

	MARSHALL UNIVERSITY MEMORIAL PKD 75/ OHIO UNIVERSITY BACK TO GREEN PKD18 TOURNAMENTS	
---	---	---

1 September 2025

Dear Colleagues:

The Marshall University and Ohio University speech and debate teams invite you to back-to-back tournaments on the beautiful campus of Marshall University in Huntington, WV from Friday, 14 November 2025, through Sunday, 16 November 2025. This year we celebrate the Pi Kappa Delta forensic honorary and “The Art of Persuasion, Beautiful and Just.”

Marshall University and Ohio University share more than proximity and an affinity for all things green. We both have long-standing Pi Kappa Delta undergraduate chapters and celebrated Pi Kappa Delta-related milestones this year. Marshall University joined and received its undergraduate charter 75 years ago in 1950 and has been consistently competing in intercollegiate speech and debate since that time. And Ohio University, which received its Pi Kappa Delta undergraduate charter 18 years ago, hosted the Pi Kappa Delta National Comprehensive Tournament this past spring.

Consistent with Pi Kappa Delta’s underlying philosophy, the tournaments strive to be comprehensive in recognition of the important roles both speech and debate play in the forensics community. Accordingly, we will be offering the following events:

- Five (5) preliminary rounds and elimination rounds of IPDA Debate on Friday, 14 November 2025, and Saturday morning, 15 November 2025, as part of the Marshall University tournament;
- Six (6) preliminary rounds and elimination rounds of NFA Lincoln-Douglas Debate on Saturday, 15 November 2025 (beginning at 12:00 PM ET/9:00 AM PT), and Sunday, 16 November 2025 (beginning at 10:30 AM ET/ 7:30 AM PT), as part of the Ohio University tournament;
- A speech tournament consisting of 2 preliminary rounds and 1 final round of all 11 NFA speech events + Editorial Impromptu (a PKD event) on Saturday, 15 November 2025, as part of the Marshall University tournament; and
- A speech tournament consisting of 2 preliminary rounds and 1 final round of all 11 NFA speech events + Broadcast Journalism (a PKD event) on Sunday, 16 November 2025, as part of the Ohio University tournament.

Competition in speech events and IPDA Debate will be in-person. Competition in LD Debate will be hybrid.

Importantly, the tournament schedule is designed to maximize speech and debate event cross-entry:

- A student may enter both IPDA Debate and LD Debate.
- A student may enter IPDA Debate and all speech events at the Marshall University tournament if they do not advance to elimination rounds and Pattern B events if they do. (Go ahead and enter a student in Pattern A events, and we will drop them at no cost if they cannot compete.) They also may enter all speech events during the Ohio University tournament.
- A student may enter LD Debate and Pattern A speech events at the Marshall University tournament. A student may enter LD Debate and Pattern B events at the Ohio University tournament.

- A student may enter up to three speech events per Pattern at both tournaments.

The invitation in the attachment (Files to Download) provides additional information about both tournaments. If you have questions, please feel free to contact Dennis Taylor at taylor41@marshall.edu or +1 304.541.0332 or Jennifer Talbert at jtalbert@ohio.edu or +1 216.410.0041.

Sincerely,

Dennis C. Taylor, Director of Forensics, Marshall University
Jennifer Talbert, John A. Cassese Director of Forensics, Ohio University

EVENTS AND ENTRIES

We will be offering the following:

- Five (5) preliminary rounds and elimination rounds of IPDA Debate on Friday, 14 November 2025, and Saturday morning, 15 November 2025, as part of the Marshall University tournament;
- Six (6) preliminary rounds and elimination rounds of NFA Lincoln-Douglas Debate on Saturday, 15 November 2025 (beginning at 11:00 PM ET), and Sunday, 16 November 2025 (beginning at 11:00 AM ET), as part of the Marshall University tournament;
- A speech tournament consisting of 2 preliminary rounds and 1 final round of all 11 NFA speech events + Editorial Impromptu (a PKD event) on Saturday, 15 November 2025, as part of the Marshall University tournament; and
- A speech tournament consisting of 2 preliminary rounds and 1 final round of all 11 NFA speech events + Broadcast Journalism (a PKD event) on Sunday, 16 November 2025, as part of the Ohio University tournament.

At the Marshall University tournament, speech events will be divided into two patterns as follows:

- Pattern A: Broadcast Journalism, Dramatic Interp, Extemp, Persuasion, Poetry, Rhetorical Criticism
- Pattern B: After Dinner, Duo, Impromptu, Informative, Program Oral Interp, Prose

At the Ohio University tournament, speech events will be divided into two patterns as follows:

- Pattern A: Dramatic Interp, Editorial Impromptu, Extemp, Persuasion, Poetry, Rhetorical Criticism
- Pattern B: After Dinner, Duo, Impromptu, Informative, Program Oral Interp, Prose

RULES

NFA rules will govern speech events and Lincoln-Douglas Debate.

PKD rules will govern Broadcast Journalism and Editorial Impromptu.

IPDA rules generally will govern IPDA Debate, except as follows:

- In elimination rounds (but not preliminary rounds), the two competitors will strike the topics down to one – and, only after that is complete, will a coin flip determine which side they will be debating. (The idea here is to produce the consensus most debatable topic from the list before side determination occurs.)
- We do not restrict computer use by judges during rounds. Judges will complete online ballots, not paper ballots.
- Competitors may use electronic devices as timers but may not research using an electronic device or receive any one-on-one help during the actual round.
- We will use no more than one student judge on elimination round panels, and only if they are not entered in speech events.

NOVICE/JUNIOR VARSITY

For **IPDA Debate**, the tournament follows IPDA rules:

- They may compete in the Novice Division if they have not competed “in eight debate tournaments in any capacity at any level in any combination (e.g., high school or college; novice, junior or open, CX, Policy, Value, NDT, CEDA, Parliamentary, NFA, LD, etc.)”.
- They may compete in the Junior Varsity Division if they have not competed “in eight tournaments beyond their novice eligibility OR ... in sixteen debate tournaments in any capacity at the collegiate level in any

combination (e.g. novice, junior or open, IPDA, CX, Policy, Value, NDT, CEDA, Parliamentary, NFA, LD, etc.)”.

- Otherwise, they must compete in the Open Division. (We will not run a Professional Division, nor will we accept Professional Division entries.

For **LD Debate**,

- Any student may enter an Open Division.
- The Junior Varsity Division is open to students in their first four semesters of collegiate debate (of any kind).
- The Novice Division is open to students with less than two semesters of any debate at any level (high school or college).

STUDENT ENTRIES

A school may have unlimited student entries in all events. If entries permit, we may divide events into novice, junior varsity, and/or open divisions in debate events.

The tournament schedule is designed to maximize speech and debate event cross entry:

- A student may enter both IPDA Debate and LD Debate.
- A student may enter IPDA Debate and all speech events at Marshall University tournament if they do not advance to elimination rounds and Pattern B events if they do. (Go ahead and enter a student in Pattern A events, and we will drop them at no cost if they cannot compete.) They also may enter all speech events during the Ohio University tournament.
- A student may enter LD Debate and Pattern A events at the Marshall University tournament. A student may enter LD Debate and Pattern B events at the Ohio University tournament.
- A student may enter up to three speech events per Pattern at both tournaments.

JUDGING ENTRIES

One judge is owed for each six (6) speech entries per tournament. One judge is owed for each two (2) debate entries per tournament.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

*** All times Eastern Time.**

Friday, 14 November 2025 (Marshall University IPDA)

12:00 PM - MU IPDA Debate Registration

12:30 PM - IPDA Draw

1:00 PM - IPDA Debate Round 1

1:50 PM - IPDA Draw

2:20 PM - IPDA Debate Round 2

3:10 PM - IPDA Draw

3:40 PM - IPDA Debate Round 3

4:30 PM - IPDA Draw

5:00 PM - IPDA Debate Round 4

5:50 PM - IPDA Draw

6:20 PM - IPDA Debate Round 5

Saturday, 15 November 2025 (Marshall University IPDA Debate)

8:00 AM - IPDA Draw
8:30 AM - IPDA Debate Quarterfinals

9:20 AM - IPDA Draw
9:50 AM - IPDA Debate Semifinals

10:40 AM - IPDA Draw
11:10 AM - IPDA Debate Finals

Saturday, 15 November 2025 (Marshall University LD Debate)

11:30 AM -MU LD Debate Registration

Short delay in start may be necessary if LD debater is competing in IPDA debate final round.

12:00 PM - LD Debate Pairings Announcement
1:30 PM - LD Debate Round 1

Short delay may be needed if LD Debater is competing in Speech Pattern A final round.

2:30 PM - LD Debate Pairings Announcement
3:00 PM - LD Debate Round 2

4:00 PM - LD Debate Pairings Announcement
4:30 PM - LD Debate Round 3

5:30 PM - LD Debate Pairings Announcement
6:00 PM - LD Debate Round 4

7:00 PM - LD Debate Pairings Announcement *(or next morning)*
7:30 PM - LD Debate Round 5

Sunday, 16 November 2025 (Marshall University LD Debate)

10:30 AM - LD Debate Pairings Announcement
11:00 AM - LD Debate Round 6

12:15 PM - LD Debate Pairings Announcement
12:45 PM - LD Debate Quarterfinals

2:00 PM - LD Debate Pairings Announcement
2:30 PM - LD Debate Semifinals

(Short delay may be needed if LD Debater is competing in Speech Pattern B final round.)

4:00 PM - LD Debate Pairings Announcement
4:30 PM - LD Debate Finals

5:45 PM - LD Debate Pairings Announcement
6:15 PM - Extra LD Debate Round (if needed)

6:00/7:30 PM - MU LD Debate Awards

Saturday, 15 November 2025 (Marshall University Speech)

8:00 AM - MU Speech Registration

8:20 AM - Extemp Draw

8:50 AM - Speech Round 1A

9:30 AM - Extemp Draw

10:00 AM - Speech Round 2A

11:10 AM - Lunch Break

12:00 PM - Speech Round 1B

1:10 PM - Speech Round 2B

2:10 PM - Extemp Draw

2:40 PM - Speech Finals A

3:50 PM - Speech Finals B

5:30 PM - MU Speech/IPDA Debate Awards

Sunday, 16 November 2025 (Ohio University Speech)

8:00 AM - OU Speech Registration

8:15 AM - Speech Round 1B

9:25 AM - Speech Round 2B

10:25 AM - Extemp Draw/Broadcast Journalism Prep

10:55 AM - Speech Round 1A

12:00 PM - Lunch Break

12:30 PM - Extemp Draw/Broadcast Journalism Prep

1:00 PM - Speech Round 2A

2:45 PM - Extemp Draw/Broadcast Journalism Prep

3:15 PM - Speech Finals (All)

4:45 PM - OU Speech Awards

Registration

Registration for all events for both tournaments may be completed on SpeechWire.

The registration deadline is Tuesday, 11 November 2025, at 5:00 PM, but you are encouraged to register earlier so we may better prepare. You may make changes through Thursday, 13 November 2025, at 12:00 PM without any nuisance fees applying.

DEADLINES

Student entries: Tuesday, 11 November 2025, at 5:00 PM

Judge entries: Tuesday, 11 November 2025, at 5:00 PM
Fees & obligations freeze: Thursday, 13 November 2025, at 12:00 PM
Online drops & name changes: Thursday, 13 November 2025, at 12:00 PM
Nuisance fees apply after Thursday, 13 November 2025, at 12:00 PM

FEES

ENTRY FEES

Speech individual events: \$11.00 per entry
Duo Interpretation: \$15.00 per entry
IPDA Debate: \$25.00 per entry
Lincoln-Douglas Debate: \$30.00 per entry

JUDGING FEES

Uncovered speech entries: \$12.50 per uncovered entry per tournament
Uncovered IPDA Debate entries: \$25.00 per uncovered entry
Uncovered LD Debate entries: \$25.00 per uncovered round

STUDENT ADD/DROP FEES

Thursday, 13 November 2025, after 12:00 PM: \$15.00 + entry fee
On day of tournament: \$30.00 + entry fee

JUDGE DROP FEES

Thursday, 13 November 2025, after 12:00 PM: \$25.00 + uncovered judge fee
On day of tournament: \$50.00 + uncovered judge fee

Checks for both tournaments may be made out to Marshall University Speech and Debate. If a school wishes to pay by credit card, arrangements can be made through the Law Office of Dennis Taylor PLLC. (Funds are deposited in the firm's trust account and will be paid over to the Marshall University Foundation.)

AWARDS

The MU tournament will provide competitors with stuffed bison as awards in speech and debate events. Top novices will receive cinnamons (baby bison). The goal: To collect a Thundering Herd at your school. Additionally, awards will be provided to the top IPDA Debate speaker, LD Debate speaker, and Quadrathon champion, as well as for overall team sweepstakes, PKD team sweepstakes, speech sweepstakes, and debate sweepstakes. Debate sweepstakes are presented after both IPDA Debate and LD Debate are completed.

The OU tournament will provide individual competitors with Bobcat medals. Additionally, awards will be provided for overall team sweepstakes.

LODGING

Below are some lodging options reasonably close to campus (within three miles). Additionally, there are hotel options in Ohio, directly across the river from Huntington.

DoubleTree Hotel (Hilton) – 1001 Third Avenue, Huntington, WV 25701
+1 304-525-1001

- 0.7 miles west of campus
- Swimming Pool
- Breakfast is an Additional Charge

Delta Hotel (Marriott) – 800 Third Avenue, Huntington, WV 25701
+1 304-523-8880

- Renovated
- 0.9 miles from campus
- Swimming pool

Hampton Inn – 77 Kinetic Drive, Huntington, West Virginia, 25701

+1 304-523-8001

- 2.6 miles from campus
- Complimentary continental breakfast
- Free Parking
- Swimming Pool

Comfort Inn – 3094 16th Street Road Huntington, WV 25701

+1 304-523-4242

- 2.6 miles southeast of campus
- Complimentary continental breakfast
- Indoor swimming pool

Fairfield Inn & Suites – 536 Kinetic Drive, Huntington, WV 25701

+1 304-696-8777

- 2.6 miles from campus
- Complimentary continental breakfast
- Indoor swimming pool

Quality Inn – 3090 16th Street Road, Huntington, WV 25701

+1 304-525-1410

- 2.6 miles southeast of campus
- Complimentary continental breakfast
- Indoor swimming pool