
Seattle University Elem-MS-HS Speech and Debate Tournament



Welcome Packet

Saturday November 17, 2023

Version 2.0

Notice: All participants are subject to the participation waiver form posted on the tournament invitation page and must sign this waiver.

Welcome to the Seattle University November 17, 2023 Elem-MS-HS Speech and Debate Tournament

Please share this document with your students, parents, and judges.

Click on these links to find information on that subject.

TOURN. SCHEDULE NOVEMBER 17, 2023 (All times Pacific Coast Time)	3
QUESTIONS? SOMETHING I CAN HELP WITH?	3
SOMEONE TREAT YOU POORLY? AN ISSUE? A PROBLEM?	3
ZOOM LINK	3
IN-PERSON CHECK-IN	3
ELEMENTARY PRO CON DEBATE	4
1. Elementary Topics (November).....	4
2. Elementary Debating Times	4
3. Elementary Debating Rules	4
MIDDLE SCHOOL 3 ON 3 PARLI DEBATE	5
1. Middle School Topics (November)	5
2. Middle School Debating Times	5
3. Middle School Debating Rules	5
PUBLIC FORUM DEBATE	6
1. Public Forum Topic (November-December NSDA Topic)	6
2. Public Forum Debating Times	6
3. Public Forum Debating Rules—READ THEM, THEY ARE UNIQUE.....	6
HIGH SCHOOL DEBATE	7
1. High School LD Debate Topic (November-December NSDA Topic)	7
2. High School LD Debating Times	7
3. High School LD Debating Rules.....	7
CONGRESS DEBATE.....	8
1. Congress Topics (Legislation, Fall 2023 Climb Packet)	8
2. Congress Debating Times	8
3. Congress Debating Rules	8
SPEAKING EVENTS	9
1. Events.....	9
2. Speech Times.....	9
3. Event Rules.....	9
PARENTS	10
JUDGES	10
COACHES.....	10

TOURN. SCHEDULE NOVEMBER 17, 2023 (All times Pacific Coast Time)

4:00 Judge Training (coaches report missing judges by 4:10pm)

4:00 Students Check-In (coaches report missing students/teams by 4:10pm)

4:20 Round 1 (ballots due by 5:40pm)

5:40 Dinner Break

6:00 Round 2 (ballots due by 7:20pm)

7:40pm Round 3 (ballots due by 9:00pm)

9:10 Awards (expect to finish by 9:30pm)

ALL JUDGES EMAIL BALLOT IMMEDIATELY AT END OF ROUND (by replying to emailed ballot).

**Then, if a debate, talk to debaters after emailing ballot.
Then, all judges, TYPE IN ONLINE COMMENTS.**

Something missing? Have a question? Please email Jim Hanson at hansonj@seattleu.edu

QUESTIONS? SOMETHING I CAN HELP WITH?

Email me, Jim Hanson, at hansonj@seattleu.edu (my other email addresses work as well) or text me on my cell phone at 360-536-1983.

SOMEONE TREAT YOU POORLY? AN ISSUE? A PROBLEM?

Please contact your coach and coaches should contact Jim Hanson, Tournament Director. We want to help work out problems and make the tournament a positive, inclusive experience for you.

At all times, participants are expected to treat everyone at the tournament with respect, kindness, and professionalism.

ZOOM LINK

[SU Friday Online Tournament Zoom Link Updated for Nov 17, 2023](#)

IN-PERSON CHECK-IN

Skip it. Just join the Zoom Meeting. Jim will send an invoice. DO REPORT MISSING TEAMS, speaking events speakers to Jim Hanson.

ELEMENTARY PRO CON DEBATE

1. Elementary Topics (November)

- Round 1 & 2: Schools should give very little homework to elementary students.
- Round 3: We should use more nuclear power to address climate change.

2. Elementary Debating Times

Topic announce, **10** minutes prep before the first speech

DURING PREP—ONLINE CON TEAMS GO TO THE ZOOM ROOM THAT IS PLUS 20 OF THE DEBATING ROOM TO PREPARE. Example: Debate is in Room 17. Con Prep Room is in 37. IN PERSON CON TEAM? GO TO ANY SPACE NOT BEING USED.

- Pro 1st speaker: 3 minutes (presents pro case)
- Con 1st speaker: 3 minutes (presents con case)
2 minute cross-fire between the 1st speakers
- Con 2nd speaker: 3 minutes (responds to pro case)
- Pro 2nd speaker: 3 minutes (responds to con case)
2 minute cross-fire between the 2nd speakers
- Con 3rd speaker: 3 minutes (shows why winning con case, defeating pro case)
- Pro 3rd speaker: 3 minutes (shows why winning pro case, defeating con case)
2 minute cross-fire between the 3rd speakers

If either team has a 4th speaker—then add

- Con 4th speaker: 3 minutes (shows why winning con case, defeating pro case)
- Pro 4th speaker: 3 minutes (shows why winning pro case, defeating con case)
2 minute cross-fire between the 4th speakers
- Each debater explains why they think their side won the debate: 45 seconds each.
- Weighing Speeches: Each debater explains why they think their side won the debate: 45 seconds each (weigh the key issues).

3. Elementary Debating Rules

AT ALL TIMES—TREAT EACH OTHER RIGHT—WITH SUPPORT.

Elementary Debaters can be aged 8 to 12; exceptions to this require Jim Hanson's approval.

Prep Time Rules

- You CAN view and use materials you researched/prepared.
- You can research online during Prep Time.
- You CAN talk with your debate partners
- You CAN hand-write/flow/type out arguments for your speeches.
- You CANNOT get debating help from coach(es) or parent(s) during prep time.

During the Debate

- You CAN pass notes or text message/chat with your debate partners.
- You CAN quietly speak with your debate partners who are not speaking (don't interrupt the debater speaking).
- You CANNOT get help from coach(es) or parent(s) during the debate.
- You CANNOT speak to teammates who are speaking.
- No heckling, no questions or comments out loud during another student's speech.
- **YES-YOU CAN USE LAPTOPS/E-DEVICES during elementary debates.**

MIDDLE SCHOOL 3 ON 3 PARLI DEBATE

1. Middle School Topics (November)

- Rounds 1 and 2: The justices of the Supreme Court of the United States ought to be term-limited.
- Round 3: Impromptu Topic

2. Middle School Debating Times

Topic announce, 20 minutes prep (30 minutes prep for impromptu topics)

Opp teams go to another room to prepare.

- Prop 1st speaker: 5 minutes (present prop case)
- Opp 1st speaker: 5 minutes (respond to prop case and present opp case)
- Prop 2nd speaker: 5 minutes (defend prop case, respond to opp case, if time, add to prop case)
- Opp 2nd speaker: 5 minutes (defend opp case, defend responses to opp case, respond to new points)
- Opp 3rd speaker: 5 minutes (show partners' won the opp case and defeated the prop case)
- Prop 3rd speaker: 5 minutes (show partners' won the prop case and defeated opp case)

3. Middle School Debating Rules

AT ALL TIMES—TREAT EACH OTHER RIGHT—WITH SUPPORT.

Middle School Debaters can be aged 10 to 14; exceptions to this require Jim Hanson's approval.

Prep Time Rules

- You CAN view materials you researched/prepared before prep time started EXCEPT you cannot do this if it is an impromptu topic.
You CAN talk with your debate partners
You CAN hand write notes/flow arguments for your speeches.
- You CANNOT research online during prep time.
You CANNOT get debating help from coach(es) or parent(s) during prep time.
- NOTE YOU CANNOT USE typed items during the debate except for ADA reasons.
- **Debating in Person—use the Tournament provided colored flow paper.**

During the Debate

- You CAN use HAND WRITTEN notes prepared during Prep Time. In Person? **The notes must be on the tournament provided colored flow paper.**
You CAN pass notes or text message/chat with your debate partners.
You CAN quietly speak with your debate partners who are not speaking.
- You CANNOT view nor use materials during the debate that were prepared before prep time.
You CANNOT use materials on your computer/tablet/phone during the debate except for ADA reasons. Use handwritten notes ONLY and use your computer only for Zoom.
You CANNOT research during the debate.
You CANNOT get help from coach(es) or parent(s) during the debate.
You CANNOT speak to teammates who are speaking.
- No heckling.
- POIs (questions/short arguments) allowed in ALL speeches for the middle 3 minutes of the speeches.
- Each speaker must take two POIs except they do not take POIs requested less than 30 seconds after taking a POI.
- When there is an impromptu topic for a debate, logic and reasons should be given just as much weight as a debater citing a study/statistic/fact.

PUBLIC FORUM DEBATE

1. Public Forum Topic (November-December NSDA Topic)

Resolved: The United States federal government should forgive all federal student loan debt.

2. Public Forum Debating Times

When the rooms get posted in Zoom, then debaters go to their debates and begin immediately.

Beginning of the Debate: Debaters are required to share their google drive/dropbox/one drive for sharing evidence and to do a test sharing evidence. Shared evidence may not be used in debates by the team receiving the evidence.

Each debater gives 2 speeches and engages in 1 crossfire plus the grand crossfire.

- 1 Pro Constructive: 4 minutes, present pro case
- 1 Con Constructive: 4 minutes, present con case
- *Crossfire (questions) 3 minutes between 1 Pro and 1 Con*
- 2 Pro Rebuttal: 4 minutes, refute con case
- 2 Con Rebuttal: 4 minutes, refute pro case
- *Crossfire (questions) 3 minutes between 2 Pro and 2 Con*
- 1 Pro Summary: 3 minutes, defend pro case and/or address key points of clash
- 1 Con Summary: 3 minutes, defend con case and/or address key points of clash
- *Grand Crossfire (questions) 3 minutes among all debaters*
- 2 Pro Final Focus: 3 minutes, give reasons from previous speeches to vote for pro
- 2 Con Final Focus: 3 minutes, give reasons from previous speeches to vote for con

4 min. prep. during the debate for each team to use as they choose before their speeches or before crossfire. No prep time prior to the debate.

3. Public Forum Debating Rules—READ THEM, THEY ARE UNIQUE

- **Debaters must be 10-14 years of age or receive Jim Hanson's permission to debate in this tournament.**
- Pro teams of two debaters (1Pro debater and 2Pro debater) defend the topic. Con teams reject the topic. Con teams of two debaters (1Con debater and 2Con debater) reject the topic.
- Con teams cannot run counterplans; they must discuss the topic/the current policies.
- **Speaker Duties:**
 - 1Case Speeches: Present Case. Do not respond to opponent's case in this speech except minimally.
 - 2Rebuttal Speeches: Respond to your Opponent's Case. Do not respond to responses to your case except minimally.
 - 1Summary Speeches: Defend Your Case/Crystalize. Do not respond to your opponent's case except minimally.
 - 2FinalFocus Speeches: Address Key Arguments and Weigh.
- **WE DO NOT WANT PF DEBATERS SPREADING TO HIT BOTH CASES IN THEIR SPEECHES—DO NOT DO THAT. ONLY THE FINAL FOCUS DIRECTLY ADDRESSES BOTH CASES IN THEIR SPEECH.**
- **Debaters use prepared materials in their debates. Debaters may/should use printed materials and/or laptops during the debate.**
- You may also access the internet including during the debate (but you CANNOT communicate with any person including a coach or parent unless it is an emergency).
- No POIs, No heckling. No Coin tosses.
- Debaters may speak to teammates who are speaking BRIEFLY AND RARELY and can pass notes or text messages/chat. Remember, interrupting your debate partner can hurt their debating—do it at most once or twice during an entire speech and only in urgent situations.
- Use your own flow paper/laptop for flowing.
- Coaching help prior to the debate is fine but the debate starts on time. No coaching during the debate.

HIGH SCHOOL DEBATE

1. High School LD Debate Topic (November-December NSDA Topic)

Resolved: The United States ought to prohibit the extraction of fossil fuels from federal public lands and waters.

2. High School LD Debating Times

- Before you start, establish means for sharing evidence (google drive, drop box, one drive, email chain, etc.)
- First Affirmative: 6 minutes
- Negative questions Affirmative: 3 minutes
- First Negative: 7 minutes
- Affirmative questions Negative: 3 minutes
- First Affirmative Rebuttal: 4 minutes
- Negative Rebuttal: 6 minutes
- Second Affirmative Rebuttal: 3 minutes
- Each side has 4 minutes of preparation to use when they wish except in the middle of questioning or speeches.

3. High School LD Debating Rules

AT ALL TIMES—TREAT EACH OTHER RIGHT—WITH SUPPORT.

High School Debaters can be aged 13 to 18; exceptions to this require Jim Hanson's approval.

- Follow NSDA rules.
- You may NOT fabricate (make up) quoted material.
- You may NOT misuse quoted material including: 1) removing words like “no” and “not” from quotations; 2) adding words to quotations; 3) claiming you read parts of a quotation that you did not.
- Fabrication and Misuse of quoted material disqualifies you from the tournament and likely future tournaments.
- You may not get debating help during the debate from coaches, parents, other debaters, anyone.
- You may use a computer for notes, reading materials, etc.
- You may use and should read materials you prepared prior to the debate.

CONGRESS DEBATE

1. Congress Topics (Legislation, Fall 2023 Climb Packet)

- [Fall 2023 Climb Congress Packet](#)

2. Congress Debating Times

- Each speech is 3 minutes.
- The first pro and con speech on each topic will have a 2 minute questioning period broken into 4 blocks of 30 seconds for direct questioning. And all other speeches will have 1 minutes for questions.
- We have two sessions that are 1.5 hours long.

3. Congress Debating Rules

- As always, Respect and Safety are Paramount. Ages range from Elementary school to high school. There can be large age differences, being respectful to all competitors is important.
- Dockets are made by the tournament tab staff with the topics in order. Competitors may propose an alternative docket with the topics they want debated, in the order in which they want to debate them. Then they are voted on if there is more than one proposed docket.
- PO elections take place after a nomination process (self nominations are allowed) and an anonymous vote is taken. In person this is through ripped pieces of paper, or else a straw poll is typically used for online tournaments.
- We follow NSDA Rules.
- There should be no communication with coaches, parents, friends etc. that are not involved in the debate.
- No information should be fabricated (made up).
- POs will elect speakers and questioners based on Precedence and Recency. Precedence is the number of speeches that have been made and Recency is how recently one has spoken. The person with fewer speeches is given priority if they choose to speak. If all speech numbers are even, then priority is decided based on how recently a person has spoken with the least recent person to have spoken given the higher priority. Precedence will always override recency. Speeches are run with recency (includes Precedence) and questions are usually run based on precedence exclusively.
- There must be at least one full cycle of debate (one Affirmation Speech, followed by one Negation speech) on each piece of legislation before you can have incomplete cycles (consecutive aff speeches or neg speeches).
- Once the first cycle has started you must finish it before tabling the legislation or moving to previous question.
- Presiding Officers (POs) are elected after the dockets are decided.
- Breaks, switching topics, addressing the chamber, formally asking questions and ending sessions are all run through motions. The PO and Parliamentarian (most experienced Congress Judge) will rule on motions; this is done either by conducting a vote or by a “decision of the chair” this is a choice made by the PO and most often used for a recess at which point the Parliamentarian (parli) will advise the PO on whether a recess should be allowed. [This sheet](#) has the motions that are used. Not all motions need to be made in one round.

SPEAKING EVENTS

1. Events

- We offer 5 Events to Enter: Impromptu, Extemp, PowerPoint, Platform, Interp.
- **Reminder: You can do AT MOST two speech events. If you are doing debate, you can only enter one event.**
- Reminder: If you are doing debate, you can do only ONE speech event.
- **IMPORTANT NOTE:** You present your speech THREE TIMES—once in round 1, once in round 2, and once in round 3. (Impromptu and Extemp do three different speeches in round 1, 2, and 3).

2. Speech Times

- Impromptu ALL ages: 6 minutes (includes preparation)
- Extemp ALL ages:
 - questions provided Thursday evening, the week of the tournament
 - elementary 5 minute speech
 - middle school and high school 7 minute speech.
- **FOR POWERPOINT, PLATFORM, AND INTERP SPEECHES:**
 - Elementary speeches: 5 minutes.
 - Middle School speeches: 7 minutes.
 - High School speeches: 10 minutes.

3. Event Rules

- **Impromptu:** You'll be given 3 topics and you chose one of them to speak on. You have 6 minutes total to prepare AND also to present. You cannot read/look at notes made before you received the topic, the internet, etc. during prep time. You can outline your speech on a notecard, sheet of paper, or an electronic device (but again, no researching on the internet, looking at files on your electronic device).
- **Extemp:** You'll be given 3 questions on current events/issues to speak on Thursday evening before the tournament. YOU CAN look at the internet and/or an extemp tub/files. You can and should outline your speech including the question as it was worded, use multiple source citations, and provide analysis answering the question you chose. You speak for 5 minutes answering the question (elementary) or 7 minutes (middle school and high school). YES—YOU CAN DO DEBATE AND EXTEMP.
- **PowerPoint:** You present on any topic using a PowerPoint/Google Slides/Similar throughout the speech. You should use a combination of bullets, pictures, and animation to create a visually interesting and well supported speech. 5 minutes elementary, 7 minutes middle school, 10 minutes high school.
- **Platform:** You present an informative, persuasive, or humorous speech on a topic of your choice. Your speech should be a written/typed manuscript that you have memorized or that you use notes very minimally when you present. Your speech should include source citations, clever and engaging wording, and have a purpose to inform, persuade or entertain your audience. You speak for 5 minutes (elementary), 7 minutes (middle school), or 10 minutes (high school).
- **Interp:** You present poetry, prose and/or play material cut to advance a point/insight you wish to communicate. In addition to the material that you perform, you also have an introduction stating the point/insight made by the material, the author(s) of the material, and the title of the piece(s). Movement of your feet should be kept to a minimum usually at most one step from your starting standing position. You perform for 5 minutes (elementary), 7 minutes (middle school), or 10 minutes (high school).
- **You may not write speeches using ChatGPT/similar other than to do research.**

PARENTS

We welcome parents supporting their children's growth as speakers! We ask that you abide by our tournament rules:

- You may watch your child debate in their debating/speaking room.
- No video recording, no photographs, no screen shots during debate or speech rounds.
- Please, no talking with students from other schools.
- Spectators should remain neutral and quiet during the round. You may applaud for all competitors after the final speech.
- We encourage you to be supportive of your debater/speaker.
- Complaint about a judge? Two things: 1) Remember not everyone agrees even if you feel really strongly your child should have won. 2) If a judge violated a rule and especially if they did not treat students with courtesy and respect—please report it to your coach who can bring the issue to the attention of the tournament directors.

JUDGES

Thank you for serving as a judge. You are helping students grow and become better communicators.

- **ALL Judges carefully read and follow the judging instructions given to you.**

Debate Ballots are sent via email. Judges do the following at the end of a round:

1. **ASAP, EMAIL REPLY your ballot with the winner and speaker points for the debate.**
 2. Give constructive feedback to debaters orally (you don't do this for speaking events).
 3. **After oral feedback, submit Reason for Decision and Comments Form:** with 1) Arguments that persuaded you to vote for the team you did; 2) at least 1 good thing each debater did; 3) at least 1 thing each debater needs to improve on.
- **ALL Judges carefully read and follow the judging instructions given to you.**

Speech Ballots are sent via email. Judges do the following at the end of a round:

1. **ASAP, EMAIL REPLY your ballot with the rankings and speaker points.**
2. **Give Feedback for each and every speaker you judged using the Online Form Link provided.**

COACHES

We want to make sure you and your team know what is going on—topics, pairings, etc.

- All announcements and postings will happen on Zoom.
- Issues/concerns during the tournament—please contact Jim Hanson with a text at 360-536-1983 or call for him in the Zoom Meeting.
- Have a judge no show before the tournament starts? Notify Jim Hanson (hansonj@seattleu.edu) as soon as possible and provide a replacement judge.

From me and all of the Seattle Debate Union—welcome to the tournament! :)

Jim Hanson, Director of Forensics (Speech and Debate) and the SU team!

The Seattle Debate Union

Communication Department, Seattle University

hansonj@seattleu.edu (email is best; my other email addresses work as well)

360-536-1983 text; call only if very urgent