

Ryle Speech and Debate Team Guidelines

New Members

Head Coach – Rachel Page
Assistant Coach – Lisa Edmonds

What is expected from student members?

1. Each member will begin the year working on one event. After an individual has shown initiative and evidence of practice, he/she may sign up for additional events. By December 1, new members should be competing in at least *two* events.
2. Each member must attend a weekly team meeting and group practice directly after school every Monday (on Mondays that NHS meets, we will start after that meeting is over) until **4:00pm**. Monday meeting and practice is not to be taken lightly! You can get a lot done in the 1.5 hours you are staying after.
3. Each member must practice once a week with a coach. You will be assigned a regular one hour time slot each week, and there will be opportunities to sign up for extra practice. Please remember that we are giving up our time to assist you. Not attending practice will result in being placed on probation (cannot compete), and repeat offenses will result in being removed from the team. **Practices are to be coaching sessions of what has been worked on during the week before, not a display that no work has been done since last time.**
4. Each member must maintain passing grades in ALL courses. Failing grades will result in being placed on probation until the grade is brought to passing level.
5. Members are expected to be supportive of one another and help each other practice, improve, and gain self-confidence.
6. Members must participate in fund-raisers. Speech is an expensive activity! Your fees only cover a small portion of the team's expenses.
7. Members are required to pay Speech Team fees of **\$225** which is prepayment for tournament registration fees, National Speech and Debate Association dues when membership is earned, KHSSL state fees, and for a team t-shirt. *If you are on free/reduced lunch, your fees will be reduced to \$75.* Fees are due **Friday, September 6th**. Payment plans are allowed! Please do not let your apprehension about the cost deter you from joining the team and gaining valuable experience! Please talk to Ms. Page if you have financial issues; we will do everything in our power to help you.
8. Members are required to attend at least FOUR invitational tournaments during the school year *in addition* to the required invitational and postseason tournaments. Members will compete at all tournaments unless they notify Ms. Page otherwise. **If a member cancels or is placed on probation after the deadline, that member will be responsible for reimbursing the speech team for both the entrance and drop fees for ALL events dropped.**
9. Members are expected to wear appropriate attire at tournaments. Boys should wear a suit or sport coat with nice slacks (or at least a button-down shirt with tie), a belt, and dress shoes. Girls should wear a suit or a nice dress/skirt **knee-length or longer**, hose, and dress shoes – no open-toe shoes. If you do not have these items, see Ms. Page and her closet of competition clothes.

10. The Ryle Speech and Debate Team philosophy is that we accept everyone on the team who wants to participate. We need you to show us that you are serious about the team, however. You must prepare an “audition” (packet attached) so we can place you into events. If you are not prepared, then you are not ready for this commitment. **If you come to auditions and tell us/show us that you have not prepared, you will not be allowed to join the team.**
11. Members must also get permission from a parent/guardian before making a commitment to the Speech Team. Please have your parent/guardian sign the permission slip attached, and return it along with the student contract and your fees to Ms. Page in room 234 by **Friday, September 6th.**

“Auditions” will happen Monday, September 9th.

What is expected from parents/guardians?

1. Parents must review material with their child. Some competition material is of a serious/adult nature. We make every effort to cut out any unnecessary language. We will not give your child a selection that we do not think he/she can handle. If you are uncomfortable with the selection, we will find a new one.
2. Parents are expected to be supportive in the efforts of the team, including participating in fundraisers and assisting in tournaments. Please consider traveling with us and judging beyond the requirements. It is a rewarding experience and saves the team a lot of money.
3. Parents should be aware of the financial responsibilities associated with competing on the speech team. Students are responsible for purchasing their own meals on tournament days, and sharing in any additional costs for postseason out-of-town tournaments. Students qualifying to compete at either NSDA or NCFL national tournaments will be responsible for paying the costs associated with competing at that level.
4. ***Parents are expected to assist with team transportation.*** Transportation to most tournaments is achieved by carpooling. Parents are expected to drive to at least two out of town tournaments and judge at one local tournament.
5. ***Parents are expected to judge at and/or work at the tournaments that we host.*** There will be training sessions for judging speech and debate events.

**There will be a mandatory meeting for
new parents/guardians at
6:00pm in room 234 on Thursday, September 12th.
Please complete the attached parent paperwork and bring to this meeting.**

What is expected from the coaches?

1. You can expect us to be dependable and supportive.
2. You can expect us to help you to help find appropriate events and material that fit your personality, but not to do all of the cutting and writing for you.
3. You can expect us to provide individual coaching and assistance each week.
4. You can expect us to have fun, because we love what we do, and are excited to work with you.

Tournament Schedule 2019-2020 (subject to change)

Tournaments in **BOLD** are *required* for all members.

Members must attend a minimum of **four** invitational tournaments *in addition* to the required tournaments.

Invitational Tournaments

September 21	Wyatt League @ Trinity, Louisville	(debate)
October 12	Wyatt League @ Trinity, Louisville	(debate)
October 19	Ryle Haunted Invitational	(we host)
October 26	Henry Clay, Lexington	(speech, debate)
November 9	Dunbar, Lexington	(speech, debate)
November 16	Cooper, Union	(speech)
December 7	Boone County, Florence	(speech)
January 11	Dixie Heights, Ft. Mitchell	(speech, congress)
January 25	Bardstown HS, Bardstown	(speech, congress)
February 8	Wyatt League @ Fairdale, Louisville	(debate)

Postseason Tournaments

February 1	Regionals, Beechwood HS	(speech)
March 7	KCFL qualifier, Hodgenville	(speech, debate)
March 11-14	KHSSL State Championship, Lexington	(speech, debate)
March 20-21	KYNSDA qualifier, Danville	(speech, debate)
April 25	Wyatt Championship, Louisville	(debate)

dependent on qualification:

April 18-20	UK TOC, Lexington	(speech, debate)
May 8-10	NIETOC, Houston TX	(speech)
May 22-24	NCFL Grand Nationals, Chicago IL	(speech, debate)
June 14-19	NSDA Nationals, Albuquerque NM	(speech, debate)

Speech and Debate Competition Events

Broadcast Announcing

Definition: Students assume the role of a radio broadcast announcer

- Depending on the particular tournament and the particular round, students will either read the news copy directly as printed, or have up to thirty minutes to edit a news program before reading it to the judges
- Students will be judged solely on the basis of what is heard, which includes articulation, fluency, accuracy, clarity, understanding of content, appropriate tone, and pronunciation

Congressional Debate (Congress)

Definition: A mock congress where students assume the role of a U.S. Senator or Representative

- Students draft a bill for debate a week before the tournament
- Students receive copies of other students' bills before the tournament
- Students thoroughly research all the bills in preparation for the tournament
- Students debate the bills using Robert's Rules of Order at the tournament

Declamation

Definition: The performance of a speech written and published by someone else

- The speech must be memorized
- No props or visual aids are permitted
- Only for 9th and 10th graders

Dramatic Interpretation

Definition: The performance of a published piece of serious literature

- This is an interpretive event and not an acting event; therefore, movement is restricted to bending, stooping, pivoting, and upper body movements (e.g. emphatic gestures)
- The scene may come from a published play, novel, short story, or movie script
- The selection must be memorized
- The cutting may either be a monologue or a dialogue between multiple characters

Duo Interpretation

Definition: The performance of a scene or cutting from a published play, novel, short story, or movie script, presented by two individuals

- This is an interpretive event and not an acting event; therefore, movement is restricted to bending, stooping, pivoting, switching positions and upper body movements (e.g. emphatic gestures)
- The selection must be memorized
- The selection may be from a published play, novel, short story, or movie script
- The selection may be serious or humorous

Extemporaneous Speaking

Definition: A limited-prep speech that analyzes and answers a question that addresses a current issue

- The student will be given three topics/questions. The student will choose the one topic of his/her preference
- Students will have up to thirty minutes to prepare a speech on the chosen topic
- In a supervised prep room, students may use "files" of information collected before the competition to write the speech
- Part of the responsibility of competing in Extemp. is helping to organize files of information to take to the tournaments
- The speaker may use one 3 x 5 note card

Humorous Interpretation

Definition: The performance of a published piece of humorous literature

- This is an interpretive event and not an acting event; therefore, movement is restricted to bending, stooping, pivoting, and upper body movements (e.g. emphatic gestures)
- The scene may come from a published play, novel, short story, or movie script
- The selection must be memorized
- The cutting may be either a monologue or a dialogue between multiple characters

Impromptu Speaking

Definition: A limited-prep speech with topic selection varied from round to round

- Students will receive the speech topic (quotation) and will have up to three minutes to prepare a speech
- No research / source materials may be used
- The speaker may use one 3 x 5 note card to organize the essay
- Both the speech content and delivery are both important factors
- The entire presentation (prep time included) must last no longer than seven minutes.

Improvisational Duo

Definition: A limited prep-performance involving the portrayal of two characters by two individuals

- The duo will receive a performance topic and will have up to three minutes to prepare a scene
- The scene must contain only two characters with equal sharing of dialogue
- Scene topics will range from humorous to serious, and must be treated in the manner intended
- No make-up, costumes, props, or lighting are permitted, but a table and/or two chairs may be used

Informative Speaking

Definition: A speech prepared and presented by the student to inform

- The speech must be the original work of the student
- The speech must be memorized
- Visual aids are permitted

Lincoln-Douglas Debate

Definition: A one-on-one debate emphasizing logic, ethical values, and philosophy

- Students debate a nationally published resolution that changes monthly
- Students follow a specific timed format
- Students must prepare cases ahead of time, but the side that they debate is not determined until the tournament begins and may change each round.

Oratory

Definition: A speech prepared and presented by the student to inform or persuade

- The speech must be the original work of the student
- The speech must be memorized
- No props or visual aids are permitted

Poetry Interpretation

Definition: *The interpretation of a published poem or poems that is (are) narrative, descriptive, or lyrical.*

- This is an interpretive event and not an acting event; therefore, movement is restricted to only upper body movements
- Selections may come from one poem or a program of shorter poems from a published poet or poets of literary merit
- A manuscript must be used and referred to

Policy Debate

Definition: A two-man debate that typically deals with policy change for the US government

- Students debate a nationally published resolution for the entire year
- Students follow a specific timed format
- Students must prepare cases ahead of time, but the side that they debate is not determined until the tournament begins and may change each round.

Program Oral Interpretation

Definition: *The interpretation of two or more genres of literature following a specific theme*

- This is an interpretive event and not an acting event; therefore, movement is restricted to only upper body movements
- Selections may come from any variety of published literature of merit
- A manuscript must be used and referred to

Prose Interpretation

Definition: An interpretation of a piece of published prose of literary merit

- This is an interpretive event and not an acting event; therefore, movement is restricted to only upper body movements (e.g. emphatic gestures.)
- Selections may come from published narrative, descriptive, or expository prose of literary merit
- A manuscript must be used and referred to

Public Forum Debate

Definition: A two-man debate that is "audience friendly" and deals with hot topics in the news

- Students debate a nationally published resolution that changes monthly
- Students follow a specific timed format
- Students must prepare cases ahead of time, but the side that they debate is not determined until the tournament begins and may change each round.

Storytelling

Definition: *The recreation of a story for the purpose of entertaining the audience*

- Performers may sit, stand, or move about in a limited performance area
- The use of costumes, props, or furniture is prohibited
- May be either serious or humorous
- Selections come from legends, tall tales, myths, children's stories, ghost stories, etc.
- Selections must be memorized

SPEECH TEAM CONTRACT/PERMISSION FORM

I have read and **agree to the expectations set forth** by Ms. Page, and hereby give permission for my child _____ to compete and travel with the speech and debate team at Larry A. Ryle High School for the 2019-2020 season. I give permission for my child to travel with Ms. Page and Ms. Edmonds to events as well as with other parents/teachers/coaches unless I have given notice in writing otherwise.

Since faculty personnel will be in charge, I, as a parent, give permission to enforce all school rules that are consistent to the welfare of my child. I also do hereby release the school and teachers from responsibility for accidents or injury not covered by school insurance. In case of an accident or serious illness, I request the sponsor or school to contact me. If the school is unable to reach me, I hereby authorize the school to call the physician indicated below and follow his/her instructions. If the physician cannot be contacted, the school or sponsor has my permission to make necessary arrangements and/or accommodations for my child.

Date: _____ Parent/Guardian: _____ Signature: _____
(please print)

Address: _____

Phone Number: (home) _____ (cell) _____

Parent Email: _____

Is there a second parent/guardian who should be added to the team contact list? Please list his/her information:

Please note any restrictions or medical information that would be helpful for treatment, such as allergies, diabetes, etc. _____

Will it be necessary for your child to take medication while traveling? __yes __no (if yes, a special form will be sent home for administration of medication)

Physician's Name: _____ Address: _____
City: _____ Office Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Fees enclosed: \$225 competition fee \$75 free/reduced fee *Please make checks payable*
 _____ deposit enclosed – please place me on a payment plan *to Ryle High School*

t-shirt size: S M L XL 2XL

STUDENT INFORMATION SHEET

First Name: _____ Middle: _____ Last: _____ I go by: _____ Grade: _____

Phone: _____ (home) _____ (cell) Email: _____

Shoe size: _____ Dress/Pant size: _____ Favorite snack: _____

Class Schedule (list teachers and room #s):

1st: _____

2nd: _____

3rd: _____

RAP: _____

4th: _____

5th: _____

6th: _____

List days/times after school that you CANNOT PRACTICE due to other conflicts:

Other activities that you're currently involved with/plan to be involved:

Do you have any experience with drama, public speaking, or debate? Please list any forensics experience, plays, competitions, summer programs, etc. and when you participated.

Which five categories seem most interesting to you? List your preferences in order. If you select duo or improv duo and have a partner in mind, please also list.

INTEREST INVENTORY/GETTING TO KNOW YOU

- | | | | |
|-----|---|-----|----|
| 1. | Do you like to read information on current events? | YES | NO |
| 2. | Do you like to discuss current events with other people your age? | YES | NO |
| 3. | Can you write well under pressure and time constraints? | YES | NO |
| 4. | Do you read a lot that is not required school reading? | YES | NO |
| 5. | Are you interested in a career in law or politics? | YES | NO |
| 6. | Can you think on your feet and answer questions quickly? | YES | NO |
| 7. | Do you watch the news at least four times a week? | YES | NO |
| 8. | Do you work well under time constraints? | YES | NO |
| 9. | Do you like to do library research? | YES | NO |
| 10. | Do you like to read literature with first person narration? | YES | NO |
| 11. | Are you good at "cold readings"? | YES | NO |
| 12. | Can you perform characters of the opposite sex well with your voice? | YES | NO |
| 13. | Can you perform characters of the opposite sex well with your body? | YES | NO |
| 14. | Can you work well with a partner for a long period of time? | YES | NO |
| 15. | Are you able to pronounce strange words and names with little difficulty? | YES | NO |
| 16. | Can you memorize long selections with little work? | YES | NO |
| 17. | Can you perform characters of a younger age well? | YES | NO |
| 18. | Can you perform characters of an older age well? | YES | NO |
| 19. | Are you able to sustain the actions and voice of different characters? | YES | NO |
| 20. | Are you able to do accents and imitate people vocally? | YES | NO |
| 21. | Are you able to imitate people physically? | YES | NO |
| 22. | Would you like to be an actor/actress in the future? | YES | NO |

On a scale of 1 to 5, rate yourself on the following:

- | | | | | | |
|-----|--|--------------|---|-----------|---------|
| | Serious | | | | Comical |
| 12. | Which do you consider yourself more: | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 5 |
| 13. | Which do your friends consider you more: | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 5 |
| 14. | Which do your parents consider you more: | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 5 |
| 15. | Which do your teachers consider you more: | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 5 |
| 16. | What type of literature do you prefer to read? | Contemporary | | Classical | |

5. What is your favorite movie/TV show? _____
6. What newspaper(s), magazine(s) do you read on a regular basis? _____
7. Give an event/happening that makes you cry _____
8. Give an event/happening that makes you laugh _____
9. What is your favorite subject? _____
10. What is your favorite type of music/group? _____
11. Who is your favorite political/historical figure? _____
12. Who is your favorite actor/actress? _____
13. What was the topic of your last formal school report? _____
14. What was the last time you were *really* frightened? _____
15. What theatre production(s) have you seen that you have really liked? _____

So you want to join the award winning Speech and Debate Team... Great! But before you start making that trip to the mall to buy that new spiffy wardrobe for competition, here are a few things you should know about what will be required at the audition:

In order to place you in events, we must learn more about you! This involves three parts:

1 – PUBLIC SPEAKING SELECTION. Pick one of the selections to read. This does not need to be memorized.

2 – OFF-THE-CUFF SPEAKING. Select and prepare for both sides of each topic. We will randomly choose one and ask you to argue one side of the statement, with no notes.

3 – INTERPRETATION AUDITION READING. You are to memorize a monologue of short duration and perform it for us, presenting your character. You may use one of the monologues included in this packet or one of your own choosing. Feel free to adapt any of these monologues, changing genders or any other words you need to suit yourself. We will be evaluating your preparedness and your presentation of a character, not exact memorization, so let that be the focus of your preparations.

Don't freak out!!! It may seem like a lot, but you don't have to be perfect. Remember, this serves two purposes:

1) to show us that you are serious about joining the team, and 2) to help us decide the best event for you.

1. PUBLIC SPEAKING SELECTION (choose ONE to read)

We can tell ourselves that the only thing that can affect our lives is our ability to work. But simultaneously we know that the world is not fair. The top 1 tenth of one percent owns more than the bottom 70% combined. Is it fair then to say that poor people's problem is that they just don't work hard enough? We can have all the ability and the achievement we want but regardless, as Berkley University found in 2014, 56% of all new income goes to the top 1%. Is it fair then to say that those who go bankrupt are just in those shoes because they didn't have the business acumen for this economic climate? We see that the world is unfair, and yes, trying really really hard to make the best of it is the right thing to do, but in the process, we are leaving behind far too many casualties- including logic, reason, and, the thing that is most daunting, our humanity.

Saturn's geyser-spouting moon Enceladus has a new portfolio, thanks to the Cassini spacecraft.

NASA released its latest close-ups of the little icy moon Friday. The preliminary unprocessed views are from Cassini's flyby of Enceladus on Wednesday. The spacecraft zoomed right through the ocean world's erupting jet of water vapor and frozen particles. The U.S.-European spacecraft skimmed within 30 miles of the south pole to get a good dousing.

Project scientist Linda Spilker says the images are stunning, but the most exciting is yet to come in the form of scientific data. The geyser measurements are still coming down from the Saturn-orbiting Cassini. It will take weeks to analyze it all.

Scientists believe an underground ocean of liquid water is the source of the shooting jet stream.

2. OFF-THE-CUFF-SPEAKING (prepare for ALL topics)

Be prepared to speak for and against:

Students at Ryle High School should wear uniforms.

Social media has more influence on public campaigns than television ads.

The death penalty should be abolished in all 50 states.

3. INTERPRETATION (you must MEMORIZE one of these OR choose your own monologue and bring that script)

The asylum? I grew up in such an asylum. The state almshouse. Rats -- why my brother Jimmie and I used to play with the rats because we didn't have toys. Maybe you'd like to know what Helen will find there... not on visiting days? On ward was full of the -- old women, crippled, blind, most of them dying, but even if what they had was catching there was no where else to move them, so that's where they put us. There were younger ones across the hall, prostitutes mostly, with T.B., and epileptic fits, and some of the kind who -- kept after other girls, especially young ones, and some insane. Some just had the DT's. The youngest were in another ward to have babies they didn't want, started at 13,14. They'd leave afterwards but the babies stayed and we played with them too, though most had -- sores all over from diseases you're not supposed to talk about. The first year we had eighty, seventy died. The room Jimmie and I played in was the dead house where, they kept the bodies until they could dig the graves. No, it made me strong. But I don't think you need send Helen there. She's strong enough.

I ate them. That's right. I ate the divorce papers, Charles. I ate them with ketchup. And they were good...goood. You probably want me to get serious about our divorce. The thing is you always called our marriage a joke. So let's use logic here: If A we never had a serious marriage then B we can't have a serious divorce. No. We can't. The whole thing's a farce, Charles -- a farce that tastes good with ketchup. I mean, wasn't it last week, your dad asked you the reason you walked down that aisle with me, and you said "for the exercise." Ha, ha. That's funny. You're a funny guy, Charles. I'm laughing, not a crying. Ha, ha. I'm laughing because you're about to give up on a woman who is infinitely lovable. For instance: Paul. He has loved me since the eighth grade. Sure, he's a little creepy, but he reeeally loves me. He's made one hundred twenty seven passes at me, proposed forty seven times, and sent me over two hundred original love sonnets. He sees something in me, Charles. And he writes it down, in metered verse! And that's not something you just find every day. Someone who really loves everything about who you are as a person. Paul may be insane, but I value his feelings for me.

Have you ever farted in front of a fan? I call it a paparazzi, because farting in front of a fan is like some terrible stalker that follows you and you can't escape. The worst one I've ever done was my first. I had the ultimate silent but deadly gas bomb seep from me. I happened to be standing in front of a fan at the time. The results were glorious. This ultimate gas passing experience was a mix of nerves and a bean burrito, one of those frozen burritos that are made from the cheapest mystery beans ever grown. I wanted to talk to my teacher about something personal and there was only a short time before the whole class would get back from gym. I snuck out early so I could talk to the teacher alone. It was a hot day in May and the teacher had a big fan pointed at the classroom to keep things cool. As I approached, I felt my stomach churn and deposit something painful into my bowels. I bent forward a bit and my teacher looked concerned. I started talking to hide the noise of the gas escaping out of me. At first I was thankful it was silent, but then I realized I was standing in front of the fan and the whole class walked in. The deadliest bottom sewage smell I ever produced oozed from me and filled the air. Students screamed and gasped. Chaos swarmed the room. I looked at the teacher who couldn't tell what was going on since he was on the other side of the fan. The class struggled into their desks with their noses pinched and mouths moaning. I don't even remember what I wanted to talk to my teacher about, but I sure remember that fart. It was glorious.