

Dear Speech and Debate Colleague,

I am pleased to invite all member schools to The First/Second Year State Speech and Debate Tournament, scheduled for February 4 & 5, 2011 at Carrollton High School. A special "Thank You" goes out to Richard Bracknell and Carrollton High School community for offering to host this first-of-its-kind tournament.

The tournament will offer Novice and Junior-Varsity division in ALL of the following events: Policy Debate, Lincoln-Douglas Debate, Public Forum Debate, Extemporaneous Commentary, Original Oratory, Impromptu Speaking, Dramatic Interpretation, Humorous Interpretation, Prose/Poetry and Duo Interpretation. Depending on numbers in individual events/duo, divisions may be collapsed but awards will be given in both Novice/JV Divisions.

This is a new tournament for Georgia, so understanding eligibility requirements is vital.

- Any school currently a member of the Georgia Forensic Coaches Association may attend this tournament.
- Students competing in their First- or Second-year of competitive forensics may enter.
- In partnered events, BOTH competitors must meet this requirement.
- Students may double-enter except as follows: Policy Debate may be single-entered ONLY; No double-entry between Lincoln-Douglas Debate and Public Forum Debate,
- Students may not enter more than two events total.
- All students must meet eligibility requirements
- Rules governing tabulation for the GFCFA State Varsity Tournament will govern this tournament as well
- Students qualified for the GFCFA State Varsity Tournament and qualify as First/Second Year competitors may attend BOTH State Championships.

**Policy Debate Topic- Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially reduce its military and/or police presence in one or more of the following: South Korea, Japan, Afghanistan, Kuwait, Iraq, Turkey.**

**Public Forum Debate Topic- Resolved: In the United States, plea bargaining undermines the criminal justice system.**

**LD Topic- Resolved: In the United States, juveniles charged with a violent felony ought to be treated as adults in the criminal justice system.**

Champions will be named in all divisions. All entries advancing to elimination rounds will receive awards. Sweepstakes Awards will be given to the top three schools based upon the GFCFA sweepstakes formula and will combine both Novice and JV divisions.

Information about guidelines and rules may be found on the GFCFA website: [thegfca.org](http://thegfca.org).

Feel free to contact GFCFA President Mario Herrera at 404-242-2297 with any questions.