recognizes that there may be technological or personal reasons that interfere with this request, and as such it is not a requirement.

Competitors and judges must remain connected to the competition software for the entirety of the debate round and remain available for the entirety of the competition day. In the event of a technical problem mid-round that cannot be resolved, students should contact their coaches for assistance immediately. Judges must notify the Tabroom before making a forfeit decision due to technical mishap. **Ten Minutes per team** will be allowed for technical issues. Failure to remain online may result in teams being assessed a \$25 fine for each missing competitor or judge, per instance.

Topics:

Wilson Wyatt Debate League tournaments utilize the current month NSDA topics for Lincoln Douglas and Public Forum debate.

Congress will debate a combination of student-submitted legislation and the NSDA monthly legislation topic. Student legislation may be submitted via Tabroom.com or emailed to the tournament director. The deadline for legislation submission is **April 17** at 5PM.

Judging:

Each school is required to fulfill its judging obligation by providing one judge for every two entries, or fraction thereof. Thus, one judge can cover between 1-2 entries, two judges for 3-4 entries, 3 judges for 5-6 entries, and so on. In Congressional debate, the requirement is one judge for every six entries, or fraction thereof.

If you cannot fulfill your entire obligation, there are a limited number of judges available for \$50 each. Please submit all hired judge requests on tabroom.com.

If you are unable to meet your obligation, and there are insufficient hired judges available, you may be required to reduce the size of your entry. You will be notified prior to the date of the tournament if this is necessary.

Once the tournament has begun, judges are expected to remain available for the entirety of preliminary rounds and semi-finals and, if their school is represented in semi-finals, the final round. Judges who fail to appear for a round and need to be replaced will have a \$25 fine assessed to their school for each round missed. If a judge misses two rounds, they will be removed from the tournament and, in addition to the missing round fines, the school will be assessed a \$50 missing judge fine even if they are over their judging requirements.

Student Judges

Juniors or seniors, with at least 1 year of experience in varsity, may judge novice rounds only. This must be communicated to the tabroom during registration as a note in the judge's profile. It is also recommended that coaches contact the tabroom director prior to the close of judge registration with a list of all student judges to confirm successful registration.

Failure to communicate student judges may result in sanctions including but not limited to the removal of the student judges from the judge pool, the imposition of missing judge fines, and/or the disqualification of that school's teams from remaining preliminary or elimination rounds.

A school may not use more than 3 student judges, AND student judges may not compose more than 33% of their pool.

Congress/Debate Dual Judges:

Because only one chamber of Congress is typically run, judges entered in congress may also be applied for HALF CREDIT (covering 1 debater/team) towards your debate commitment. They will still count for the full commitment in Congress. If you choose to utilize this option, you MUST e-mail the tabroom director at woody.zorn@gmail.com, or league director at brian.huot@wyattdebateleague.org, prior to the close of registration. We must account for this manually. Failure to notify us on time will result in a \$25 nuisance fine per judge.

Awards:

Awards will be given to each student reaching elimination rounds as well as the top ten speakers in each division. In Congress, the top ten students will be recognized.

Schedule:

The tournament will feature 5 preliminary rounds of competition, semifinals, and finals. The schedule below is tentative and subject to change:

CHECK IN BY 7:45 AM

<i>Lincoln Douglas/Public Forum</i>	<i>Congress</i>
Round 1: 8:00 AM	Session 1: 8:00 AM
Round 2: 9:00 AM	
Round 3: 10:00 AM	Session 2: 10:15 AM
Round 4: 11:00 AM	
Lunch: 12:00 PM	Lunch 12:15 PM
Semis: 1:00 PM	
Awards: 2:15 PM	
Finals: 2:45 PM	Awards: 2:45 PM

Chaperones:

Each team must designate one adult who will be responsible for maintaining contact with students and judges throughout the entirety of the tournament. This person should be the primary contact at time of registration and check-in. While the tournament appreciates contact information being provided for each competitor and judge, it remains the ultimate responsibility of the selected adult to contact competitors and judges if the Tabroom is unable to.

Judge Feedback:

Feedback is welcome during the tournament and after the round. However, we ask that judges **DO NOT DISCLOSE** the winner or loser of the round. Post-round critiques should be kept short and pointed, and ballots must be filled out in full.

If you have any other questions, please feel free to email the league director, Brian Huot, at brian.huot@wyattdebateleague.org, or the tabroom director, Woody Zorn, at woody.zorn@gmail.com.

See you soon!!!