



Spring Middle Level Tournament

March 1, 2018

Dear Director of Middle Level Individual Events:

The Michigan Interscholastic Forensic Association will host our annual Spring Individual Events Tournament for middle/junior high schools students on Saturday, April 21, 2018, at Bloomfield Hills High School. There will be three rounds of competition in various speech activities and awards to the Top 12 in each event.

We look forward to having your school participate in our annual fall tournament. Thanks again for your involvement in interscholastic speech activities.

Best,

Jonathan Becker, Executive Director of MIFA
director@themifa.org
734-352-7401

Leanne Wade, Chair of the MIFA Middle Level Committee
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734-686-2086

Danielle Tier, Host at Bloomfield Hills High School
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TOURNAMENT LOCATION: Bloomfield Hills High School - 4200 Andover, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302

TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE:

8:00a	Building Open
8:15 - 8:45a	Registration
9:00 - 9:20a	General Meeting
9:00 - 9:20a	Judges Meeting
9:15a	Limited Prep Begins
9:45 - 11:00a	Round 1
11:00 - 12:15p	Round 2
12:00 - 1:00p	Lunch
1:15 - 2:30p	Round 3
3:00 - 4:00p	Awards

REGISTRATION: The deadline for registration is midnight on Monday, April 16, 2018.

Please register your contestants here: <http://mifaspringml.tabroom.com>. Registration is no longer on ie.hirelesmana.com. Schools will need to create an account on www.tabroom.com and then create student roster under their account prior to registering for the tournament. A school can have a **maximum of four entries in each event**, except for Multiple which has a maximum of two entries per school.

Entry Fees: These fees primarily cover the cost of tournament administrative expenses and awards.

Remember: **Schools must provide 1 judge per 5 entries.** Duos & Multiples count as 2 entries.

School Fee	\$50 school (does not include any entries)
Individual Entries	\$ 7 each
Duo Entries	\$10 each
Multiple Entries	\$15 each

Entry fees can be paid online HERE: http://www.themifa.org/store/p11/Tournament_Registration_Fee_.html

Checks should be made payable to: Michigan Interscholastic Forensic Association (MIFA) and can be sent to:
MIFA

30238 Spring River Dr.
Southfield MI 48076

SPECIAL CATEGORIES: In addition to the traditional 12 categories, we are pleased to offer **Original Interpretation** as an open event. Students may perform their own work(s) of Prose or Poetry. Ballot available on the website. Additionally, while fifth/sixth grade students may enter any event, **Storytelling 5/6, Dramatic Interpretation 5/6, and Sales 5/6** are categories exclusively for fifth & sixth graders. The "5/6" categories are NOT open to seventh or eighth grade students. If you have seventh or eighth grade students participating in Storytelling, Dramatic Interpretation, or Sales they will be in the Open division of their event.

IMPROMPTU & EXTEMP TOPICS:



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	Impromptu	Extemporaneous
Round 1	Things Parents Say (quotations round)	Poverty in America
Round 2	Comics - Interpret & Respond	Diversity in America
Round 3	School Improvements	US Health Care System

Drops/Adds/Changes: Contestant drops/adds/changes prior to the registration deadline can be made without financial penalty. After the deadline, ALL CHANGES must be emailed to mifa@themifa.org. The school is responsible for payment of registration fees, provision of required judges (or equivalent fee) and contestant drop/change fees:

- > prior to the tournament will incur a \$10.00 fee per drop/add/change
- > day of the tournament will incur a \$20.00 fee per drop/add/change

Drops after the registration deadline do NOT reduce your judge obligations. If you fail to provide the appropriate number of judges per your registration, the tournament will hire judge(s) to cover your obligation and invoice your school at the hired judge rate of \$100/day. If you fail to pay for meals which you pre-ordered, the tournament will invoice your school at the rate of \$10/meal. To reiterate, schools agree to pay these fees for all contestants, judges, meals or schools dropped, changed or withdrawn after the registration deadline.

Judges/Scoring: Schools must provide **1 judge per 5 entries**. Duos & Multiples count as 2 entries. We ask that you bring as many of your own judges as possible. **Any judge that you provide must meet the criteria to be a volunteer at your school (including background checks)**. High school seniors with at least two years of competitive experience in high school individual events are eligible to judge at Middle Level Tournaments. If you are UNABLE to provide the required number of judges, you may pay MIFA \$100 per judge to procure one on your behalf. Please make every attempt to provide judges as the pool of MIFA judges is limited.

There will be a mandatory meeting of directors and judges on the morning of the tournament to review developments for the tournament and the implementation of tournament protocol and scoring. Judge and contestant drop/adds will be available only at the meeting to ensure that we are able to review appropriate tournament processes with all judges.

The tournament will place (2) judges in one round of each event so that students get additional critiques and we have one more score to break ties. Judges will award a rank of 1,2,3,4,4,4,4 and a percentage score in the range of 75-100. A rank of 1 requires a percentage score of 100. There can be no ties in rank (except for 4) or percentages. Whole numbers must be used.

Confirmation Email: Prior to the tournament, you will receive a confirmation, which indicates your teams: Entries and amount due, as well as seat assignment for the general meeting and awards.

CRITIQUE SHEETS & CONTESTANT CODES: As you register your contestants online, contestant codes will be automatically generated by the tabroom site. If/When drops/adds occur, the original codes will not change. For instance, if you register three contestants in impromptu with codes B1, B2, and B3 and have to drop B2, the remaining two contestants will maintain their codes as B1 and B3. Please share your contestants codes



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with them in advance of the tournament. Instruct students to use their first & last name along with their code when filling out critique sheets throughout the day. Duos use code & last names (eg. G3-Smith/Jones), Multiples use code and title of piece (eg. R2-Star Wars). Please explain to your students the necessity of remembering their codes and not switching with other students.

MATERIALS & SUITABILITY: The Middle School Committee would like the forensic community to renew a commitment by participants to age appropriate material in oral interpretation. The rules and regulations for middle school level tournaments are provided in Speech Activities on the MIFA website. The rules and regulations, including precise time parameters for each event are indicated on the ballots.

Contestants must not present materials or speeches that they have previously used at a MIFA tournament. Each contestant must be able to validate the source for his or her interpretation script. A photocopy of the appropriate pages from the original source constitutes acceptable proof.

UPDATES AND RULE CHANGE REMINDERS: There have been changes made to middle level individual events that you should make yourself and your students aware of.

1. Contestants will no longer draw for speaking order. They will perform in the order that they are listed on the schematic. This will be the case in ALL events.
2. Extemp participants should return to the Prep Room immediately after they have performed.
3. Sales and Informative may only use ONE easel per contestant.
4. Impromptu participants should follow the Middle Level Impromptu Ballot (available under Resources at www.themifa.org). The Ballot clarifies that students will draw three prompts from which they will select one, prep for no longer than one minute, and speak between 2 and 4 minutes.

PARENTS/OBSERVERS: Parents are welcome at the tournament. The MIFA Middle School Committee has prepared a more comprehensive document to acclimate parents to the tournament process (see the Middle Level section of the web site). If your school has adult, non-judge, volunteers familiar with the tournament process to help staff information stations at the tournament, please indicate the names of the individuals on the registration form.

SWAG: MIFA T-shirts, water bottles, etc will be available for purchase on site. Proceeds support MIFA speech activities. Please let your students know so they can plan ahead!

FOOD/LUNCH: Bloomfield Hills High School will be offering boxed lunches. Lunches must be pre-ordered. Coaches should order lunches for students, judges, coaches, and parents. Please remember to order lunches for your judges. The boxed lunch is \$8 and includes a pita wrap, chips, cookie, and bottled water. Details and the food order form can be found at:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1x6UWs1XFSho5i9cYK6Wa0yfrSre7cAmGPAkZH7B0Naw/edit>