East Coast Early Bird Tournament

September 25, 2021

Nassau Community College

Dear Colleagues:

You and your squad are cordially invited to the completely re-imagined and innovative East Coast Early Bird Tournament, to take place on the campus of Nassau Community College, located in Garden City on Long Island, just 35 minutes east of fabulous New York City! As we emerge from such an unprecedented time, we’ve made major changes to make our tournament a fun, creative, and healthier experience, where students can engage in early competition in a relaxed and educational atmosphere.

This year, we will offer: Individual IPDA, with novice and open divisions AND all AFA-NST events. Our schedule and entry rules have been heavily modified to provide a more humane experience. What follows is all the information you should need, but feel free to email me directly if you have additional questions. We look forward to hosting you – in person!

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Tournament Rules for COVID-19

* All students, coaches and judges are expected to be fully vaccinated.
* Masks MUST be worn at ALL times in common areas such as awards, competition rooms, IPDA/Extemp prep room, etc.
* Students may remove masks to perform in rounds.

Individual Events Rules

* We will offer all AFA-NST events in one pattern and follow the guidelines set forth by the AFA-NST.
* Students are allowed to enter a maximum of 3 events TOTAL.
* Students in IEs are NOT allowed to compete in IPDA.
* Each school is limited to 3 entries per event.

IPDA Rules

* We plan on offering novice and open divisions of Individual IPDA. However, the tournament reserves to the right to collapse divisions if entries warrant.
* Schools are allowed to enter a maximum of 3 students per division (for a total of 6).
* A novice shall be defined as a student who is in their first semester of debate competition (INCLUDING HIGH SCHOOL). Any student may enter the open division.
* Students in IPDA may NOT compete in IEs.

Awards

Awards will be given to all elimination round participants, as well as the top 3 speakers in each division. We will also award team sweepstakes.

Sweepstakes will be awarded as follows:

Debate Individual Events

Each prelim win – 2 points 1st – 6 points

Advance to Bronze – 3 points 2nd – 5 points

Silver – 4 points 3rd – 4 points

Gold – 5 points 4th – 3 points

5th – 2 points

6th/7th – 1 point

A school’s top 3 debaters in each division will count toward sweepstakes. A school’s top 3 competitors in individual events will count toward sweepstakes.

Nassau Community College students may compete and will be eligible to advance and receive speaker awards. However, Nassau Community College will not be eligible for any school sweepstakes awards.

e-Ballots

Even though were back to an in-person tournament, we will use the e-balloting system on Speechwire. All judges should bring their laptop or tablet to the tournament. WiFi instructions will be given at registration. For those judges without a tablet or laptop, a paper ballot can be requested.

Warm Rooms/Disclosure

We will not have official warm rooms for debate. Judges should not feel compelled or pressured to engage students. In turn, students should not engage or pressure judges for commentary after rounds. We do ask that all judges submit ballots/decisions on Speechwire before they give any oral critiques. Judges should NOT disclose any decisions in rounds.

Tournament Structure

There shall be one pattern of IEs. There shall 3 prelims of debate, with all winning records advancing. Elimination rounds will be Phi Rho Pi style with a Bronze round and a Gold round.

Judging

Each school must seek to cover 50% of their entry. Nassau Community College will make every attempt to hire qualified judges for the tournament. As a reminder, IPDA encourages the use of “lay” judges. If you know of any former competitors in the NYC/Long Island area, please let us know, as we’d love to hire them!

Lateness and Forfeit Procedure

Students MUST arrive at to their competition room at least 5 minutes prior to draw. Any student who is more than 5 minutes late will forfeit their right to strike; and the opposing debater will be allowed to select the resolution for the round. The late debater must prep on that resolution in whatever remaining prep time exists. In addition, judges will be informed of when debates are supposed to begin. Students who are more than 5 minutes late to the actual round will be forfeited; and the opposing team will be awarded a win with their speaker points averaged.

Entry Deadlines

1. All entries will be due by Wednesday, September 22nd at 2pm EST via Speechwire.

2. All competitors must be undergraduate students enrolled at their respective colleges/universities.

3. It is up to coaches to enter students in their proper IPDA division (novice/open).

4. It is up to schools to properly enter their judges and judge types to properly calculate judge fees.

Other Information

1. The East Coast Early Bird Debate Tournament will adhere to the ethical standards prescribed by the AFA-NST and the IPDA Constitution and/or by-laws, with the following excpetion: there shall only be 3 prelim rounds in IPDA. It is strongly suggested that each participant familiarize themselves with these principles. **Coaching will be allowed during prep in IPDA!**

2. Prelim rounds in IPDA will be randomly paired. We will break brackets in elimination rounds.

3. In IPDA, the negative and affirmative debaters will alternatively strike two topics each and the remaining resolution shall be the resolution for the round. The 30-minute prep period begins at the first strike. Time constraints are: 5-2-6-2-3-5-3

Fees (1 debate judge covers 2 debaters/1 IE judge covers 6 IE slots/1 IE & Debate Judge covers 2 debaters/6 IE slots)

School Fee: $25

\_\_\_\_\_\_ # of IPDA Debaters X $25 = \_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_ # of IE slots X $8 = \_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_ # of Uncovered Debaters X $30 \_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_ # of Uncovered IE slots X $15 \_\_\_\_\_\_

Total Fees = \_\_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: Faculty/Student Association of NCC

**Schedule for IEs**

8:30am – 9:00am Registration (CCB 2nd floor lobby)

9:00am Extemp Draw

9:15am – 10:45am Round I Individual Events

10:45am Extemp Draw

11:00am – 12:30pm Round II Individual Events

12:30pm – 1:15pm Lunch (on your own)

1:15pm Extemp Draw

1:30pm – 3:00pm Finals Individual Events

3:30pm Awards

**Schedule for Debate**

8:30am – 9:00am Registration (CCB 2nd floor lobby)

9:00am – 10:05am Round 1 IPDA

10:05am – 11:10am Round 2 IPDA

11:10am – 12:15pm Round 3 IPDA

12:15pm – 1:00pm Lunch (on your own)

1:00pm – 2:05pm Bronze Round

2:15pm – 3:20pm Gold Round

3:30pm Awards

Travel Information

* Please email Jason Wood for hotel prices in our area. He handles most hotel contracts for most tournaments on the east coast and can get your team the best rates. His email is: [Jason@traveladvocates.com](mailto:Jason@traveladvocates.com)
* If you choose to make your own reservations, the following hotels are the closest to campus:
  + Long Island Marriott (approx. 2 minutes to campus)
  + LaQuinta Inn (approx. 4 minutes to campus)
  + Holiday Inn (approx. 7 minutes to campus)
  + Courtyard by Marriott (approx. 7 minutes to campus)
  + Hilton Garden Inn (approx. 7 minutes to campus
* We are serviced by three major airports: JFK, LaGuardia and Newark and a smaller regional airport: Long Island Islip
* If you’re planning a team excursion into New York City, I’d recommend the following:
  + Consult playbill.com and the TodayTix app for rates on Broadway shows.
  + Consult Gothamist, nycgo.com and Trip Advisors for discount rates on popular NYC attractions

**Lunch**

If you’re planning on having lunch delivered to campus, we’d recommend setting it up that morning (or the day before if you have time). We have found UberEats, Yelp, DoorDash and Seamless work well. Please tell your delivery driver to deliver to: Nassau Community College – College Center Building (aka the CCB), next to the Tower (T Building). They should enter the campus via Earle Ovington/Charles Lindbergh Blvd.

If you decide to go off campus, the following places are about a 5 minute drive: McDonald’s, Popeyes, Jersey Mike’s, Chipotle, Moe’s Southwest Grill and Dunkin’ Donuts.