

The San Francisco Collective

invites you to join us for

The 2021 Golden Gate Opener ✨

Dear Colleagues, Friends, and Competitors:

From all the members of the San Francisco Forensics Collective, we would like to officially welcome you to the 2021-2022 competitive season!

We are pleased to announce the thirteenth annual *Golden Gate Season Opener* brought to you by San Francisco State University, City College of San Francisco, Skyline College, and University of San Francisco on September 24-25, 2021, to be held virtually online via 8x8.vc.

In response to an analysis of GGO tournament entries over the past few years coupled with a desire to be empathetic to the ongoing collective trauma of the pandemic, we are embracing a *warm-up style of tournament* with an emphasis on participant sustainability and fostering community! You'll note that there is a Social Hour of Games and Gregariousness (2:45-3:30pm) built into the Saturday schedule alongside a Practice/Feedback round (1:30-2:30pm) where any student (but perhaps particularly Novice and brand new Speech Nerds) can come to get a supportive tournament experience with all of the thoughtful feedback and none of the anxiety-producing ranking! We hope these added events will encourage gratifying connections among students and coaches throughout the season!

This will be a mostly full-service tournament in warm-up style offering two preliminary rounds in two divisions (Novice & Open) of all 11 AFA individual events, three divisions (Novice, JV, & Open) of NPDA Parliamentary Debate, 2 divisions (Novice and Open) of Lincoln-Douglas debate, and two divisions (Novice and Open) of IPDA. We will have four preliminary rounds of Parliamentary debate, 4 rounds preliminary rounds of LD and IPDA, and the appropriate number of elimination rounds based on the entry. Some divisions may be collapsed due to entry size. We will do everything we can to preserve the integrity of all Novice divisions.

On Friday, students may enter in a single format of debate and cross-enter in the "individual events." It is recommended that students enter no more than two or three events on a given day. *Students who cross-enter in IPDA/LD debate and IE events should: 1) present as the first, second, or third speaker in the 1pm pattern B IE round, 2) excuse yourself early to navigate to the 1:30pm debate round, and then 3) be prepared to go directly to your second 2:30pm pattern B IE round.* *On Saturday, students participate in EITHER Parliamentary Debate OR the Pattern A Individual events. Students may double or triple-enter in Pattern A (ADS, Extemp, Prose, Poetry, Informative).*

Sincerely,

Sage Russo	Teddy Albiniak	Nathan Steele	Alexis Litzky	Lindsey Ayotte	Orion Steele
SFSU/CCSF	SFSU	CCSF	CCSF	Skyline	SFSU/USF
srusso@ccsf.edu	albiniak@sfsu.edu	nsteele@ccsf.edu	alitzky@ccsf.edu	ayottel@smccd.edu	osteel@sfsu.edu

GENERAL EVENT INFORMATION

ENTRY - Online entry for all Individual events: www.forensicstournament.net.

All debate (Parliamentary, LD, IPDA) entries at: www.forensicstournament.net.

All entry will be closed *on Wednesday, September 22, 2021, at 5pm.*

Please email Sage Russo (srusso@ccsf.edu) directly after that with any drops or changes.

ELIGIBILITY – Any student that meets AFA, NFA, or NPDA requirements for their respective event is eligible. SF State and CCSF students may participate, but will not accrue sweepstakes points.

Notes on the Virtual Format

We are making relevant changes to ensure our tournament offers an inclusive educational environment and maintains safety for everyone. This tournament will be 100% online and all competition will occur virtually through forensicstournament.net using 8x8 live video rooms. This section contains information to support your transition to online competition. [Danny's How virtual tournaments work on forensicstournament.net](#).

Hospitality Hub - A key feature of the tournament will be a live video room available throughout the tournament. There will be a digital ballot table where you can go to get help with questions about tournament participation and technical support. This will be the same room where NPDA topics will be announced.

Best practices guide for students [NOFF's competitor info video](#)

Virtual judging guide [NOFF's Judge video](#)

Policy for technology failure –

- If internet fails, can student repeat performance/speech?
 - Can it be done by audio only? How does this impact judging?
 - If the problem is slow internet the best option is to have the student leave their camera on, but mute the microphone on their computer. Then call in via a phone and use the phone audio. The speech is coherent, and typically the video works well enough to evaluate basic style and delivery. In NPDA and NFA-LD just switching to phone audio alone may be suitable.
 - If they are not able to maintain video they can switch to audio only. Judges should attempt to be as fair in evaluation as possible.
 - [How to Dial in to an 8x8 Room](#)
 - How many times should students attempt? How to adapt?
 - We will do our best to provide as much time as possible but realistically, 2-3 tries for reconnection will take up much of the breathing room in the schedule.
 - We will instruct judges in IE rounds, if the connection drops to pause and allow the student to call in. If the connect drops before the start of the speech, we will instruct judges to move to the next competitor.
 - In debate, STUDENTS should plan to record themselves on their phone or other device so that way if there is a connection error, the

recording could be played starting from the time the connection was lost. JUDGES should stop the time, and if no recording can be made available, students should be instructed to pick-up where the debate left off.

INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

IE Tournament tabulation: Nathan Lawless-Steele, CCSF & Lindsey Ayotte, Skyline College

EVENTS OFFERED

Pattern A: Extemporaneous speaking, After Dinner Speaking, Prose Interpretation, Poetry Interpretation, and Informative Speaking.

Pattern B: Duo, Program of Oral Interpretation, Dramatic Interpretation, Impromptu, Persuasive Speaking, Communication Analysis

RULES

1. Open and Novice IE's will be offered in accordance with AFA-NIET rules.
2. Students in their first year of collegiate competition are eligible for novice division in IE's. Students with substantial high school experience should be entered in Open division. We trust that directors will put their students in the right division.
3. We reserve the right to collapse open and novice divisions in small events. If we collapse divisions, we will recognize the top novice competitor that does not advance to elimination rounds.
4. Students may triple enter in IE's. All double and triple-entered competitors assume the responsibility for making it to their rounds on time. We will not average scores for a missed round. Please note that IPDA and LD do not count as an individual event. Students competing in IPDA or LD may not enter IE events occurring at the same time.
5. Advancement to Elimination Rounds - No more than half of the field will be advanced to finals. Students will be rank ordered first by lowest cumulative rankings, then by the highest cumulative ratings, and finally by the highest reciprocal score (a.k.a. decimal conversion).
6. Placement/Advancement in Elimination Rounds - Students will be rank ordered first by lowest cumulative rankings, then by judge's preference, then by the highest cumulative ratings, and finally by the highest reciprocal score (a.k.a. decimal conversion).
7. Judging - One critic covers 5 slots per pattern, or 10 slots per tournament. Please ensure all of your judges are available for the entire tournament, it is the only way we can keep the tournament running on schedule and our low slot fees. All IE judges are committed through finals. Judges that do not possess a Bachelor's degree can judge some novice events but will not be paid by the tournament for any rounds past their obligation. The tournament will make every effort to give judges 1-2 rounds off.
8. Limited Prep Events
 - a) Impromptu topics will be provided to each student in the Live Video Room chat box. Judges will need to copy/paste the topics (provided on the eBallots) in the chat window for the students. Each student will receive a different set of impromptu topics.
 - b) Extemp questions will be provided for all speakers in a separate Extemp Prep Live Video Room. Students do not need to stay in that room after receiving the questions. The extemp proctor will copy/paste the questions into the chat window at the specified time.

9. Platform Events:
 - a) While students are allowed to still use Visual Aids, they are encouraged to have them printed on 8.5x11 pages to show to the audience while presenting.
 - b) Screen sharing to show a PowerPoint or image is not permitted due to various technology issues. Since not all students may be able to access the screen sharing function, we feel it's best to not allow that option.
10. Interp Events:
 - a) Students may, if they desire, stand up while performing to showcase blocking, but the technology works better sitting in front of the camera.
 - b) Duo partners are encouraged NOT to be in the same room to respect social distancing recommendations.
 - c) Partners, if in the same physical room, should share one live stream. Having multiple live video rooms open on the same WiFi causes poor connections.
 - d) Students are encouraged to try out various methods of performance ahead of time and innovate!

INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC DEBATE ASSOCIATION (IPDA)

Tabulation: Ryan Guy, Mark Faaita, Nathan Lawless-Steele

RULES

1. IPDA will follow guidelines as prescribed by the [IPDA best practices manual](#).
2. Topics:
 - a. Each debate will have a strike card with 5 possible topics including: 2 policy, 2 value, 1 metaphor. Once competitors receive the topics, the negative will strike one topic. The process of striking continues by alternating strikes (affirmative, negative and finally affirmative again) until one topic remains. That will be the topic for the round.
 - b. 30 minutes of preparation time begins at the start of the topic draw period (meaning that any time that is used deliberating on "strikes" comes at the expense of preparation time).
 - c. Students will strike in the large prep room at the assigned time, but may prepare wherever they choose.
 - d. The format for the event will be:
 - i. 1st affirmative - 5 minutes
 - ii. Cross-ex - 2 minutes
 - iii. 1st negative - 6 minutes
 - iv. Cross-ex - 2 minutes
 - v. 2nd affirmative - 3 minutes
 - vi. 2nd negative - 5 minutes
 - vii. Final affirmative - 3 minutes
 - e. Flighting: Due to a large entry and judging needs we may flight rounds, meaning 1 judge will evaluate 2 debates in one round of IPDA in the same room.
 - f. Judging: IPDA debate encourages a diverse judging pool. To that extent, traditional debate judges (degreed individuals with some degree of experience in academic debate) are a part of the field. However, IPDA expands this field to encourage community and student involvement. Anyone (lay judges) are available to judge this event. Each judge covers 2 IPDA entries. **PLEASE NOTE:** Due to limited hired judging availability we are not able to offer any uncovered IPDA entries.

PARLIAMENTARY and LD Debate

Debate Tabulation: TBD

RULES

1. Parliamentary debate
 - a. Parliamentary debate will abide by NPDA rules and guidelines.
 - b. Prep time will be 20 minutes after topic announce, with a 5 minute forfeit rule.
 - c. The format for the debate will be:
 - i. First Proposition Constructive Speaker: 7 minutes
 - ii. Opposition Flex Time: 2 minutes
 - iii. First Opposition Constructive Speaker: 8 minutes
 - iv. Proposition Flex Time: 2 minutes
 - v. Second Proposition Constructive Speaker: 8 minutes
 - vi. Opposition Flex Time: 1 minute
 - vii. Second Opposition Constructive Speaker: 8 minutes
 - viii. Opposition Rebuttal by First Speaker: 4 minutes
 - ix. Proposition Flex Time: 1 minute
 - x. Proposition Rebuttal by First Speaker: 5 minutes
 - d. Flex time may be used by the controlling team to prepare arguments, drink water, set up stands, ask questions of their opponents, etc. Flex time may not be used as additional speech time.
 - e. Brackets will be broken.
2. Lincoln-Douglas debate
 - a. Lincoln Douglas debate will abide by NFA-LD guidelines.
 - b. Brackets will be broken.
 - c. There will be no speaker awards in LD.
3. General guidelines for all events
 - a. Hybrids/Mavericks - Hybrid teams are welcome but all Policy and Parliamentary debaters must compete with a partner.
 - b. 3-person teams require tournament director approval. 3-person teams can break but are not eligible for speaker awards.
 - c. Judging - Each school is expected to provide one judge for every two teams (or 2 LD slots) they enter. Each judge will be obligated through the first elimination or one round beyond the elimination of their team. We have some hired judges that we can provide, but not many. Hired judges will be provided on a first come, first served basis at a fee of \$100 per uncovered team (or \$10 per each LD slot). We would much rather have your judges than your money. If you have extra judges available from your school please let us know, as we would probably like to hire them. All judges are expected to render a decision in a timely fashion and designate one, and only one, team as the winner of the debate. Judges that do not possess a Bachelor's degree can judge some novice events but will not be paid by the tournament for any rounds past their obligation. The tournament will make every effort to give judges 1-2 rounds off.

AWARDS

We will identify a Top Speaker as well as Team Sweepstakes Awards for the entire tournament (all Individual and Debate events) based on the following formula: 1st Place, 12 points; 2nd Place, 10 points; 3rd Place or debate semifinalist, 8 points; 4th Place, 6 points; 5th Place or debate quarterfinalist, 5 points; 6th place or octofinalist 4 points.

We will provide sweepstakes awards for the top 3 institutions in 2 divisions: 2-year and 4-year schools.

ENTRY FEES**We will follow the NCFA fee structure for virtual tournaments.**

School fee:	\$25.00
Individual event slot:	\$5.00
Uncovered individual event slot:	\$10.00
IPDA/NFA-LD Debate slot:	\$10.00
Uncovered IPDA/NFA-LD slot:	\$10.00
Debate team (NPDA):	\$35.00
Uncovered debate team:	\$100.00

The SF Collective is invested in every student's ability to participate in the great activity of Forensics. If these fees are in any way prohibitive to participation, please reach out and we will make arrangements so that everyone can join. Fees will be assessed once entry closes on Wednesday, September 22, 2021.

DAY # 1 - Friday

Students may enter in a single format of debate and cross-enter in the “individual events.” It is recommended that students enter no more than two or three events on a given day. *Students who cross-enter in IPDA/LD debate and IE events should: 1) present as the first, second, or third speaker in the 1pm pattern B IE round, 2) excuse yourself early to navigate to the 1:30pm debate round, and then 3) be prepared to go directly to your second 2:30pm pattern B IE round.*

IPDA & LD Debate on Friday

8:00 - 8:30 AM	REGISTRATION - https://8x8.vc/GGOHospitalityHub
8:30 - 9:30 AM	IPDA & LD - Round 1
10:00 - 11 AM	IPDA & LD - Round 2
11:30 - 12:30 PM	IPDA & LD - Round 3
12:30 - 1:30 PM	LUNCH
1:30 - 2:30 PM	IPDA & LD - Round 4
3:30 - 4:30 PM	IPDA & LD - Bronze Round
5:00 - 6:00 PM	IPDA & LD - Silver/Gold Round
6:30 - 7:00 PM	WELCOME CEREMONY & AWARDS # 1

“Individual Events” - Pattern B on Friday

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM	B1: Duo, POI, Drama, Impromptu, Persuasive, CA
2:30 - 3:30 PM	B2: Duo, POI, Drama, Impromptu, Persuasive, CA
4:30 - 5:30 PM	B Finals: Duo, POI, Drama, Impromptu, Persuasive, CA
6:30 - 7:00 PM	WELCOME CEREMONY & AWARDS # 1

DAY # 2 - Saturday

Students participate in EITHER Parliamentary Debate OR the Pattern A Individual events. Students may double or triple-enter in Pattern A (ADS, Extemp, Prose, Poetry, Informative).

Saturday Parliamentary Debate Pattern

8:30 AM	Parli Topic Announcement for Rounds 1 (and maybe 2?)
8:50 AM	Parli Round 1 Debate
10:00 AM	Parli Round 2 Topic Announcement
10:20 AM	Parli Round 2 Debate
11:30 AM	Parli Round 3 Topic Announcement
11:50 AM	Parli Round 3 Debate
12:45 PM	LUNCH
1:30 PM	Parli Round 4 Topic Announcement
1:50 PM	Parli Round 4 Debate
2:45 - 3:30 PM	Social Hour: Games and Gregariousness
3:40 PM	Parli Bronze Round Topic Announcement
4:00 PM	Parli Bronze Round Debate
5:00 PM	Silver/Gold Round Topic Announcement
5:20 PM	Silver/Gold Round Debate
6:00 PM	CLOSING CEREMONY & AWARDS # 2

“Individual Events” - Pattern A on Saturday

10:00 - 11:00 AM	A1: ADS, Extemp, Prose, Poetry, Informative
11:00 - 12:00 PM	A2: ADS, Extemp, Prose, Poetry, Informative
12:00 - 1:00 PM	LUNCH
1:30 - 2:30 PM	The Practice/Feedback Round: Any event, peer and coach feedback, no ranks
2:45 - 3:30 PM	Social Hour: Games and Gregariousness
4:00 - 5:30 PM	A Finals: ADS, Extemp, Prose, Poetry, Informative
6:00 - 6:30 PM	CLOSING CEREMONY & AWARDS # 2