



The Oddball Outing

April 22-26, 2024
Hosted by Chiawana High School

Please consult the tournament invitation periodically. We're hard at work to prepare for a great tournament, and there may be circumstances to which we must adapt that are beyond our control. We will use this invitation as a central source for conveying this information.

Friends and Colleagues,

We are pleased to invite you to the first Oddball Outing, an asynchronous, speech-only tournament that offers an opportunity for speakers to do events that may not normally be available to them! Find us at <http://oddball.tabroom.com>

Recordings will be submitted well ahead of the 4/22 start of the tournament, so please consult the schedule to prepare.

Many of you have never heard of us! "Chiawana" is a Native American word that means "big river." Our school is in Pasco, Washington, just a mile or so from the banks of the Columbia River. We are in our 15th year of operation and have been the largest school in the state (based on enrollment) for most of that time. Our mascot, the Riverhawk, is also known as the osprey, a bird of prey native to the area.

We will have registration open for Tall Tales, Editorial Commentary, After-Dinner Speaking, Declamation/Oratorical Analysis/Memorized Public Address, Radio Speaking, Original Spoken Word Poetry, Sales Speaking, Storytelling, Spontaneous Oral Interpretation, Dual Improvisation, and Original Performance.

We believe that judge feedback is an important learning tool for all competitors, and we are not limiting entries in speech events. As long as you have judges to cover, competitors may enter as many speech events as they wish/are capable of. Costs will be \$5 per entry and payments are accepted by check or p-card/Credit Card via School Pay at <https://www.schoolpay.com/pay/for/Speech--Debate--CHS/SzrWHd>

Results will be published/emailed on April 27, 2024, with a recorded presentation and downloadable certificate template. And, of course, all that lovely feedback will be available that day as well. What a great way to celebrate the end of your season!

We will have an ombudsperson available for competitors and coaches alike during the course of the tournament. We follow the National Speech and Debate Association principles of ethics, equity, and inclusion. We believe that debate should be a safe and fair space for all participants, and we will do our best to make this happen.

If you have questions about the tournament, please contact Vicky Hyde, vhyde@psd1.org

Thank you for all you do!

Vicky Hyde,
Chiawana Coach, Tournament Director
Inland Empire NSDA District Chair

Sara Hyde
Delta Coach/Tabroom Chair
Inland Empire NSDA Committee Member

EVENTS

Overtime: For most individual events, no penalty should apply if the student falls within a 30-second grace period. Speaking beyond the time when there is no grace period or more than 30 seconds beyond the event time limit simply means that **the judge may not give that student first in that round**. Exceptions to this guideline are made clear on individual ballots.

Events

• Editorial Commentary:

- o Individuals will present a scripted speech that is intended to be an analysis of a news event rather than a running synopsis of the news.
- o Original commentary should enhance the overall effect of the news event and analysis.
- o Speakers will read the manuscript from a seated position.
- o The script should be timed to end between 1:45 and 2:00 minutes. Any speaker ending before 1:45 or after 2:00 minutes **shall be ranked one score lower**.

• Tall Tales:

- o The best tall tales honor the tradition of the genre, with outlandish exaggeration and ridiculous stories.
- o The contestant has 6 minutes to prepare and deliver a tall tale which includes the three words in the prompt. Contestants may use the time as they wish. If the speaker goes over a 30 second grace period the contestant **may not be awarded first place in the round**. No minimum time limit. **Prep time must be included in the recording**.
- o If the speaker does not use all three of the words included in the prompt, they **may not be awarded first place in the round**.
- o No notes may be used.

• Radio Speaking

- o A radio speech is a prepared event that includes news stories, an original commercial of no fewer than 30 seconds, and a commentary about a subject covered in the news stories.
- o The news stories presented must have taken place 30 days or less, prior to the tournament date.
- o The commentary, which shall be an original editorial, reflecting the opinion of the contestant, should consume 1- 2 minutes of the total speech and be presented last.
- o A hard copy of the original news story, including source citations must be available upon request.
- o The script should be timed to end between 5:30 and 6:00 minutes. Any speaker ending before 5:30 or after 6:00 minutes **shall be ranked one score lower**.
- o A script may be used for this tournament.

• After Dinner Speaking

- o This event should imitate a banquet situation
- o Time: 4 - 6 minutes. If the speaker goes over a 30 second grace period the contestant **may not be awarded first place in the round**. Likewise if the speaker uses less than 4 minutes.
- o The group (real or fictional) being addressed should be clear.
- o The intent of ADS is to entertain, but the speaker must also develop an idea. Material presented must be original.

- o Delivery may be through memorization or use of notes on one side of a 4 x 6 card, but a text may not be used.
- o Emphasis should be placed on the concept of “speech.” While humorous quips and jokes are appropriate, they must have purpose and fit the occasion.

- **Original Spoken Word Poetry**

- o Students write and perform original poetry to express ideas, experience, or emotion through the creative arrangement of words according to their sound, their rhythm, their meaning.
- o The maximum time limit is 5 minutes with a 30-second grace period. If the speaker goes over a 30 second grace period the contestant **may not be awarded first place in the round.**
- o No more than 150 words of the original poetry may be direct quotation from any other speech or writing.
- o A successful performer will craft a piece that elicits critical thought, reflection, or emotion. As opposed to traditional poetry, spoken word poetry is created to be performed aloud and may feature rhythmic flow, vivid imagery, word play, gestures, lyrical elements, and repetition.
- o Note cards may be used for this tournament.

- **Storytelling**

- o Storytelling consists of sharing a story with an audience, performed as if the audience were a group of young children.
- o The story must not exceed 5 minutes, with a 30-second grace period. If the speaker goes over a 30 second grace period the contestant **may not be awarded first place in the round.**
- o Students may use a full range of movement to express themselves and may incorporate a chair in a variety of different ways [e.g., standing on it, hiding behind it, etc.], though the chair may not be used as a prop [e.g. holding it up to mimic a weapon, using it to portray a character, etc.] during the performance. Students may be seated, but most commonly performers use a full range of stage space available to them.
- o Note cards may be used for this tournament, but speakers should not be reading directly from a storybook.

- **Sales Speaking**

- o The purpose of this event is to sell a singular, legitimate product and may include variations of that product.
- o Contestant must identify brand. “Services” are not considered legitimate products. The **actual** product (not a model) must be displayed and/or demonstrated.
- o Time: 4 - 6 minutes. If the speaker goes over a 30 second grace period the contestant **may not be awarded first place in the round.** Likewise if the speaker uses less than 4 minutes.
- o In order to demonstrate the function of a product, that product may be put on as the demonstration begins and then removed following the demonstration. The contestant may not wear the product into the room, nor leave it on once the demonstration of that product is concluded. Additional items of clothing that might serve to enhance the visual effect of the product are considered costuming and are prohibited.
- o Note cards may be used for this tournament.

- **Dual Improvisation**

- o A pair of students will be given a choice of three topics and then act out an improvisational story which must adhere to the chosen topic.
- o The duo has 6 minutes to prepare and deliver a tall tale which includes the three words in the prompt. Contestants may use the time as they wish. If the speaker goes over a 30 second grace

period the contestant may not be awarded first place in the round. No minimum time limit. Prep time must be included in the recording.

- o No notes may be used.

- **Spontaneous Oral Interpretation (SPOI):**

- o Spontaneous Oral Interpretation tests the competitor's ability to read and interpret a literary text in a brief amount of time.
- o The contestant has 6 minutes to prepare and interpret a selection of literature. Contestants must read the entire selection as presented. The selection may be presented with an original, extemporized introduction. Competitors may not write presentation notes. The manuscript, whether printed or on a device, must be held in hand. Gestures are permitted. The mechanics of speech must be observed faithfully – poise, quality and use of voice, reading fluidity, vocal emphasis, variety and enunciation. In addition, the contestant must strive to interpret the full meaning of the text and be able to carry the interpretation over to the audience.
- o Contestants may use the time as they wish. If the speaker goes over a 30 second grace period the contestant may not be awarded first place in the round. No minimum time limit. Prep time must be included in the recording.

- **Original Performance**

- o Competitors in this event are to present material of their own creation. Poetry, prose, drama, humor, mystery, spoken word, or any other form of literature is acceptable so long as it is original work and is appropriate to present in a school environment.
- o Time: 4 - 6 minutes. If the speaker goes over a 30 second grace period the contestant may not be awarded first place in the round. Likewise if the speaker uses less than 4 minutes.
- o There is a one-step rule in this event, and students may present sitting or standing. The focus in this event is the presentation of original work, not the physical interpretation of literature. No props are allowed, though sitting on a chair or stool is permitted.
- o Note cards may be used for this tournament.

- Please note that the final event is done in different fashions throughout the country. Any of the three below formats may be used.

- o In all cases, note cards will be permitted for this tournament.
- o In all cases, the time is 10 minutes. If the speaker goes over a 30 second grace period the contestant may not be awarded first place in the round.

- **A. Oratorical Analysis** The contestant will present a non-original speech, portions thereof, or cuttings of various speeches by one "real life" speaker. The speech should not be from fiction, but from an actual address by a person of significance either past or present.

- o The intent of this event should be the analysis (not interpretation) of the oratory or speech.
- o The contestant will analyze the oratory selection(s) for approximately 50% of the presentation.

- **OR**

- **B. Memorized Public Address with Analysis** Material used in this event should include only an address which has originally been presented by the author as an address in a speaker/audience situation. The content of the address must have statewide, national or international significance.

- o The speech shall consist of two parts, analysis and address. This analysis must be at least forty percent (40%) by word count of the entire presentation and cannot exceed ten percent (10%) quoted material.

- o Contestant must include in his/her analysis the historical and social context of the address, the author's background, and purposes in presenting the address, and an analysis of the theme and effective use of rhetoric.
- **OR**
- **C. Declamation** Declamation requires students to select a speech that was delivered in public and perform an excerpt of that speech to an audience.
 - o The event is not designed for students to mimic the original author of the speech. Instead, speakers are to develop an oration that delivers the message of the author in an original and engaging manner.
 - o Students will construct a short introduction that gives context to their performance. At a minimum, the introduction should establish the title of the speech, the author, and when it was delivered.
 - o Typically students will do a short portion of the speech before delivering their intro, sometimes called a **teaser**. Some students do the introduction and then go into the speech. There is no preferred method; simply evaluate whether or not the introduction gave you a solid foundation to evaluate the speech, and fit within the flow of the speech!

General Information

Judging

- One judge is required per five speech entries. A Dual Improv team counts as one entry.
- All teams must provide judges. If you do not meet your judging requirements, entries will be dropped at the tournament director's discretion.
- All judges must have accurate contact information. This includes both email and phone. Additionally, due to e-balloting, judges must have a Tabroom account.
- **Coaches, please instruct your judges on the importance of constructive feedback. *Every* speaker, even if they get the 1, wants to know what they could do better!**
- Judges will receive pre-recorded ballots on 4/22, and they must be returned by 5 p.m. PDT on 4/26.
- Judges who have not clicked "Start Round" by 9 a.m. PDT on 4/24 will be replaced and fined.
- Students who have not yet graduated from high school may NOT judge.
- No hired judging is available.

Fees

- \$5 per entry. A Dual Improv team counts as one entry.

2024 Oddball Outing Timeline

All times are Pacific Daylight Time

Thursday 4/11

- 9:00 a.m. Registration opens

Friday 4/19

- 9:00 A.M. – Tall Tales, Dual Improvisation, and SPOI Topics Released on Tabroom (on your honor, do not look until prep time begins)
- 6 p.m. – Submissions are due for ALL speech events (link needed) from students to coaches for Tabroom entry.
- 10:00 P.M. Deadline for coaches inputting URL into Tabroom for each contestant in the **Video URL** section of the entry.
- Judge entries due in Tabroom

Monday 4/22

- 10 a.m. – Rounds will be paneled and available to judges.

Tuesday 4/23

- 10:00 a.m. – Ballot reminder blasted to all judges.

Wednesday 4/24

- 9 a.m. – Judges must have clicked start round for all rounds.
- 11 a.m. Unstarted ballots pushed to new judges and fines imposed.
- 4 p.m. 9 a.m. Judges must have started pushed ballots.

Friday 4/26

- 5 p.m. – All ballots due from judges.

Saturday 4/27

- Awards powerpoint and certificate templates released