



2026 Jefferson City Capital Classic

Hosted Live at Jefferson City High School



Greetings! The Jefferson City High School Speech and Debate team cordially invites you to attend the 31st Annual Jefferson City Capital Classic on **Friday, January 23 and Saturday, January 24, 2026** to be held at **Jefferson City High School**

The Jefferson City Capital Classic boasts a unique tournament experience in the state due to its location, drawing in schools from all over the state to compete. We will be using SpeechWire for this tournament, thus entries should be handled and submitted through the website.

To help our facility managers and to help us accommodate schools, we ask that you please indicate if you are attending by **Tuesday, January 6, 2026**. To help accommodate these unique entries, teams will be capped at 3 entries per event and division, with additional entries being placed on a waitlist. Waitlisted entries will be granted on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Deadline to submit entries will be **Friday, January 16, 2026**. Drops need to be completed on SpeechWire by Noon on Tuesday, January 21, 2025. All fees are finalized after this date and time.

Registration will begin at 3:40 pm at Jefferson City High School. Our school does not dismiss until 3:40 pm, so please pay close attention to arrival details that will be sent out 10 days before the tournament takes place. Expect some traffic trying to get to the school. You will receive special transportation instructions via email, so make sure the email in SpeechWire is your current address.

While this tournament is considered an “open” tournament, we will be offering both championship and regular divisions of Policy, Public Forum, and Lincoln-Douglas Debate. However, it is possible the divisions could be combined.

A hospitality room will be provided for all coaches, judges, and bus drivers. Concessions will be available for all competitors Friday and Saturday.

Jordan Hart

Head Coach at Jefferson City HS

Harrison Lane

Team President

Quentin Trull

Assistant Coach at Jefferson City HS

Zach Lovelace

Assistant Coach at Jefferson City HS

Tournament Schedule

Friday, January 23

4:15 pm – Events Round 1 (Draw @ 3:45 pm)

5:45 pm – Events Round 2 (Draw @ 5:15 pm)

7:00 pm – Debate Round 1

8:30 pm – Debate Round 2

Saturday, January 24

8:00am – Events Semis (Draw @ 7:30 am)

9:30am – Debate Round 3

11:00am – Debate Round 4

1:00pm – Events Finals (Draw @ 12:30 pm)

2:30pm – Debate Quarterfinals

4:00 pm – Award's Ceremony

5:00 pm – Debate Semifinals

6:30pm – Debate Finals

GLOBAL RULES & ENTRY INFORMATION:

1. A student may enter only two individual events.
2. A student may only enter in one format of debate: Policy, Lincoln Douglas, Public Forum.
3. Students may enter only one division of Extemp.
4. Schools must provide TWO judges for the duration of the entire tournament. The hosting school's judges will be used first.
5. Entries must be made in SpeechWire with "activated" student accounts. The Host reserves the right to drop any entries that are still without names and/or activation in the week of the tournament so that we are able to appropriately plan the tournament. Advanced notice will be given.
6. We will comply with all MSHSAA rules and regulations regarding the use of electronic devices and the internet. It is a coach's affirmative duty to ensure their students are aware of the rules and abide by them.
7. In the event MSHSAA does not cover event, NSDA rules will apply.
8. **IMPORTANT:** In preparation for MSHSAA Districts, if a competitor performs in the wrong room, they will receive the last place ranking in the room.

EVENTS

The following events will be offered at this conference meet:

Debate Events	Interp Events	Platform Speaking Events
Champ Public Forum Debate Varsity Public Forum Debate Champ Policy Debate Varsity Policy Debate Champ Lincoln-Douglas Debate Varsity Lincoln-Douglas Debate	Humorous Interpretation Dramatic Interpretation DUO Interpretation Prose/Poetry Interpretation Storytelling Program Oral Interpretation	Original Oratory Informative Speaking US Extemp Foreign Extemp Congress

DEADLINES

Entries Due in SpeechWire	Friday, January 16 @ 12:00 pm
Waitlisted Entries Evaluated	Tuesday, January 20 @ 4:00 pm
Entry Fees Finalized	Tuesday, January 20 @ 4:00 pm

These deadlines will be **strictly** adhered to in order to ensure the tournament runs on schedule. Please make sure you communicate these deadlines with your students.

ENTRY FEES:

- All single-person events will be assessed \$8.00 per entry.
- All partnered events will be assessed \$16.00 per entry.

LINCOLN-DOUGLAS, PUBLIC FORUM, and POLICY RULES & PROCEDURES

- All contestants are held to the standard MSHSAA rules for these events.
- Competitors are expected to share any and all evidence read in their rounds if asked by their opponents. Judges may also call for evidence and/or cases. ***This includes case sharing.***
- The official **MSHSAA** time limit will be followed, including the expanded prep time.
 - Policy: 8 minutes of prep per side
 - Lincoln Douglas: 5 minutes of prep per side
 - Public Forum: 4 minutes of prep per side
- ***IMPORTANT:*** Per MSHSAA Rules, prep time officially ends once the speeches are shared with the opponents. If technology issues cause problems, you are only given 5 minutes to resolve the issue (total, not each time). After those five minutes elapse, the student/team can either use prep time OR forfeit the round.
- All contestants are expected to keep track of their own prep time.
- Policy and Public Forum Tie Breakers:
 - Win/Loss Record
 - Speaker Ranks
 - Record of Opponent Lost to
 - Total Opposition Record
 - Oppositions' Opposition Record

- Lincoln Douglas Tie Breakers:
 - Win/Loss Record
 - Record of Opponent Lost to
 - Total Opposition Record
 - Oppositions' Opposition Record
 - Total Speaker Points
- Rounds 3 and 4 of Debate will be power-matched high-high.
- Brackets will not be broken in Semifinals. Coaches whose teams advance and have to hit each other will be given the option to (a) have their teams debate the round (b) have the higher seed advance

DEBATE TOPICS:

- Lincoln Douglas will use the January/February 2026 NSDA Topic which can be found at www.speechanddebate.org/topics
- Public Forum will use the January 2026 NSDA Topic which can be found at www.speechanddebate.org/topics
- Policy Debate will use the 2025-2026 NFHS/NSDA Topic which can be found at www.speechanddebate.org/topics

United States & Foreign Extemp Rules & Procedures:

- Standard NSDA rules will be used.
- Students will draw three topics and select one to prepare a speech. Students will have 30 minutes of preparation for their topic. No notes may be used during the speech and contestants may not consult with others. Paperless extemporaneous speaking is acceptable under MSHSAA rules.
- Students who are double-entered in extemp should perform extemp FIRST and ask the staff in the draw room to bump the student up.

Original Oratory Rules:

- 10 minutes maximum
- Students will present an original persuasive speech from memory. The speech may not contain more than 150 words of quoted material.

Dramatic and Humorous Interpretation Rules:

- 10 minutes maximum
- Students will present a cutting from a published work of quality literature. The cutting may contain dialogue or may be a monologue, and it must be accompanied by an original introduction. The students must present the piece from memory without the aid of costumes or props. Movement should be minimal.

Duo Interpretation NOT DUET ACTING Rules:

- 10 minutes maximum
- Two-person team of students will perform a memorized selection from a published source of literary merit. An introduction must be provided. Students will use off stage focus. NSDA rules will apply to this event.

Storytelling Rules:

- 8 minutes maximum
- Students must present a published story from memory. The story will be performed from a seated position. An introduction must be provided. No props or costuming is allowed. The intended audience of this event is children.

Prose/Poetry Rules:

- 8 minutes maximum
- Students will present ***EITHER*** a selection of prose OR poetry for this competition. At the coaches and student's discretion, students may choose to perform a prose for one round and poetry the next, and so on, if they choose. Students can use a tablet/e-reader, per MSHSAA rules, or they may use a performance binder. This is a combined event.

Informative Speaking Rules:

- 10 minute maximum
- Students will present an original informative speech from memory. Students present information which the audience may or may not possess and which the students believe is important for the audience – the goal is education, not advocacy. Visual aids are permitted per the NSDA rules.

Program of Oral Interpretation (POI) Rules:

- 10 minute maximum
- Students create a theme or argument through the use of narrative, story, language, and/or characterization. They draw on selections from prose, poetry, and/or drama. Students must use at least two different genres. A manuscript (binder) must be used, and the pieces must be properly introduced.

Congressional Debate Rules:

- Our tournament will use the January Legislation released by the NSDA

SWEEPSTAKES

The top two competitors in each event and division will count towards sweepstakes. The top three finishing schools will be recognized.

SPEECH

Semifinals	5 pts
Finals	10 pts
Third	5 pts
Second	10 pts
First	15 pts

DEBATE

Preliminary Win	5 pts
Quarterfinalist	15 pts

**CAPITAL CLASSIC TOURNAMENT
JEFFERSON CITY HIGH SCHOOL
ENTRY FORM**

Entry fee: \$8.00 per entry (\$16.00 per team event)

US Extemp	_____
Foreign Extemp	_____
Original Oratory	_____
Humorous Interp	_____
Dramatic Interp	_____
Duo Interp	_____
Prose/Poetry	_____
Storytelling	_____
Informative	_____
Program Oral Interp	_____
Congress	_____
Champ Policy Debate	_____
Regular Policy Debate	_____
Champ Lincoln-Douglas Debate	_____
Regular Lincoln-Douglas Debate	_____
Champ Public Forum Debate	_____
Regular Public Forum Debate	_____

****All schools will be allowed THREE entries per event, but may request extras****