



2021 NIETOC FAQs

***Where is the most up-to-date tournament information?**

We have attempted to provide all of the key details for this year's tournament at the 'Files for Download' page on SpeechWire, found here -- <https://www.speechwire.com/c-files.php?tournid=11159> – Because of the many unique adjustments we are making for this year only, this information is more current and applicable than our website. Please check here for answers to many of your questions.

***What is the tournament schedule?**

All times listed are in CST. Schedule found here - <https://www.speechwire.com/files/11159-2021%20NIETOC%20SCHED.pdf>

***What are the deadlines?**

April 10 – At-large entries registered
April 16 – All other entries registered
April 21 – Payment (or proof of purchase order) due
April 26 – Videos uploaded

***What does the team fee of \$225 cover?**

\$25 is for shipping tournament merchandise (t-shirts and pins and any awards) and the \$200 is the judge bond, which is refundable as long as at least one judge is provided and any/all judge obligations during the tournament are met.

***How do I pay my registration fees?**

After clicking on your SpeechWire invoice, you will find a link to PayPal. There, you can use a PayPal account or a debit/credit card to pay your balance. If that link doesn't work properly, you can also send a PayPal payment to info@nietoc.com (please add a detailed note). Checks should be mailed to our working address (Matt Heimes, 5330 NW 6th Street, Lincoln, NE 68521-4306) and copies of purchase orders should be emailed to mheimes@lps.org.

***Where do I get the W9 needed to request payment?**

That form is listed in the 'Files for Download' and linked here -
<https://www.speechwire.com/files/11159-2021%20W9%20FORM.pdf>

***Do students need parental permission to participate?**

Yes. Please see the legal documentation details found here --
<https://www.speechwire.com/files/11159-2021%20Legal%20Documentation.pdf>

***How do I know which registration steps are completed/left to complete?**

At the top of your registration page on SpeechWire, there is a blue box title 'Tournament Entry Status.' As each of the four key steps is completed, you will see the status wording change from red (not yet approved) to green (approved).

***How many events can a student enter?**

Three. We allow competitors to triple-enter in this competition, in any combination.

***Does every student on my registration need their own SpeechWire account?**

Yes, that must be tied to an email that they can access easily and they must activate their account. Entries after March 28 will not be able to register without having these steps done first. If you registered students before this date, they will not be able to participate in our synchronous rounds. NIETOC will not be responsible for students missing live/synchronous rounds due to this issue. Please view this page for steps to complete this VITAL step --
<https://www.speechwire.com/files/11159-2021%20STUDENT%20ACCOUNTS.pdf>

***Are Bonus Entries available?**

Yes, in Duo, Duet and POI. Please see this form for details:
<https://www.speechwire.com/files/11159-2021%20BONUS%20ENTRIES.pdf>

***Do bonus entry students need to be qualified in another event?**

No. For this year only, we are allowing teams to register any students they wish in the bonus entry events.

***What should I do about Video Links?**

Temporarily, you may list TBA in the video link box. Final videos are due before April 26. NIETOC is not responsible for missing or inaccurate video links. Please see this page for additional details: <https://www.speechwire.com/files/11159-2021%20VIDEOTAPING%20EXPECTATIONS%20FOR%20NIETOC.pdf>

***How will Extemp work?**

Extemp topics will be released on April 19th, giving the competitors one week to record and submit their four videos. Additional details found here:

<https://www.speechwire.com/files/11159-2021%20EXTEMP%20PROCEDURES.pdf>

***Which events require Works Cited pages?**

Informative, Oratory and POI. Students will need to create these digital files and then share a link with the coach, who adds that link to those entries prior to the registration deadline. This must be present in order for your 'Piece Information' confirmation to occur.

***Is selection info required at registration?**

Yes, please provide topics & titles and all other requested information upon registration. Not doing so will delay the entry in getting approved. If an entry is not yet approved, that is the first thing to check.

***Can we switch qualified Duos to Duet and vice versa?**

Yes, because of the filming requirements for each, we are allowing this change for this year only. Please see the details regarding Duo and Duet filming styles, along with additional rules for those two events, in this document: <https://www.speechwire.com/files/11159-2021%20DIGITAL%20EVENT%20RULES.pdf>

***How do we know when our judges are obligated and/or need to be available?**

Detailed information about asynchronous and synchronous judging is provided here: <https://www.speechwire.com/files/11159-2021%20Judging%20Obligations.pdf>

By clicking on 'Edit your judges' in SpeechWire, you can provide specific information regarding time or event blocks. Be sure to provide answers to the three key questions about your registered judges so that we may schedule them accordingly. Remember that a judge missing a round (sync) or round deadlines (asyn) will result in the forfeiture of your \$200 judge bond.

***How do I know when my entries are officially approved?**

After clicking on "Update Your Entries" in Speechwire, you will see a list of all registered competitors. At the far right, those who have been accepted will have 'Approved' in green.

***Are we providing t-shirts and lapel pins?**

Yes, we will be providing a shirt and a pin for each competitor and head coach. The online t-shirt ordering site is almost ready to launch. A detailed handout will be posted under 'Files for

Download' asap. The pins will be shipped with the shirts to the coach at the address provided on the order form in mid-May.

-Matt Heimes, President & Tournament Manager