

2026 ASAA/First National Bank Alaska State High School Drama, Debate, & Forensics Championships

Coaches,

The Alaska School Activities Association, First National Bank, Anchorage School District, Seawolf Debate Program, and My Speech Resource are proud to host this year's State Championship tournament. We are genuinely happy to serve you and your students during this event! We aim to run an efficient tournament that enables all our State's competitors to get the best possible feedback from judges; engage one another in the forensics arts in a way that is fun, entertaining, and educational; and gives them the best opportunity to let their talents shine.

Registration

Registration for competition will take place entirely through SpeechWire. (The entry deadline will be 11:59 pm on February 11th. Changes will be allowed through February 19th.) Entry fees, academic award applications, and anything other than event registration will be handled separately. Deanna Montagna (deanna@asaa.org) is the point of contact for non-competition related aspects of the tournament. She will send information in a separate e-mail providing the necessary details for those functions.

Before you begin the registration process, let me highlight a few items. As always, we will use the ASAA DDF rules. For information regarding the rules of a particular event, see the DDF Handbook, at the following URL:

<https://asaa.org/wp-content/uploads/handbook/ddf/complete/2025-2026-ASAA-DDF-Handbook.pdf>

We will offer the standard events hosted at the Alaska State DDF Championship tournament. Each squad is limited to 15 competitors. Event limits (per school) are as follows:

- 3 entries in HI, DI, Duo, Solo, Duet, DX, FX, OO, Inform
- 2 entries in IDA, RT, XComm
- 9 (total) entries split between Policy, LD, & PF

Students may not enter more than 1 debate event. Students may not enter more than one draw event (FX, DX, XComm, IDA). Students may not enter the same event twice.

Registration through SpeechWire here.

Location/Tournament Software

This year's tournament will take place at Betty Davis East Anchorage High School.

We will offer e-balloting and online postings, in addition to paper ballots and postings. You, your students, and judges need to logins if they wish to use the digital options. Visit SpeechWire to create those accounts. <https://www.speechwire.com/p-video-resources.php>

Coaches will need to associate with your school account. If you are a new school, it is much better to request a transfer of the existing school to your coach account, rather than creating a 2nd, 3rd, 4th, or 5th iteration of your school in the database. PLEASE DO NOT CREATE A NEW SCHOOL UNLESS YOU TRULY HAVE A BRAND NEW PROGRAM. Many Alaska schools now have 2-5 SpeechWire accounts, and it creates confusion. If you don't know how or get stuck, please reach out to me at shawn.debate@gmail.com.

Judges

If you have any contacts who might be willing to serve as judges, we would really appreciate if you could help with the judge recruiting effort. Please e-mail me the names and e-mail addresses of potential judges or have them contact me at shawn.debate@gmail.com.

Coaches

Every team must identify the coach who will be onsite throughout the tournament. Please e-mail that information (to include day and times of availability) to shawn.debate@gmail.com. Teams will not be allowed to participate unless that information has been conveyed. This ensures that each team is properly chaperoned and that each team has a coach in the standby pool for judging. (*Note: If you enjoy to judge and would like to be at the top of the list for judging, please share that information with me as well.*)

In addition, I will be sending out a request for coaches to assist with various parts of the tournament: extemp draw (1-2 coaches), IDA draw (1-2 coaches), emcee of command performances (1-2 coaches), emcee of awards (1-4 coaches). Serving in those roles will pull you out of the standby judge pool during the periods of time that overlap.

If you have any questions about the registration process, please don't hesitate to e-mail me at shawn.debate@gmail.com.

You can also find updates regarding the State tournament on my website:
<https://www.mydebateresource.com/for-alaskans>

Your tournament staff is comprised of:

Shawn Briscoe (Tournament Host, Tab Director, Nationals Coordinator, ASAA DDF Rules Coordinator)

TBD (Tournament Director)

Deanna Montagna/Sandi Wagner (ASAA Representative)

Mckayla Montgomery (Assistant Director/Host)

I can't wait to see you at the State tournament. Please tell your competitors that I wish them the best of luck and hope their 2025 State Championship tournament is a fun experience!

Welcome & Best of Luck!
Shawn F. Briscoe

Host & Tab Director