



5121 State Line Rd
Kansas City, MO 64112
Phone (816) 936-1200
Principal, Mike Hill

Dear Coach and Team:

The Pembroke Hill Chapter of the National Speech & Debate Association cordially invites you and your team to attend our **Novice Fall Fling, Saturday-only, November 15, 2025.**

Entries for our Novice tournament should be entered online:

<http://phsspeechdebate.tabroom.com/>

We will offer the following Novice events:

Policy Debate	Lincoln Douglas Debate
Public Forum Debate	Original Oratory
Student Congress	Duo Interpretation
Storytelling	Informative Speaking
United States Extemporaneous Speaking	International Extemporaneous Speaking
Prose Interpretation	Poetry Interpretation
Dramatic Interpretation	Humorous Interpretation

A student may enter up to 2 individual events, OR 1 debate event, OR student congress.

Fees are **\$8.00 per student** (not event). Entries may be mailed or paid at registration. Your \$8.00 per student fee will include lunch (2 slices of pizza and a bottle of water). We will provide a choice of pepperoni, sausage, or cheese pizza.

The deadline for entries is November 10, 2025.

Schools are not obligated to provide judges. However, if you have varsity competitors (or others) who are interested in judging, please add your judge information and their availability on tabroom with your registration.

We look forward to hosting you and your novices on Saturday, November 15, 2025

Mrs. Jamelle Brown
Director of Speech & Debate

Dr. Allie Chase
Director of Speech & Debate

Mrs. Rose Lawler
Middle School Director of Speech & Debate

Mahad Amin
Team President

PHS NOVICE INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

7:15 am Tournament Registration

INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

DEBATE (PF & LD Flighted)

7:30am - Extemp Draw 1	8:00am - Debate Rd 1
8:00am - Speech Rd 1	9:45am - Debate Rd 2
8:00am - 11:00am - Student Congress Prelim Session (10-min. break every hour.)	11:30am - Debate Rd 3
9:00am - Extemp Draw 2	1:30pm - Debate Rd 4
9:30am - Speech Rd 2	3:00pm or ASAP - Awards
10:30am - Extemp Draw 3	3:30pm - Debate Semis
11:00am - Speech Rd 3	5:00pm - Debate Finals
1:00pm - Extemp Draw Final Rd	
1:00 - 3:00pm - Student Congress Round 2	
1:30pm - Speech Final Round	
3:00pm or ASAP - Awards	

GENERAL RULES AND NOTES

A student may enter two individual events OR one debate event, OR student congress.. Debate events include; Policy, Public Forum, and Lincoln Douglas Debate. Congress will have one prelim session and a final supersession. Students entered in Student Congress may not enter an additional debate or Speech event.

- Each school must be accompanied by an adult sponsor.
- Pembroke is a smoke-free campus, including vapes or other nicotine products.
- Only water bottles for students are allowed in classrooms.
- Do not write on the Smart Boards; use only the white boards in each room.

Speech Events Rules

- U.S and International Extemporaneous Speaking: Topics will be based on current events. Consultation during prep time is prohibited. Time limit: 7 minutes.
- Original Oratory: The speech must be the original work of the student and may contain no more than 150 words of direct quotation. Time limit: 10 minutes.
- Informative Speaking: The speech must be the original work of the student and may contain no more than 150 words of direct quotation. You can use props. Time limit: 10 minutes.
- Humorous and Dramatic Interpretation: Selections may be taken from published novels, short stories, or plays. Selections must possess literary merit and be of good taste. Time limit: 10 minutes.
- Duo Interpretation: This is not duet acting. Selections should be from any appropriate novel, short story, or play. Performances should be memorized, use offstage focus, and incorporate limited movement. Time limit: 10 minutes.
- Storytelling: An adequate introduction should be provided. In storytelling, competitors must deliver a performance while seated on a chair. No properties may be used. Time limit: 8 minutes, maximum.
- All students who are double entered must notify their judges of their double entry!

General Debate Rules

- Entries must remain constant in personnel throughout the tournament.
- NSDA evidence rules will be enforced.
- Being more than 10 minutes late to a round, through no fault of the tournament, may result in a forfeit.
- If we have a low number of policy teams the host school may add teams to the pool. If this is done, we will ensure that non-Pembroke judges are used. Pembroke novice teams WILL NOT place.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES:

1. MSHSAA rules shall be followed

2. The internet should not be used to communicate with people outside the room of competition.
3. Contestants may use electronic devices (including laptop computers, tablets, and/or cell phones) to access the internet during debate rounds with the following conditions:
 - a. Computers or other electronic devices may not be used to receive information for competitive advantage from noncompetitors (coaches, assistant coaches, directors, other students) inside or outside of the room in which the competition occurs. Information that would be restricted would include, but not be limited to, coach/director/nonparticipating competitor general arguments, advice on arguments to run, questions to ask during cross examination, and other information not generated by the participating competitors.
 - b. Internet access may be used to retrieve files, exchange evidence and/or arguments, research arguments, and partner to partner communication. These electronic device guidelines do not limit communication between debate partners during the debate round.

LAPTOPS RULES

1. Contestants are not to unplug any device or equipment already in use in the contest rooms. Contestants found tampering with Pembroke Hill equipment and/or property will be disqualified from the tournament.
2. The Pembroke School is not personally responsible for any lost, stolen or damaged contestant computers or computer equipment.

POLICY DEBATE RULES

1. The 2025 - 2026 NSDA policy resolution is: Resolved: The United States federal government should significantly increase its exploration and/or development of the Arctic.
2. **Only arguments from the NDCA novice packet will be allowed.**
2. Time limits will be 8-3-5, with 8 minute prep time.
3. Ties will be broken using win/loss, speaker rankings, record of opponent lost to, total opposition record, opposition to opposition record.
4. If circumstances arise, a debater will be allowed to debate alone with prior permission from the tournament directors.

LINCOLN-DOUGLAS DEBATE RULES

1. **Resolved: The United States ought to rewild substantial tracts of land.**
2. Time limits will be 6-3-7-3-4-6-3. Prep time: 4 minutes.
3. Rounds will be flighted and will take place during other debate rounds.
4. Same procedure for breaking ties as policy.

PUBLIC FORUM DEBATE RULES

1. **Resolved: The United States federal government should require technology companies to provide lawful access to encrypted communications.**
2. Time limits will be 4-4-3-4-4-3-3-3-2-2 Prep time: 3 minutes.
3. Rounds will be flighted and will take place during other debate rounds.
4. Each round will begin with a coin toss. The winner of the toss may select the side (pro or con) OR select the speaker order (begins the debate or has the last speech). The loser of the toss chooses speaker order (if the winner has chosen the side of the topic) OR chooses side (if winner has chosen speaker order). *Please note: The negative may begin the debate as first speaker and argue against the topic.*
5. The CX periods are crossfire periods and both speakers may ask and answer questions in a polite but argumentative exchange. (The first question is asked to the speaker who just finished). There is also a Grand Crossfire for all four debaters.
6. Same procedures for breaking ties and mavericks as policy.

STUDENT CONGRESS RULES

1. Session one and two will convene during round one and two of individual events. The semifinal Supersession will convene during Speech round 3. The final supersession will convene during the final round of Speech.
2. Students entered in Student Congress may not be entered in any other event.
3. In Novice Student Congress, we hope to have a permanent presiding officer assigned to each chamber. There will be a Pembroke varsity Congress competitor in the sessions to serve as a Parliamentarian or if necessary, will serve as the Presiding Officer.
4. We are using the **NSDA October 2025 legislation.**

The docket will be set as follows:

Session 1: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Session 2: 6, 7, 8, 9, 10

Each 3-hour session will include two 10-minute breaks and one 5-minute break.

Awards

Sweepstakes awards will be awarded to the top 3 schools. The top three entries in each event will count for sweepstakes. Awards for IEs will be given to 1st through 6th place (all finalists). In debate, we will award awards to the top eight teams/competitors.

