

Hello coaches & students,

We look forward to welcoming you to this year's Mason Novice TournaSHOP and judges' training! This is an exciting opportunity that aims to provide a competitive yet teachable tournament experience for first-time novices while giving varsity students the ability to give back to their programs as judges for the day. A judge training opportunity for any new parents of our schools in attendance will also be available, followed by a SHOWCASE round where new judges can practice what they've learned. Please encourage your new parents to attend!

**Our novice event will take place at Mason Middle School**--not the high school. Please be aware of this year's location:

**Mason Middle School  
6370 Mason Montgomery Rd.  
Mason, OH 45040**

Registration will begin at 8:00am in the lobby area outside of the MMS auditorium. **All guests should park or drop off in the front school parking lot and ENTER through the PERFORMING ARTS entrance only (A2 door).** Coaches should check in their novice competitors & varsity judges upon arrival. Parent judges "IN TRAINING" should also sign in at the registration table.

ALL students (novices & varsity judges) should remain in the Large Commons until the opening meeting begins at 8:30am. Parent judges "IN TRAINING" are invited to wait in the Small Commons until instructions for the judge training get underway.

**FOR NOVICES:**

We plan to offer three rounds of competition in all speech, PF, and LD events and two sessions in Congressional Debate.

**FOR VARSITY JUDGES:**

Remind varsity students to bring a laptop/Chromebook and charger for judging! Varsity judges should register in an event category in which they've previously competed and are experienced (VARSITY Congress, PF, LD, or Speech Judge).

**Judge ratios:**

IE (1 judge for every 5 entries)  
PF & LD (1 judge for every 1 or 2 entries)  
CD (1 judge covers 8 entries)

**FOR NEW PARENTS:**

Please register your parents in their desired "in TRAINING" event category (Congress, PF, LD, or Speech Judge in TRAINING).

Experienced parent judges are not required to judge; however, if they will still be in attendance, we can utilize their help with our judge training session and/or facilitating the SHOWCASE rounds. Please have them notify someone at the registration table.

**FOOD/HOSPITALITY:**

All adult coaches, volunteers, and parents in training can enjoy complimentary coffee/tea and light breakfast items in the morning as well as a complimentary lunch in the Small Commons.

Students may purchase drinks and snack items from our concessions table in the Large Commons. A selection of FOOD TRUCKS will also be on campus from approx. 11am-1pm, so we encourage all students to refrain from ordering food deliveries.

**LEGISLATION/DEBATE TOPICS:**

Congressional Debate--we will use OSDA's 11/8 legislation. (See [OSDA's website](#))

We will use the Nov/Dec debate topics for Public Forum & Lincoln-Douglas.

**DEADLINE TO REGISTER:**

Thursday, Oct. 23rd by 3:00pm

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or drops after 10/23. Hope to see you in Comet Country on October 25th!

Melissa Donahue

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