Shepherd DEBATE FORENSICS
2026
Patti Frieda Memorial Invitational

Dear Coaches, Teams, and Friends:

The Shepherd University Debate and Forensics team cordially invites you and your students to attend the Patti Frieda Memorial Tournament on our beautiful campus in Shepherdstown, WV on **November 6-7, 2026.**

We will offer all 11 NFA Events and all 11 CFA events for a total of 12 IE events. Please note that means we will offer *both* POI and Declamation. We will also offer two-person NPDA Parliamentary Debate and in-person LD Debate.

Snacks will be provided as will a pizza lunch on Saturday, Nov. 7. ***If you need any dietary accommodations, please let the tournament director know!***

The competition will be held on East Campus in White Hall and, if needed, in Knutti Hall and/or Stutzman-Slonaker Hall. Registration, tabulation, and posting of all events will take place in White Hall. All rounds will be posted in the Jefferson Room of White Hall. The Jefferson Room will also serve as a student lounge.

If any students or judges need accommodations moving between buildings, please let the tournament director know.

White Hall, along with the other buildings, is located along High Street. Free parking is available across from White Hall in A-Lot. There is also metered parking along the street. Please note that the meters are $0.50/hour, run through 6 p.m. on Friday, and are regularly enforced.

Should you have any questions, please contact Tournament Director, Kate Alexander, at 717-404-2432 (cell) or via email at kalexa07@shepherd.edu.

We look forwarding to having you at our beautiful campus!

Sincerely,

Kate Alexander
Coach and Faculty Advisor to Debate and Forensics, Shepherd University

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Friday, November 6, 2026

1:30 p.m.	Registration begins
2:00 p.m.	NPDA Round I
3:15 p.m.	NPDA Round II
4:30 p.m.	Extemp Draw
5:00 p.m.	Round IA – Extemp, Prose, ADS, Persusaive
6:00 p.m.	Round IB – Poetry, Duo, Informative, CA
7:00 p.m.	Round IC – Impromptu, SDI, POI, Declamation
7:30 p.m.	LD Round I

Saturday, November 7, 2026

7:30 a.m.	LD Round II
8:00 a.m.	Exemp Draw
8:30 a.m.	Round IIA
9:30 a.m.	Round IIB
10:30 a.m.	Round IIC
11:30 a.m.	NPDA Round III
12:30 a.m.	**Lunch/LD Round III**
1:30 p.m.	NPDA Round IV
2:30 p.m.	Final Exempt Draw
3:00 p.m.	Group I Finals
4:00 p.m.	Group II Finals
5:00 p.m.	Parli Finals
6:00 p.m.	Awards

PLEASE NOTE: Schedule is subject to change.

TOURNAMENT FEES

School Fee	$ 40.00
Entry Fee – IE	$ 8.00/slot
Entry Fee – LD	$10.00/slot
Entry Fee – Parli Team	$20.00/team
Uncovered IE Judging Fee	$15.00/slot
Uncovered Debate Judging Fee	$25.00/slot
Late Entry Fee	$12.00/slot
Post-deadline Drop Fee	$12.00/slot
Day-of Drop Fee	$16.00/slot
Post-deadline Judge Drop Fee	$25.00
Day-of Judge Drop Fee	$50.00

ENTRY INFORMATION

- The deadline for entries is Monday, November 2, at 5 p.m. Eastern.
- One judge covers 6 IE slots plus two debate units
- There is no limit on team entries in any event.
- Students may enter a maximum of two IE events per bracket; two duos count as two events.
- Each entry dropped after Monday, Nov. 2 at 5 p.m. Eastern will incur a $12 penalty.
- Each entry dropped on Friday, Nov. 6. or Saturday, Nov.7 will incur a $16 penalty.
- Judges dropped after Monday, Nov. 2 at 5 p.m. Eastern will incur a $25 penalty.
- Judges dropped on Friday and/or Saturday will incur a $50 penalty.

To register please go to **www.speechwire.com**, and submit your entry. You will receive a confirmation email detailing each entry later in the week. Please be sure to check the entries you submitted and immediately correct any errors directly on Speechwire.

COMPETITION AND RECOGNITION

1. The tournament will follow CFA and NFA rules for I.E., NPDA rules for 2-person Parliamentary Debate, and the NFA LD Resolution for LD Debate. LD will follow CFA norms.

2. The tournament will offer 2 rounds of preliminary competition in all IE events and, when warranted, a final round. It will offer 4 rounds of preliminary NPDA debate and 3 rounds of preliminary LD. Rounds 3 and 4 of NPDA will be power-matched. Round 3 of LD will be power-matched. If warranted, we will hold an LD final debate.

3. Any event with more than 50 entries competing in both preliminary rounds will feature a semifinal round in addition to a final round. Schedules will be adjusted accordingly.

4. We will recognize the top 6 finalists in each event, the top individual sweeps winners (pentathlon), and the top team sweeps.

5. There will be individual speaker awards for NPDA and LD (if more than 6 competitors).

6. We will use electronic ballots through Speechwire, but also offer judges who are more comfortable with a paper ballot the chance. Paper ballot results will be manually added to Speechwire in the tabroom, and the paper copy provided to the team.

7. Judges should submit electronic ranks/ratings ASAP following each round and must provide educational written comments for each ballot prior to the respective day's award ceremony. **If a judge needs a paper ballot, please let tabulation know.**

8. **Awards will take place in the Jefferson Room of White Hall on Saturday, Nov. 7 around 6 p.m.**

LODGING AND DINING INFORMATION

Our suggested Hotel:

The Quality Inn
70 Maddex Square Dr.
Shepherdstown, WV 25443
(304) 712-2688

There are numerous other hotel options in Charles Town, WV and Martinsburg, WV including:

- Quality Inn & Suites Kearneysville-Martinsburg (6.2 miles away)
- Clarion Inn Harpers Ferry-Charles Town (6.7 miles away)
- Holiday Inn Express (7.9 miles away)

Shepherdstown is home to many restaurant options within walking distance of the campus:

- Gran Ranchero
- Maria Taqueria
- Bistro 112
- The Press Room **(open for dinner only)*
- Alma Bea
- The Blue Moon Cafe
- Betty's Restaurant **(open for breakfast and lunch only)*
- Tommeez Pizza and Subs
- MJ's on German Deli Cafe **(open for breakfast and lunch only)*
- Panagiota's Taste of Greece
- Kome Thai

Additional options are a short drive out of town, including fast food. Door Dash, UberEats, and other delivery options are also available.