



TO: Directors of Students Qualifying for the State Speech Contest  
 FROM: Debra Velder, Associate Director  
 SUBJECT: State Contest Information  
 DATE: March 2017

You and members of your high school speech team will be attending the 2017 State Speech Contest on the University of Nebraska-Kearney campus. Congratulations!

This letter includes information designed to assist you in planning for the contest. If you should require more information, do not hesitate to contact me.

**Please remember that we are guest on campus, and that stationary tables/desks in the speaking rooms shall NOT be moved to avoid damaging electrical/computer connections.**

## **Extemp Draw – THOMAS HALL 106 & 107**

### **SCHEDULE.**

**Thursday, March 23**

7:00 am	Registration Begins		
7:30 am	Class B Extemp Draw		
8:00 am	Class B – Round 1	Class C1 – Rd 1 – OID, Duet, Persuasive, Humorous, Poetry	
8:30 am	Class B Extemp Round 1	Class C1 Extemp Draw	
9:00 am			Class A Extemp Draw
9:30 am		Class C1 – Rd 1 – Extemp, Serious, Informative, Entertainment	Class A – Round 1
10:00 am	Class B Extemp Draw		
11:00 am	Class B – Round 2	Class C1 – Rd 2 – OID, Duet, Persuasive, Humorous, Poetry	
11:30 am		Class C1 Extemp Draw	
12:00 pm			Class A Extemp Draw
12:30 pm		Class C1 – Rd 2 – Extemp, Serious, Informative, Entertainment	Class A – Round 2
1:00 pm	Class B Extemp Draw		
2:00 pm	Class B Finals	Class C1 Finals – OID, Duet, Persuasive, Humorous, Poetry	
2:30 pm		Class C1 Extemp Draw	
3:00 pm			Class A Extemp Draw
3:30 pm		Class C1 Finals – Extemp, Serious, Informative, Entertainment	Class A Finals
4:30 pm	Class B Awards		
5:30 pm		Class C1 Awards	
6:00 pm			Class A Awards

## Friday, March 24

7:00 am	Registration Begins		
7:30 am	Class D1 Extemp Draw		
8:00 am	Class D1 – Round 1	Class D2 – Rd 1 – OID, Duet, Persuasive, Humorous, Poetry	
8:30 am	Class D1 Extemp Round 1	Class D2 Extemp Draw	Class C2 Extemp Draw
9:30 am		Class D2 – Rd 1 – Extemp, Serious, Informative, Entertainment	Class C2 – Round 1
10:00 am	Class D1 Extemp Draw		
11:00 am	Class D1 – Round 2	Class D2 – Rd 2 – OID, Duet, Persuasive, Humorous, Poetry	
11:30 am		Class D2 - Extemp Draw	Class C2 - Extemp Draw
12:30 pm		Class D2 – Rd 2 – Extemp, Serious, Informative, Entertainment	Class C2 – Round 2
1:00 pm	Class D1 Extemp Draw		
2:00 pm	Class D1 Finals	Class D2 Finals – OID, Duet, Persuasive, Humorous, Poetry	
2:30 pm		Class D2 Extemp Draw	Class C2- Extemp Draw
3:30 pm		Class D2 Finals – Extemp, Serious, Informative, Entertainment	Class C2 – Finals
4:30 pm	Class D1 Awards		
5:30 pm		Class D2 Awards	
6:00 pm			Class C2 Awards

### **REGISTRATION.**

Schools must be registered at the state contest by the certified director. Registration will take place at the **Health & Sport Center**. Only directors will be allowed to pick up school packets. Directors will be provided name badges for identification purposes.

### **COMPETITION.**

There will be two preliminary rounds in each event for each class. In the finals, six entries in each event will qualify for competition based on preliminary round rankings. Tie-breakers will be implemented to break ties for last qualifying spots.

- a. There will be a separate drawing **in THOMAS HALL 106 & 107** for each round in extemporaneous speaking. These students will need to arrive one hour early in Classes B, C1, C2, D1, D2, and one-half hour early in Class A to allow for adequate preparation time.
- b. **Extemp speakers are responsible for their electronic needs in the prep room, ie. power cords, power strips, etc.**
- b. **Stools for OID will not be provided. If a school plans to use stools, they are responsible for providing them.**
- c. **Tables and chairs will not be provided for Duet Acting. Schools are responsible for providing these items.**
- d. Judging ballots with both rating and ranking scales will be used in the contest. Contestants will be both rated and ranked in each round. One judge will be used in all preliminary rounds. Three judges will be used in the final round. **Only directors will be allowed to pick up ballots.**

## **DETERMINING FINAL ROUNDS**

The final round shall consist of six (6) contestants. The following procedures will be used to determine which students advance out of the preliminary rounds:

- 1 – Lowest Cumulative Speaker Rank
- 2 – Highest Cumulative Speaker Points

If ties in cumulative scores bring the number to more than six (6), the following priority system shall be used to break ties:

### 3 – Head-to-Head Competition:

- A - If the tied speakers met in only one preliminary round, the speaker that ranked higher in that round advances.
- B – If the speakers met in both preliminary rounds, and the same speaker ranked higher in both rounds, that speaker advances.
- C – If the speakers met in both preliminary rounds, and one speaker placed higher in round one and the other speaker placed higher in round two, this step is voided.

### 4 – Reciprocals:

Rank	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Reciprocal	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{5}$	$\frac{1}{6}$	$\frac{1}{7}$
As a Decimal	1 .5	.33	.25	.2	.17	.14	

Then add these numbers and the contestant with the highest score is the best of the three, and the next highest score receives the next rank, etc.

## **STATE EXAMPLE**

	<b>Ranks</b>	<b>Converts to</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Place</b>
Speaker A	1 3 3 = 7	1.00 .33 .33	1.66	2nd
Speaker B	2 1 4 = 7	.50 1.00 .25	1.75	1st
Speaker C	3 2 2 = 7	.33 .50 .50	1.33	3rd

The reciprocals are then added and the speaker with the highest cumulative reciprocal score advances.

- 5 – If ties cannot be resolved using steps 3 or 4, those tied shall be included in the final round.

## **BREAKING TIES TO DETERMINE FINAL PLACEMENT**

### **THREE JUDGES IN THE FINALS**

When three judges are assigned to judge the final round in each event at the state speech competition ties in cumulative rank will be broken as follows:

1. Judge's preference in the final round.\*
2. Reciprocals applied to the final round.\*\*
3. Highest cumulative rating points in the final round.
4. Lowest cumulative rank in the preliminary rounds.
5. Reciprocals applied to the preliminary rounds.
6. Highest cumulative rating points in the preliminary rounds.
7. Judges brought back together to break the tie.

\*If there is a tie-on rank in the round, judge's preference shall be used to break the tie. The following diagram illustrates the "judge's preference" method of breaking ties:

	Judge 1	Judge 2	Judge 3	Total
Speaker A	1*	2	3	6
Speaker B	4	1*	1*	6

In this case, Judge 1 ranks Speaker A over Speaker B, Judge 2 ranks Speaker B over Speaker A, and Judge 3 ranks Speaker B over Speaker A. Thus, two out of the three judges have preferred Speaker B.

\*\*In case of an unbreakable three-way tie, inverted fractions (reciprocals) shall be used.

Rank	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Reciprocal	1	1/2	1/3	1/4	1/5	1/6	1/7
As a Decimal	1	.5	.33	.25	.2	.17	.14

Then add these numbers and the contestant with the highest score is the best of the three, and the next highest score receives the next rank, etc. See example below:

	Ranks	Converts to	Total	Place
Speaker A	1 3 3 = 7	1.00 .33 .33	1.66	2nd
Speaker B	2 1 4 = 7	.50 1.00 .25	1.75	1st
Speaker C	3 2 2 = 7	.33 .50 .50	1.33	3rd

In case of a tie in inverted fractions among 2 of the 3 tied speakers, revert back to judge preference to resolve the tie between the 2 tied speakers. See the example below:

	Ranks	Converts to	Total	Place
Speaker A	4 2 5 = 11	.25 .50 .20	0.95	4th
Speaker B	3 6 2 = 11	.33 .17 .50	1.00	3rd
Speaker C	2 3 6 = 11	.50 .33 .17	1.00	2nd

\* the 1.00 tie between speaker's B and C is broken based on Judge Preference (Speaker C is preferred over Speaker B by 2 of the 3 judges).

**It is the coach's responsibility to verify a speaker's placement into the final round by comparing a speaker's ranking and rating points against the break scores posted on the finalist listing. Any mathematical discrepancies must be reported to the Director of the Contest prior to the start of the final round in that event.**

### PROTESTS.

**Protests regarding the decision of judges will not be heard.** Errors in computation, which prevent a qualifier from being placed in the finals, must be brought to the attention of the contest director prior to the beginning of the final round of competition.

When the finals have been completed, team points calculated, winners announced and awards issued, the results are final and no changes can be made in individual placement **unless a correctable error is discovered.** A correctable error shall be defined as those that involve:

- Mathematical computation errors in individual points affecting placement of the speakers involved.
- Mathematical computation errors in team points affecting team placement.
- Mistakes made in calculation of judge's preference in the final round affecting the placement of the speaker involved.

If correctable errors are discovered, students or teams shall receive the appropriate medals or trophies. Individuals or teams to which the awards were presented in error will be asked to return trophies and/or medals and the official results will reflect the corrected results.

The contest director or NSAA Executive staff may correct clerical errors in team scoring when discovered.

**TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE.** All contestants and coaches shall plan to arrive prior to the scheduled starting time to register and receive information.

**State contest information will appear on the internet as it becomes available.**  
<http://www.nsaahome.org>.

**State Qualifiers are posted immediately after the completion of the district contest.**

**JUDGES.** The NSAA Director will select NSAA registered state championship judges.

**PARKING.**

Parking is open on campus. Do not park in a reserved or handicapped stall unless authorized. After buses/vans have dropped students off, they should proceed to Lot 20 to park. Additional lots are Lot 27 (northwest corner of HWY 30 & 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue), and Lot 22 (west of Communications). Do not park buses/vans in the lot east of the Health & Sports Center.

**UNK MAP**

**A map of the UNK campus can be found on the NSAA Speech webpage.** [nsaahome.org/speech](http://nsaahome.org/speech)

In addition, the University of Nebraska-Kearney has an APP that can be downloaded onto your electronic devices that provides a map of the campus. Select the APP, University of Nebraska-Kearney and click on Maps. Signage will also be posted around campus directing you to building in which rounds are scheduled.

**Callam Sports Photography.**

The Nebraska School Activities Association has contracted with Callam Sports Photograph who will be photographing participating students throughout the day.

**EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING DRAW.**

The draw for extemp will take place in **THOMAS HALL 106 & 107.**

**POSTING OF FINALS.** Finals in each event will be posted online at [nsaahome.org](http://nsaahome.org); in addition, an announcement will be made in the Health & Sports Center each time qualifiers are updated on the monitors and/or message boards.

**COACHES HOSPITALITY.** Zikmund Room, Health & Sports Center.

**T-Shirts & Souvenir Programs.** T-shirts and souvenir programs will be on sale at the Health & Sport Center.

**Guest Password.**

To access the Guest wireless users will need to create an account by following these steps:

**Step 1** Click on your wireless icon, choose **UNKGuest**, and click **Connect**

**Step 2** Open up a web browser and click **Create Account**

**Step 3** Fill in **ALL** required fields (required fields have an \* next to them) and click **Register**

**Step 4** Once you register, you will get a receipt that shows your registration was successful. Now you can click on **Login with a Guest Account**

**Step 5** You will receive your password via email or text depending upon what you choose during the registration process. Take note of your username and password so that you can log into UNKGuest

**Step 6** Clicking on the Login with a Guest Account button in **Step 4** will take you back to the UNKGuest login page

Fill in the username and password fields and click the Log In button

*Note: your UNKGuest login will expire in 7 days*

**Lost & Found.** Items that have been turned in as Lost & Found will be located at the Runner Station outside of Room 150 at the Health & Sports Center.

**Webcasting.** Live webcasting will be produced for all events scheduled in **Rooms 238D and 238E of the Union** each day. Viewing of the live webcasting can be accessed on the NSAA homepage. Please make sure if your students are scheduled to perform in either of these rooms that they are aware that their performance will be web streamed. DVD's can be purchased of each room's scheduled rounds for each day's events.

[www.netNebraska.org](http://www.netNebraska.org) will present live coverage of the NSAA Speech Award Ceremony, live from the Health & Sports Center at the University of Nebraska at Kearney.

**Best of the Best.** Students will be selected from the 1<sup>st</sup> Place champions to represent all 9 events for the Best of the Best NET Production. Consideration will be given for state wide and all class representation. **Directors of students selected will be notified the week after the conclusion of the State Speech Championships if their student has been selected.** Taping of the performances is scheduled for Wednesday afternoon, April 5, 2017, at the NET Studio in Lincoln. **The NSAA Speech Championships: Best of the Best will air Sunday, April 30 at noon CT NET-1 and [www.netNebraska.org](http://www.netNebraska.org).**

*Best of luck at the NSAA State Speech Championships!*