

# Randy Pierce Winter Classic

Pattonville High School  
Maryland Heights, MO

Dear Coaches,

The Pattonville High School speech and debate team is proud to invite you and your team to the 46<sup>th</sup> annual Randy Pierce Winter Classic. This tournament will be held virtually on **December 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>**. We will be using Speechwire and Zoom to host our competition.

This year, we will offer competition at both the novice and varsity level. Preliminary speech rounds will be held asynchronously; speech semi-finals and all debate rounds will be held live. All teams are welcome to submit up to **4 entries** for each event. Further entries may be added to the waitlist, and will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis depending on judge availability. However, only entries with names attached will be added to the waitlist.

Please make note of the judging obligations for each school. Please fill out our [judging form](#) for ANY of your school judges, including student judges. Any varsity members who do not advance are welcome to contact us during the tournament to be added to the pool. **Please remember that students must be in their second year of competition with at least 150 NSDA points to judge.**

Please register through Speechwire **by Wednesday, December 1<sup>st</sup> at 4:00pm**. No additional entries will be accepted after this time. Final adjustments to entries are due no later than **Monday, December 6<sup>th</sup>**.

We are looking forward to seeing you for the final tournament of the semester!

Sincerely,

Paul Ambrose  
Head Coach

[pambrose@psdr3.org](mailto:pambrose@psdr3.org)

816-812-8925

Alison Ambrose  
Assistant Coach

# **Events Offered**

We reserve the right to collapse divisions and/or events.  
Each school is guaranteed 3 entries per event. The entry fee is \$8/entry.

## *Debate*

Open Policy  
Open Public Forum  
Open Lincoln Douglas

Novice Policy  
Novice Public Forum  
Novice Lincoln Douglas

## *Speech*

Open International Extemp  
Open Domestic Extemp  
Open Original Oratory  
Open Informative  
Open Humorous Interp  
Open Dramatic Interp  
Open Program of Oral Interp  
Open Radio

Novice Original Oratory  
Novice Extemp  
Novice Interp (HI/DI)  
Novice Informative  
Novice Poetry/Prose  
Novice Radio

# **Divisions**

*Novice*: Exclusively for first-year competitors

*Open*: Second-, third-, and fourth-year competitors.

# Deadlines

<b>Initial Entries</b>	<b>Finalized Entries</b>
Due in Speechwire by Wednesday, Dec. 1 <sup>st</sup> at 4:00pm.  <i>No schools may enter after this time.</i>	Final changes due by Monday, Dec. 6 <sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm.  <i>Any drops after this time will be charged an entry fee.</i>

<b>Asynchronous Speech Recordings</b>
Links must be submitted through Speechwire by Wednesday, Dec. 8 <sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm.  <i>Any entries not uploaded will be considered a drop and will forfeit the entry fee.</i> <i>All entries found to have inaccessible links will be given last in the room.</i> <i>It is your duty to check this before submission.</i>

<b>Judge Submissions</b>
All obligated judging assignments must be entered by Monday, Dec. 6 <sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm.  <i>Any obligation not met will result in the dropping of entries.</i>

# Tournament Schedule

## **Wednesday-Friday**

Async Speech Rounds 1 and 2 Judged

### **Friday**

3:00 – Registration  
3:30 – Debate Round 1  
5:30 – Debate Round 2  
7:30 – Debate Round 3

## **Saturday**

7:30 – Finals Extemp Draw  
8:00 – Live Speech Finals  
10:00 – Debate Quarterfinals  
12:30 – Debate Semifinals  
2:30 – Debate Finals  
5:00 – Awards Ceremony

# Judging Obligations

Schools will be obligated to provide rounds for judging based on entry totals. Schools will be expected to withdraw entries to meet expectations if necessary. Judge obligations are:

- 1 judge for every 12 event entries
- 1 judge for every 8 debate entries

Eligible Judges include:

- Coaches should mark as much availability as possible
- Current students in at least their second year of competition who have earned 150 or more NSDA points can judge novices
- All judges must have access to the internet to able to judge

All judges, including coaches and current students, should sign up using [this form](#).

Judge Expectations:

- All judging assignments will be posted in Speechwire. Accounts will be connected by the host.
- Please sign up knowing you should arrive in your “room” 15 minutes prior to start time. Any rounds you sign up to judge will likely be assigned to you. Do not sign up for a time you cannot make.
- All judge comments should focus on the competitor’s performance in the round – not on their clothing, competition space, etc. Please remember you are a “virtual guest” in their homes.

# Tournament-Wide Rules

1. A coach or sponsor must be available at all times, per MSHSAA requirements.
2. A competitor may enter up to 2 individual events and 1 debate event. However, debaters in the Open division may not enter both IX and DX.
3. All competitors and judges should arrive at their virtual room 15 minutes prior to the scheduled start time.
4. Any competitor that is more than 15 minutes late to a round will be considered as forfeited, unless this delay is the fault of the tournament. Double-entered competitors are expected to complete their performances within the allotted time for each round.
5. Every effort should be made to keep your camera turned on during rounds, including the judge. The only exception will be if it is necessary to improve connectivity.
6. To avoid interrupting speeches, competitors and judges should enter their rooms muted, and remain muted until their speech time.
7. Speech competitors are expected to perform in the order assigned. The only exception is for students who are double-entered, who may ask to perform early.
8. If internet connections drop out mid-performance, judges or competitors should inform the tournament staff and we will wait up to 10 minutes for contact to be made. Once connection resumes, competitors should resume their performance where they left off. If the contestant or judge is unreachable after ten (10) minutes, they will forfeit/take last and/or the judge will be replaced and previous contestants will need to perform again.
9. All competitors must remain fully visible and in frame for the duration of their performances.

# Individual Event Rules

All preliminary rounds will be completed asynchronously through pre-recorded videos. Competitors will use the same recording for both preliminary rounds. Links must be submitted through Speechwire by Wednesday, Dec. 8th at 3:00pm. Please check to ensure that these videos are accessible before this time to ensure judging can begin promptly.

All individual events will follow MSHSAA rules and guidelines.

The top 6 competitors with the lowest cumulative speaker ranks will advance to the final round, which will be completed live on Saturday (12/11) at 8:00am. Tie-breaking procedures will be as follows:

1. Judges' preference (if possible)
2. Reciprocals
3. Total speaker ratings

## ***Extemporaneous Speaking***

***7 minute maximum***

Each coach will receive two numbered lists of questions approximately one week before the tournament, one each for international and domestic extemp. Coaches should randomly select three numbers to assign questions to each extemp competitor. Novices may choose whether to draw their questions from the domestic or international list but cannot mix between the two. Once a question is selected, the competitor will have one hour to turn in a recorded speech. One 3x5 notecard may be used to aid in delivery, but competitors in the Open division may risk a reduction of points doing so.

The final round will be conducted live. Competitors will be shown three questions via Zoom and will inform the draw chair which they select. Competitors will then have 30 minutes to prepare their speech. All competitors should remain in the Zoom draw during prep time.

## ***Original Oratory***

***10 minutes maximum***

Performances should be a persuasive speech written by the competitor and should contain no more than 150 words of quoted material. Novice competitors may use a script to aid delivery but are strongly encouraged not to. Open competitors must deliver their speech from memory.

***Informative Speaking******10 minutes maximum***

Performances should be an informative speech written by the competitor and should contain no more than 150 words of quoted material. Novice competitors may use a script to aid delivery but are strongly encouraged not to. Open competitors must deliver their speech from memory. Visual aids are permitted so long as they conform to MSHSAA guidelines for informative speaking.

***Interpretation (HI and DI)******10 minutes maximum***

Performances should be an original cutting of a published novel, short story, or play of literary merit. Each performance must include a proper introduction and should be memorized. Competitors in the novice division may use either dramatic or humorous material.

***Program of Oral Interpretation (POI)******10 minutes maximum***

Performances should be an original arrangement, consisting of at least two of the following: poetry, prose, and/or drama. Each performance must include a proper introduction and should use a manuscript.

***Radio******5 minutes maximum***

Performances should be an audio recording simulating a radio program. Speeches should contain sections for news (international, national, and local), sports, weather, and a 30-second original commercial.

The final round will be conducted live. Competitors will first turn their cameras on to check-in with the judges before the performance begins, and then turn their cameras off for the duration of the performance.

***Poetry/Prose******8 minutes maximum***

Performances should be an original cutting of a selection of poetry OR prose, but not both. Selections should come from a published source of literary merit. Performances must include a proper introduction and should not be memorized. Prose selections may contain no more than 50% dialogue. Poetry selections may be a single poem or may come from multiple sources connected by theme or author.

# Debate Rules

Please arrive to all rounds 15 minutes early, to ensure that debates can begin in a timely manner. Email chains should be set up and accessible to all judges and competitors before the round begins.

The top 8 competitors/teams with the highest win/loss record will advance to quarterfinal rounds, which will be held at 10:00 on Saturday (12/11). Tie-breaking procedures will be as follows:

1. Head-to-head
2. Record of opponents lost to
3. Total opposition record
4. Oppositions' opposition record
5. Total speaker points

Most of our judges will come from the Pattonville School District Community. Some of these judges may be inexperienced or judging for the first time. Please take this into consideration during your performances.

## *Policy Debate*

Policy debate will follow 8-3-8-3-8-3-8-3-5-5-5-5 time limits, with 8 minutes of prep time per team.

All teams should consist of two competitors, with no “mavericks.” Teams should remain consistent throughout the tournament.

Teams will debate the current NSDA policy topic: **Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially increase its protection of water resources in the United States.** Competitors in the novice division must present a case from the following topic areas:

1. Substantially strengthen federal surveillance and standards for lead in drinking water.
2. Substantially limit the use of hydraulic fracturing by energy companies in the United States.
3. Substantially strengthen federal standards for agriculture-related runoff into lakes and streams.
4. Substantially increase the protection of wetlands in the United States.

Competitors in the novice division may not use counterplans or kritiks.



### ***Lincoln-Douglas Debate***

Lincoln-Douglas debate will follow 6-3-7-3-4-6-3 time limits, with 5 minutes of prep time per competitor.

All competitors will debate the NSDA Lincoln-Douglas topic for November/December: **Resolved: A just government ought to recognize an unconditional right of workers to strike.** As per MSHSAA rules, the novice LD topic will not be used.

### ***Public Forum Debate***

Public Forum debate will follow 4-4-3-4-4-3-3-3-2-2 time limits, with 4 minutes of prep time per team.

All teams should consist of two competitors, with no “mavericks.” Teams should remain consistent throughout the tournament.

Teams will flip for sides and speaker position each round. The winner of the coin toss can choose either side (pro or con) OR speaking position (first or second). The other team may then make the other choice.

Teams will debate the NSDA Public Forum topic for November/December: **Resolved: Increased United States federal regulation of cryptocurrency transactions and/or assets will produce more benefits than harms.**

# **Awards and Sweepstakes Information**

Awards will be presented over Zoom at the conclusion of the tournament. The top two entries from each event will count towards each schools' sweepstakes points. The top three points-scoring schools will receive awards.

## ***Speech Sweepstakes***

Entry	1 point
Fourth-Sixth Place	6 points
Third Place	8 points
Second Place	10 points
First Place	12 points

## ***Debate Sweepstakes***

Entry	1 point
Win	5 points
Quarterfinal	8 points
Semifinal	10 points
Final	15 points