



Bluegrass Invitational

Speech and Debate Tournament

October 20-21, 2017

Dear Colleagues,

July 5, 2017

The University of Kentucky Forensics Team and the Kentucky Nu Chapter of Pi Kappa Delta cordially invite you to attend the fourth annual Bluegrass Invitational speech and debate tournament to be held at the University of Kentucky campus in Lexington, Kentucky, October 20-21, 2017.

The tournament will feature competition in all eleven AFA individual events, radio broadcasting, editorial impromptu speaking, improvisational duo, interviewing, NPDA parliamentary debate, and IPDA public debate.

The tournament has moved back to a Friday/Saturday schedule and to a new weekend in October. All individual events will have two preliminary rounds of competition and a final. All debate events will offer four preliminary rounds of competition with an appropriate number of elimination rounds. Novice divisions and semifinals rounds will be offered as warranted by the entry size of each event.

To promote a comprehensive forensics experience, the Bluegrass Invitational will allow students to enter a full slate of individual events in addition to parliamentary debate. Students may also cross enter between individual events and IPDA public debate though some limitations will apply.

Awards will be presented to all event finalists and the top debate speakers. The top five individuals in pentathlon and the top five teams in debate, individual events, and in combined competition will earn sweepstakes awards. We will also recognize the top novice in each event, the top Pi Kappa Delta chapter, and the top community college in team sweepstakes.

To promote a healthful weekend of competition, teams will be able to take advantage of meals provided on site at the tournament for a nominal fee.

You will find the rest of the details about the Bluegrass Invitational included in the next few pages. Entries will be due by **5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 17th**. Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have. We look forward to hosting you at the University of Kentucky in October!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Timothy J. Bill'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Timothy Bill

Director of Speech and Debate and Tournament Director
School of Information Science
University of Kentucky

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Tournament Schedule

Friday Schedule (October 20th)

1:00 Registration
 2:00 NPDA Draw
 2:15 NPDA Round 1
 3:15 NPDA Draw
 3:30 NPDA Round 2
 4:45 NPDA Draw
 5:00 NPDA Round 3
 6:00 Dinner
 6:15 NPDA Draw
 6:30 NPDA Round 4
 7:45 NPDA Draw
 8:00 NPDA Quarters

Saturday Schedule (October 21st)

7:00 Breakfast, Registration
 7:30 Radio Draw, IPDA Draw
 8:00 Flight A Round 1, IPDA Round 1
 9:15 Extemp Draw, IPDA Draw
 9:45 Flight B Round 1, IPDA Round 2
 11:00 Radio Draw, IPDA Draw
 11:30 Flight A Round 2, IPDA Round 3
 12:30 Lunch, NPDA Draw
 12:45 NPDA Semifinals
 1:30 Extemp Draw, IPDA Draw
 2:00 Flight B Round 2, IPDA Round 4
 3:15 Radio Draw, IPDA Draw
 3:45 Flight A Finals, IPDA Quarters
 5:00 Extemp Draw, IPDA Draw
 5:30 Flight B Finals, IPDA Semifinals
 6:45 NPDA Draw, IPDA Draw
 7:00 NPDA Finals
 7:15 IPDA Finals
 8:00 Awards Ceremony

Event Patterns

Flight A	Flight B	Flight C
After Dinner Speaking Duo Interpretation Impromptu Speaking Informative Speaking Interviewing Poetry Interpretation Radio Broadcasting	Communication Analysis Drama Interpretation Editorial Impromptu Speaking Extemporaneous Speaking Improvisational Duo Persuasive Speaking Program Oral Interpretation Prose Interpretation	Parliamentary Debate
IPDA Public Debate runs concurrently with Flights A and B		

Entries

Limits on Entries:

Competitors will be allowed to enter up to three individual events in each flight. In addition, they may compete in parliamentary debate without limitations. Students wishing to enter IPDA public debate may enter two other individual events per flight. However, they may not enter extemporaneous speaking or radio broadcasting because of the overlapping preparation times. There are no restrictions from cross entering in parliamentary debate and IPDA public debate formats. Students should always do their debate events first in each flight.

Students who are entered in multiple events are responsible for making it to all their events on time. They should also endeavor to sign in to all their rounds before they begin. Students may enter two duos so long as they have different partners. There are no limits on the number of entries from each school. However, sections may be balanced to accommodate judging obligations from large entry schools.

Deadline:

Entries for the Bluegrass Invitational are due by **5:00 P.M. on Tuesday, October 17th, 2017.** Please use the attached entry form when completing your entry. Completed entries should be e-mailed to the tournament director Timothy Bill at timothy.bill@uky.edu. A confirmation e-mail will be sent in reply once we have received your entry. Make sure to include any resumes for students entering interviewing with your entry form.

Individual Events: Rules and Descriptions

AFA event rules will be used for all eleven AFA individual events at this tournament. The current rules can be located [here](#). All materials used in competition shall not have been used by the student in intercollegiate forensic competition prior to September 1st, 2017. The same cutting or speech may not be used in two different events.

The following page will describe any additional rules or guidelines that will govern competition at the Bluegrass Invitational.

Individual Events: Additional Rules and Descriptions

Editorial Impromptu Speaking:

Students will be given a short editorial (three to five paragraphs) to which they will develop an argumentative response. The speech should involve the development of an argument in response to the thesis developed or opinion shared in each editorial. Students will be allowed 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.

Extemporaneous Speaking:

Competitors in extemporaneous speaking will be allowed to use the Internet during their preparation time. The University of Kentucky has open Wi-Fi Internet available in most of its classrooms, so everyone should be able to get a connection without any login credentials. However, a perfect Wi-Fi connection is not guaranteed. Access to electrical outlets will likely be limited in the preparation room. Also, students should not leave valuables unattended in the preparation room.

Impromptu Speaking:

Prompts for impromptu speaking will follow the guidelines as outlined by the National Forensic Association and may include any of the following: quotations, quotations with context, rhetorical inquiries, proverbs, single words, ethical dilemmas, or objects. Examples for all of these prompts can be found [here](#) or [here](#).

Improvisational Duo

Students will be given a short prompt to create an impromptu performance between two characters. Preparation time for Improvisational Duo is three minutes. Preparation time is separate from performance time. Performance time must be a minimum of three minutes and a maximum of six with a 30-second grace period. The judge should clarify with the students before they begin how time signals will be communicated and must then give hand signals as the contestants are performing to help them stay within the time limit. No make-up, costumes, props, or lighting are permitted, but a table and/or two chairs may be used. Doors and walls are considered props and must not be used. The scene must contain only two characters with equal sharing of dialogue. An introduction by one or both students is REQUIRED to set the

scene, and a resolution of the conflict must be evident at the end of the scene. Contestants are to remain outside of the room until it is their time to perform. Students may only be entered in one improv duo pairing.

Interviewing

Interviewing is designed to give students an opportunity to sharpen their job interviewing and resume writing skills. The event will consist of two rounds of interviews in which the judge in each round will ask the same questions of the students assigned to their section. Questions will be taken from a larger list provided by the tournament staff. Contestants will be randomly assigned to sections of no more than five students. The interview should last for no more than 10 minutes. Competitors will not physically compete in the third round. Rather, judges for the third round will (during the time allotted for the final round) receive a packet of five resumes and will rank them and provide feedback based on the quality and aesthetics of the students' work. In all rounds, the judges should base their decisions and comments on the effectiveness of the student applying for a job in the student's field. In other words, students should present a truthful resume that reflects their actual life experiences and skills. There are many models for effective resume writing and we would advise students to consult some of them as they write their resumes. Resumes for interviewing **MUST** be submitted with the team's entry for the student to be entered in the event. It is recommended that students bring with extra copies of their resume for the judges in the interviewing rounds.

Radio Broadcasting:

Contestants will be given a packet of source materials and will have 30 minutes to select, organize, and present a simulated radio broadcast. The source material packets will include international, national, state, and local news. All material used in the broadcast must be provided by the tournament with the exception of any hypothetical station call letters, time, and current weather conditions or forecast. Students will present their broadcasts seated at a table with the judge facing away from the contestants during the speech. Students may time themselves as no time signals will be given by the judge. Maximum time limit for the speech is 5 minutes. Posting of source materials will be staggered.

Debate Events: Rules and Descriptions

Parliamentary Debate:

All divisions of parliamentary debate will follow NPDA rules. The current NPDA rules can be found [here](#). Speaking times will follow the standard 7-8-8-8-4-5 time format with 15 minutes of preparation time before each round. Contestants in parliamentary debate will be allowed to access the Internet during their preparation time. Resolutions will vary between value, policy, and fact.

Resolutions will be announced from a central location at the time listed on the tournament schedule. Due to the time constraints of the tournament, topic release will not be held for late teams and a five-minute forfeiture rule will be strictly enforced. The resolution will remain posted at the ballot table during the entire preparation time for those not present at the initial announcement. Preparation time for all debaters will begin when the topic is released. Judges should refrain from oral critiques until they have turned in their ballots to the ballot table.

Public Debate:

All divisions of public debate will follow IPDA rules and guidelines. Rules for IPDA public debate can be found [here](#). Speaking times will follow the standard 5-2-6-2-3-5-3 time format with 30 minutes of preparation time before each round. Due to the scheduling constraints of the tournament, a ten-minute forfeiture rule will be strictly enforced for the beginning time of the round. If a competitor is more than ten minutes late for the draw time, their opponent will be allowed to choose the resolution for the debate without them and the preparation time will begin immediately. Resolutions will follow the traditional IPDA strike system and vary between value, policy, and fact.

Entry and Judging Fees

Entry Fees:

Individual Event Entries	\$8.00	(per entry)
IPDA Debate Entries	\$35.00	(per entry)
Parliamentary Debate Entries	\$50.00	(per team)

Uncovered Entry Fees (in addition to the entry fees):

Uncovered Individual Event Entries	\$12.00	(per entry)
Uncovered IPDA Debate Entries	\$35.00	(per entry)
Uncovered Parliamentary Debate Entries	\$50.00	(per team)

Drop Fees:

Drops on or before Tuesday October 17 th	FREE	
Drops on Wednesday October 18 th	\$5.00	(per entry)
Drops on Thursday October 19 th	\$10.00	(per entry)
Drops on Friday October 20 th	\$20.00	(per entry)
Drops at Registration	\$25.00	(per entry)
Dropped Judges	\$50.00	(per judge)

Meal Fees:

Saturday Lunch Fee (optional)	\$7.50	(per person)
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Judges:

Each judge will be allowed to cover six individual event entries and two parliamentary debate entries. Alternatively, a judge may cover two IPDA debate entries and two parliamentary debate teams. Judges cannot cover both IPDA debate entries and individual event entries. Judges that are used to cover both individual events and debate entries must be able to judge both.

Payment Details

You have multiple options for paying your entry fees for the Bluegrass Invitational. The university prefers payments via a credit card. Their second preferred option would be a school check. Personal checks and cash will still be accepted, but the other payment methods are preferred in accordance with new university cash handling policies. However, we completely understand that each university has their own preferred method for paying entry fees and will gladly accept payments via any of the methods listed below. If you have any questions about the payment of entry fees, please do not hesitate to contact the tournament director.

- 1. Credit Card Payments** – To pay your entry fees via credit card, please our college budget officer, Jonathan Clifton at (859)-257-3984. You will need to know your entry fee total before contacting Jonathan. A preliminary receipt will be available with your entry form. You can also call the tournament director to verify your payment total. Payments via credit card are possible through the end of the business day on the Friday of the competition.
- 2. University or College Checks** – Payment with a school check is the desired option at registration on Saturday. Checks should be made out to **University of Kentucky Forensics**.
- 3. Personal Checks** – If you traditionally pay your entry fees with a personal check from a member of the coaching staff, this is still possible. However, we will need you to include the school you are paying on behalf of on the notes line of the check. Checks should be made out to **University of Kentucky Forensics**.
- 4. Cash Payments** – The University of Kentucky is working to reduce cash payments across all offices and departments. You can still pay your entry fees via cash at the registration table. However, the other methods are preferred. Please endeavor to pay your entry fees in exact change if at all possible.

Awards

Individual Awards:

Awards will be presented to all finalists in individual events and debate. Additionally, we will recognize the top five debate speakers in each division. We will also recognize the top novice in each event that does not have its own novice division. A novice is defined as any competitor in their first year of collegiate forensics competition.

Pentathlon:

The top five competitors entered in pentathlon will also be recognized at the awards ceremony. To be eligible for pentathlon, a competitor must be entered in at least five events including at least one event in each of the following three categories: public address (ads, communication analysis, inform, persuasion), interpretation (drama, duo, poetry, poi, prose), and limited preparation (editorial impromptu, extemp, impromptu, improv duo, interviewing, radio). Only the top five events will be counted towards pentathlon. Two duos count as two events.

Team Sweepstakes:

The top five teams in debate, individual events, and in combined sweepstakes will be recognized. To be eligible for the combined sweepstakes awards, a team must be entered in both individual events and debate. We will also present an award to the top Pi Kappa Delta chapter and the top community college in combined sweepstakes.

Tabulation

Sweepstakes awards will be determined using the following point system:

Individual Events

Prelims: 1st = 3 points, 2nd = 2 points, 3rd = 1 points

Finals: 1st = 12 points, 2nd = 10 points, 3rd = 8 points, 4th = 6 points, 5th = 4 points, 6th = 2 points, 7th = 2 points, Semifinalist = 2 points

Debate Events

Prelims: Win = 3 points, Loss = 1 point

Elims: 1st = 12 points, 2nd = 10 points, Semifinalist = 6 points, Quarterfinalist = 2 points

Food

To improve your tournament experience, we will be offering lunch on Saturday. Lunches are completely optional and are offered as a way of promoting healthful forensics competition. Each lunch will be available for a \$7.50 per person meal fee. Please indicate on your entry form if you wish to participate in the tournament meal options. Alternatively, multiple restaurant and dining options are located on campus and immediately adjacent to it. Complimentary breakfast will be available for all teams on Saturday morning.

Host Practices

Hired Judges:

All hired judges for the Bluegrass Invitational have prior judging experience or will have received judge training prior to the tournament where they are informed of the event descriptions and rules, as well as given suggestions for writing effective ballots.

University of Kentucky Competitors:

As the tournament hosts, we may enter University of Kentucky competitors who are in their first semester of college forensics competition in the Bluegrass Invitational. As a new program, this will allow our novice competitors to gain a college forensics experience in more familiar environment. Returning competitors will be assisting in the operation of the tournament.

Tobacco Policy

The University of Kentucky campus became a completely tobacco free campus in November of 2009. This includes all campus grounds and parking areas. Please refrain from smoking or using other tobacco products while on campus.

Registration and Parking Information

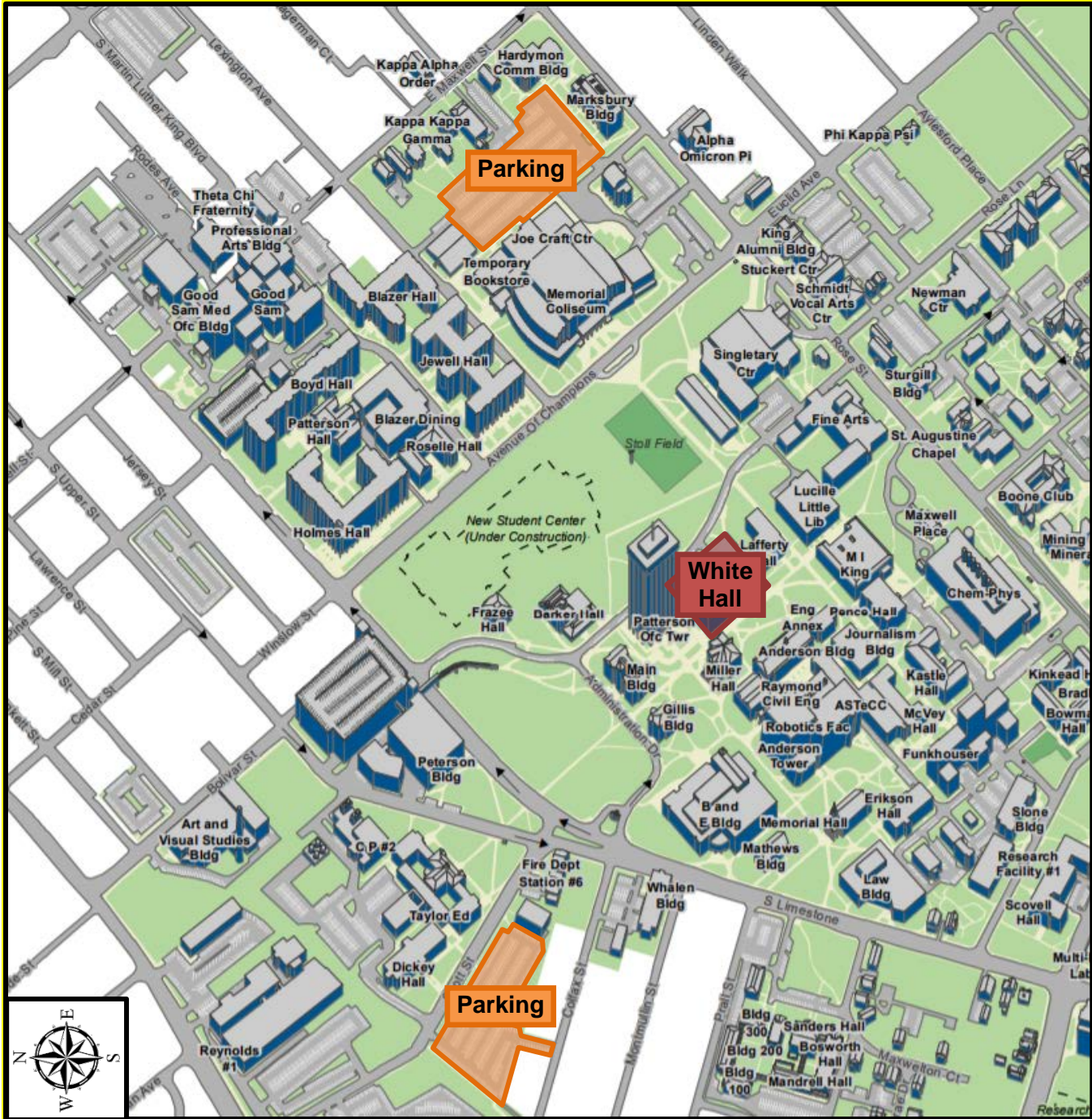
Registration:

Registration for both individual events and debate will take place outside of room 219 on the second floor of White Hall classroom building. This room is located in the southwest corner of the building. The ballot table will also be located here.

Parking:

Parking for the tournament will be in the lot directly behind Memorial Coliseum located on Rose Street and the Avenue of Champions or in the lot located off of Scott Street near Taylor Education Building. You can park in either of these lots on Saturday without a permit. Teams attending the tournament on Friday for parliamentary debate will need to pick up parking permits for their vehicles at the registration table. The parking permits should be placed in your vehicle before the first round of competition that day. A detailed campus map and directions to the University of Kentucky can be found [here](#).

Parking and Campus Map



Lodging

The Lexington Convention and Visitor's Bureau provides an excellent list of accommodations for your stay. Their full listing is available here: <http://www.visitlex.com/wheretostay/>. If you have any questions about making hotel arrangements in Lexington, please let us know.

Social Media

To allow teams the option of getting dinner or returning to their hotel rooms earlier on Friday night, elimination round participants for parliamentary debate will be posted online in addition to being announced at the tournament. Please check our Facebook page or Twitter feed to see these results. The entry form and invitation for the Bluegrass Invitational are also available on our team website listed below.



<https://www.facebook.com/UKSpeechandDebate/>



<https://twitter.com/UKSpeechDebate>



<http://www.ukforensics.com>

Conclusion

If you have any questions about the Bluegrass Invitational or need any special accommodations, please do not hesitate to contact the tournament director Timothy Bill (timothy.bill@uky.edu). Thank you for your interest in our tournament and we look forward to hosting you in October!

