



DISTRICT TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR INFORMATION

Additional information available on the OSAA website, www.osaa.org/activities/spe

PRE-DISTRICT TOURNAMENT

- DISTRICT TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR RESPONSIBILITY:** Each item below is the District Tournament Director's responsibility. If you have questions about any of these responsibilities, please contact Peter Weber at 503.682.6722 x231 or email peterw@osaa.org.
- CONFIRM SCHOOLS IN YOUR DISTRICT:**
Please confirm all of the schools eligible to compete in your District Tournament by reviewing the speech districts at www.osaa.org/activities/spe. If a school is scheduled to participate in your District Tournament but doesn't appear on the OSAA website, it's because the school hasn't signed up with the OSAA to offer speech. Non-registered schools that wish to be included, must sign up with the OSAA prior to the District Tournament in order to be eligible. Please have schools contact Peter Weber at 503.682.6722 x231 or email peterw@osaa.org to register.
- CONFIRM DISTRICT SOP (STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES):**
It is strongly suggested that District Tournament Directors schedule a meeting of the coaches in your district to confirm the policies for your district in cases not specifically covered by state rules. (i.e. will you hold two preliminary rounds and a final if there is only one section of an event; how will State Student Congress qualifiers be selected, etc.) There may already be policy that is traditionally followed in your district, but it's a good idea to make sure that the policy is agreed upon prior to the start of the District Tournament.
- TABROOM REMINDERS:**
 - Each District Tournament is set up in Tabroom.
 - All entries must be in Tabroom (this is how we verify the number of entries).
 - Even events without competition must have entries in Tabroom. For example, if your district has two entries in DI, they both will advance, but they must be listed in Tabroom for that to happen. This has especially been an issue in Student Congress.
 - Advancing will happen about 48 hours after the conclusion of the District Tournament. Once advancing begins, District Directors will lose access to their District Tournament (i.e., district directors won't be able to edit after that point).
- DROPBOX LINKS FOR EACH DISTRICT:**
Every District has a unique set of upload links for all events and the District Director will have access to files that have been uploaded for that District only. The District Director will be allowed to view and download any manuscripts, but you will be limited to your District only. Access all event folders for your District via the email recently sent by Peter Weber.

Qualifiers are required to upload manuscripts using these links prior to the Championships. **It is the responsibility of each school's Director to check all manuscripts for plagiarism. The District is responsible to resolve any issues that may arise from this process prior to the State Championships.**

Please distribute the links below to all participating schools in your District event. Make sure they all understand any deadlines you may have established.

Please remind coaches that uploaded manuscripts need to meet the following criteria:

- Please be sure that the file name includes the participant's school followed by first and last name (i.e., Ashland John Smith), then **the exact title or topic/subject matter**.
- Be sure to use **the exact titles** of selections in DI, Duo, HI, Prose and LIELL.
- In ADS, Inform, Oratory, Radio, and Poetry enter a **topic/subject matter** rather than a title to prevent a student from speaking against someone with the same subject matter.

- DISTRICT TOURNAMENT PROCEDURES** ([2024-25 OSAA Speech Handbook](#))

Article 7 – Tournaments

- 7.1. District Tournaments shall be held and directed by the District Director for each district. To the extent possible, District Tournaments shall follow Speech State Championships rules and procedures.

Article 8 – Eligibility

- 8.1. Schools participating at the District and Speech State Championships shall be registered with the OSAA to participate in Speech Activities.
- 8.2. Students participating at the District and Speech State Championships shall meet OSAA student eligibility standards. [See also OSAA Handbook, Rules, Rule 8.](#)

6. District Tournament Procedures

- 6.1. To the extent feasible, District Tournaments shall operate under Speech State Championships rules, except in debate matching to determine Speech State Championships participation. **See also Speech State Championships Committee and Director Section.**
- 6.2. No contestant may appear at the Speech State Championships without first competing and placing in a District Speech Tournament and being certified as a Speech State Championships participant by a District Director unless the contestant is a substitute speaker in Oregon Style Cross-Examination Debate, Public Forum Debate, Parliamentary Debate or Duo Interpretation.
- 6.3. In the absence of competing schools, it may be necessary to declare a winner by default to represent the District at the Speech State Championships.
- 6.4. Online Ballots or tear-apart ballots shall be used at District competitions, or photocopies of state ballots may be used when tear-apart ballots are not available. When photocopies are used, both teams shall receive ballots.
- 6.5. District Tournaments must be held at least 10 days prior to the Speech State Championships. There shall be no exceptions to this rule.
- 6.6. Number of Individual Event Entries at District Tournaments. Each school may have a maximum of 29 entries at the District Tournament. A maximum of three entries may be placed in any one event. Each Duo Interpretation entry counts as a single individual events entry.
- 6.7. Number of Oregon Style Cross-Examination Debate Entries at **District Tournaments**. Each school may enter a maximum of three Oregon Style Cross-Examination Debate Teams at the District Tournament.
- 6.8. **Number of Public Forum Debate Entries at District Tournaments**. Each school may enter a maximum of three Public Forum Debate Teams at the District Tournament.
- 6.9. **Number of Parliamentary Debate Entries at District Tournaments**. Each school may enter a maximum of three Parliamentary Debate Teams at the District Tournament.
- 6.10. **Number of Lincoln Douglas Entries at District Tournaments**. Each school may enter a maximum of three Lincoln Douglas debaters at the District Tournament.
- 6.11. **Congressional Debate entries**. Each school may enter three Congressional Debate competitors. Each district is allowed five entries, to be determined by the individual district. Congressional Debate competitors may not be entered in any other events at the Speech State Championships.
- 6.12. **Number of events per student**. Any student may enter a maximum of two Individual Events and one Debate event at the District or Speech State Championships. No student may participate in more than two Individual Events or more than one Debate event. Lincoln-Douglas Debate is considered a debate event for the purpose of student entry limitations; a student entered in LD may not enter another debate event.
- 6.13. **District Debate Tournament Matching Procedures**. District Debate Tournaments are "double elimination" tournaments; after round two and subsequent rounds, teams with two losses shall be eliminated from competition.
 - 6.13.1. After round one, winners shall face winners; losers shall face losers, EXCEPT:
 - (a) If there is an odd number of winners, a team with one loss shall be randomly chosen (consistent with the criterion listed in 9.8 of the Speech State Championships debate matching procedures) to face the additional winner.
 - (b) Teams from the same school shall not meet unless the only remaining teams are from the same school, or three of the four remaining teams are from the same school.

- 6.13.2.** Byes shall be drawn using the same procedures and rules as used at the Speech State Championships except as specified in Section C-2 below. [See also Speech State Championships Committee and Director Section.](#)
- 6.13.3.** The following rules apply to districts sending only two teams to the Speech State Championships:
- (a) If, at the time of the deciding or final round, an undefeated team has defeated all remaining contenders in District competition, the undefeated team shall receive a bye (this is an exception to matching rule 9.9.3). Additional Speech State Championships Qualifiers shall be determined by the matching of one-loss teams.
 - (b) If only three teams remain in the tournament, and one team has defeated the other two, that team shall receive a bye to the Speech State Championships regardless of overall record.
 - (c) In the deciding round to determine two slots for the Speech State Championships, one-loss teams may not be given a bye unless the one-loss team has defeated the other two remaining teams.
- 6.13.4.** If, following the “final” debate round at the district tournament, fewer debaters remain than there are qualifying slots available for that district to the Speech State Championships, the additional qualifiers shall be selected from those that received their second loss during the “final” round using the following criteria in the order listed:
- (a) Head-to-head competition among the teams being considered for the additional slot.
 - (b) If the debaters have not met, a run-off round shall be held.

6.14. Certification of District Winners for the Speech State Championships

- 6.14.1. Speech State Championships Oregon Style Cross-Examination Debate Entries.** The number of Oregon Style Cross-Examination Debate Entries for the Speech State Championships from each District shall be based on the following schedule:

1-2 teams at District	District qualifies 1 team to Speech State Championships.
3-4 teams at District	District qualifies 2 teams to Speech State Championships.
5-6 teams at District	District qualifies 3 teams to Speech State Championships.
7-8 teams at District	District qualifies 4 teams to Speech State Championships.
9-11 teams at District	District qualifies 5 teams to Speech State Championships.
12-15 teams at District	District qualifies 6 teams to Speech State Championships.
16-19 teams at District	District qualifies 7 teams to Speech State Championships.

- 6.14.2. Speech State Championships Parliamentary Debate and Public Forum Debate Entries.** The number of Parliamentary Debate Entries and Public Forum Debate Entries for the Speech State Championships from each District shall be based on the following schedule:

1 team at District	District qualifies 1 team to Speech State Championships.
2-8 teams at District	District qualifies 2 teams to Speech State Championships.
9-16 teams at District	District qualifies 3 teams to Speech State Championships.
17+ teams at District	District qualifies 4 teams to Speech State Championships.

- 6.14.3. Speech State Championships Lincoln-Douglas Debate Entries.** The number of Lincoln-Douglas Debate Entries for the Speech State Championships from each District shall be based on the following schedule:

1-5 speakers at District	District qualifies 2 speakers to Speech State Championships.
6-10 speakers at District	District qualifies 3 speakers to Speech State Championships.
11-15 speakers at District	District qualifies 4 speakers to Speech State Championships.

NOTE: All debaters qualifying for the Speech State Championships must debate at District unless only one school is entered in the event.

- 6.14.4. Speech State Championships Individual Event Entries.** The number of Individual Event Entries for the Speech State Championships from each District shall be based on the following schedule:

1-11 speakers at District	District qualifies 2 speakers to Speech State Championships.
12-17 speakers at District	District qualifies 3 speakers to Speech State Championships.
18-24 speakers at District	District qualifies 4 speakers to Speech State Championships.
24 + speakers at District	District qualifies 4 speakers to Speech State Championships.

- 6.14.5. Alternates.** At District Tournaments, District Directors shall announce Individual Event alternates who shall come to the Speech State Championships whenever a District place winner is unable to attend. It is

the responsibility of the coach of a Speech State Championships Qualifying Contestant to notify the District Director if that contestant cannot attend the Speech State Championships; the District Director shall then confirm that the alternate will attend and contact the OSAA with the substitution. If the alternate is unable to attend, the next highest placing district participant in that event may fill the position.

- 6.14.6. Team Event Substitutions.** In Oregon Style Cross-Examination Debate, Public Forum Debate, Parliamentary Debate and Duo Interpretation, a coach is allowed to substitute one speaker who has not qualified for the Speech State Championships in that event for one who has.

6.15. Proven Excellence Alternative State Qualifiers

6.15.1. Rationale. In addition to District Winners, a limited number of students may be eligible to participate at the Speech State Championships each year under the "Proven Excellence Alternative Qualifying System." The system was developed to guarantee participation at the Speech State Championships by the state's very best speakers while maintaining a limit on the number of State participants.

6.15.2. Qualification Process. Each school may add a maximum of two Speech State Championships entries which did not qualify to participate at the Speech State Championships in the designated event to that district's report form to the OSAA if all the following conditions have been satisfied for each student:

- (a) The student participated at the district speech tournament in the event in which the student had previously proven excellence but did not qualify for participation at the Speech State Championships in that event.
- (b) The student (or both members of a Duo Interpretation team) had previously proven excellence in the designated event by placing third or higher in an individual (or Dual Interpretation) event, Student Congress or by participating in the semifinal round of a debate event in the senior or open division at two or more eligible competitions.
- (c) In team events, both team members must have participated together at the qualifying tournaments.
- (d) In order to be considered as an eligible tournament for the purpose of satisfying these rules, the competition must have followed OSAA Speech State Championships Rules in the event for which the qualifying place was attained and meet one of the following criteria:
 - (1) Included at least 15 competitors in the senior or open division of the event in a tournament attended by at least 15 high schools.
 - (2) Included at least 48 competitors in the senior or open division of the event in a tournament attended by at least 30 high schools, in which case proven excellence would be demonstrated by reaching the quarterfinal round in a debate event or the final round in a speech event.
 - (3) Included at least 64 competitors in the senior or open division of the event in a tournament attended by at least 50 high schools, in which case proven excellence would be demonstrated by reaching the octofinal round in a debate event or the semi-final round in a speech event
 - (4) Included at least 20 competitors in the senior or open division of the event in a tournament attended by at least 12 high schools.
 - (5) (For Student Congress Only) Included at least 12-15 competitors in the chamber of a tournament attended by at least four high schools.
- (e) Coaches of potential proven excellence qualifiers shall bring evidence of the student(s) proven excellence eligibility to the district tournament and make that evidence available to the district director if it is requested.

6.15.3. Speech State Championships Entry Process

PROVEN EXCELLENCE FORM

- (a) Should a student who has satisfied the proven excellence criteria for an event or events fail to qualify for State at the district speech tournament in that event or events, the district director shall add that entry as a proven excellence alternative qualifier to the district's results form submitted to the OSAA following the district tournament up to a maximum of two entries per school. The addition of a proven excellence qualifier or qualifiers shall have no effect on the quantity of district winner State qualifiers allocated to the district.
- (b) An entry for a school in a team event shall count as one entry for the purpose of applying the two entry per school limitation.

- (c) Should a school have more than two proven excellence qualifiers for the Speech State Championships in a given year, the coach of the students shall inform the district director which of the students shall be designated as the two qualifiers for the school. At the discretion of the coach, it is possible that both proven excellence qualifier positions for a school could be designated to the same student.
- (d) Should a student who has satisfied the proven excellence criteria for an event or events also qualify in that event or events at the district speech tournament, they may yield their district qualifying spot to the district alternate and still compete at the Speech State Championships by accessing their proven excellence alternative qualification (should their coach designate that student as one of the two proven excellence qualifiers for that school as outlined in provision (c)).

POST-DISTRICT TOURNAMENT

1. **STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS – DROPS / SUBSTITUTIONS:** Schools needing to drop a student who has qualified for State must complete the *Drops/Substitution Form* to notify the State Championship Committee by Wednesday, April 23. Contact Jane Berry Eddings at ajbe1@comcast.net after April 23. Changes that are submitted are not instantaneous – your patience is appreciated. Please do not wait until you get to State to report a drop. That would be unfair to the alternate and makes it much more difficult for the State Championships Committee to make the matching revisions often necessary under State rules to address the change.

Please direct your questions or comments regarding this material or any other pertinent information as it relates to the state championship to Peter Weber at 503.682.6722 x231 or email peterw@osaa.org.