



MIFA Varsity Debate State Finals

Dear Coaches:

The Michigan Interscholastic Forensic Association cordially invites you and your team to Varsity Debate State Finals to be held at Calvin College on Friday, January 6 and Saturday, January 7, 2017. MIFA will host Varsity divisions all 3 debate events - Policy, Public Forum and Legislative as well as Novice Legislative. Policy divisions will run on Friday and Saturday. Public Forum and Legislative Debate will be held on Saturday only.

Registration is now OPEN on tabroom.com through 5pm on December 27rd. Further details below. Hope you will join us!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jon Becker". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jon Becker
Executive Director MIFA

Contacts:

Tournament Director

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Debate Committee Chair

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Billing

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MIFA Varsity Debate State Finals

Events:

Varsity Policy Debate State Championship

MIFA will host 2-person teams for both events using the National High School Policy Debate Resolution for 2016-17, ***Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially increase its economic and/or diplomatic engagement with the People's Republic of China.***

Entries: Varsity is limited to (1) team per school although you may rotate participants between rounds.

Judges: One certified judge for every two-person team.

Format: Tournament format is determined by the tournament committee via conference call scheduled for 8pm Tuesday 12/27. All registered head coaches will be invited to participate.

Awards: State Champion, Runner-up, (2) Semi-Finalists will be recognized

Varsity Public Forum Debate State Championship

MIFA will host both events using the January 2017 NSDA Public Forum Resolution,

Resolved: In order to better respond to international conflicts, the United States should significantly increase its military spending.

Entries: Varsity are only limited by the logistics of the tournament. If you are entering 6 or more teams you may have to hire unaffiliated judges or have the tournament hire them to cover your obligations.

Judges: One judge for every two 2-person teams or fraction thereof PER DIVISION. Any adult high school graduate, regardless of debate experience, may judge this division. Lay judges are encouraged.

Schools with more 6+ entries will need to hire additional judges through MIFA.

Varsity Format: 5 preliminary rounds (1&2 preset, 3 lag paired, 4 & 5 power paired), Semis and Finals

Varsity Awards: State Champion, Runner-up, (2) Semi-Finalists and 1st-10th Speakers will be recognized

Varsity & Novice Legislative Debate State Championship

All participating school must provide at least one piece of legislation. All bills should be emailed to director@themifa.org no later than Monday, December 19, 2016

The tournament director may supplement the docket with bill from NSDA.

The docket will be provided to participating schools on Wednesday, December 21, 2016

Judges: One judge for every 6 entries or fraction thereof.

Awards: Presiding Officer gavel, 1st-10th Speakers will be recognized



MIFA Varsity Debate State Finals

GENERAL

Location: All debates will take place on the campus of Calvin College in Grand Rapids MI.

Map: <http://calvin.edu/map/campusmap.pdf>

Check-In/Registration will be in Spoelhoff Center

Policy rounds will be in Science Building and war rooms will be in North Hall. They are connected.

Legislative rounds will be in Science Building

Public Forum rounds will be in Hiemenga Hall

Register: Please enter via tabroom.com. Deadline is 5pm on Tuesday, December 27, 2015. If you have any difficulties you can email director@themifa.org.

Entry Fees:

School Fee \$20

Varsity Policy \$25 per team (unlimited competitors, may swap between rounds)

Varsity Public Forum \$25 per 2-person team (if 6+ entries, then must hire judges thru MIFA)

Varsity Legislative \$10 per student competitor (limit 10)

Novice Legislative \$10 per student competitor (limit 10)

Hired Judges: A limited number of hired judges are available for policy at \$200/full commitment. A limited number of hired judges are available for PF and legislative at \$100/full commitment.

Drops/Adds/Changes: Deadline for drops/adds/changes is 5:00PM on Tuesday, December 27, 2016. After which a \$25 fee will be assessed in addition to forfeiting the original registration fee. Drops after the deadline do not decrease judging obligations. Drops which involve judges hired at the coach's request by the tournament will be assessed their full fee for the judge regardless of the time at which the drop occurs.

ALL Judges/All Events: Judges are expected to be available to judge all rounds including elimination. Additionally, all judges, are required to write or type (on tabroom.com) complete ballots whether or not they voluntarily decide to provide oral critiques. Policy Debate Judge preferences will be available after the coaches meeting on December 27th.

Rules: The Tab Room/Tournament Administration will enforce MIFA rules. Judges may indicate preferences in individual debate rounds. We only ask that judges announce their preferences to the debaters prior to the beginning of the rounds.

ADA Accommodation: Coaches should initiate any request for an accommodation as part of the tournament registration process. The information will be treated confidentially and used to assist tournament administrators in determining whether, or to what extent, a reasonable accommodation can be provided for a student, judge or coach with a disability to participate in a MIFA event safely and effectively. Form available [HERE](#).

Food: Calvin College's Food Service will provide meals for students, coaches and judges at \$10/meal. HOWEVER, it must be PRE-ORDERED. When registering via [tabroom](http://tabroom.com) under the "Concessions" tab, please indicate how many of each meal you need to order. On-site purchase will NOT be an option. Friday Dinner Menu - Chicken kabobs, hummus & pita, fruit & veggies, dessert, beverages.

Saturday Lunch Menu - Box lunch includes sandwich, chips, fruit & veggies, dessert, beverage

Lodging: The MIFA has reserved hotel blocks at several area hotels. Updated list [HERE](#)
Contact Becca Weissman, MIFA Business Manager (billing@themifa.org) with lodging questions.