

2024 NIETOC Extemp Prep Guidelines

Hello Coaches and Competitors!

As the Extemp Prep Lead and question writer for NIETOC, I wanted to take this time to outline what the Prep Room will look like for this year, as well as any round-specific expectations to keep in mind. The Prep Room Staff (Lilly, Zach, Ellie and myself) will also be available during the tournament to address any concerns you may have. Here are some of the highlights for extempers and their coaches to keep in mind:

1. In all rounds, we will utilize a 10 minute prep spacing between speaker draws.
2. Draw will be done online via Speechwire. Please familiarize yourself with the process before the tournament by reviewing the documents found in NIETOC's Speechwire page. Competitors, please be aware of your speaker code, section and position in the speaking order for all rounds in which you participate. Draw will be called based on speaker codes **ONLY**.
3. All competitors must be in the prep room at the start of the draw for all rounds. We understand that competitors may have events in pattern A, but we ask that students do their best to arrive on time. We will be prioritizing draws for double-entered competitors in pattern B, so those speakers need to draw as soon as possible after the round begins. Also, please be prepared to move up in the speaker order if necessary, so we can keep the tournament on schedule.
4. We will be working with a cozy space this year (we have space for 174 competitors and the current numbers are hovering in the mid 160s). We ask that all competitors remain cognizant of this, and share space by allowing other competitors to sit at your table. That way, we can ensure that all competitors have a space during the preliminary rounds.
5. Once the draw starts, we ask that all conversation in the prep room be kept to an absolute minimum. If you need to answer your phone or talk with anyone before your time to draw, we ask that you leave the Media Center.
6. In the final round, NIETOC will allow an exception to standing policies regarding notes. Competitors will be allowed to read from a paper copy of the prompt in the round to ensure clarity for the audience and judge panel. Otherwise, all other NIETOC rules regarding Extemp will be in full force.

Thank you for taking the time to read these guidelines. We will also touch on these in the pre-draw discussion before Round 1 commences. See you at NIETOC! -Andrew Moffitt