

The Ninth Annual **Clash of the Titans** Speech & Debate Tournament!



WHEN: Friday January 17th – Saturday January 18th, 2025

WHERE: Cosby High School
14300 Fox Club Parkway
Midlothian, VA 23112

TOURNAMENT STRUCTURE: For the first time, we are offering a two-day tournament. All categories will compete in at least three rounds of preliminary competition. Divisions with sufficient numbers of entries will have elimination rounds. We are offering the following events:

Event	Divisions Offered	Rules Observed
Lincoln-Douglas Debate	Novice* and Open	VHSL
Public Forum Debate	Novice* and Open	VHSL
Policy Debate	Open	VHSL
Congressional Debate	Open	NSDA (Ballots/ Scoring)
Extemporaneous Speaking	Open	VHSL
Impromptu Speaking	Open	VHSL
Original Oratory	Open	VHSL
Poetry Interpretation	Open	VHSL
Prose Interpretation	Open	VHSL
Storytelling	Open	VHSL
Humorous Interpretation	Open	VHSL
Dramatic Interpretation	Open	VHSL
Duo Interpretation	Open	VHSL
Original Spoken Word Poetry	Open	NSDA
Informative Speaking	Open	NSDA
Program Oral Interpretation	Open	NSDA
Duo Improvisation	Open	Local

*Novice debaters must be in their first year of competitive debate.

TOPICS AND IMPORTANT EVENT INFORMATION

Student Congress: We will follow NSDA rules for online ballots and scoring. **Each student should submit legislation for preliminary sessions.** Teams should coordinate to divide bills up among the following 4 categories (Domestic, International, Virginia, Economic). There will be three preliminary sessions of Congress that are 1.5 hours each. The topics for legislation are:

Domestic: Daylight Savings and Civil Service Protections
 International: Tariffs and Syria
 Economic: Taxing Tipped Income and Insurance Regulation
 Virginia: Electric Vehicle Mandates and Reparations

Email Congress legislation to scott_mckeag@ccpsnet.net by MON 1/6/25.

Extemp: Topics will coincide with [2025 Regional Topics](#) released by the Virginia High School League.

Public Forum Topic (All Divisions): Resolved: The African Union should grant diplomatic recognition to the Republic of Somaliland as an independent state.

Lincoln-Douglas Topic (All Divisions): Resolved: The United States ought to become party to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and/or the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court.

ELIMINATION ROUNDS:

Please note that this plan is subject to change, based on the needs of the tournament.

The tentative plan is to offer elimination rounds for any speech event with more than 12 contestants. A second elimination round will be offered to events with more than 24 contestants. Events meeting this criteria will hold 3 preliminary rounds, followed by eliminations. Events that do not meet this criteria will hold a 4th preliminary round. Breaks and final placements will be determined by cumulative ballots.

The tentative plan for debate events is to hold quarter-finals (top 8), semi-finals (top 4), and finals / plus consolation. Students who break to out-rounds will follow a single-elimination format. Until the top 4 places are determined.

The tentative plan for Congress is to hold a super-session for the top 18 students, divided evenly amongst the chambers. If two rooms of Congress are held, top 9 will advance to super-session; if three rooms are held, top 6 will advance. Legislation for the super-session will be provided by the tournament director. Final placements will be determined by super-session performance.

JUDGING OBLIGATIONS:

Each school is responsible for providing their own judges, and must bring 1 judge for:
...every 2 Debate (LD, PF, Policy) entries or fraction thereof,
...every 5 Student Congress / Individual Speech Event entries or fraction thereof, and

School-affiliated Judges are obligated to remain onsite for one round past the last eliminated student from their school. Cosby High School is not responsible for any payments to school-affiliated judges.

COSTS:

Entry fees are \$10 per student, per event entry. This means a duo, PF team, or a student who is double entered would cost \$20. Student observers from attending schools are welcome, but must be registered on tabroom.com. All observers will be assessed a \$10 cover charge to offset costs.

Member schools of the Richmond Forum Speech and Debate Initiative are exempt from entry fees.

Invoices will be generated automatically on Tabroom.com. Please bring checks payable to Cosby High School to present at Friday's registration.

DROPS:

Drops (for any reason) are permitted up to 48 hours before the tournament with no penalty. Drops within 48 hours require schools to honor the entry fees AND still require the original judging quota. If the original judging quota is not met upon registration, students may not be able to compete. Any judge drops throughout the course of the tournament will result in a \$75 nuisance fee applied to their affiliated school.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

Friday January 17th, 2025			
	Speech	Debate	Congress
4:00pm to 4:30pm	Arrival and Registration		
4:30pm	Judges Meetings		
5:00pm	Extemp Draw (5:30pm)	Prelim Round 1 (5:00pm to 6:00pm)	Session 1 (5:00pm to 6:30pm)
6:00pm	Prelim Round 1 (6:00pm to 7:00pm)	DEBATE DINNER	
7:00pm	SPEECH DINNER	Prelim Round 2 (7:00pm to 8:00pm)	CONGRESS DINNER

Saturday January 18th, 2025			
	Speech	Debate	Congress
8:00am	Extemp Draw (8:30am)	Prelim Round 3 (8:00am to 9:00am)	Session 2 (8:00am to 9:30am)
9:00am			
10:00am	Extemp Draw (10:30am)	Prelim Round 4 (10:00am to 11:00am)	Session 3 (10:00am to 11:30am)
11:00am	Prelim Round 3 (11:00am to 12:00pm)	DEBATE LUNCH	
12:00pm	SPEECH LUNCH Extemp Draw (12:30pm)	First Elimination Round (12:00pm to 1:00pm) Presentation of Awards	CONGRESS LUNCH
1:00pm	Prelim Round 4 / First Elimination Round (1:00pm to 2:00pm)		
2:00pm		Second Elimination Round (1:30pm to 2:30pm) Presentation of Awards	Super-Session (1:00pm to 3:00pm)
3:00pm	SPEECH AWARDS Announcement of Finalists (2:30pm to 3:30pm)	Third Elimination Round (3:00pm to 4:00pm) Presentation of Awards	
4:00pm	Second Elimination Round (3:30pm to 4:30pm)		CONGRESS AWARDS (3:30pm to 4:00pm)
	SWEEPSTAKES AND REMAINING AWARDS (4:30pm to 5:00pm)		

AWARDS:

Awards will be given to the top 3 finishers in each category. Awards will also be given to any competitor who advances to an elimination round. Sweepstakes and runner-up trophies will be given to the schools with the most points in each division (speech and debate). Please note that we will plan to run multiple smaller awards ceremonies to expedite the tournament, and honor our attendees' time.

VENDING and MEALS:

Vending machines are available to students throughout the tournament in the cafeteria. We will offer a judges' lounge for adults. We will serve dinner on Friday night, and lunch on Saturday. Meals for all registered competitors, observers, coaches, and judges are included in the price of admission.

REGISTRATION:

Schools are limited to 6 entries in each debate category/speech event. We will consider additional entries on a case-by-case basis, and try to accommodate the best we can. Please contact william_waddell@ccpsnet.net with any concerns or special requests regarding entries.

Please go to <http://cosbyclashofthetitans.tabroom.com/> to register. Registration opens at 8am on Monday December 9th. All registrations will be due on Friday, January 10th at 5:00 PM .

Direct any tournament or Tabroom.com questions to william_waddell@ccpsnet.net .

Thank you for supporting our Speech and Debate Program!

Billy Waddell (434-390-2995), Jackie Clark (804-386-8000), and Scott McKeag
Cosby Speech and Debate Coaches

Sponsored by:

