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# NCFL Diocesan League Directors Spring Meeting 2023 May 20

This Meeting is Virtual  
(But we'll see you in Louisville soon!)

(This document will be posted to [NCFLNationals.org](https://NCFLNationals.org) after the conclusion of this meeting)



# Agenda

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- ❖ President – Ann Marie Duffy
- ❖ Invocation - Catherine Luhr
- ❖ Tournament Update
  - Things that are the same
  - Things that are different
- ❖ Upcoming National Tournaments
- ❖ Fall Directors Meeting
- ❖ Questions



# NCFL 2023 - Tournament Updates

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- ❖ Things That Are The Same
  - Competition Sites
  - ByLaws Updates
  - Internet
  - Tabroom & LiveDocs
  - Bus Information
  - Mass
  - Service Project



# Competition Sites

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## ❖ Saturday:

- Policy at the Marriott & Hyatt Hotels
- LD at Assumption High School
- PF at Trinity High School
- Congress at the Galt House Hotel
- Speech, All Events, at the University of Louisville

## ❖ Sunday:

- Policy & Congress Elims at the Omni
- PF & LD Elims at the Galt House
- Speech at the Marriott & Hyatt
  - NOTE: 4 Original Oratory Octofinal rounds will be held at the Omni



# ByLaws Updates

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- ❖ LD & PF:
  - double-flighted
  - Play-In Round Sunday morning
- ❖ Internet Connectivity now allowed in Congress & Extemp Prep
- ❖ Smaller Congress Chambers, Breaking to Semis, then Finals:
  - Prelim Chambers will be 16-18 students
  - Top 5 from each clear to Semi-Finals
  - Three Semi-Final Chambers will be 18-20 students
  - Top 8 from each clear to Finals
  - Final Chamber will be 24 students



# Internet

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- ❖ Provided at All Sites
- ❖ Do NOT use to stream video or music
- ❖ Reminder: competitors CANNOT connect to persons outside the competition/prep room
  - Do not text/communicate with coaches, assistants, teammates, etc outside



# Tabroom & LiveDocs

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- ❖ Tabroom Blasts will be used to update students and coaches real time for each event
- ❖ In addition, each Event will have LiveDocs, like last year
  - Pay attention to Event Specific updates in those
- ❖ Social Media and NCFLNationals.org will be updated as needed
  - #NCFL2023
  - All Social Media Updates through Facebook and Instagram



# Bus Information



- ❖ Bus Departures are from a single location on Market Street for PF, LD, and Speech on Saturday
  - (Policy and Congress are downtown - do not get on a bus)
  - PF and LD
    - Be on Market at 2nd Street between 6:00 AM and 6:30 AM EDT
    - All Buses will drop at both locations
  - Speech at U of L
    - Be on Market at 2nd Street between 7:00 AM and 7:30 AM EDT
- ❖ Buses will depart the tournament sites and drop off at all hotels after the last round of the day





# Mass

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## Saturday Mass

- ❖ Will be at the Cathedral of the Assumption beginning at 8:00 PM on Saturday

## Distance

- ❖ It is a short walk from the downtown hotels.
- ❖ However, there will be limited bus transportation from the downtown hotels to Saturday evening mass for anyone with mobility issues.
- If someone requires transportation, there will be a staff member wearing an orange T-shirt in front of your hotel who will be happy to assist them.



# Service Project



## SWEET EVENING BREEZE

Sweet Evening Breeze is committed to Louisville's LGBTQ+ young adults, 18 to 24 years of age, experiencing homelessness; by going beyond the expectations of a shelter, providing housing, hope, and healing.



## COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS

Since 1986, Coalition for the Homeless has been a collaborative force to support agencies and people facing homelessness. Today, they have over 30 member agencies who provide shelter, housing, healthcare, food, outreach, and more.





# NCFL 2023 - Tournament Updates

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## ❖ Things That Are Different

- CHATgpt et al (New for 2023)
- Health & Safety - Masks (Updated for 2023)
- Health & Safety - Reducing Crowds (Updated for 2023)
- Health & Safety - Reducing Meetings (Updated for 2023)
- Observers (Updated for 2023)
- Getting Help
- Judge Training
- Need for Debate Judges
- League and School Check-In
- Registration Assistance
- Before & After Awards
- Tab Room Locations
- Next Steps



# CHATgpt (New for 2023)



## NCFL Statement on the Use of ChatGPT and Similar AI Tools

NCFL will not restrict the use of ChatGPT, Bard, or other similar AI-based research tools in Extemp Prep, Student Congress, or Debate events. These can be legitimate research tools. However, given that some of these systems lack current data and often do not cite exact sources or evidence, using them directly for speech preparation will be challenging.

These tools are currently being used in schools and workplaces and usage will only increase as new versions and options are released. We need to teach students to use them, as first drafts or idea generators, and how to get to a finished product on their own after using them for a first draft.

While we encourage all coaches, judges, students to carefully review the NCFL Bylaws prior to the National Competition, we do want to specifically remind coaches and students of some pertinent NCFL rules, set forth in the Bylaws, to keep in mind when working with these tools:

- In Extemporaneous Speaking, rule #1 states, "The speech should be an original synthesis by the contestant," and continues, "The speaker is responsible for the ethical use of source information."
- In Original Oratory, rule #3 states, "The speech must be one that has been composed by the student delivering it."
- Students using these tools should cite them as a source and judges will be allowed to consider if a student's sources are well-chosen, pertinent, and sufficient when determining ranks.

As a general reminder, we have no control over whether our host facilities will have blocked access to these tools (and other websites) on their network routers. If your preparation depends on access to these tools, you should plan on using a private hotspot to access the internet.



# Health & Safety - Masks (Updated for 2023)



- ❖ Masks Are Optional in Competition Spaces & Buses
  - May be worn by anyone at any time ... Students, Judges, Coaches, Staff
    - Recommend multi-layer KN-95/N-95 style
    - Should cover nose and mouth
- ❖ Competitors can choose to wear their mask during their speech
  - Judges will not deduct points or make comments (in room or on ballot)
  - Students should follow their own school rules and policies
- ❖ Masks Are **REQUIRED** at Tournament Mass
  - Saturday at 8pm at the Cathedral of the Assumption
- ❖ Masks Are **REQUIRED** at Tournament Awards
  - Sunday at 7:30pm at the Omni, Commonwealth Ballroom



# Health & Safety – Reducing Crowds

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- ❖ Eliminating As Much Crowding As We Can
  - No In-Person Registration
  - No Postings Party
    - Postings will be provided online as soon as they are all ready
  - Speech Rounds:
    - Competitors are not required to stay after their speech
    - Competitors will not be penalized for leaving



# Health & Safety – Reducing Meetings

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- ❖ Eliminating As Many of Our Meetings As We Can
  - No Opening Meetings on Saturday
    - All information will be distributed via LiveDocs & Tabroom Notifications
    - Some events may do Pre-Recorded Meetings
  - There is a Judges Lounge / Stand-By Room at each of the sites
  - We are not holding Judge Calls on Sunday
    - Pairings and Assignments will be distributed via Tabroom.com
    - Stand-By Judges for a Pool will gather in the Judge Stand-By Rooms for each event



# Observers (Updated for 2023)



## ❖ On Saturday:

- Observers are allowed:
  - ONLY with the permission of ALL Competitors & Judges in the Room
  - Anyone can say NO without penalty or prejudice
- If you are competing you CANNOT observe any other rounds in your event

## ❖ On Sunday:

- Observers are allowed
  - No permission is required
  - If you are still competing you CANNOT observe rounds in your event until you are eliminated
- ❖ Limited Seating in Semis & Finals: Observers must be seated in a chair





# Getting Help

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- ❖ Louisville Host Volunteers will be in Orange Shirts (Creamsicle Color)
- ❖ Judges or Students with Missing Judge, Missing Kid, Conflict, or Room Problems can text their Tab Team directly
  - Numbers in LiveDocs
- ❖ No “Dance Cards” distributed
  - Everything is Online



# Judge Training

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- ❖ Online Judge Training or Q&A Sessions
  - Some events will host
  - Notifications will be sent via Tabroom
- ❖ Ballot Test on Friday for All Judges
  - All events
  - Notifications will be sent via Tabroom
- ❖ Equity & Bias Training for all Judges will be available this week
  - Email sent to Coaches and Judges via Tabroom



# We are Short on Debate Judges

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- ❖ We are tight on debate judges, critically so in Policy Debate
  - If you have extra debate judges coming that can be hired, please email us
  - If you have policy debate qualified judges in the LD or PF pool, we'd like to move some of them over to Policy Debate if they are willing, please email us
  - If you have debate qualified judges, especially Policy judges in the Speech Pool, we'd like to move some of them over to Policy Debate, please email us
- ❖ If your league is short judges, you must provide them ... we are out of hired judges
- ❖ Email is "ncfl@tabroom.com"



# League and School Check-In



- ❖ Two-Tiered OnLine "Start of Tournament" Registration:
  - TIER ONE - Diocesan League Registration (Thursday, May 25 from 12pm-6pm):
    - Local League Directors will Email or Zoom into Registration Office
      - Confirm everything is set with Registration
      - Identify changes/drops
  - TIER TWO - School Online Check-in (Friday, May 26 from 10am-6pm):
    - School Coaches will click the "Here" Button on Tabroom.com
    - Coaches can email or Zoom into Registration Office with problems or questions



# Registration Assistance



- ❖ Registration Assistance
  - Email = [ncfl@tabroom.com](mailto:ncfl@tabroom.com)
  - Zoom = Email Invite is coming
  - Physical Location = Omni Hotel, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Olmsted 1-2-3 Ballroom
    - Thursday afternoon 12pm to 6pm
    - Friday, 10am to 6pm
- ❖ Diocesan League Directors Workroom Available
  - Omni Hotel, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Olmsted 4 Ballroom
    - Friday, 10am to 6pm
- ❖ Note that the codes you currently see in Tabroom.com are NOT final
  - Do NOT distribute or depend on those
  - They will be finalized by Thursday morning



# Before & After Awards

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- ❖ Before Awards - FlipGrid will be available
  - Competitors receiving trophies should record the pronunciation of their names on Sunday afternoon prior to Awards
  - A link will be sent Sunday morning
  
- ❖ After Awards - There will be NO Diocesan League Packets
  - Debate Medals for Double-OctoFinalists can be picked up in their event Tab Rooms
  - Congress Medals for Semi-Finalists can be picked up in the Congress Tab Room
  - Speech Medals for OctoFinalists can be picked up in Marriott Rose Room between 12pm and 6pm on Sunday



# Tab Room Locations



## ❖ Saturday:

- Speech @ U of L, Belknap Academic 218, Report at 8:00am
- Extemp Prep @ U of L, SAC Ballroom W215, Report at 7:30am
- Policy @ Marriott, Rose Room, Report at 7:00am
- PF @ Trinity HS, Report at 7:00am
- LD @ Assumption HS, Report at 7:00am
- Congress @ Galt House, Collins Room, Report at 7:00am
- Protest, U of L, Belknap Academic 218, Report at 9:00am
- Equity Advocates, U of L, Belknap Academic 218, Report at 8:00am

## ❖ Sunday:

- Speech @ Marriott, Skybox-Filly-Thoroughbred Rooms, Report at 7:45am
- Extemp Prep @ Hyatt, Keeneland, Report at 7:15am
- Policy @ Omni, Butchertown Room, Report at 7:00am
- PF @ Galt House, Brown Room, Report at 7:00am
- LD @ Galt House, Collins Room, Report at 7:00am
- Congress @ Omni, Hikes Point Room, Report at 6:45am
- Protest, Marriott, Jockey Room, Report at 8:00am
- Equity Advocates, Marriott, Paddock Room, Report at 7:30am



# Next Steps

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- ❖ Scheduled Activities This Week, all times are EDT:
  - May 22 (8pm-9pm) = Speech Judge's Training
  - May 25 (12pm-6pm) = Diocesan League Registration, Online
  - May 26 (10am - 6pm)= School Online Check-in
  - May 26 (12pm-8pm) = School Lunch Ticket Pick-Up, Omni, outside Olmsted Ballroom
  - May 26 (~6pm) = Flip for OI Posted on Speech Live Doc
  - May 26 (~8pm) = LiveDocs Updated with any last minute announcements
  - May 27 (~7am) = Congress Chambers Released





# Upcoming National Tournaments

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- ❖ 2024 – Chicago, IL (rescheduled from 2020)
- ❖ 2025 – Chicago, IL
- ❖ 2026 – Washington, DC
- ❖ 2027 – Minneapolis, MN (rescheduled from 2021)
- ❖ 2028 – Open for bid



# Fall Directors Meeting

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## ❖ Fall Meeting

- In-Person preferred, but we will provide a virtual connection also
- Bylaws sets meeting for last weekend of September
  - September 29 – 30, 2023
- Need Location

## ❖ Finance Committee

- Volunteers Requested
- Email me directly: [annybird@gmail.com](mailto:annybird@gmail.com)
- Report Due at Fall 2023 Director's Meeting with any recommendations



# Questions

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## ❖ Questions from the Floor