

December 26, 2024

Dear Forensics Coach:

On behalf of UWEC Forensics, I am pleased to invite you to the 48<sup>th</sup> annual UW-Eau Claire Invitational Speech Tournament. The tournament will be hosted in person on the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire campus **Saturday, February 1st, 2025**. We will be offering the following events, adapted from the Wisconsin Forensic Coaches' Association (WCFA):

|                            |                        |                           |
|----------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Duo Interpretation         | Moments in History     | Public Address (WISDAA)   |
| Expository Speaking        | Oral Interpretation of | Radio Announcing          |
| Extemporaneous Speaking    | Literature             | Solo Acting (Humorous)    |
| Farrago                    | Oratory                | Solo Acting (Serious)     |
| Group Interpretive Reading | Play Acting            | Special Occasion Speaking |
| Impromptu Speaking         | Poetry                 | Storytelling              |
| Informative Speaking       | Prose                  |                           |

Because we serve both WFCA and WISDAA participating schools, the following exceptions are made:

- 1) one 4 X 6 note card will be allowed in Oratory
- 2) In making allowances for WISDAA participating schools, Group Interpretation and Play Acting may be up to 12 minutes long and use chairs/stools.
- 3) Solo Acting categories may use a single stationary chair, in keeping with WISDAA allowances. may be used to allow for WISDAA schools to compete without adaptation.
- 4) Informative Speaking will be treated as Informative/Demonstration Speaking, allowing for either 1 or 2 speakers.

For the exact **WFCA** rules please go to [www.wfcaforensics.org](http://www.wfcaforensics.org). For the differences between the two, we are attaching a page towards the end of the invite.

We are thrilled to continue our commitment to first-rate competition and education through the asynchronous tournament experience. We will offer **four preliminary rounds and no finals**, with competition. All events will be reviewed by four judges. We will recognize the top six students in each event and the top five schools. **TEAM SWEEPS WILL BE BASED ON THE TOP FIVE STUDENTS IN EACH EVENT.**

The following pages will give you all the details of the tournament and how to enter. If there is any way we can be of help, please give us a call. We look forward to seeing you, and providing a stimulating and comfortable competitive setting for your students.

We are looking forward to hosting you in the first week of February!

Sincerely,

Chris Outzen  
Director of Forensics  
174 Hibbard Hall  
(715) 836-2626  
[outzencp@uwec.edu](mailto:outzencp@uwec.edu)

Kelly Jo Wright  
Assistant Director of Forensics  
173 Hibbard Hall

**48<sup>th</sup> Annual UWEC Invitational  
High School Speech Tournament  
General Information**

**ENTRIES**

You may enter as many students as you wish in this tournament, but each student is limited to two events entered. **All entries must be turned in to Speechwire by Tuesday, January 28th at 6:00pm.**

**SPEECHWIRE LINK**

Forthcoming: Please watch for the 48th UW-Eau Claire Invitational Speech Tournament on Speechwire. Link will be added to this live document at a later date.

**FEES**

Each entry is \$8.00, with the exception of Group Interp and Play Acting which will be \$12.00. Schools should attempt to provide one judge for every SIX (6) entries or fraction thereof. For each entry uncovered by a school judge, schools will be charged \$12.00.

**CHECKS MUST BE MADE OUT TO PI KAPPA DELTA.**

**Mail checks to:**

Chris Outzen, Director of Forensics  
Communication + Journalism Department  
Hibbard Humanities Hall 152  
124 Garfield Avenue  
Eau Claire, WI 54701

**LUNCH OPTIONS**

Unfortunately, the Davies Student Center will not be open for lunch during our tournament. Students and teams are encouraged to bring your own lunches or to make a plan for lunch. If teams need advice on where to go, where to order from, or need a central location for lunch orders to be delivered, please let us know and we will be happy to assist.

**DEADLINES**

We must have your entry by **Tuesday, January 28th at 6:00pm.** This deadline is to ensure that we will have time to appropriately schedule the tournament and address any concerns which may arise from registration. Fees will be assessed at this time regardless of drops. We will email you an entry confirmation and invoice.

**DROPS IN ENTRY**

Drops may be made on Speechwire free of charge up until Wednesday January 29th at noon. At this time, there will be a charge of \$10.00 for every student drop and \$50.00 for every judge drop. Drops made Friday will no longer be allowed on Speechwire and will need to be emailed to Chris Outzen at [outzencp@uwec.edu](mailto:outzencp@uwec.edu)

**TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE (TENTATIVE)**

| Date                 | Time    | Event                                                          |
|----------------------|---------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Tuesday January 28   | 6:00pm  | Entries due on Speechwire                                      |
| Wednesday January 29 | 12:00pm | Drop fees for students and judges begin                        |
| Friday January 31    | 8:00am  | Drops no longer permitted on Speechwire; drops must be emailed |
| Saturday February 1  | 7:45am  | Registration Opens (Location TBA)                              |
|                      | 8:15am  | Opening Assembly                                               |
|                      | 8:30am  | Prep for Extemporaneous Speaking/Radio Speaking                |
|                      | 9:00am  | Round 1 (All Events)                                           |
|                      | 9:45am  | Prep for Extemporaneous Speaking/Radio Speaking                |

|  |         |                                                 |
|--|---------|-------------------------------------------------|
|  | 10:15am | Round 2 (All Events)                            |
|  | 11:00am | Prep for Extemporaneous Speaking/Radio Speaking |
|  | 11:30am | Round 3 (All Events)                            |
|  | 12:15pm | Prep for Extemporaneous Speaking/Radio Speaking |
|  | 12:45pm | Round 4 (All Events)                            |
|  | 2:15pm  | Awards (2:15pm or ASAP)                         |

### **2024-2025 WFCA Category Rules**

For WFCA category rules, please refer to the WFCA handbook:

[https://www2.wfcaforensics.org/images/pdf/WFCA\\_Handbook\\_2024-25.pdf](https://www2.wfcaforensics.org/images/pdf/WFCA_Handbook_2024-25.pdf)

### **2024-2025 Speech Topics**

#### ***Moments in History***

- This season has two time periods; each student has the choice of the 1940-1949 and/or 1840-1900.

#### ***Public Address***

- To what extent will artificial intelligence impact the future of work and/or education?
- To what extent, if any, should a personal media presence be utilized in the hiring process?
- To what extent, if any, should amateur Olympic athletes be paid or sponsored for training and participation?
- What measures, if any, should the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) implement to safeguard the environment for hunting and fishing?
- How has the changing nature of media impacted dynamics of elections?

#### ***Special Occasion Speaking***

- A welcome speech to a summer camp
- A motivational speech from a coach/advisor
- A villain monologue
- A scholarship speech

#### ***Storytelling***

- Round 1: A story about unlikely heroes
- Round 2: A pourquoi tale (an origin story or story of why something is)
- Round 3: A story involving a clothing accessory (shoes, hat, cape, etc.)
- Round 4: Performer choice

### **Difference Between WCFA and WISDAA Event Descriptions**

Differences in event descriptions are provided in the table on the next page. These differences are as described in the 2024-2025 category rules at

[https://www2.wfcaforensics.org/images/pdf/WFCA\\_Category\\_Rules\\_2024-25.pdf](https://www2.wfcaforensics.org/images/pdf/WFCA_Category_Rules_2024-25.pdf)



### Deviations from WISDAA Rules

| Category                                           | WFCA – Wis. Forensic Coaches' Assoc.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | WISDAA – Wis. Interscholastic Speech & Dramatic Arts Assoc.                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Farrago                                            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Platform movement should be minimal and non-intrusive to the performance.</li> <li>❖ <b>Adaptations</b> to material should be for purposes of continuity, for gender changes, or to avoid potentially offensive language; lines attributed to one character may not be attributed to another.</li> <li>❖ Manuscript / binder may be used as a prop.</li> <li>❖ Manuscript <i>may</i> be memorized.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ The participant may not walk, except during the introduction and transitions.</li> <li>❖ Contestants presenting a transitionless program must announce as such.</li> </ul>                                                               |
| Group Interpretive Reading                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Chairs and stools are not allowed.</li> <li>❖ The introduction must be the original work of the speaker.</li> <li>❖ Time limit 10 minutes.</li> <li>❖ Manuscript / binder may be used as a prop.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Chairs and stools are allowed.</li> <li>❖ Time limit 12 minutes.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                              |
| Informative Speaking                               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Notes permitted (no size or format restrictions)</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Called Informative / Demonstration Speech</li> <li>❖ May be performed by 1 or 2 students</li> <li>❖ One 4" x 6" notecard is allowed.</li> </ul>                                                                                          |
| Moments in History                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Notes permitted (no size or format restrictions)</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ One 4" x 6" notecard is allowed.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Oratory                                            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Notes are not permitted.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ One 4" x 6" notecard is allowed.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Play Acting                                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ When using more than one scene, transitions must make the theme of the presentation clear.</li> <li>❖ See <b>Adaptations</b> in "Farrago."</li> <li>❖ Time limit 10 minutes</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Must be from a single work of drama</li> <li>❖ Time limit 12 minutes</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                          |
| Poetry, Interpretation of Prose, Interpretation of | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Manuscript <i>may</i> be memorized.</li> <li>❖ See <b>Adaptations</b> in "Farrago."</li> <li>❖ Platform movement should be minimal and non-intrusive.</li> <li>❖ Manuscript / binder may be used as a prop.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Category is called Poetry Reading or Prose Reading.</li> <li>❖ The participant may not walk except during the introduction and transitions.</li> <li>❖ Contestants presenting a transitionless program must announce as such.</li> </ul> |
| Radio Announcing                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Category is called Radio News Reporting.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Solo Acting                                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ See <b>Adaptations</b> in "Farrago."</li> <li>❖ Category is divided into Humorous and Serious, each with a different set of criteria.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ A single, stationary chair is allowed.</li> <li>❖ Students will enter either Humorous or Serious divisions.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                   |
| Special Occasion                                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Notes permitted (no size or format restrictions)</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ One 4" x 6" notecard is allowed.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Storytelling                                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ The introduction must be the original work of the speaker.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Additional Categories Offered</b>               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Duo Interpretation of Literature</li> <li>❖ Oral Interpretation of Literature</li> <li>❖ Student Congress</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Public Address</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                |