



October 19, 2026

Dear Director of Middle Level Individual Events:

The Michigan Interscholastic Forensic Association will host our annual Fall Individual Events Tournament & Workshop for middle/junior high school students on Saturday, November 14, 2026, at the temporary location of Boulan Park Middle School in Troy. Students may participate in one of two tracks - a tournament track with three rounds of competition in various speech activities OR a workshop track to help introduce students to events and prepare them for competition. There will also be a track for coaches and judges. The workshop will take place in-person on the same schedule as the tournament.

We look forward to having your school participate in our annual fall event. Thanks again for your involvement in interscholastic speech activities.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jonathan Becker". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jonathan Becker, Executive Director of MIFA

Questions/Concerns – please contact:

Tournament Director

Jon Becker

MIFA Executive Director

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Middle Level Committee Chair

Missy Dodge

Boulan Park Middle School Forensics Coach

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Billing

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Troubleshooting

Paige Caldwell

MIFA Event Support Specialist

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GENERAL LOGISTICS

LOCATION: Boulan Park Middle School 5853 Donaldson Dr, Troy MI 48085 [Building Map/Floor Plan](#)

SCHEDULE for Saturday November 14, 2026

Time	Tournament Track	Workshop Track
8:00a	Building Open	Building Open
8:30 - 9:00a	Check-In	Check-In
9:15 - 9:45a	General Meeting / Judge Meeting	Session 1: Welcome, Icebreaker & Intro to IE
9:30a	Limited Prep Begins	
10:00a - 11:00p	Round 1 of Competition	Session 2: Watch & Learn
11:00 -12:00p	Round 2 of Competition	Session 3: Try It Out! (feedback only, no score)
12:00 - 1:00p	Lunch	Lunch
1:00 - 2:00p	Round 3 of Competition	Session 4: Share, Next Steps & Wrap-up
2:30 - 3:30p	Awards	Awards w/ team

PARENTS/OBSERVERS: Parents and observers are welcome at the tournament. Spectators are expected to remain in the room for the entirety of the competition round and follow the MIFA Code of Conduct. Please remind them that videos & photography are strictly prohibited.

SWAG: MIFA T-shirts, water bottles, pins etc will be available for purchase on site and [thru the website](#). Proceeds support MIFA speech activities. Please let your students know so they can plan ahead!

FOOD/LUNCH: Boxed lunches **must be pre-ordered when you register on tabroom**. Boxed lunches are \$15 each and include a choice of a sandwich - turkey, italian or veggie plus chips & a cookie. Please bring your own bottle and use the filling stations for water. Coaches should order lunches for students, judges, coaches, and parents – although there will be NO on-site lunch sales, concessions/snacks will be available throughout the day.

ADA Accommodation: Coaches should initiate any request for accommodation by the tournament registration deadline. The information will be treated confidentially and used to assist tournament administrators in determining what reasonable accommodation(s) can be provided for a student, judge or coach to participate in a MIFA event fairly, safely and effectively. ADA Form available [HERE](#).

MATERIALS & SUITABILITY: The Middle School Committee reminds the community of our renewed commitment by participants to age appropriate material. The rules and regulations for middle school level tournaments are provided in Speech Activities on the MIFA website. The rules and regulations, including time parameters for each event are indicated on the ballots which can be found on the [Resources tab here](#). Contestants must not present materials or speeches that they have previously used at a MIFA tournament. Each contestant must be able to validate the source for his or her interpretation script. A photocopy of the appropriate pages from the original source or full URL for web based material constitutes acceptable proof.

COMPETITION TRACK

REGISTRATION: Please register your contestants here: <http://mifafallml.tabroom.com>. The **deadline for registration is 7:00pm on Monday November 9, 2026**. A school can have a **maximum of four entries in each event**, except for Multiple which has a maximum of two entries per school. There is no limit to the number of workshop participants a school may bring, but you need to enter them in tabroom as well under the appropriate track. Please register all coach and judge workshop participants in tabroom as well.

Tabroom How To: [Create School Account](#), [Register for a Tournament](#), [Create/Link Student Account](#)
Schools/coaches will need a tabroom account in order to register for this tournament. Students are not required to have a tabroom account, however, ballots and comments will be viewable in tabroom. Therefore, students who are competing would benefit from having their own account in order to see their feedback. If students do not have their own tabroom account, coaches will have to download and share the critiques.

Entry Fees: These fees primarily cover the cost of tournament administrative expenses and awards. Remember: **Schools must provide 1 judge per 5 tournament entries (judges are expected to judge all 3 rounds)**. Duos & Multiples count as 2 entries. Workshop entries do not count towards judge obligations.

School Fee - \$50	Individual Entries - \$10 each	Student Workshop - \$10 each
Hired Judge - \$100 each	Duo Entries - \$20 each	Coach / Judge Workshop Free w/ membership
Box Lunch - \$15 each	Multiple Entries - \$30 each	

Pay online [via CREDIT CARD here](#) By Venmo @themifa (business profile on app only)
Or by check payable to: MIFA, 30238 Spring River Dr. Southfield MI 48076

Drops/Adds/Changes: Changes prior to the registration deadline can be made without financial penalty. After the deadline, the school is still responsible for payment of initial registration fees & change fees as follows:

> prior to the tournament \$15.00 fee per > day of the tournament will incur a \$25.00 fee per

Also note - drops after the registration deadline do NOT reduce your judge obligations. If you do not provide the required number of judges to cover your obligations, the tournament will invoice your school \$100/judge. Changes to workshop participants do not incur additional fees but registration fees will still be assessed. To reiterate, schools agree to pay these fees for all contestants, judges, meals or schools dropped, changed or withdrawn after the registration deadline. **ALL CHANGES must be emailed to events@themifa.org**.

CONTESTANT CODES: As you register your contestants online, contestant codes will be automatically generated by the tabroom site. You can log into your Tabroom account and see this information at any point. Please share your contestant's codes with them in advance and remind them not to switch with other students.

SPECIAL CATEGORY NOTES: **Storytelling 5/6, Poetry 5/6, Broadcasting 5/6** are categories with divisions exclusively for fifth & sixth graders. Seventh or eighth grade students participating in Storytelling, Poetry or Broadcasting should be registered in the OPEN division of their event. **Multiple:** please note the number of participants in a Multiple is now 3-5 (rather than 3-8). **Sales, Informative and Oratory:** now allow the use of digital visual aids. **Impromptu** will follow HS practices with all speaking on the same prompt.

Limited Prep Event Topics:

	Broadcasting Editorial	Impromptu	Extemporaneous
Round 1	Digital Life	Friends & Loyalty	AI in Schools
Round 2	Digital Life	Heroes & Villains	Youth Sports
Round 3	Digital Life	Taking Chances	Animal Rights & Welfare

JUDGES & JUDGING

Judges/Scoring: Schools must provide **1 judge (3 rounds of judging) per 5 tournament entries or fraction thereof**. Duos & Multiples count as 2 entries. Please note: Judges can not trade assigned rounds from one individual to another! The tournament staff must be aware of any change in judges. Judges are expected to be available for all rounds unless otherwise indicated & approved by TAB staff. You can also add a “Note” to any judge like - “available for Round 2 ONLY”, “will judge 1 round anytime” or “leaves at noon”. Schools may provide more judges than required by simply entering them when you register in tabroom and we will reduce the number of rounds that each is used to allow more flexibility for the judges you provide.

Schools must bring as many of your own judges as possible. **Any judge that you provide must meet the criteria to be a volunteer at your school (including background checks)**. High school seniors with at least two years of competitive experience in high school individual events are eligible to judge at Middle Level Tournaments. If you are UNABLE to provide the required number of judges, MIFA will procure them on your behalf at a cost of \$100/per judge obligation. Please make every attempt to provide judges as the pool of MIFA judges is limited.

- Please review these *How to Judge* videos with your judges:

- [Individual Events Overview Video](#)
- [Judge Instructions Video](#)
- [Create a Judge Account](#)
- [Using Online Ballots - for IE](#)

There will be a mandatory meeting of directors and judges on the morning of the tournament to review developments for the tournament and the implementation of tournament protocol and scoring. Judge and contestant drop/adds will be available only at the meeting to ensure that we are able to review appropriate tournament processes with all judges.

ONLINE BALLOTING: This tournament will utilize online, electronic balloting for critiques and scoring. **Judges will need a tabroom.com account and a device to type feedback/score each round.** Laptops are preferred. Paper critiques will be available upon request.

WORKSHOP TRACK

SESSIONS: This workshop will provide a variety of learning options for students, judges, and coaches. Fees are \$10/student and free for coaches/judges. Here is the itinerary:

	Interpretation Track	Public Address Track	Limited Prep Track	Coach/Judge Track
Session 1	Welcome & Intro to Individual Events	Welcome & Intro to Individual Events	Welcome & Intro to Individual Events	Welcome & Intro to Individual Events
Session 2	Observe and Discuss Characterization, Blocking, & Best Practices	Observe and Discuss Organization, Delivery, & Best Practices	Observe and Discuss Organization, Delivery, & Best Practices What to do with prep time?	Judging Practicum, Rules to Remember, Finding Resources
Session 3	Practice Round with feedback	Practice Round with feedback	Practice Round with feedback	Intro to ML Theatre & Debate
Session 4	Recap / Wrap up	Recap / Wrap up	Recap / Wrap up	Live Round & Sample Critique