

JEFFERSON JOUST

COACHES & JUDGES INFORMATION PACKET

1. Welcome

Welcome to the Jefferson Joust! Thank you for supporting students as they share their voices, develop confidence, and compete. Our goal is a fair, organized, and encouraging tournament for every competitor. We appreciate the dedication of coaches and the thoughtful service of judges.

Kayden Hoeke | Tournament Director & Head Speech and Debate Coach

2. Tournament Schedule — Proposed

Time	Activity
7:30–8:00 AM	Registration and check-in
7:45–8:00 AM	Coaches and judges meeting
8:00–8:15 AM	General Meeting
8:30–9:45 AM	Round 1A
9:45–11:00 AM	Round 1B
11:00–12:15 PM	Round 2A
12:15–1:30 PM	Round 2B
1:30–2:45 PM	Round 3A
2:45–4:00 PM	Round 3B
3:45 PM	Final postings
4:00–5:00 PM	Finals — Flight A
5:00–6:00 PM	Finals — Flight B
ASAP following Finals	Awards ceremony

All times are tentative. Follow official announcements and postings for changes.

3. Key Locations and Contacts

Location	Details
Tournament headquarters / tab room	E116
Coaches and judges check-in	Front Doors
Judges lounge	G116
Student gathering area	Commons
Concessions	Coffee Bar (By Library)
Awards ceremony	Auditorium
Tabulation platform / postings	Speechwire
Tournament contact	Kayden Hoeke - 605-951-8240

4. Competitive Events

Interpretation

Dramatic Interpretation • Humorous Interpretation • Duo Interpretation • Poetry Interpretation • Program Oral Interpretation (POI) • Storytelling • Readers Theatre

Public Speaking

Original Oratory • Informative Speaking • Non-Original Oratory • Domestic Extemporaneous Speaking • International Extemporaneous Speaking • Novice Extemporaneous Speaking

The Jefferson Joust will follow all NSDA official event rules and eligibility requirements

5. Tournament Format

- Three preliminary rounds are planned; two judges per preliminary room.
- Competition and finals are flighted to accommodate event scheduling.
- Five judges are planned for each final-round room.
- Competitors and judges must monitor postings for rooms, flights, and updates.

6. Finals and Awards

Grand Finals — Championship Division

Top qualifying competitors compete for championship honors. 1st–3rd place: trophies; 4th–6th place: medals.

Honor Finals — Recognition Division

Additional high-performing qualifiers are recognized. 1st place: medal; 2nd–6th place: certificates.

Novice Finals — Emerging Competitors Division

Eligible novice competitors receive a dedicated opportunity for recognition. 1st place: trophy; 2nd–6th place: medals.

IMPORTANT: Honor and Novice Finals, and other additional finals, are offered only when the applicable entry requirements are met. Not all events will have every finals division.

Special awards

-Sweepstakes trophies will be awarded to the top 3 schools regardless of class.

-Individual Student Sweepstakes will also be awarded to the top 3 point earning students of the tournament.

7. Information for Coaches

Check-in and entries

- Verify competitors, events, judge obligations, and contact information.
- Report entry changes promptly.
- Review announcements and ensure students know their rooms and flights.

Supervision and conflicts

- Bring rule questions or protests promptly to the tournament director. If the next round of competition has started before the protest is initiated, the protest will be voided.

8. Information for Judges

Before the round

- Check in, attend the judges meeting, and confirm access to electronic ballots.
- Review your room, event rules, timing requirements, and ballot criteria.
- Disclose conflicts of interest to tournament headquarters immediately.
- Arrive early and report missing competitors before recording a scratch. Missing competitors can be reported by text to 605-951-8240.

During the round

- Judge fairly, independently, and without discussing rankings with other judges.
- Give every student your attention and maintain a professional atmosphere.
- Follow event-specific timing and performance rules.
- Do not disclose rankings or placements before official results.

Ballot submission

- Rank all competitors and complete required ballot fields.
- Provide specific, constructive, respectful feedback about the performance.
- Check your ballot for errors and submit immediately after the round.
- If a ballot or technology issue occurs, notify tournament headquarters.

9. Etiquette, Hospitality and Safety

- Silence devices; avoid entering or leaving rooms during a performance.
- Record or photograph performances only when permitted by rules, school policy, and participants.
- Treat all students, coaches, judges, and volunteers respectfully, including when material addresses sensitive topics.
- Judges lounge and concessions locations will be shared at check-in.
- In an emergency, follow directions from school staff; coaches should account for their students.

10. Quick Reference

Coaches	Judges
Verify entries and judge obligations	Check assignments and conflicts
Monitor postings and student locations	Arrive early and follow event rules
Report conflicts to headquarters	Provide constructive feedback
Promote sportsmanship	Submit ballots promptly

Thank you for helping make the Jefferson Joust a memorable and positive tournament. Let the Joust begin!