

2024-2025

# SPEECH & DEBATE BULLETIN



**ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR ACTIVITIES:**

**Rashaan Davis**

[rdavis@chsaa.org](mailto:rdavis@chsaa.org)

**COORDINATOR OF ACTIVITIES:**

**Marisa Tenorio**

[mtenorio@chsaa.org](mailto:mtenorio@chsaa.org)



[facebook.com/CHSAA](https://facebook.com/CHSAA)



@CHSAA

CHSAANOW



@CHSAA



@CHSAANow

[chsaa.org](https://chsaa.org)



Colorado High School Activities Association

'Seeking Excellence in Academics, Activities



14855 E. 2nd Ave.  
Aurora, CO 80011  
(303) 344-5050  
[www.chsaanow.com](http://www.chsaanow.com)

August 2024

Activities Directors together with Speech and Debate Coaches:

The Colorado High School Activities Association would like to welcome you to the 2024-2025 Speech and Debate competitive season. We are looking forward to another successful season for our schools, students, coaches, adjudicators, and our supportive communities.

The Speech and Debate Advisory Committee, as they do every year, has worked to create a document that will help you to understand the rules and regulations associated with this activity. Their efforts are to prepare you for the regular season and the CHSAA State Tournament. With three State Tournament classifications, it is important for you to know and understand the new format, the rules that govern each level, and who to contact to get your team the most relevant information. This is where you will find that information. For information throughout the year, I encourage you to connect with us through our website: [www.CHSAANow.com](http://www.CHSAANow.com), and other social media platforms.

PLEASE TAKE TIME TO BECOME THOROUGHLY ACQUAINTED WITH THIS PUBLISHED DOCUMENT

Enclosed you will be able to locate the general policies that will be in effect during the 2024-2025 season. The critics/judges are expected to enter the [CHSAANow Speech and Debate website](http://www.CHSAANow.com), hover over the activities and select speech and debate in the dropdown. From that main page, they can [complete the online test](#) before the competition begins for the varsity season opening on November 1. The critic/judge's test is a requirement for those judges before they will be considered to judge for any State Tournament.

Best wishes for a successful season and we appreciate your contributions to high school activities and supporting Speech and Debate in Colorado.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Rashaan Davis'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'R'.

Rashaan Davis  
Assistant Commissioner  
[rdavis@chsa.org](mailto:rdavis@chsa.org)

## **CHSAA Speech and Debate Mission:**

The CHSAA mission in speech and debate is to provide opportunities and assist its participants in developing diverse communication skills while competing at the highest levels in high school speech and debate. The purpose of this is to instill discipline, teamwork, sportsmanship, honesty and integrity in a highly specialized activity. CHSAA Speech and Debate coaches teach their participants to respect the activity's core values, work hard and compete honestly.

## **CHSAA Speech and Debate Inclusion Statement:**

The CHSAA Speech and Debate community believes inclusion is vital to our community. We are committed to providing a safe and equitable learning and competitive environment that fosters a mindset of empathy, respect, and belonging for all involved in Speech and Debate, including, but not limited to, students, coaches, judges and community members. We honor differences including races and cultures, genders and sexual orientations, abilities and aspirations, identities and affiliations, socioeconomics and worldviews. Embracing our diversity prepares our community to thrive. Individuals found to have violated this policy will be subject to the full range of sanctions, up to and including removal from the tournament premises.

# Table of Contents

<a href="#"><u>Welcome from Rashaan Davis</u></a>	1
<a href="#"><u>CHSAA Speech and Debate Mission</u></a>	2
<a href="#"><u>CHSAA Speech and Debate Inclusion Statement</u></a>	2
<a href="#"><u>CHSAA Speech Organization</u></a>	4
<a href="#"><u>CHSAA Speech and Debate Calendar</u></a>	6
<a href="#"><u>Speech &amp; Debate Classification</u></a>	7
<a href="#"><u>CHSAA Bylaws</u></a>	10
<a href="#"><u>CHSAA Speech and Debate Committee</u></a>	12
<a href="#"><u>CHSAA Speech and Debate Committee Report</u></a>	14
<a href="#"><u>Debate Topics</u></a>	15
<a href="#"><u>Events Offered</u></a>	16
<a href="#"><u>Judge Requirements and Certification Test</u></a>	17
<a href="#"><u>CHSAA Sports Medicine Committee</u></a>	18
<a href="#"><u>CHSAA Sportsmanship</u></a>	18
<a href="#"><u>The Americans with Disabilities Act Statement</u></a>	19
<a href="#"><u>(ADA)</u></a>	

# CHSAA Speech Organization

**Philosophy:** CHSAA seeks to provide a positive competitive speech experience for Colorado high school students by

- Supporting a state-wide competitive speech program to provide students with the opportunity to develop and to perfect communication skills
- Supporting education and development of coaches
- Supporting the education and development of speech judges
- Creating a competitive environment governed by sportsmanship and fair play
- Developing rules and regulations to create a common ground for the running of tournaments
- Organizing regional and state competitions
- Providing information and resources designed to make speech programs more effective

Table of Organization: CHSAA operates three different classifications for Speech and Debate, each of which will hold a state championship competition (3A/4A/5A). Each fall, CHSAA will post online the Current Season Bulletin, which lists all schools by classification. Any school may petition CHSAA to enroll in a division different than the one that matches their school enrollment. To do so, the school's athletic/activities director must notify CHSAA in the spring of the year of their intention to do so the following year.

## **CHSAA Speech Chain of Command:**

- CHSAA is governed by the **Legislative Council**, which must approve any changes in rules or procedures. Any proposed changes must be presented to the Legislative Council at their April meeting; and if approved, those changes become effective the following school year.
- The **CHSAA Assistant Commissioner** who administers speech is Rashaan Davis. He is the commissioner in charge of CHSAA speech activities in the state of Colorado. His executive assistant is Nicole Jimenez.
- The **Speech Activities Committee** is the representative body that proposes and passes rule changes to be presented to the Legislative Council. This committee is appointed by CHSAA. While every attempt is made to provide each region with a representative, that is not always possible. Members are appointed to a three-year term. In order to be considered, interested coaches must have their principals submit their names to CHSAA by April of the year prior to when they wish to replace an outgoing committee member. This committee meets in March once all three state competitions have been concluded so that their new proposals can be taken to the Legislative Council for approval. When called upon, the committee also convenes at the fall speech conference and/or during the summer.
- The **State Tournament Chair** is selected by the CHSAA Assistant Commissioner with input in the form of nominations from the State Speech Committee/Coaches. The chair is selected for a two-year term. The first year he/she serves as co-chair and the second year he/she acts as State Tournament Chair. This assures that the chair will always have experience in running the State Tournament. Those who are nominated need not be members of the State Speech Committee. Coaches who are interested in serving should let a member of the State Speech Committee know that they would like to be nominated.

**CHSAA believes that serving in any of these positions is a learning experience and therefore, believes that the opportunity to serve should be shared. To give as many people as possible a chance to serve, when possible, no committee member can continue for a second consecutive term.**

**A goal of this organization is to communicate as effectively as possible. Therefore, remember these important ways to stay updated:**

- **CHSAA has a website for speech: [www.chsaanow.com](http://www.chsaanow.com) ([access activities and go to speech and debate](#))**
- **Phone: 303-344-5050 when prompted, press #4 for Activities**
- **E-mail: [rdavis@chsaa.org](mailto:rdavis@chsaa.org) or [mtenorio@chsaa.org](mailto:mtenorio@chsaa.org)**

---

### **Legislative Council**

72 school administrators acting as voting members representing every league in the state. Approve all committee reports and new by-law and rules changes.

---

### **Board of Directors**

17 members from geographical regions act similarly to a school board. Oversee the day-to-day running of the association.

---

### **CHSAA Staff**

7 administrators charged with implementing the by-laws of the association and producing the state championships in the sanctioned activities.

---

### **Sport and Activity Committees**

Set up the individual activity playoff and championship format. Determine starting dates as well as ending dates for the activity.

---

### **Speech Activities Committee**

On this eight-person committee, every effort is made to balance the committee so that there are at least two representatives from each of the different classifications. All CHSAA Speech and Debate rules are approved by the activities committee, as there is no National Federation Rules committee. Rules are expected to meet the needs of all Colorado students, regardless of the size or background of their schools.

---

### **FALL COACHES CONFERENCE**

(4-5 people) Organizes & assigns coaches to run the fall workshop for all Colorado speech coaches.

---

### **Speech Tournament Committee**

(Tournament Director and Co-Director and additional coaches) The Committee hosts and administers the State Tournament by the rules set up by the Speech Activities Committee & CHSAA. Assigns people to work all of the positions needed to run the state tournament. Attempts to assign workers for state to include experienced and newer coaches from all areas of the state.

---

### **Speech Activities Committee**

Through its sub-committees tries to involve newer and more experienced coaches in its activities. Their goal is to try to maintain 1/3 of the people involved in the activity as newer coaches. Every attempt is made to try to educate newer coaches through involvement at the tournaments and the Fall Coaches Conference.

---

# CHSAA Speech and Debate Calendar

## I. DATES:

- A. CHSAA Colorado Speech and Debate Coaches' Conference - August 23-24, 2024 - Cherry Creek HS
- B. WINDOW OPENS: November 1st
- C. 3A State Tournament – January 31- February 1, 2025 – Niwot HS
- D. 4A State Tournament – February 21-22, 2024 - Pueblo Central HS
- E. 5A State Tournament – February 28- March 1, 2025 –Overland HS

- I. **The Speech Calendar:** This is online at [www.chsaanow.com](http://www.chsaanow.com).

### **CALENDAR UPDATES:**

- Form to submit tournament dates: <https://forms.gle/aS9kmRPrbdUSYDy67>
- Colorado Speech and Debate Calendar: <https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0?cid=M2VjMTFkYzFINWEzODg0Y2Q3YWl4MDAwN2ZiZDNhZGZINzY4YzUxNTE5MmU2NTViYzlwZDVINmU5OGI3ODdkY0Bncm91cC5jYWxlbmRhci5nb29nbGUuY29t>

For any questions or concerns about any CHSAA Speech & Debate events please contact Marisa Tenorio, [mtenorio@chsaa.org](mailto:mtenorio@chsaa.org).

To ensure an adequate judging pool for the State Tournaments, no invitational tournament may be held in the same geographic region on the same weekend as the 3A, 4A, or 5A State Tournaments. Invitational tournaments on the same weekend as these State Tournaments in a different geographic region than the one where the tournament is being held are subject to approval by the CHSAA.

# CHSAA Speech and Debate

# 3A Schools



- Alamosa High School
- Arvada High School
- Aspen High School
- Banning Lewis Ranch Academy
- Battle Mountain High School
- Bennett High School
- Colorado Academy
- Colorado Springs Christian Schools
- Cripple Creek-Victor High School
- Dawson School
- Del Norte Jr./Sr. High School
- Denver Christian School
- Denver West High School
- DSST: Green Valley Ranch
- Eagle Valley High School
- Elliott Senior High School
- Evangelical Christian Academy
- Faith Christian Academy
- Flagler Public School
- Fort Morgan High School
- Fowler High School
- Genoa-Hugo School
- Hayden High School
- Jefferson Academy
- John F Kennedy High School
- KIPP Denver Collegiate High School
- Limon Junior-Senior High School
- Lotus School of Excellence
- Mead High School
- Moffat County High School
- Niwot High School
- Our Senior High School
- Pagosa Springs High School
- Paonia
- Platte Canyon High School
- Prairie Junior-Senior High School
- Primero Junior-Senior High School
- Pueblo East High School
- Pueblo South High School
- Prospect Ridge Academy
- Resurrection Christian
- Ridgway High School
- Rifle High School
- Roaring Fork High School
- Rocky Mountain Lutheran High School
- Rye High School
- St. Mary's Academy
- Stargate Charter School
- Steamboat Springs High School
- STEM School Highlands Ranch
- Strasburg High School
- Swink Junior-Senior High School
- Trinidad High School
- University Schools
- Vanguard Classical School - East

## Congratulations to the 3A State Champions from Resurrection Christian School.

The 2024 RCS Cougars were coached by Levi Smith.

The 2024 3A State Tournament was hosted by Niwot High School.

The 2025 3A State Tournament will be hosted by Niwot High School.



# CHSAA Speech and Debate

# 4A Schools



- Air Academy High School
- Arvada West High School
- Calhan Secondary School
- Canon City High School
- Cheyenne Mountain High School
- Coronado High School
- D'Evelyn Junior/Senior High School
- Delta High School
- Discovery Canyon Campus High School
- DSST: Byers High School
- Durango High School
- Evergreen High School
- Frederick Senior High School
- Frontier Charter Academy
- Gateway High School
- Golden High School
- Greeley Central High School
- Gunnison High School
- Hinkley High School
- Hoehne Schools
- Holy Family High School
- La Junta Jr/Sr High School
- Lewis-Palmer High School
- Littleton High School
- Longmont High School
- Manitou Springs High School
- Mesa Ridge High School
- Montrose High School
- Mountain View High School
- North Park School
- Northridge High School
- Palmer High School
- Palmer Ridge High School
- Peak to Peak Charter School
- Pomona High School
- Pueblo Centennial High School
- Pueblo Central High School
- Pueblo County High School
- Sand Creek High School
- Severance High School
- Sierra High School
- Silver Creek High School
- Standley Lake High School
- STRIVE Prep - Rise
- STRIVE Prep - Smart Academy
- Summit High School
- The Classical Academy High School
- Thomas Jefferson High School
- Thompson Valley High School
- Twin Peaks Charter Academy
- Valor Christian High School
- Wheat Ridge High School
- Widefield High School
- Windsor High School

## Congratulations to the 4A State Champions from Delta High School.

The 2024 DHS Panthers were coached by Danielle Lopez.

The 2024 4A State Tournament was hosted by Pueblo Central High School.

The 2025 4A State Tournament will be hosted by Pueblo Central High School.



# CHSAA Speech and Debate

# 5A Schools



- Adams City High School
- Arapahoe High School
- Aurora Central High School
- Bear Creek High School
- Castle View High School
- Centaurus High School
- Chaparral High School
- Chatfield High School
- Cherokee Trail High School
- Cherry Creek High School
- Columbine High School
- Denver East High School
- Denver North High School
- Denver School of the Arts
- Denver South High School
- Doherty High School
- Douglas County High School
- Eaglecrest High School
- Erie High School
- Fairview High School
- Fort Collins High School
- Fossil Ridge High School
- Fountain-Fort Carson High School
- Fruita Monument High School
- George Washington High School
- GJ Central High School
- Grand Junction High School
- Grandview High School
- Greeley West High School
- Heritage High School
- Highlands Ranch High School
- Kent Denver School
- Lakewood High School
- Legend High School
- Liberty High School
- Loveland High School
- Monarch High School
- Mountain Vista High School
- Mullen High School
- Northfield High School
- Overland High School
- Pine Creek High School
- Poudre High School
- Pueblo West High School
- Ralston Valley Senior High School
- Rampart High School
- Rangeview High School
- Regis Jesuit High School
- Riverdale Ridge High School
- Rock Canyon High School
- Rocky Mountain High School
- Smoky Hill High School
- Thunderridge High School

## Congratulations to the 5A State Champions from George Washington High School.

The 2024 GWHS Patriots were coached by Maryrose Kohan.

The 2024 5A State Tournament was hosted by Fort Collins High School.  
The 2025 5A State Tournament will be hosted by Overland High School.



# CHSAA Bylaws

## **BYLAW CHANGES**

No active bylaw changes

**CHSAA Bylaws:** Coaches should familiarize themselves with the CHSAA bylaws relevant to Speech and Debate. These bylaws can be found on the CHSAA website.

**STUDENT ELIGIBILITY (Bylaw 5000.1):** A student shall be eligible represent his/her/their school in speech activities sanctioned by the CHSAA if such student meets the following requirements:

- CHSAA Bylaws 1720 {Stricter Standards) – The student meets any stricter standards of eligibility set by his/her school.
- CHSAA Bylaws 1720b {Conduct) – In the judgment of the principal of the student's school, he/she/they are representative of the school's ideals in matters of citizenship, conduct, and sportsmanship.
- CHSAA Bylaws 1790 (Co-op Programs)
- During the period of participation, the student must be enrolled in courses that offer in aggregate a minimum of 2.5 Academic units per semester.

**SPEECH SEASON (Bylaw 5010):** The competitive season shall be from October 1 (4A/5A Novice/3A Varsity) and November 1 (4A/5A Varsity) until the completion of the March (5A) state tournament, exclusive of National Speech and Debate Association competitions.

EXCEPTION: An individual student or team may represent a member school in a contest outside the competitive season in recognized national events and with written permission from the school's principal and the CHSAA office. NSDA Qualifying events and the National Tournament do not need approval from the CHSAA office.

**MAXIMUM CONTESTS (Bylaw 5020):** A student may be represented at no more than 22 meets a year, during the competitive season, exclusive of the state tournament and National Speech and Debate qualifying events and the National Speech and Debate Association National Tournament.

**AWARDS (Bylaw 5030):** No school or representative of a school shall be allowed to give or to receive a speech award for debate or individual events the value of which exceeds \$20.00 (excluding engraving). Existing traveling trophies are exempt from this rule until they are retired. This rule is exclusive of league, state tournaments and National Speech and Debate Association qualifying contests.

### Coaching:

All speech coaches who assume full responsibility for students under their direction at any level (varsity, junior varsity, etc.) shall be registered with the CHSAA.

A registered coach is a coach who is one of the following:

- a) a coach who has completed the CHSAA 1<sup>st</sup> year Coaches Course
- b) a CHSAA-certified coach whose certification is on file with the CHSAA
- c) a CDE-licensed teacher who has coached a CHSAA-sponsored activity at a member school within the last three years

**All coaches, regardless of length of time spent coaching must pass the CHSAA Coaches test prior to the first competition of the season. Your Athletic**

**or Activities Director MUST register you in the CHSAA Digital Platform and you must complete the required information.**

**Academic All State/Academic Team Champions and the Les Schwab Award**

For your information, CHSAA has programs for which your team/program and/or students can qualify. Please see your Athletic/Activities Director for more information or review the Awards page on CHSAANow – click this link below for more info:

<https://chsaanow.com/sports/2021/7/29/awards.aspx>

# CHSAA Speech Activities Committee

Thank you to our Speech Activities Committee!

<b>CHRISTINE JONES (Chair)</b> Cherokee Trail <a href="mailto:cjones81@cherrycreekschools.org">cjones81@cherrycreekschools.org</a>	<b>PAT DEMARTINE</b> Loveland High School <a href="mailto:pat.demartine@tsd.org">pat.demartine@tsd.org</a>	<b>DANIELLE LOPEZ</b> Delta High School <a href="mailto:danielle.lopez@deltaschools.com">danielle.lopez@deltaschools.com</a>
<b>RENEE MOTTER</b> Air Academy <a href="mailto:renee.motter@asd20.org">renee.motter@asd20.org</a>	<b>ANNA STEED</b> Strive Prep-Rise <a href="mailto:asteed@striveprep.org">asteed@striveprep.org</a>	<b>MARYROSE KOHAN</b> George Washington <a href="mailto:maryrose_kohan@dpsk12.org">maryrose_kohan@dpsk12.org</a>
<b>DAN LUTZ</b> Thompson Valley <a href="mailto:daniel.lutz@tsd.org">daniel.lutz@tsd.org</a>	<b>GREG HANSEN</b> Dawson <a href="mailto:ghansen@dawsonschool.org">ghansen@dawsonschool.org</a>	<b>STEPHANIE OWEN</b> Widefield <a href="mailto:owens@wsd3.org">owens@wsd3.org</a>

## **CHSAA COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Tuesday March 4th, 2025**

This meeting will be a virtual meeting via ZOOM. If you plan on presenting a proposal or a topic for discussion, please contact Rashaan Davis, Assistant Commissioner at CHSAA. Changes made at the meeting, pending the legislative council process, are in effect for the 2024 season.

## **COMMITTEE PROPOSALS**

If you plan on bringing a proposal to the committee you must submit a CHSAA Committee Proposal Form that has been proposed by a league and signed by the league president. This form is due one week prior to the committee meeting. Please email this form back to Marisa Tenorio ([mtenorio@chsa.org](mailto:mtenorio@chsa.org)).

## **HOW TO GET RECOMMENDED FOR A COMMITTEE:**

Contact your league president, athletic director, or Legislative Council Representative in February for a recommendation.

# MAJOR CHANGES FOR 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR

1. Date changes for 3A and 5A State Tournaments:

- 3A Tournament Niwot HS January 31- February 1, 2025
- 4A Tournament Pueblo Central February 21 - 22, 2025
- 5A Tournament Overland HS February 28 - March 1, 2025

2. DEBATE TOPIC CLARIFICATION – The debate topic used for the State Tournament will be the NSDA topic for the month in which the Saturday of the State Tournament is located.

	<b>Public Forum Debate</b>	<b>Lincoln-Douglas Debate</b>	<b>Policy Debate</b>
3A	February Topic	January/February Topic	N/A
4A	February Topic	January/February Topic	N/A
5A	March Topic	March/April Topic	24-25 Resolution

3. New CHSAA cycle for school classifications (2024 – 2026). Full list of schools by classification can be found at <https://chsaa.news/data/CLOC/2024-26/classes/> (select “by Sport” and use drop down menu to select Speech and Debate).

4. Adopted NSDA Language regarding the use of Artificial Intelligence:

- *Generative Artificial Intelligence: In events in which speeches must be the original created work of a competitor (OO, INF, IX, USX, IMP, CST) students are prohibited from quoting or paraphrasing text directly from generative AI sources. Generative AI should not be cited as a source. The exception is that a student delivering a speech about the topic of AI may quote AI to illustrate their points about AI, in accordance with existing quoted word limits. While generative AI may be used to guide students to articles, ideas, and sources, the original source of any quoted or paraphrased evidence must be available if requested.*
- *In debate events, generative AI should not be cited as a source; while generative AI may be used to guide students to articles, ideas, and sources, the original source of any quoted or paraphrased evidence must be available if requested.*
- *In Interpretation events, students are prohibited from performing material created by generative AI sources. Generative AI should not be used as a source of material; while generative AI may be used to guide students to articles, ideas, and material, the original source of any material that is performed must be available if requested.*

5. Added quarterfinals for events with events with 40 or more entries eligible to advance.

6. Clarified ballot release process for electronic ballots:

*If eballots are used, ballots will be released electronically to coaches after the round for all rounds through semi-finals at a minimum. Coaches should review ballots; however, results and judge feedback should not be shared with competitors until the conclusion of the tournament.*

7. Changes to Congressional Debate:

- For Congressional Debate, total preset recency positions from preliminary rounds will be used to determine recency for advancement rounds. The participant with the highest cumulative recency total from preliminary rounds will have the earlier recency position in advancement rounds. Finals recency will be based on cumulative recency from prelims and semifinals (if applicable). Semifinal recency will be based on prelims. In the case of a tie, a random draw will determine order among all tied participants.
- PO Award goes to student who serves as PO for the longest amount of time
- One hour of presiding counts as one speech towards precedence
- Clarification of procedure for determining questioning precedence (random – independent of schematic) and speech precedence (schematic).

8. CHSAA and Speech Activities will continue to explore options for judge background checks.

9. Sweepstakes awards will continue to be piloted in the 2024-2025 school year. A committee will meet to explore

tiebreak procedures for sweepstakes.

10. Doubling discussion for 3A – no changes to doubling, but a different schedule will be used to accommodate Congressional Debate prelims.

**Reminder:** Please read the Bulletin (CHSAA website) for CHSAA bylaws and other important information pertinent to Speech and Debate.

# CHSAA Speech & Debate Committee Report

## CHSAA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORT

March 4, 2024

### SPEECH ACTIVITIES

Ashley McCulloch, Chairperson  
Chair

CR11

I. **MAJOR CHANGES FROM LAST YEAR'S REPORT:**

- a. N/A

II. **RATIONALE:**

- a. N/A

III. **FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

- a. N/A

IV. **DATES:**

- a. Tournament Dates
  - 3A: 01/31/25 – 02/01/25
  - 4A: 02/21/25 – 02/22/25
  - 5A: 02/28/25 – 03/01/25
- b. Coaches Conference: Last week of August 2024

V. **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

- a. The CHSAA Speech Activities Committee Meeting was held Monday March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 9:00 AM via Zoom.
- b. 2024 Tournament Reports
  - 3A: 26 Teams, 237 Students
  - 4A: 38 Teams, 411 Students
  - 5A: 32 Teams, 565 Students

- c. The committee discussed increasing numbers and teams next year, including reaching out to new coaches about the Speech & Debate Coaches Conference.
- d. NSDA language regarding AI usage will be added to the handbook. Further clarifications to the handbook will be included regarding digital balloting and advancement in quarterfinal rounds.

**VI. COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

- a. **Ashley McCulloch**, Eaglecrest – Chair, **Christine Jones**, Cherokee Trail, **Renee Motter**, Air Academy, **Anna Steed**, Rocky Mountain Prep-RISE, **Maryrose Kohan**, George Washington, **Louis Uribe**, University Schools, **Danielle Lopez**, Delta.

# Debate Topics

All debate topics can be found at [NSDA DEBATE TOPICS](#). At the beginning of each year, the NSDA releases potential debate resolutions for the year. Member students and coaches can vote for the resolution 1 week prior to the release date. The policy debate topic is selected for the entire school year and does not change.

**LINCOLN DOUGLAS DEBATE RESOLUTION RELEASE SCHEDULE:**

- September/October – released August 8
- November/December – released October 1
- January/February – released December 1 (3A/4A State Resolution)
- March/April – released February 1 (5A State Resolution)
- NSDA National Tournament – May 1

**PUBLIC FORUM DEBATE RESOLUTION RELEASE SCHEDULE:**

- September/October – released August 8
- November/December – released October 1
- January – released December 1 (3A State Resolution)
- February – released January 1 (4A State Resolution)
- March – released February 1 (5A State Resolution)
- April – released March 1
- NSDA Nationals – released May 1

The topics used at the State Tournament are based on the month that the state tournament is held.

*\*Invitational tournaments may use different topics. Please read your invitation carefully. If you are not sure which topic will be used at an invitational tournament, contact the tournament director.*

Classification	Public Forum Debate	Lincoln-Douglas Debate	Policy Debate
3A	<i>February Topic</i>	<i>January/February Topic</i>	N/A
4A	<i>February Topic</i>	<i>January/February Topic</i>	N/A
5A	<i>March Topic</i>	<i>March/April Topic</i>	24-25 Resolutions

# Events Offered

Each school may bring a maximum of four entries in each of the events offered at the State Competition.

- The 3A State Tournament will offer Interpretation of Drama, Humor, Poetry, Duo Interpretation, Program Oral Interpretation, Combined Extemporaneous Speaking, Original Oratory, Informative Speaking, Lincoln-Douglas Debate, Public Forum Debate, Congressional Debate, One-on-One Value Debate, Impromptu Speaking, and Creative Storytelling.
- The 4A State Tournament will offer Interpretation of Drama, Humor, Poetry, Duo Interpretation, Program Oral Interpretation, National Extemporaneous Speaking, International Extemporaneous Speaking, Original Oratory, Informative Speaking, Cross-Examination Debate, Lincoln-Douglas Debate, Public Forum Debate, and Congressional Debate.
- The 5A State Tournament will offer Interpretation of Drama, Humor, Poetry, Duo Interpretation, Program Oral Interpretation, National Extemporaneous Speaking, International Extemporaneous Speaking, Original Oratory, Informative Speaking, CX Debate, LD Debate, PF Debate, and Congressional Debate.
- NOTE: In order for an event to occur at the State Tournament and recognize a State Champion, there must be enough entries for the event to be viable
  - In speech events, CX, LD, PF and One-on-One Value Debate, this shall be defined as a minimum of four entries from at least two schools competing at the beginning of the tournament.
  - In Congressional Debate, a minimum of 12 entries competing at the beginning of the tournament.
  - Entries are expected to compete in all preliminary rounds.
  - The Tournament Director can waive these expectations for extenuating circumstances.

## DOUBLE ENTRY RULES

Students **MAY NOT** double enter at the 4A or 5A state tournament.

Students **MAY** double enter at the 3A Tournament under the following rules:

**Wave A events:** *Interpretation of Drama, Interpretation of Humor, Interpretation of Poetry, Original Oratory, Extemporaneous Speaking, One-on-One Value Debate, Creative Storytelling, Congressional Debate*

**Wave B events:** *Public Forum Debate, Lincoln Douglas Debate, Duo Interpretation, Program Oral Interpretation, Informative Speaking, Impromptu Speaking*

Double entry restrictions:

- Students may enter a maximum of 2 events – one Wave A event and one Wave B event.
- Students in Extemporaneous Speaking, One-on-One Value Debate, Public Forum Debate and Lincoln Douglas Debate may double enter, but may not double enter in another debate event or Extemporaneous Speaking (i.e. a student could enter Drama and PF, but could not enter Extemp and PF).
- Students in Congressional Debate may double enter in any wave B event, including PF and LD.

# Judge Requirements

For the state tournament, schools are required to provide one certified judge for every 5 event entries (or portion thereof) and one judge for every 2 debate entries (or portion thereof).

If you are interested in judging at any State Tournament, you must judge at one or more invitational meets during this school year and complete the annual certification test.

Judges will be paid by CHSAA at the current rate of judge pay (\$15/round, \$40 bonus for judging 3+ CX and/or waved debate rounds). Scorers and Parliamentarians will be paid for three rounds of judging for each session of Congressional Debate that they judge. In addition, the CHSAA structure for reimbursing for mileage and hotels shall be utilized.

- Mileage and hotel reimbursement will be paid to the party who incurred the expense.

## EXCEPTIONS:

**Coaches/Assistant Coaches:** The judge certification test is encouraged but not required for coaches and assistant coaches; however, all coaches and assistant coaches must complete the CHSAA Coach Certification Process

**Former Competitors/Experienced judges:** The requirement to judge at one or more invitational meets during this school year can be waived for experienced judges and former competitors; however, the judge certification test must be completed. Please reach out to Marisa Tenorio ([mtenorio@chsaa.org](mailto:mtenorio@chsaa.org)) to request a waiver.

**[CLICK HERE: JUDGE CERTIFICATION TEST](#)**

## [SPORTS MEDICINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE](#)

For all CHSAA sports medicine policies, procedures, and protocols, please visit the [Sports Medicine Advisory Committee Handbook](#).

Lightning and Tornado Policy and Procedures and Heat Acclimatization and Safety Priorities can be found in the [Sports Medicine Advisory Committee Handbook](#).



ONLINE SPORTS MEDICINE HANDBOOK: [CLICK HERE](#)



## [SPORTSMANSHIP](#)

[CHSAA Sporting Behavior Manual](#)

## **The Americans with Disabilities Act Statement (ADA)**

**All rules and policies contained within this bulletin are subject to the ADA's requirement to provide reasonable modifications for a disabled student(s). A reasonable modification(s) shall provide a disabled student with equally effective access [to the activity] unless the provision of such reasonable modification would constitute a fundamental alteration of the essential elements of the activity involved. Please refer to CHSAA bylaw 500 for more detailed information.**