



Virginia is for Lovers

Fall 2026 Swing

The teams from George Mason University and James Madison University cordially invite you and your students to attend the 2026 “Virginia is for Lovers” Fall Swing, October 10-11, 2026. Both tournaments will take place in Harrisonburg, Virginia, on the campus of James Madison University. However, if the need arises, the swing may embrace a hybrid model for one or both days of competition. We will offer all 11 AFA-NST events at both halves of the swing. The following information should make your trip easier to plan:

TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

We'll use the same schedule for both days.

8:00am - 8:30am	Registration in Harrison Hall's main lobby on Saturday
8:30am	Extemp Draw
9:00am	IA (Duo/Ext/Info/Per/POI/Pro)
10:15am	IB (ADS/CA/DI/Imp/Poe)
11:30am	Lunch Break
12:00pm	Extemp Draw
12:30pm	IIA
1:45pm	IIB
3:00pm	Extemp Draw
3:30pm	Finals A
4:45pm	Finals B
6:15pm	Awards

ACCESSIBILITY AND DIETARY NEEDS

We plan on keeping the swing limited to three close buildings: Harrison Hall, Darcus Johnson Hall, and Roop Hall. **Please reach out to Mallory (marshml@jmu.edu) no later than the entry deadline with any accessibility needs or any airborne allergies** that should be considered.

“SPREAD THE LOVE”

We encourage teams who have limited budgets (or those which are student-run programs) to reach out so that we might find a way to make competition for all students at this swing possible.

ENTRY INFORMATION

1. There is no limit on team entries in any event.
2. Students may enter a maximum of three events per bracket; two duos count as two events.
3. **The deadline for entries is Tuesday, October 6, at 5 pm Eastern.**
4. Entry fees are \$8 per event slot. Qualified judges cover six slots. Uncovered entries are an additional \$15 per slot.
5. Each entry dropped after Wednesday, October 7, at 5 pm Eastern will incur an additional \$10 penalty. Each entry dropped on Saturday and/or Sunday will incur an additional \$20 penalty. Dropped judges after Wednesday, October 7, at 5 pm Eastern will incur an additional \$50 penalty. Dropped judges on Saturday and/or Sunday will incur an additional \$100 penalty.
6. 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.
7. To register for both tournaments included in the swing, please go to www.speechwire.com, and *submit your entry separately for each half* of the swing. You will receive a confirmation email detailing each tournament's 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. Tournament directors will "spot check" ballots throughout the swing to ensure educational written comments are provided by judges.
2. Both tournaments will offer 2 rounds of preliminary competition in all events and, when warranted, a final round.
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 finalists in each event, the top individual sweeps winners, and the top schools at each tournament.
5. The top overall speaker for both halves and the top overall team for both halves will be recognized on Sunday.
6. We will use AFA-NST style rules and tabulation.

We hope you will join us for what will surely be a fun and competitive event!

Mallory Marsh
Tournament Director
James Madison University
marshml@jmu.edu

Jake Cruz
Student Tournament Director
James Madison University

Dawn Lowry
Tournament Director
George Mason University
dlowry4@gmu.edu

Abigail Lizotte and Camilas Canelas Soto
Student Tournament Directors
George Mason University