

# NATIONAL FORENSIC ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER: February 1, 2009

Dear Members:

**This edition of the NFA Newsletter will contain several items as follows:**

1. Information related to the 2009 Tournament at Drury University and Missouri State University.
2. The NFA Entry Sheet and **Registration** forms to the 2009 Tournament at **Drury University and Missouri State University** are attached to this e-mail. **They will also be available on-line at the NFA Website.**

Anyone wishing to reach me between now and March 4th, please contact via e-mail or my cell phone (507-382-3632). I shall be at my regular phone number beginning March 4<sup>th</sup>.

Yours truly,

Larry Schnoor, President, NFA  
Office Phone: 507-387-3010

## 2010 TOURNAMENT SITE

At the meeting of the NFA Executive Council held at the NCA Convention in San Diego, the Council accepted the bid from Ohio University, Athens, Ohio to host the 2010 NFA National Championship Tournament. Prof. Dan West will be our host. The NFA Council wants to thank Prof. West for submitting the bid and is looking forward to working with him and his staff at Ohio in 2010.

The NFA Council would like to consider bids for 2011, 2012, and 2013 at the earliest opportunity. Please consider submitting a bid for hosting the NFA. It would be appreciated if bids for 2011 could be submitted by April 1, 2009 so they may be considered at our meeting in Missouri. If you have any questions, please contact President Larry Schnoor.

## IMPORTANT TOURNAMENT INFORMATION 2009

1. The tournament qualification deadline is **Monday, March 23**. No tournaments held after this date will qualify for NFA.
2. All entries must follow the instructions contained on the official NFA Entry forms which is attached to this e-mail and available on the NFA website.
3. **Tournament Entry Deadline is Wednesday, March 25, 2009.**
4. Fees will be calculated on **March 25**. No adjustments will occur to base fees after **March 29** except to increase the fees if changes are made. In other words, you are charged for your entry as it stands when entries are due plus any applicable drop fees etc.
5. Drops after the deadline: These penalties will be added to your base fee as of **March 29**.

<b>March 30-April 2, 2009</b> .....	\$ 5.00 per slot
<b>April 3-5, 2009</b> .....	\$ 10.00 per slot
<b>April 6-8, 2009</b> .....	\$ 15.00 per slot
<b>April 9-12, 2009</b> .....	\$ 25.00 per slot
<b>April 13-15, 2009</b> .....	\$ 30.00 per slot
<b>April 16, 2009 (Registration)</b> .....	\$ 50.00 per slot
Late Registration .....	\$ 150.00 per school
FAX FEE for copy of tournament invitation.....	\$ 35.00

**NOTE: ANY DROPPED JUDGE (IE AND/OR L/D) AFTER THE THURSDAY PRIOR TO THE TOURNAMENT (APRIL 9<sup>th</sup>) WILL BE ASSESSED A PENALTY FEE OF \$300 FOR EACH JUDGE DROPPED. DROPPED JUDGES AFTER APRIL 9<sup>th</sup> WILL ALSO BE PENALIZED \$10.00 PER ASSIGNED ROUND AND SCHOOL FEES ADJUSTED TO REFLECT ONE LESS JUDGE. APPEALS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO THE TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.**

6. No Shows at the tournament will be penalized \$75.00 per scheduled/assigned slot.
7. Judges who do not pick up ballots for assigned rounds will be assessed a \$25 fee payable immediately.

8. No student from a school will advance to quarter-final rounds until all of that school's penalty fees, including no-show fees, are paid.
9. You will receive an entry verification from the National Tournament Director as soon as your entry is processed. If you do not receive an entry verification within a week of the date you sent the entry to the Director, please check with the Tournament Director on the status of your entry.

### GROUPINGS FOR THE TOURNAMENT:

Group A: Prose, Extemp Sp.      Group B: ADS, Inform, Rhet. Criticism  
Group C: Pers., Poetry, Drama      Group D: Drama Duo, Impromptu

**Exp. Event: Editorial Impromptu will be scheduled as it best fits in the schedule for the tournament. Editorial Impromptu will not count toward Sweepstakes.**

### DESCRIPTION OF EVENTS

**PERSUASION:** A speech to convince, to move to action, or to inspire on a significant issue, delivered from memory. Maximum time is 10 minutes.

**EXTEMPORANEIOUS:** For each round, contestants will select one of three topics on current national and international events. The contestant will have 30 minutes to prepare a five to seven minute speech on the topic selected. Notes are permissible but should be at a minimum. Maximum time is 7 minutes.

**IMPROMPTU:** Contestants will receive short excerpts dealing with items of general interest, political, economic and social issues. The contestants will have a total of seven minutes to divide between preparation and speaking. Students should speak for at least three minutes. All contestants in the same section shall speak on the same topic. Maximum time is 7 minutes.

**RHETORICAL CRITICISM:** Contestants will deliver an original critical analysis of any significant rhetorical artifact. The speaker should limit the quotation of, paraphrasing of, or summary of, the analyzed artifact to a minimum. Any legitimate critical methodology is permissible as long as it serves to open up the artifact for the audience. The speech must be delivered from memory. Maximum is 10 minutes.

**INFORMATIVE:** The contestant will deliver an original factual speech on a realistic subject to fulfill a general information need of the audience. Visual aids that supplement/reinforce the message are permitted. The speech must be delivered from memory. Maximum is 10 minutes.

**AFTER DINNER:** Each contestant will present an original speech whose purpose is to make a serious point through the use of humor. The speech should reflect the development of a humorous comedic effort, not a stand up comedy routine. The speech must be memorized. Maximum is 10 minutes.

**PROSE:** The contestant will present a program of prose literature. Original introductory comments and transitional remarks are permitted. Programs may consist of single or multiple selections. Plays are not permitted. Manuscripts are required. Maximum time is 10 minutes.

**POETRY:** The contestant will present a program of poetic literature. Original introductory comments and transitional remarks are permitted. Programs may consist of single or multiple selections. Manuscripts are required. Maximum is 10 minutes.

**DRAMATIC INTERP:** The contestant will perform dramatic literature, humorous or serious, that represents one or more characters from material of literary merit. This material may be drawn from stage, screen, or radio. Programs may consist of single or multiple selections. Manuscripts are required. Maximum 10 minutes.

**DRAMATIC DUO:** A cutting from a play, humorous or serious, involving the portrayal of two or more characters presented by two individuals. This is not an acting event. Thus, costumes, props, etc. are not

permitted. Presentation must be from manuscript and focus should be off stage. Maximum time is 10 minutes.

## NFA EXPERIMENTAL EVENT: EDITORIAL IMPROMPTU

**Event Rules:** Students will be given a shot editorial (ideally 3 to 5 paragraphs) to which they will develop a response. Students will be allowed nine minutes to divide between preparation and speech time. Speakers must speak for at least five minutes. Limited notes, prepared in the round, are permitted.

**Event Description:** Editorial Impromptu represents an attempt to return “impromptu” to impromptu speaking. The speech should involve the development of an argument in response to the thesis developed or opinion shared in a given editorial. The event resembles typical impromptu speaking in many ways, with the following important exceptions:

- (1) Topicality is more obviously inherent in the editorial format.
- (2) The development of argumentation is featured over pre-planned exemplification.
- (3) Social issues often ignored in other formats are fair game. Historical editorials might also add a dimension to the event.
- (4) The sharing of opinion, as well as a consideration of the opinions of audience members may play a more central role.
- (5) The event more closely resembles real-life discussion than existing limited preparation formats.
- (6) Students are rewarded for possessing and articulating a wider breadth of knowledge than existing formats.
- (7) This format also encourages the development of skills related to evaluating arguments and analyzing rhetoric.

**Event Rationale:** Several of the advantages listed above also serve as a rationale for the event. Students should be allowed to develop more impromptu argumentative skills in an impromptu speaking event. Also, NFA has featured experimental events derived primarily from prepared speaking and interpretive genres to the exclusion of limited preparation. These valuable speaking skills already represent the smallest piece of the forensic pie. The argumentative nature of the event, from the perspective of both analysis and development, seem to directly reflect the argumentative perspective defined by the national development conferences on forensics. Beyond this, students and judges who have participated in the event expressed a positive regard toward it.

### **TOURNAMENT CONSIDERATIONS:**

1. Each school may enter up to 2 Editorial Impromptu Speeches and must provide one judge.
2. Entries will be taken on a first come basis with a cut off at 50 entries.
3. Prelims will occur at the same time as earlier LD rounds or whenever it fits best in Tournament schedule.
4. Semis and Finals will occur in the LD time period as needed.

## **TENTATIVE NFA SCHEDULE: 2009**

### **THURSDAY:**

12:00 – 1:30 REGISTRATION  
1:30 – 2:00 Opening Meeting  
2:00 – 3:15 Coach / Student Meeting  
3:30 Extemp Draw  
4:00 – 5:30 p.m. Round 1, Group A  
5:30 – 7:00 p.m.. Round 1, Group B  
7:00 – 8:00 p.m. Lincoln Douglas Rd. 1  
8:00 – 9:00 p.m. Lincoln Douglas Rd. 2

### **FRIDAY:**

12:00 Noon Round Three, Lincoln Douglas  
1:30 p.m. Extemp Draw  
2:00 – 3:30 p.m. Round 2, Group A  
3:30 – 5:00 p.m. Round 2, Group B  
5:00 – 6:30 p.m. Round Four, Lincoln Douglas – Editorial Imp Prelim?  
6:30 –8:00 p.m. Round 1, Group C  
8:00 – 9:30 p.m. Round 1, Group D

### **SATURDAY:**

8:00 a.m. Round Five, Lincoln Douglas – Editorial Imp Prelim?  
9:00 a.m. Extemp Draw  
9:30-11:00 a.m. Round 3, Group A  
11:00-12:30 p.m. Round 3, Group B  
12:30 p.m. Round Six, Lincoln Douglas – Editorial Imp Prelim?  
1:45 –3:15 p.m. Round 2, Group C  
3:15 – 4:45 p.m. Round 2, Group D  
4:45 p.m. Extemp Draw  
5:15-6:45 p.m. Round 4, Group A  
6:45-8:15 p.m. Round 4, Group B

### **SUNDAY:**

8:15 – 9:30 a.m. Double Octo Finals, Lincoln Douglas  
9:30-11:00 a.m. Round 3, Group C  
11:00-12:30 a.m. Round 3 Group D  
12:30-2:00 p.m. Round 4, Group C  
2:00- 3:30 p.m. Round 4, Group D  
3:30 p.m. Octo Finals, Lincoln Douglas  
4:45 p.m. Extemp Draw  
5:15 p.m. Quarterfinals Groups A & B

### **MONDAY:**

8:00 a.m. Quarterfinals Groups C & B, Lincoln Douglas  
10:00 a.m. Extemp Draw  
10:30 a.m. Semi Finals, Groups A & B, & Editorial Imp Finals  
12:15 p.m. Semi Finals, Groups C & D and Lincoln Douglas  
2:15 p.m. Extemp Draw  
2:45 p.m. Finals, Groups A & B  
4:30 p.m. Finals, Groups C & D, and Lincoln Douglas  
7:15 p.m. Awards

**PLEASE FILL OUT THE FOLLOWING REGARDING YOUR ACCOMODATIONS WHILE AT THE NFA TOURNAMENT IN SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI AND SUBMIT THIS SHEET BY FAX OR WHEN YOU REGISTER AT THE TOURNAMENT. THANK YOU.**

NATIONAL FORENSIC ASSOCIATION  
Information Form 2009

ACCOMODATIONS: Please fax with entry or submit at  
Registration

SCHOOL:

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Director:

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(or contact person for team while at the NFA National Tournament)

PHONE:

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(Cell phone number of contact person while team at the NFA National  
Tournament)

We will be staying at the location listed below:

Our phone number at this location is: \_\_\_\_\_

Rooms are listed under the name/school: \_\_\_\_\_