

Pi Kappa Delta - Bylaws

Proposed: March 2026

Founded in 1913, Pi Kappa Delta hosted its first National Convention in 1916 on the campus of Washburn University in Topeka, Kansas. We are proud of our history—establishing the PKD National Archives at our Alpha Chapter (Ottawa University, KS) in 2015. We seek to honor that history by continually offering, on the one hand, educational and professional development opportunities and, on the other, through our oldest tradition: an annual comprehensive national tournament experience.

For anyone and everyone interested in the forensic arts (students, coaches, alumnae, and community partners), there is something for you in Pi Kappa Delta.

This document provides an overview of our philosophies, policies and procedures regarding the organization's annual competitions and concurrent events, including the Biennial Convention and National Tournament.

We look forward to welcoming you to these events in the PKD spirit. We know that our motto, "Art of Persuasion: Beautiful and Just," is only obtainable when the events we sponsor *are also* beautiful and just. It is our goal to foster professional development and comprehensive competition in healthy, civically minded and collaborative spaces that build a rich legacy of excellence. To be beautiful is also to be fair and equitable. To be just is to be inclusive and transparent.

These are our hopes and the impetus for publishing this document.

We encourage active participation from our members; we look forward to communicating with you!

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The mission of Pi Kappa Delta is...

Pi Kappa Delta is an intercollegiate honorary that develops civic-oriented orators through the promotion of principled communication and educational practices; supports comprehensive approaches to forensics pedagogy; encourages the creation of professional development opportunities for forensic educators; and seeks to inclusively expand access to intercollegiate speech and debate activities.

Our purpose statement is...

To embody the spirit of our motto - “The Art of Persuasion, Beautiful and Just” - we:

- Embrace comprehensive forensic education that is dedicated to the assumption that within every participant exists the potentiality for roles as interlocutor, orator, storyteller and advocate.
- Empower our members through support, scholarship, programming, and development that nurtures personal and professional growth.
- Emplace agorot: spaces that support the free and ethical exchange of ideas, the discovery of voice, and the inspiration for orators to lead just lives of leadership and service throughout their global communities.

We solemnly declare...

Pi Kappa Delta is committed to assuring equal opportunity to all persons, regardless of differences in age, color, ethnicity, family or marital status, gender identity or expression, language, national origin, physical and mental ability, political affiliation, race, religion, sexual or affectional orientation, socio-economic status, veteran status, and other characteristics that make our members unique.

Pi Kappa Delta is opposed to all forms of discrimination and seeks to encourage an atmosphere in which every individual is accorded respect. Mindful of the importance of First Amendment freedoms, Pi Kappa Delta reminds its members of the rhetorical potentiality of eunoia - a truly ethical framework for imagining the audience/speaker relationship through the triple lenses of wisdom, virtue and good will.

As an organization dedicated to fostering the development of functional leadership skills, Pi Kappa Delta encourages the participation of individuals from traditionally under-represented groups. Pi Kappa Delta is an equal opportunity employer.

General Notes on Pi Kappa Delta's Organizing Principles

Comprehensive Competition

Pi Kappa Delta is the largest comprehensive national tournament—embracing the “big tent” philosophy of Forensics. It has long been the policy of the PKD national tournament staff to adopt the rules of an event’s governing organization. Our mission does not favor any one type of program, format or coaching philosophy.

This informs how we prepare/implement developmental programming, competition events, tournament schedule and membership benefits. We believe in a diversity of voices shaped in diverse fora of expression. Our goal is to bridge communities by offering a single organization (and venue) for humane, balanced and accessible approaches to programming and competition.

Equity and Egalitarianism

We hope to inspire a *spirit* within each event that makes room for inclusive and ethical forms of communication. We encourage all participants to maintain a civic standpoint throughout their lives and, specifically, within PKD-sponsored events—practicing invitational rhetoric that is articulated in safe, open, free and valued spaces. Participants using conquest or conversion tactics with the general effects of demeaning or dominating other competitors neither enrich community nor advance the potential skills of a forensic education.

Our national experiences feature a tradition of recognizing top talent: we broadly categorize performances as “Good” (top 50%), “Excellent” (top 30%) and Superior (top 10%). This informs how we conduct all award ceremonies. It also is why we program “showcases” in Individual Events and reduce the number of “outrounds” for debate competition at the Biennial. Our traditions aim to balance the educational, interpersonal and competitive goals of forensic activities.

“Real World” Impact

Pi Kappa Delta is committed to our motto and, as such, we believe the consequences of competition reach far beyond the tournament. In a world where manipulative forces continually perpetuate injustices, our **Persuasion Works** initiative aims to support student advocacy and scholarship efforts that counteract those impulses. We provide funds to support the solvency plank of top Persuasive speakers, we partner

with nonpartisan, nonprofit organizations to affect *real change* outside competition. We offer special/experimental events to achieve objectives that advance individual growth (e.g., Interviewing, Extemporaneous Commentary, et al.) in *and out* of competition.

Code of Ethical Conduct

In compliance with Article II.201 of the PKD Constitution, a Code of Conduct has been in place since 2024 - replacing previous Title IX requirements. In order to provide the most fair, equitable, and inclusive environment, respecting the Pi Kappa Delta motto of “The Art of Persuasion: Beautiful and Just,” all participants in any PKD-sanctioned event will agree to it. The term “Participant” includes all competitors, performers, judges, coaches, volunteers, observers, and tournament staff. To be in compliance with this policy, all participants must read and sign the code. This is the code:

As a participant in a Pi Kappa Delta event, I agree to the following:

- I will contribute to an inclusive and equitable environment by avoiding communication that disparages others based on race, ethnicity, national origin, or citizenship status.
- I will address others in a way that does not invalidate their sex, gender identity, or sexual orientation. -I will not disparage or conduct myself in a way that excludes or marginalizes others based on ability status.
- I will refrain from any behavior that would constitute harassment, including unwanted contact, comments, or behavior that could create a hostile environment. If made aware of any behavior that might make others uncomfortable, I will amend that behavior to the best of my ability.
- I will respect the host site and facilitators of the event by fair treatment to the spaces, facilities, volunteers, and tournament staff.
- When acting as an observer, I will refrain from any behaviors that distract, harass, belittle, discourage, or otherwise disrupt those who are performing.
- I will refrain from any activity that can deliberately affect the physical and mental health of other participants. -I will uphold the rules and ethical standards of every event in which I am competing, judging, coaching, or observing.
- I will avoid any behavior or utterance that inhibits the expression of one’s lived experience, recognizing that other participants may have stories that dramatically differ from my own.

General Guidelines

Board of Directors

Though the positions, elections and goals of Pi Kappa Delta's leadership are clearly laid out in the organization's Constitution. In order to provide clarity regarding issues of governance, align with widely recognized nonprofit practices and facilitate the effectiveness of organizational leadership, PKD's governing body shall henceforth be known as the **Pi Kappa Delta Board of Directors** (referred hereafter as "the Board") rather than the "Council." While the name of our governing body is changing, its core responsibilities will remain largely the same. The Board will continue to strategize organizational direction, program tournament, convention and other collegiate speech/debate-related activities, govern the acquisition and expense of resources and uphold the mission and values of Pi Kappa Delta.

The transition from Council to Board structure does not materially alter operational responsibilities or authority. Rather, the change provides a more recognizable framework for governance and communication with external partners, affiliated institutions and our members. The Board remains the principal body responsible for guiding the strategic direction of the organization and ensuring the integrity of both its programs and finances.

Composition and Operation of the Board

The Board shall consist of elected and appointed members who collectively serve in organizational governing leadership. The Board shall meet regularly, either in person or through approved electronic means, to conduct the business of the organization including, but not limited to: debating and adopting policies while overseeing the implementation of programs and initiatives consistent with the Constitution and these Bylaws.

The leadership of the Board shall have an "Executive Committee" that includes the **President-Elect, President, and Past-President**. Executive leaders may have closed sessions to discuss, debate and determine best practices. The Executive Committee acts on behalf of the Board between meetings on matters requiring timely attention, subject to ratification by the Board at its next meeting. Though the Committee may convene with the three members outlined above, The Historian of Pi Kappa Delta and Chief Operating Officer will join by invitation as is necessary to provide historical and financial advisory.

This group may amend its principle duties, but largely conducts business as related to the following: approves routine expenditures, addresses urgent matters between board meetings, provides guidance to membership and coordinates both board agendas and priorities (including strategic planning). Any non-confidential matters must be represented in the agenda at the next official meeting of the Board.

Meetings of the Board of Directors

The Pi Kappa Delta Board of Directors shall meet regularly (at least four times per year - typically quarterly) to conduct the business of the organization. A “summer Board” will be the chief strategic meeting - typically in person, when budget allows - to discuss the fiscal year ahead, plan programming and ensure Board cohesion.

Meetings may be held in person or through approved electronic means that allow all simultaneous communication. The President, in consultation with the Executive Committee, shall establish the agenda and schedule for each.

When circumstances arise - including but not limited to urgent pre-tournament and/or pre-convention matters - the President may call additional meetings of the Board. These may also be convened upon the request of a majority of Board members to address the needs and priorities of the organization.

Elected Members of the Board

The President-Elect shall be elected by the membership as stipulated in the Pi Kappa Delta Constitution and shall serve a two-year term in that role. Upon completion of that term, the President-Elect will automatically succeed to the office of President for an additional two-year term. That individual shall serve a final two-year term as Past-President. This sequential leadership structure maintains organizational continuity, preserves institutional knowledge and provides stability in governance.

The President shall serve as the chief elected officer of the organization - presiding over meetings of the Board, official PKD events, business meetings and other duties as identified by a majority vote of the Board. The President-Elect shall assist the President and serve as organizational chief in the absence or when designated by the President. The Past-President shall provide advisory support and historical perspective to the Board - stepping into the role of organizational chief when the rest of the Executive Committee leadership is absent.

In addition to the officers described above, the following Board positions shall be filled through a general election of the membership (each serving two-year terms, eligible for re-election) in accordance with procedures outlined in the Pi Kappa Delta Constitution:

- Three At-Large Members
- Community College Representative
- Graduate Student Representative
- At-Large Undergraduate Representative

These members represent the diverse constituencies of PKD while ensuring multiple perspectives are regularly included in the strategic direction of the organization. Representative seats are intended to focus on particular advocacy while at-large seats are obligated to address universal issues of governance.

The office of President-Elect shall only be elected from among the at-large members of the Board to ensure constituency-based seats remain dedicated to representation. Because at-large members are elected to represent the membership as a whole, they are historically designated eligible to serve as President-Elect.

Appointed Members of the Board

In order to support the organization, several Board positions shall be filled via appointment by the Board of Directors - pending a majority vote by the PKD membership to be conducted at the Biennial Convention. The following appointed members shall serve as **voting members** of the Board of Directors:

- Historian (10-year appointment)
- Editor of *The Forensic* (6-year appointment)
- Chief Operating Officer (COO)

These Board members shall provide administrative leadership and operational continuity for the organization by serving terms longer than those regularly elected. They are stipend-eligible, determined by the Board of Directors.

An additional position will be appointed by the Board:

- Host School Student Representative (2-year appointment)

An undergraduate or graduate student representing the host school for the forthcoming Biennial Tournament and Convention shall be appointed for a single, two-year term. This appointment is not eligible for additional terms and will be made in consultation with the official, non-student Biennial host.

Non-Voting Advisors to the Board

To ensure effective coordination between the Board of Directors and the organization's national events, the **Tournament Director** and **Convention Director** shall be invited to attend official meetings of the Board of Directors.

These members are appointed by a majority vote of the Board and are not subject to approval by the general membership. Any member of the organization may bring a motion, however, to the Biennial Convention regarding any appointment, including those listed in the section called "Appointed Members of the Board."

These individuals participate in discussions and provide reports regarding tournament operations, convention planning and other duties as directed. Each shall serve as **non-voting participants** (unless also occupying an official Board role) and are stipend-eligible based on the decision of the Board of Directors.

Board-Originating Awards

Every year, a committee of the Board of Directors shall nominate individuals to receive one of five awards to be presented at the National Communication Association (NCA) conference. The President-Elect heads the committee of at least five Board members. These awards include:

- **Bob Derryberry Award:** This award recognizes excellence among intercollegiate forensics educators who have been teaching for five or fewer years.
- **E.R. Nichols Award:** This award recognizes outstanding contributions to the discipline of intercollegiate forensics. It is also awarded as recognition for excellence in teaching.
- **L.E. Norton Award:** This award recognizes outstanding scholarly contributions to the discipline of intercollegiate forensics as evidenced by publications, performances, professional presentations and invited lectures.
- **Jack Rogers Award:** This award recognizes outstanding scholarly contributions to the discipline of intercollegiate forensics by a current graduate student.
- **John Shields Award:** This award recognizes outstanding professional service contributions to Pi Kappa Delta or to the furtherance of intercollegiate forensics.

Authority of the Board

The Board of Directors shall serve as the governing body of Pi Kappa Delta and exercise the authority necessary to conduct the affairs of the organization in accordance with the Constitution, Bylaws, and applicable policies. The Board will sustain mission and vision while overseeing organizational strategy, financial stewardship and programmatic integrity.

Chapter Information/Institutional Memberships:

There are three types of institutional memberships: institutions can join Pi Kappa Delta - as part of their “Undergraduate Chapter,” as a member of PKD’s “General Chapter” or as a “Alumni Chapters.”

Undergraduate Chapters:

Undergraduate Chapters pay their dues each September first, and receive a variety of benefits as members, including: voting privileges within Pi Kappa Delta, the right to

attend or compete at any tournament, two subscriptions to peer-reviewed journal *The Forensic*, opportunities to attend Professional Development Conferences and participate in the PKD Student Caucus. A variety of other benefits include student mixers and networking events.

Each Undergraduate Chapter has a single designated “Chapter Sponsor,” who serves as the primary point of contact between the National Council. (Please complete the Chapter Sponsor form when paying for membership.)

Chapters are given a Greek designation (for example, “Minnesota Zeta”) based on the order in which they became members of the organization. The chapter membership must be renewed each September 1st; a chapter must induct at least five new members per year to remain “active and in good standing.” Each chapter may receive a frameable Pi Kappa Delta Charter printed on parchment paper for a one-time charge of \$75.00. Replacement charters are available for the same price.

General Chapter:

The National General chapter shall be composed of members who have met the qualifications and joined the organization and who are not associated with an existing Undergraduate chapter.

The National General chapter shall exist for three purposes: to practice and support forensics in all its forms and contexts; to nurture citizenship through competition, service and scholarship, and to promote the art of persuasion, beautiful and just.

The National General chapter shall have voting privileges at National Conventions. The National General chapter shall have one vote for every twenty-five members in good standing, if a member in good standing is present.

Members of the National General chapter attending the national convention shall meet prior to the first business meeting and select their voting representative(s) by a majority vote of those members present.

Members of the National General chapter shall be exempt from fines, fees and assessments of Province and the National Organization, except for the original membership fee. Nothing in this paragraph shall preclude voluntary financial support of the organization.

A member may transfer from the National General chapter to a chartered undergraduate chapter conditional upon acceptance by the Chapter. In the event that their request for membership is rejected by the Chapter, they shall remain members of the National General chapter, and shall retain all rights and privileges of membership.

Alumni Chapters:

Any active Undergraduate Chapter has the right to form an Alumni Chapter. Alumni Chapters receive a variety of benefits as members, including: voting privileges within Pi Kappa Delta, the right to attend the National Tournament and Convention or the National Comprehensive Tournament, the opportunity to attend Professional Development Conferences, the opportunity to participate in the PKD Instructional Caucus. A variety of other benefits including socials, networking events and even an Alumni competition at the Biennial.

PKD also offers Alumni Chapters assistance in fundraising/development activities that are designed to support active Undergraduate Chapters. Any five undergraduate students in good standing can form a new PKD Chapter and can petition the National Council for designation as an “active Undergraduate Chapter.” Only one chapter can be recognized at each undergraduate, degree-granting institution. Institutions with multiple, independent campus locations may petition the National Council to recognize each location as an independent, active Undergraduate Chapter.

Alumni chapters retain the same Greek designation as the Active Undergraduate Chapter that they are attached to (for example, “Minnesota Zeta - Alumni Chapter”). In cases where the Undergraduate Chapter is no longer active, an Alumni Chapter may petition the National Council to be designated as the official Chapter Sponsor. To vote at a Pi Kappa Delta National Tournament and Convention, Alumni Chapters must present a report for the National Archives at the Biennial Convention that describes the chapter’s activities during the past two years.

Each chapter may receive a frameable Pi Kappa Delta Charter printed on parchment paper for a one-time charge of \$75.00. Replacement charters are available for the same price. Alumni Chapters must pay a one-time fee of \$100.00 per chapter.

Institutional Membership Fees	
Undergraduate Chapters - Annual Dues	
September 1st - February 1 st	\$100.00
February 1st - February 15 th	\$ 125.00

After February 15 th	\$150.00
Alumni Chapters - One-time Fee	
Anytime	\$100.00

Individual Membership Information

To participate in Pi Kappa Delta activities (such as National Tournaments, Conventions or Conferences), or to receive most Pi Kappa Delta prizes, scholarships, awards, or recognitions; each participant must be a member of Pi Kappa Delta. There are three types of individual memberships:

Order of the Undergraduate:

Membership in the Order of the Undergraduate is the most common individual membership and is designed for undergraduate students who wish to join the honorary and to participate in Pi Kappa Delta activities or events. Membership in the Order of the Undergraduate entitles the member to each of the rights and privileges designated by the National Council, including the right to participate in Pi Kappa Delta National Tournament competition, the right to be designated as a voting delegate, and to participate in Pi Kappa Delta governance, the opportunity to receive Pi Kappa Delta scholarships, prizes or awards, and the ability to pursue PKD orders or degrees. Once inducted into the honorary, membership in Pi Kappa Delta lasts a lifetime.

IMPORTANT: Each individual member should complete their membership application online because they will be asked to select a user name and designate a password. At the end of the process, they select a payment option on the payment screen. Students whose memberships are paid by coach in one payment should select “pay by check” on the payment screen. Coaches can pay for a number of memberships in one payment, (by check/credit), by selecting “pay by check” on the payment screen and requesting a payment link via email at ablood@ufw.edu.

Order of the Alumni:

Order of the Undergraduate members automatically become members of the Order of the Alumni upon receiving the relevant terminal degree (EG: Associate of Arts, Bachelor of Arts, or Bachelor of Science) from their institution.

Order of Instruction:

Membership in the Order of Instruction is designed for individuals who have already received a terminal undergraduate degree (Associate of Arts, Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science) from an undergraduate institution without an active Pi Kappa Delta Chapter. Membership in the Order of Instruction entitles the member to each of the rights and privileges designated by the National Council, including the right to participate in Pi Kappa Delta National Tournaments and Conventions, the right to be designated as a voting delegate or as a Chapter Sponsor, the right to participate in Pi Kappa Delta governance, the opportunity to receive Pi Kappa Delta grants, prizes and awards, and the ability to attend Pi Kappa Delta professional development conferences. Once inducted into the honorary, membership in Pi Kappa Delta lasts a lifetime. There is a one-time charge for membership in the Order of Instruction, and once inducted, membership in Pi Kappa Delta lasts a lifetime.

Lifetime Individual Membership Fees	
Undergraduate Chapters - Annual Dues	
Order of the Undergraduate	\$50.00
Order of the Alumni	\$ 10.00
Order of Instruction	\$35.00

Creating or Renewing a Pi Kappa Delta Chapter:

Creating (or renewing) a PKD chapter is easy. Go to www.pikappadelta.net From the home screen, select “join now” and then “undergraduate chapter” from the drop-down menu. Follow the steps and make sure your school mailing address is entered correctly (we use this address to send you physical copies of the journal). Your school will probably appear on another drop-down menu, but if not, send a quick email to the COO (currently Dr. Adam Blood, ablood@ucf.edu) who will add it and link your chapter. At the end, pay by credit card or select “pay by check.”

If the chapter sponsor/coach wishes to pay for student memberships by check or credit card, have each student **join as a member first** (see below), then have them select “pay by check” at the end of the process. They will be “pending members” until COO makes them active members after payment is received.

Paying Fees by Credit Card:

The easiest way to pay a whole group of student memberships and chapter dues in one transaction is to: (1) Renew the chapter as outlined above; (2) Have the students join as outlined below; (3) Write the name as it appears on the credit card. The credit card number, expiration date, billing zip code and CCV code on a blank piece of paper along with a note (EG: Gustavus Adolphus chapter dues and 11 student memberships); (4) Include the email or phone number where you would like the receipt emailed or texted.

Joining as a Student or Alumni Member:

The process for joining as an undergraduate member is also easy. Go to www.pikappadelta.net From the home screen, select “join now” and then “undergraduate member” from the drop down menu. Follow the steps and make sure your mailing address and contact details are entered correctly. Your school will probably appear on another drop-down menu, but if not, send an email to the COO (currently: ablood@ucf.edu) who will then add it and link your chapter. If the chapter sponsor/ coach is paying for your membership, select “pay by check” on the payment screen. Otherwise, enter your payment details.

General Notes on Registration for all Tournaments

Submit Entries via Speechwire:

The first step in the registration is to submit each entry via www.speechwire.com. In addition to current tournament information, this is the place to carefully make sure students and judges are correctly entered—across genres and types of competition. Once you have entered the tournament, you will automatically be placed on a waitlist.

Paying for Tournament Registration, Dues, and/or Merchandise:

In addition to the information included above in “Creating or Renewing,” as the tournament draws near, schools will be invited to register virtually. Each will receive an invoice as well as the fee statement produced by Speechwire. At that time, we can arrange payment via credit card or by check.

Clearing students from Waitlist:

To compete in a tournament, each school must have an active PKD Chapter; students must be a member of a Chapter. Coaches and judges do not need to be members of PKD. A waitlist allows members of active chapters to be cleared; the sheer number of students means the process involves a short wait. Please be patient as we work through it.

Making sure your chapter has paid current chapter dues and student memberships (outlined in the previous section) will significantly speed up the process.

Nomenclature:

We verify student names via database. If a chapter wishes to enter a participant in a tournament under a name *other* than that which was listed in the initial membership, please contact the Tournament Director or COO.

Biennial National Tournament & Convention

(Offered in Even Years)

Overview of the Convention

One unique experience of the Pi Kappa Delta experience within a diverse forensic community is that our members have the opportunity to attend convention events in addition to competing at the national tournament. Pi Kappa Delta includes six provinces that geographically divide our chapters—the Lower Mississippi, the Northern Lights, the Southeast, the Heartland, The Great West, and the Northern Lights. All come together every two years at the National Tournament and Convention for both friendly competition and to conduct the business of our organization.

We hope you spend time with us at these very important activities. Please see the descriptions below to learn more about the Convention.

Tournament and Convention Directors

The PKD Board of Directors shall designate a **Tournament Director** by a majority vote to serve two-year terms. The Board shall assess and vote to maintain or replace the position at each increment. Their duties will be to plan and execute all tournament-related duties (Biennial and National Comprehensive tournaments) outlined in this document and other duties as assigned.

Further, to ensure efficiency and historical continuity at each convention, the President of PKD - in consultation with the Board of Directors - shall appoint a **Convention Director** to plan and execute programming and ceremonies, where applicable. This position should be or work in consultation with the PKD Historian.

The Tournament and Convention directors shall be invited to participate in board meetings for the duration of their terms as non-voting members. Both shall be a part of the Biennial site selection and planning committees.

Convention Traditions and Events

Province Meetings

Provinces meet to do any business and to nominate and elect officers. Provinces can have any officers they choose but are asked to have a Province Governor at minimum.

Other officers can include Lieutenant Governor, Student Lieutenant Governor, Secretary, or any other role the group would like to have in place. Teams are encouraged to bring their coaches and students to the province meetings. Candidates running for National Council often visit the Province Meetings to introduce themselves, present their platforms, and answer questions.

Business Meetings

The business meetings are held twice each convention. Teams are encouraged to become a part of what can only be described as a memorable part of the convention. The business meeting begins with a roll call of the membership. Teams love to get involved in roll call by standing up and offering chants and dances when their team is called. Teams are encouraged to have fun with this. Alumni get involved too, as after the undergraduate chapters are called alumni chapters are also called. Responses should be brief but enthusiastic, such as a Texas chapter singing a line or two from “Deep in the Heart of Texas,” or a chapter creating their own team cheer. In addition to receiving the reports and business of PKD, members will vote on prominent initiatives such as tournament locations, bylaw/Constitutional changes and more.

Attendees will hear speeches from candidates for President-Elect and other offices that comprise the National Council. The elected positions include three at-large positions that can be held by coaches/alumni, a community college position for coaches/alumni as well as an undergraduate student and graduate student position.

Meet the Candidates

This is your chance to get to know the people running for National Council. There will be “Meet the Candidates” sessions during competition days. The first session gives the membership an opportunity to meet the candidates running for President-Elect and ask them questions. The second “Meet the Candidates” session allows teams to get to know the students and professionals running for National Council. This is a great opportunity to ask the questions you may have of the candidates and to get to know them better.

Showcases

In the spirit of Pi Kappa Delta’s egalitarian philosophy, in lieu of extensive breakout rounds (i.e., quarterfinals, semifinals, finals), the tournament organizes several prominent speakers into showcase events (e.g., Informative & Persuasive). The process for selecting participants is outlined in a special section below. All

tournament and convention attendees are invited to participate. Two or three members of the Order of Instruction lead the audience and participants in a dialogue about themes, style and effect. A Super Showcase will feature one speaker from each major Individual Event.

Professional Development Workshops/Panels

These generally focus on subjects of broad appeal and are open to all students, judges or coaches. PKD members may submit proposals and ideas for these sessions; they may also volunteer to present. The PKD Council will announce titles and summaries in advance; interested parties may register before the tournament so the Tournament Director can plan judging deferments. We encourage chapters to take advantage of these; as many instructors are eligible to use institutional developmental funds—potentially off-setting the costs of travel and tournament participation.

The Banquet

The Pi Kappa Delta Banquet is the culmination of the Biennial Tournament and Convention. The banquet is the crossroads between the tournament and the convention. Attendees wear formal attire. This event is most often held in a hotel ballroom or a venue of similar stature. The evening begins with the introduction of special guests and remarks from the President. The Historian then presents the All-American and Order of Attainment Awards. The President recognizes Presidential Recognition and Presidential Service Award winners. The President-Elect is inducted at the banquet and delivers an inaugural message. Once finished, the newly elected National Council is inducted. The evening ends with tournament awards. Awards at the Biennial Tournament and Convention are different from what is presented at most tournaments. Awards are presented in a hierarchical order: the last competitor announced is the Top Superior in that event.

Student Caucus

Students are invited to talk with the student National Council members during the student caucus and raise issues that they would like to see addressed by Pi Kappa Delta. Students offer suggestions for the tournament and convention as well issues to be addressed in the forensic community they would like to see discussed and/or changed. This event takes place during a competition day. Hosts often provide pizza or something similar to encourage students to attend and participate. Student

National Council members will bring the issues discussed to the National Council meetings.

Vendors, Graduate and Transfers Fair

Throughout the tournament, an Exhibition will connect students to people and resources that can help secure opportunities within and outside the Forensics community. Booths and representatives from a wide range of vendors as well as Undergraduate/Graduate University programs are available. PKD Chapters looking to advertise grad assistants, transfer or grad programs are invited to participate for FREE.

Past Presidents' Dinner

The Immediate Past President oversees this event. They will order the food and send handwritten notes to all the living past presidents inviting them to attend the dinner. Each past president is invited to bring one guest. The current President is also invited. There are time honored traditions that happen in the Past Presidents' Dinner. These rituals are kept a secret and only learned as a person becomes a Past President.

Hall of Fame Induction

Inducting members into its Hall of Fame is Pi Kappa Delta's highest honor. Members who have served the organization in exemplary ways are considered for this award. Pi Kappa Delta honors recipients from its earliest years, throughout its history to contemporary days. To become a member of the Pi Kappa Delta Hall of Fame, a person must be nominated with a letter to the Historian and the National Council. The nominating person may request letters of support for the nominee if they desire. To be elected to the Hall of Fame, a person must receive 100% approval if they are contemporary and if the nominee is from Pi Kappa Delta's early days, they must receive 50% of the vote to enter the Hall of Fame. Those individuals selected will be inducted and honored at the Biennial National Tournament and Convention during a public ceremony that follows the Past Presidents' Dinner.

Celebration of Life Ceremony

The Celebration of Life Ceremony celebrates the lives of Pi Kappa Delta members who have died. This ceremony takes a moment to reflect on the contributions of our members who have passed since the last convention.

Student Reception

The Student Reception is hosted by the student members of the National Council. This reception is open to all students. Receptions in the past have featured casino nights, carnival games, and dances. Students love to be a part of this event as a good time is had by all. Students and teams advancing to debate elimination rounds and showcase rounds are often announced at this reception. Drinks and snacks are usually served.

Coaches/Judges/Alumni Reception

The Coaches’/Judges’ reception invites all coaches and judges to spend time with colleagues enjoying beverages and snacks. This event is often hosted concurrently with the Student Reception but in a different space, allowing teams to travel together to these events.

Convention Awards

All-American Nominations and Awards

We have a long tradition of honoring active student members of Pi Kappa Delta who exemplify the organization’s motto and purpose. The PKD Historian shall coordinate the committee to choose Order of Attainment inductees and recipients of the All-American, Carolyn Keefe, R. David Ray, and Rising Star awards.

The full Board of Directors shall nominate and vote on NCA awards (e.g., Derryberry, Jensen, Nichols, Norton, Rogers and Shields awards) and the Golden Gavel Award. Hall of Fame nominations must be submitted to the Historian and approved unanimously by the Board. The Convention Coordinator shall organize the Hall of Fame ceremony.

The Scott Jensen Undergraduate Research Award will be presented to the winner of the “Student Scholarship” event at PKD tournaments. The Board of Directors may also choose to award it at the NCA conference in years when such tournament competition does not occur.

PKD All-American Awards

The PKD All-American Award will be awarded to up to ten student members of the Honorary, announced at the Convention Banquet. The nominations for this award are specifically handled by PKD’s Historian.

A Pi Kappa Delta All-American meets the following criteria:

- Is an outstanding student as evidenced by grades, academic achievements and recommendations of professors.
- Is a good citizen, as evidenced by the applicant's community service and contributions to the world outside the classroom and forensics competition.
- Is a successful competitor, as evidenced by their record in forensics competition.
- Is a committed squad member, as evidenced by their contributions to their program and to forensics and Pi Kappa Delta.
- Is a special person, as evidenced by the recommendations of individuals outside the applicant's school and chapter.

Application Process

Each applicant should submit a complete application packet which contains:

1. A current resume.
2. A letter from the applicant discussing their qualifications for receiving All-American recognition.
3. A current transcript from each college the applicant has attended (may be unofficial).
4. A listing of awards or other appropriate documentation of their forensics record; their community service activities; and their squad and chapter activities; if such documentation is not found in their resume.
5. A letter of recommendation from the applicant's Forensic Director or PKD Chapter Sponsor.
6. Letters of recommendation from at least two individuals outside of the applicant's chapter and school who are familiar with the applicant's qualifications and attributes.

All application materials will become the property of PKD and will not be returned. See the invitation for specific details regarding the submission process each year.

Rising Star Award

The Rising Star Award is for active first- or second-year undergraduate students who are members of Pi Kappa Delta and exemplify "The Art of Persuasion: Beautiful and Just." The nominations for this award are specifically handled by PKD's Historian.

Description of the Award and Qualifications:

The Rising Star Award goes to 5 student members of the Pi Kappa Delta National Honorary and is typically announced during the second Business Meeting.

Recipients of the Rising Star Award meet the following criteria:

- Is self-reflective and introspective, as evidenced by a cover letter of application.
- Is a team-player and dedicated steward for debate and forensics, as evidenced by their dedication to their team and surrounding area colleges.
- Is a successful competitor, as evidenced by their record in forensics competition.
- Is dedicated to their school, as evidenced by their grades and extracurricular commitments
- Is a special person, as evidenced by the recommendations of individuals outside the applicant's school and chapter.

Application Process:

Each applicant should submit a complete application packet that contains:

1. A current resume
2. A cover letter from the applicant discussing their qualifications for receiving award recognition.
3. A current transcript from each college the applicant has attended (may be unofficial).
4. List of awards or other documentation of forensics record; community service activities; and squad & chapter activities.
5. A letter of recommendation from applicant's DoF or PKD Chapter Sponsor.
6. A letter of recommendation from outside the applicant's chapter and school who is familiar with the applicant's qualifications and attributes.

Scott Jensen Undergraduate Research Award

The Scott Jensen Undergraduate Research Award will be presented to the winner of the "Student Scholarship" event at PKD tournaments. The Board of Directors may also choose to award it at the NCA conference in years when such tournament competition does not occur.

Golden Gavel Award

This award recognizes the outstanding service contributions of non-PKD members who have significantly advanced the mission, vision and values of Pi Kappa Delta.

Nominations may originate from any active Chapter or from the PKD National Council. To nominate an individual or organization, please contact either the COO or member of the Pi Kappa Delta Council.

R. David Ray New Chapter Award

This award recognizes the outstanding contributions of any Pi Kappa Delta Chapter that has been founded within the previous five years.

Nominations may originate from any active Chapter or from the PKD National Council. To nominate an individual or organization, please contact the historian.

Carolyn Keefe Award

This award is presented occasionally to recognize the outstanding professional, civic, scholarly or service contributions of Pi Kappa Delta alumni.

Nominations may originate from any active Chapter or from the PKD National Council. To nominate an individual or organization, please contact the historian.

Order of Attainment Awards

The Order of Attainment was established in 2007 and honors the societal contributions of Pi Kappa Delta Alumni. This special award honors the contributions of the nominees at a global, national, or local level and reflects the role of forensics and Pi Kappa Delta in building life-long citizens. Honorees are named at the Banquet.

Nominations may originate from any active Chapter/member or from the National Council. The nominations for this award are specifically handled by PKD's Historian.

Competitive Events

The Biennial Convention includes a competitive element that truly embodies PKD's commitment to comprehensive forensics by offering students a wide variety of competitive events many of which are unique to PKD. The following list are events that may be offered at the Convention. **Please see the invitation for the specific events offered at a given Biennial Convention.** A description of these events is available in the last section of this document.

Individual Events	Debate Events	PKD Events
After Dinner Speaking	Lincoln Douglas	Interviewing

Communication Analysis	Public Forum	Discussion
Dramatic Interpretation	IPDA	Reader's Theatre
Duo Interpretation	NPDA	Student Congress
Extemporaneous Speaking	CEDA	Spanish Language Interpretation
Informative Speaking		Spanish Language Platform
Impromptu Speaking		Spanish Language Impromptu
Persuasive Speaking		Extemp Commentary
Poetry Interpretation		Oral History
Prose Interpretation		Broadcast Journalism
Program Oral Interpretation		Editorial Impromptu
		Student Scholarship
		Podcasting

Elimination Rounds

Traditional elimination rounds will be offered in all formats of debate based on the size of the entry within each of the divisions offered.

In the event that Novice and/or Junior Varsity divisions are collapsed into other divisions, a breakout final will be offered in the collapsed division(s). **Only competitors who did not advance to elimination rounds will be eligible for the breakout final.** (For example, if Junior Varsity LD does not make and is thus combined with Varsity LD for preliminary rounds an individual who advances to elimination rounds in Varsity LD is *ineligible* for the JV breakout final)

Traditional elimination rounds will *not* be offered in Individual Events or PKD Events. Individuals participating in these events will be eligible to participate in the Showcases.

Unless otherwise specified, showcases will not be offered for Interviewing, Discussion, Broadcast Journalism, Reader’s Theatre, Student Congress, Extemp Commentary, Oral History, or Editorial Impromptu.

Selection of Showcase Participants

The following process for selecting showcase participants was adopted in 2019.

1. Organize seeding for all IE events in Alphabetical order (i.e. ADS, Broadcast Journalism, Communication Analysis).
2. Then, examine seeding in each event. The Top Seed will be automatically placed into the corresponding Championship Showcase (Oral Interpretation Events / LP and Platform Events). Championship showcases will be comprised of one superior student from each of the 11 AFA-NIET individual events.
3. Seeds 2 and 3, who are already receiving Top Superior Awards will be ineligible for the Superior Showcases.
4. Beginning with the fourth seed, Students will be placed into Superior Showcases based upon the prioritization of regional diversity according to the chart below. The next available student from the queued-up Region will be placed into the round based on an alphabetical listing of regions (Greater Northeast, Great West, Heartland, Lower Mississippi, Northern Lights, Southeast.)
5. Placement will be snaked from left to right and looped back right to left.

Sample Seeding:

Showcase 1	Showcase 2	Showcase 3	Showcase 4	Showcase 5	Showcase 6	Showcase 7
Greater Northwest	Great West	Heartland	Lower Mississippi	Northern Lights	Southeast	Greater Northwest
Great West	Greater Northwest	Southeast	Northern Lights	Lower Mississippi	Heartland	Great West
Heartland	Lower Mississippi	Northern Lights	Southeast	Greater Northwest	Great West	Heartland

NOTES

- Superior Showcases will be segmented by event types, forming 6 showcases of combined similar events (e.g., Extemp and Impromptu showcase; ADS and CA)

showcase). This will facilitate a well-rounded discussion and create the opportunity for students to see multiple events.

- Schools may not have more than 7 showcase participants. The only exception that will be made to this is in the event a school has more than 7 top seed competitors.
- If there is a disparity in the number of schools in each Province of more than three schools (i.e., 4 provinces with approximately 20 schools and 1 province with only 3 schools) Regions will be reorganized to establish numerical balance.
- In all possible instances, seeds for the superior showcases will only be selected from the top 30% of an event.

Awards & Sweepstakes

Individual Awards

Individual event competitors who place in the top 30% of their event receive awards in two categories—*excellence* for the top 30-11% and *superior* for the top 10%. Awards are presented in a hierarchical order, meaning the last competitor announced is the winner of that event. This approach to acknowledging excellence not only recognizes more competitors for their efforts and talents, but also generates tremendous anticipation and energy with the announcements of each event. Debate competitors placing within the top 30% who did not advance to elimination rounds will also be recognized as either excellent or superior based on prelims.

Sweepstakes

Superior (top 10%) and Excellent (the next 20%) sweepstakes awards will be presented in individual events, debate, and combined categories. Good ratings will be assigned to the next 30%. Sweepstakes awards for the combined category will only be presented to superior and excellent chapters with entries in both individual events and debate. We will also recognize a minimum of three two-year schools and up to 30% of the two-year schools entered in the overall sweepstakes category. Sweepstakes awards will also be given to the top community colleges in attendance.

Individual Events

Points will be computed for the top three contestants from each chapter in each event according to the following formula:

Superior	5 points
Excellent	4 points
Good	3 points
Participation	1 point

Debate

Points will be computed for a chapter's top three teams per format. Entries in LD,

IPDA, and student congress, as well as discussion count as half a team, thereby allowing chapters to count up to six entries in each of these formats. For the purposes of sweepstakes, reader's theatre will count as debate entries. Points will be allocated according to the following formula:

<i>Preliminary rounds</i>		<i>Elimination Rounds</i>	
Superior	10 points	First Place	10 points
Excellent	8 points	Second Place	8 points
Good	6 points	Semifinalist	6 points
Participation	2 points	Quarterfinalist	2 points

Combined

A chapter will count up to 12 individual event students, each earning points for their **single best event**. Likewise, each of a chapter's best six debate team entries will earn points for their preliminary round finish. As in debate sweepstakes, L-D, IPDA, student congress, and discussion entries count as half a team. A maximum of two students can count reader's theatre as their single debate event toward combined sweepstakes for their chapter. For example, if student A earned two superior and one good ratings in individual events, they would count a single superior rating toward the chapter's combined sweepstakes total. Oral history will count as individual event entries. However, oral history will only count toward a chapter's combined sweepstakes total.

Points will be allocated according to the following formula:

Superior	10 points
Excellent	8 points
Good	6 points
Participation	2 points

National Comprehensive Tournament

(Offered in Odd Years)

Overview of the National Tournament

The National Tournament embodies PKD's commitment to comprehensive forensics by offering students a wide variety of competitive events many of which are unique to PKD. The National Tournament adheres to the traditional structure of a tournament including preliminary rounds and elimination rounds in all events and the eventual crowning of a National Champion based on the results of competition.

Professional Development Events

Development Workshops/Panels

These generally focus on subjects of broad appeal and are open to all students, judges or coaches. PKD members may submit proposals and ideas for these sessions; they may also volunteer to present! The PKD Council will announce titles and summaries in advance; interested parties may register before the tournament so the Tournament Director can plan judging deferments. We encourage chapters to take advantage of these; as many instructors are eligible to use institutional developmental funds—potentially offsetting the costs of travel and tournament participation.

Student Caucus

Students are invited to talk with the student National Council members during the student caucus and raise issues that they would like to see addressed by Pi Kappa Delta. Students offer suggestions for the tournament and convention as well issues to be addressed in the forensic community they would like to see discussed and/or changed. This event takes place during a competition day. Hosts often provide pizza or something similar to encourage students to attend and participate. Student National Council members will bring the issues discussed to the National Council meetings.

Competitive Events

The following list are events that may be offered at the National Tournament including supplemental events. **Please see the invitation for the specific events offered at a given National Tournament.** A description of these events is available in the last section of this document.

Individual Events	Debate Events	PKD Events
After Dinner Speaking	Lincoln Douglas	Interviewing
Communication Analysis	Public Forum	Reader's Theatre
Dramatic Interpretation	IPDA	Spanish Language Interpretation
Duo Interpretation	NPDA	Spanish Language Platform
Extemporaneous Speaking	CEDA	Spanish Language Impromptu
Informative Speaking		Extemp Commentary
Impromptu Speaking		Podcasting
Persuasive Speaking		Editorial Impromptu
Poetry Interpretation		
Prose Interpretation		<i>Supplemental Events</i>
Program Oral Interpretation		Student Congress
		Slam Poetry
		Public Narrative

Elimination Rounds and Supplemental Events

Debate

Traditional elimination rounds will be offered in all formats of debate based on the size of the entry within each of the divisions offered.

In the event that Novice and/or Junior Varsity divisions are collapsed into other divisions, a breakout final will be offered in the collapsed division(s). **Only competitors who did not advance to elimination rounds will be eligible for the breakout final.** (For example, if Junior Varsity LD does not make and is thus combined with Varsity LD for preliminary rounds an individual who advances to elimination rounds in Varsity LD is *ineligible* for the JV breakout final)

Individual and PKD-Specific Events

Traditional elimination rounds will be offered in all Individual Events and the following PKD Events: Broadcast Journalism, Editorial Impromptu, Extemp Commentary and all Spanish Language events (size permitting).

Traditional Elimination Rounds will *not* be offered for Interviewing or Reader's Theatre.

Supplemental Events

Individuals who **do not advance in ANY** of their original events are eligible to participate in supplemental events. Students may participate in either Student Congress **OR** Slam Poetry/Public Narrative but *not* both. Students may enter both Slam Poetry and Public Narrative. Please keep in mind the following:

- You must register for supplemental events at the time of registration for tournament. Onsite registration for these events will NOT be available.
- You may register for these events without adding in a competitor name so that the slot may be utilized by any non-advancing competitor on your roster.
- Students who are registered for a supplemental event that advance to elimination rounds will automatically be dropped from their supplemental event(s).

Awards & Sweepstakes

Individual Awards

All elimination round participants in debate and individual events will receive awards based on their final placing in the event. Speaker awards will also be presented in each of the debate events. In events where elimination rounds are not held, participants will receive awards based on their placing as determined by preliminary rounds of competition.

Pentathlon

1. Students entered in five or more events are eligible for Pentathlon awards. In determining these awards, only the student's best 5 slots in preliminary and/or elimination rounds will be considered. Students must compete in at least two genres (debate, public address, oral interpretation, limited preparation) to be eligible.
2. Contestants earn 3 points for each first place; 2 points for each second place; and 1 point for each third place rank received in the three preliminary rounds. Thus, the maximum points would occur when a contestant received six firsts equaling 18 points. All students in quarterfinals and semifinals will be awarded three sweepstakes points. In the final round, sweepstakes points are allotted as follows: 1st-12; 2nd-10; 3rd-8; 4th-7; 5th-5; 6th-3.
3. In debate, contestants earn 3 points per preliminary round win; 5 points per elimination round win.
4. In the event of a tie in Pentathlon, the tie-breaking procedure will be:
 - a. Number of events in final rounds;
 - b. Number of events in semifinal rounds;
 - c. Number of events in quarterfinal rounds;
 - d. If a tie still exists, the tie will be broken on placement in elimination rounds, beginning with finals.

Sweepstakes

Sweepstakes awards will be presented to the top performing schools utilizing the following formula. Awards will be presented for Debate Team Sweepstakes (Top 15), Individual Events Sweepstakes (Top 15) Combined Team Sweepstakes (Top 30), Small Entry Sweepstakes (Top 5), Community College Sweepstakes (Top 5).

Debate Sweepstakes

Top 36 debaters - team events would count as 2 debaters

- 3 Points per Prelim Win
- 5 Points per Elim Win

Individual Event Sweepstakes

Top 3 in Each Event in Prelims

- First = 3, Second = 2, Third = 1
- All Elimination Round Participants
- 3 points for appearing in octos, quarters, semis
- In Finals: First = 12, Second = 10, Third = 8, Fourth = 7, Fifth = 5, Sixth = 3

PKD Only Events/Experimental Events

Top 15 Entries

- Interviewing (only prelims occur)
- First = 8, Second = 6, Third = 5, Fourth = 3, Fifth = 2, Sixth = 1

Spanish Language Events or similar event with possible Elims

- Prelim Points First = 3, Second = 2, Third = 1
- 3 points for appearing in octos, quarters, semis
- In Finals: First = 12, Second = 10, Third = 8, Fourth = 7, Fifth

Combined Sweepstakes

- Total score from Debate Sweepstakes
- Total score from I.E. Sweepstakes
- Total score from PKD Only/Experimental Events

Governing Policies and Procedures

Eligibility

As a reminder, PKD does not use a season-long qualification process—making this an excellent opportunity for all students to compete at a national tournament regardless of what their season has looked like thus far.

Current Students: Each student delegate/participant must be an undergraduate student in good standing who has not completed eight semesters of forensic participation or attended any collegiate national forensic tournament in four different years prior to the current year. Each delegate/participant must be a PKD member or have filed an application for membership with the national office prior to the start of the NCT. To become a member, read the previous sections regarding “Membership” and “Registration.”

Discrimination Policy and Compliance Officer

Creating an inclusive and safe space for all participants is a top priority for Pi Kappa Delta and has long been an important part of our Constitution. As such, the following statements from our constitution will be in full effect:

Article II.201 Pi Kappa Delta is committed to assuring equal opportunity to all persons, regardless of race, color, religious creed, national origin, physical ability status, age, economic status, gender, sex or sexual orientation. Pi Kappa Delta is opposed to all forms of discrimination and seeks to establish a tolerant atmosphere in which every individual is accorded respect. Mindful of the importance of First Amendment freedoms, Pi Kappa Delta reminds its members of their ethical obligations to audience members and encourages members to refrain from disrespectful or derogatory speech. As an organization dedicated to fostering the development of functional leadership skills, Pi Kappa Delta encourages the participation of individuals from traditionally under-represented groups. Pi Kappa Delta is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Article VI.601 Practices and Procedures Committee. It shall be the function of this committee to uphold Pi Kappa Delta's Statement on Discrimination. The Compliance Officer appointed by the President of Pi Kappa Delta and approved by the National Council will chair this committee. This committee will be responsible for investigating charges of discrimination and recommending appropriate action, if necessary, to the National Council. This committee must maintain the confidentiality of all involved to the maximum extent possible in order to conduct a fair and thorough investigation.

Land Acknowledgement

Though without permanent grounds, Pi Kappa Delta has nonetheless benefited from policies—historical and ongoing—that disenfranchise indigenous populations. Our responsibilities as an academic nonprofit are multifold. First, we recognize this dispossession at the lands on which our tournaments occur. Second, recognizing the experiences of our native members and fellow citizens is essential as our organization continues to collectively engage and improve relationships, garner new community partnerships and further our collective project to advance an *ethics of persuasion*.

Event Descriptions and Competition Rules

As a “big tent,” Pi Kappa Delta provides a space for competitors to engage in a variety of established competitive events in addition to those unique to PKD. To provide participants a consistent competitive experience, PKD defaults to the rules of the governing organizations for the events it offers at both the National Tournament and the Biennial Convention. Those organizations are outlined below with a link to their competition rules; because rules and procedures can change from season to season, we encourage members to continuously research the most recent version of the rules established by the relevant governing organization.

****Please note that these guidelines extend only to the event’s general rules**

and not practices related to tournament structure (e.g., number of preliminary rounds, number of judges assigned to a round, etc.)**

Individual Events

The following individual events will adhere to the competition rules and guidelines established by American Forensics Association: ADS, CA, DI, DUO, EXT, INFO, IMP, PER, POE, PRO, POI.

[Click here to access the AFA's competition rules and guidelines.](#)

Lincoln Douglas Debate

Lincoln Douglas debate will adhere to the competition rules and guidelines established by the National Forensics League.

[Click here to access the NFA's competition rules and guidelines for LD.](#)

Public Forum Debate

Public Forum debate will adhere to the competition rules and guidelines established by the College Public Forum Debate League.

[Click here to access the CPFL's competition rules and guidelines for PF.](#)

Individual Public Debate (IPDA)

IPDA debate will adhere to the competition rules and guidelines established by the Individual Public Debate Association.

Click here to access the IPDA's competition rules and guidelines.

<http://www.ipdadebate.info/constitution--bylaws.html>

National Parliamentary Debate (NPDA)

NPDA debate will adhere to the competition rules and guidelines established by the National Parliamentary Debate Association.

Click here to access the NPDA's competition rules and guidelines.

<https://npdadebate.com/governance/>

Cross Examination Debate Association (CEDA)

CEDA debate will adhere to the competition rules and guidelines established by the Cross Examination Debate Association.

<https://cedadebate.org/about-ceda/#constitution>

PKD Events

Interviewing: Rounds 1 and 2 will consist of an interview lasting no longer than 10 minutes conducted by the judge utilizing the same question set for each competitor. Round 3 will have judges evaluate and rank student resumes based on their resume-writing techniques and the overall strength of their resume. Competitors entered in interviewing must provide an accessible link to their resume (either google doc or dropbox link) of their resume during registration. Please double check the permissions settings on document links to ensure judges are permitted to view the document.

To Honor... This event showcases both the depth and breadth of a performer. Asking them to compete in limited preparation, public address and interpretation. A different presentation will be given in each round as follows: Round 1: Impromptu: Speakers will present an impromptu speech based on selected quotations from public address and literature dealing with issues of scholarship and intellectual discovery. Speakers will have a total of 7 minutes to prepare and speak. Limited notes are permitted. Round 2: Speakers will inform the audience about a significant example of public address that highlights issues relevant to forensics, including the value of persuasion or civil discourse. The public address can be from any field, time period, nation, or setting. The purpose of the speech should be historical in that the audience should learn about the speaker, audience, occasion, message, and impact of the address. Notes and/or audio-visual aids are permitted. The time limit is a maximum of 10 minutes. Round 3: Speakers will present a thematic program of selections from prose, poetry, and/or drama dealing with any aspects of scholarship and discovery, including the process of, benefits of, etc. The presentation must be from a manuscript. The maximum time limit is 10 minutes including an introduction.

Oral History: The purpose of this event is to document and preserve the long and rich history of Pi Kappa Delta. Each chapter may submit a recording (such as a discussion or presentation on some aspect of PKD history). Topics can include but are not limited to an interview with an important person in the past or present of PKD, the history of a chapter or province, a review of norms/rules of the past, information about major events at a specific chapter. The presentation or discussion should include at least two people. Videos should be recorded on YouTube. Entry links must be uploaded to SpeechWire. All entries become property of PKD and will be added to the Honorary's archives/website. The PKD Historian oversees this event and the transfer of materials to Archives.

Student Scholarship: Periodically, graduate and undergraduate students may submit their written work for formal assessment and prizes - such as being recognized as the recipient of the Scott Jensen Scholarship Award and/or consideration for publication in *The Forensic of Pi Kappa Delta*. The Board of Directors - in consultation with the

Tournament Director - will empanel a committee to decide methods for assessment and awarding.

Reader's Theatre: Reader's Theatre is defined as interpretation of literature by a group of oral readers who act as a medium of expression for an audience. While Reader's Theatre is both oral and visual, the emphasis is on the oral interpretation of the printed word and its resultant effects on the minds, emotions, and imaginations of the listeners/viewers. The audience should have the feeling of a unified whole in which each performer at all times contributes to the total effect desired. The time limitation for the performance is 25 minutes. An additional two minutes shall be allowed for both set-up and takedown of material. Reader's theatre entries must include a minimum of three and a maximum of 14 participants. Students may not enter more than one reader's theatre. Programs (handouts) are not allowed in this event.

Mechanics of presentation are limited as follows:

1. The audience must have a sense of production being interpreted from a manuscript. The director(s), performers, and judges should be allowed freedom to exercise artistic, interpretive judgment; however, manuscripts must be interpreted from during the presentation.
2. Suggestions in contemporary or ensemble dress may be used. The literature should determine the nature of this suggestion, although costuming should not be a focus of the presentation.
3. Reading stands, chairs, stools, ladders, platforms, steps, props, and/or lighting effects may be used. However, the limitation of facilities (space, time, equipment, etc.) should govern a director's concept.
4. Readers may sit, stand, or both and may move from one reading stand or locale to another so long as the movement is consistent with the ideas or moods of the literature and the director's concept.
5. Music/sound effects, recorded or live, are acceptable as background accompaniment and part of the context.
6. A performer whose sole function is to play a musical instrument on or off stage will be counted in the total number of performers.

Spanish Language Interpretation/Platform: A student will perform ANY selection of interpretation or platform in Spanish. The length of this event is 10 minutes with introduction. Contestants will be judged on their performance in Spanish. The aim of this event is to be able to allow competitors to compete in the language they prefer, and to celebrate the student's ability to speak in Spanish. As such, translated literature is acceptable. Use of a manuscript is required for interpretation. Manuscripts are not encouraged in the platform.

Spanish Language Impromptu: Similarly, students who wish to participate in a Spanish-language limited preparation event may do so this year. The 7-minute event follows traditional AFA rules; students receive a quotation in Spanish.

Extemporaneous Commentary: In a speech not to exceed 7 minutes, participants conduct research and record a speech that proposes a method for long-term reform. This event has traditionally been offered asynchronously through a partnership with external organizations who define the topic and scope of the event. Those details will be made available prior to registration via Speechwire.

Broadcast Journalism: A contestant will present a well-organized, clearly communicated simulated radio broadcast. The focus of this event is to demonstrate skill in selection, organization, and presentation of a simulated broadcast news program. Topic areas for each round will be distributed 30 minutes prior to the beginning of the round. For two rounds, speakers will choose and edit the material to be exactly five minutes in length. For Round 3 (Asynchronous): Contestants will submit an audio recording that is exactly five minutes in length following the same procedures listed above regarding asynchronous uploads. If a student fails to post, their scores will be averaged. The recording should resemble an editorial. A significant portion of the recording should be the student's opinion about any topic. The recording should also include background information about the topic in order to provide explanation for the opinions being expressed. The student may create the recording for any platform for which an audio recording would be an appropriate format for content. Call letters or other platform identification, as well as brief references to a day, weather, or programming to follow the recording are acceptable but not required.

Student Congress: Each session will be divided into chambers of no more than 18 students each. Sessions will be no longer than two hours each. Parliamentary procedures, as outlined in Robert's Rules of Order, will be followed. Speakers are ranked/rated by judges on their speaking and advocacy skills, as well as their understanding and use of parliamentary procedure. Additionally, a top legislator will be selected via peer voting for each chamber. Schools may submit legislation to the tournament director for inclusion in the docket as well as the names of students who are interested in serving as Presiding Officer. See the invite for submission deadlines.

Discussion: Each contestant participates in three rounds with the same group, sectioned randomly. Groups follow the decision-making process outlined here:

- Round 1: Designate chairperson & recorder. Define problem; limit & analyze it.
- Round 2: Establish criteria for solution; suggest and consider other solutions.

- Round 3: Select solution; discuss how to implement and assess its effectiveness.

Each group will have one Resident Judge (the same for all three rounds) and a Visiting Judge (different for each round) who evaluate and rank participants. Students will receive four rank/ratings, with the Resident Judge evaluating the discussion across three rounds. Each round of discussion lasts no longer than 90 minutes.

Roles:

- Chairperson: helps facilitate the flow of discussion and keeps track of time.
- Recorder: takes notes and will be responsible for turning them in as a report to the event coordinator.

Editorial Impromptu: Students will receive a short editorial (ideally 3-5 paragraphs) and develop a response. Participants will be allocated nine minutes to divide between preparation and speech time. Speakers must speak for at least five minutes. Limited notes, prepared in the round, are permitted. Judges will provide time signals.

Public Narrative: An original public narrative (not to exceed 10 minutes) utilizes personal experience for an audience-centered purpose. It features the development of a story in full (beginning, middle, end) while creating clear connections to, with and through audience. Manuscripts/note cards are optional: . For more information, consult this website:

www.ndi.org/sites/default/files/Public%20Narrative%20Participant%20Guide.pdf

Slam Poetry: For each round, students are to perform an original spoken-word poetry—not exceeding five minutes. Each preliminary round must be a different, single poem. Those advancing to finals select which to perform. No manuscripts are allowed.

Podcasting: In this event, students can - alone, together, or in a team! - showcase their talents while creating a *pitch* for their podcasts. Awards will be provided to entries *not* individuals. Schools may submit multiple entries. Students may participate in more than one podcasting entry-even cross-collaborating across campus! Students will have a single 10-minute block of time in which to stitch together their three elements and submit a single, *audio-only* file that includes:

1. The Trailer - successful podcast trailers should effectively do three things: (1) introduce the topic of the podcast in a compelling way, using their own voice. No props or sound effects (or any extraneous production) other than those made by the speaker's voice are permitted. Remember: hook but never spoil

the show! (2) Speaker should make clear the reason and necessity for their podcast; and (3) provide a “narrative arc” for the season/series.

2. The Guest Interview - participants conduct an original interview with one or more individual(s). It should make clear who is participating and why.
3. Edited Segment - students will then provide a final “clip” of their podcast. It may feature elements from both the trailer and interview. It should be representative of the style and flow of a typical podcast episode from the series.

These elements can be scripted or improvisational, episodic or serial, fast-paced or a slow-burn. Choices, number of participants, subject matter and ultimate audience is entirely up to the participant(s). The time balance for all three (trailer, interview, edited segment) is also up to the participants. Students can include transitions, but it is not required. Judges will assess the presentation’s coherence and viability while offering comments on speech fluidity, engagement and talent. If the podcast is in a language other than English, translated captions are required.

Voicing Concerns and the Challenge Process

PKD is committed to providing fair & equitable competition for all participants. As such, we seek to provide a space for participants to raise concerns and be heard.

- General concerns should be raised at the annual student caucus where they can be thoughtfully discussed by fellow students and shared with the National Council.
- Concerns related to Title IX, discrimination, equity or inclusion should be raised to the President who will then convene the Practices and Procedures Committee alongside the appointed Compliance Officer.
- Concerns related to competition are arbitrated by the Ombudsperson who is selected by the National Council prior to the start of the Tournament/Convention. To preserve the fairness of this process, the identity of the Ombudsperson is kept confidential until the completion of the event. The identity of the individual(s) involved in the challenge are also kept confidential to the Ombudsperson to ensure everyone is given the benefit of anonymity throughout the process.

Process for Raising a Competition Related Challenge

1. If an established competition rule/guideline has been violated the person(s) seeking to raise a challenge must do so in writing. The full details of the situation including all parties involved, the nature of the event, and the

specific rule(s) broken, should be written and emailed to the tournament director. Please specify who should be contacted if additional information is required. (It is recommended that this person be the Coach in charge of the individual(s) issuing the challenge)

2. The tournament director will then anonymize the statement and provide a copy to the Ombudsperson who will review the statement, request additional information as needed, and issue a written decision.
3. The Tournament Director will relay the decision to all parties involved in the situation along with the written rationale of the Ombudsperson.
4. The decision of the Ombudsperson will be final and, if required, their suggested course of remediation will be carried out.

Important Considerations for Raising a Competition Related Challenge

1. All challenges *should* be raised either during or immediately following the round where the situation occurred. For example, formal evidentiary challenges in LD and PF should be raised during the round whereas concerns about plagiarism in a speech should be raised immediately following the round.
2. A challenge *must* be raised within 2 hours of the completion of the round where the situation occurred. Challenges raised outside of this time frame will be acknowledged by the Tournament Director for awareness purposes but will not be shared with the Ombudsperson for adjudication.
3. Challenges *must* go through the process outlined above to be considered. Do not come directly to the Tab Room or members of the Tournament Staff with your concerns.