August 16, 2019

Dear Colleagues:

On behalf of The University of Akron, it is my pleasure to invite you to attend a weekend of tournaments in Akron, OH.  On Saturday, September 28, 2019, our team will host the 17th Annual A-K Rowdy Tournament. On Sunday, September 29, 2019, The Akron Speech Team Alumni Association ("ASTAA") will host its 12th Annual Tournament. Both tournaments will feature competition in all 11 AFA-NIET Individual Events.

Both our team’s and our Alumni Association’s portions will provide students separate opportunities to garner experience, competition, and national qualifications and legs in a fun, social setting. As is customary with our Sunday tournament, proceeds will benefit our Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank to assist local families in need as we draw near to the holiday season.

For students who are in their first year of college forensics competition and are not seeking AFA legs, we will offer novice sectioning in events where there are sufficient entries to warrant the novice breakoffs. Semi-finals will be held in open events exceeding 50 entries.

Below, you will find pertinent information for registering for the tournaments. We look forward to welcoming you back to Akron for another fun A-K Rowdy and ASTAA weekend! If it's your first time, we hope the experience will be a rewarding one for you and your students.

Earnestly,

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**Pattern A:  Extemp, Persuasion, Communication Analysis, Dramatic Interpretation, Duo Interpretation, POI

Pattern B:  Impromptu, Informative, After Dinner, Prose, Poetry

SCHEDULE, Saturday, September 28, 2019**

7:30 AM Registration (Kolbe Hall)

8:00 AM Extemp Draw
8:30 AM Round 1, Pattern A Events
10:00 AM Round 1, Pattern B Events
11:30 AM Round 2, Pattern B Events
12:30 PM Lunch Break
1:15 PM Extemp Draw
1:45 PM Round 2, Pattern A Events
3:00 PM Finals B
4:00 PM Extemp Draw
4:30 PM Finals A

6:15 PM AWARDS\*

\*Or as soon as possible.  Schedule may be altered depending on number of entries.

**SCHEDULE, Sunday, September 29, 2019**

8:00 AM Extemp Draw
8:30 AM Round 1, Pattern A Events
10:00 AM Round 1, Pattern B Events
11:30 AM Round 2, Pattern B Events
12:30 PM Lunch Break
1:00 PM Extemp Draw
1:30 PM Round 2, Pattern A Event

2:45 PM Finals B
3:45 PM Extemp Draw
4:15 PM Finals A
6:00 PM AWARDS\*

\*Or as soon as possible.  Schedule may be altered depending on number of entries.

**STUDENTS MAY ENTER UP TO THREE EVENTS PER PATTERN; TWO DUOS CONSTITUTES TWO SLOTS IN PATTERN A. (Please indicate if a student should be sectioned as novice when there is a sufficient number to warrant novice sectioning.)**
**Each slot is $8.00 on Saturday and $5.00 on Sunday. Each judge covers 6 slots**.  There will be qualified hired judges at the tournament; each **uncovered slot** will be an additional **$10.00**.  For changes after the deadline, there will be a $10.00 nuisance fee.  For changes at registration, there is a $20.00 charge.  A dropped judge will result in a $50.00 fee.

Awards:  For both days, awards will be given to the top 6 contestants in each event. Final round contestants in any novice sectioning will also receive individual awards. The top 5 teams will receive sweepstakes awards; the top 5 contestants in four or more *varsity* events will receive individual sweepstakes awards.  Students from The University of Akron are eligible to participate in the tournaments.

To enter the tournament (both days or one day only):  **Please enter at www.speechwire.com by 9 PM EST, Tuesday, September 24**. You must register for the two tournaments separately on Speechwire.  Please contact Mark Rittenour by e-mail, mritten@uakron.edu or MRittenour@aol.com with any questions.

**We look forward to seeing you in Akron!**