* Dear Coach,
* You are cordially invited to participate in the **30th Annual** **KESDA Junior State Tournament, March 7-9, 2019.** The Tournament will be held at the Clarion Hotel in Lexington.
* KESDA provides middle school students a competitive arena where they can apply the effective communication skills that they learn in the classroom and in your coaching sessions. You’ve worked hard all year, and the **KESDA** **Junior Tournament** is the ideal place for your entire team to share their best work with judges and competitors from across the state.
* Students love this tournament both for its sheer competitiveness and for the unique social opportunities. Highlights include a dance on Friday night (open to all competitors), the popular Group Interp event, and an awards banquet on Saturday evening.

At KESDA, there are no prequalification requirements; your entire team may compete. **With the exception of Group Interp, entries are unlimited.** A student may enter a maximum of 4 events.

**To add to the fun we are introducing a brand new experimental improv event that involves competing on teams comprised of members from other schools!**  “The Ad Game” promises to add an entirely new element of camaraderie to Kentucky forensics!

Individual awards will be presented for 1st-6th place in each event and in Trithon.  In addition to recognizing the top, non-advancing novice in each event, **this year we will be offering at least one final round for non-advancing novices**. There are several opportunities for teams to take home hardware. First-sixth will be recognized for team sweepstakes.  Up to three awards will be given for the “Greynolds Sweepstakes,” open to schools with twenty or fewer entries, and we award a travelling trophy based on team efficiency.

In order to run the tournament more smoothly, reward more students, and even out flights, there are many changes this year, so please be sure to read the entire invitation carefully!

If you have questions, please feel free to contact us, as we're very happy to assist you! We look forward to seeing you **March 7-9** in Lexington at the **2019 KESDA Junior State Tournament.**

Sincerely,

**Dr. Edward B. Smith & Betsy B. Smith**

Executive Directors, KESDA

Georgetown College, 400 East College Street

Georgetown, KY 40324

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**GENERAL INFORMATION**

* **ENTRIES**: A school may enter as many entries in each event as desired. A student may enter no more than two events in each flight. Each student may enter a maximum of 4 events plus either Group Interp or Student Congress. SEE THE KESDA HANDBOOK (www.kesda.xyz) FOR COMPLETE RULES FOR ALL EVENTS.

**New Event Notes:**

**Declamation:** The restriction on using contest speeches has been removed.

**Improv Pairs:** Students may not use tables.

**Student Congress:** We feel it would be best practice to have two judges in Congress. Therefore, we ask that coaches should familiarize themselves with the event. We will be sending out helpful materials.

**Rules for the Experimental Event: The Ad Game: A Mixed Improv Group Competition**

Students who compete in this event will be placed in a group comprised of four other students from different schools.  Student will stay in this group for the entire competition.    Groups will be created so that there is maximum diversity in terms of number of schools in the group.

Each group will draw a slip of paper from Pile A and a slip from Pile B.
Pile A will consist of ordinary items (toothbrush, car jack, phone, etc.)
B will consist of “special properties” (forces you to tell the truth, allows you to see into the future, etc.).

Pile A and Pile B are then combined into a product for which the group will then develop an advertising campaign.

Once the group has it’s product (a toothbrush that forces you to tell the truth), members will need to brainstorm an ad campaign that includes the following:
name of the product
tagline for the product
spokesperson for the product
a jingle/song for the product

Once these elements have been decided, the group combines them all in a commercial for the product.

Group members must use the  key rule of improv:  “Yes, And…”  This means that every idea  offered by a member is enthusiastically embraced and agreed on with a “Yes!” and then followed immediately by someone else adding to that idea/developing it further with the “And….”

Groups will be judged on their ability to include everyone in the group,  use of “Yes, And…”, and how well the individual elements of the ad campaign are integrated into the final commercial.

Groups will have a total of five minutes.  They can use paper and pen to keep notes, and can use any chairs and tables in the room.  The commercial itself should not run more than :45 seconds of the total five minutes.

Awards will be given to the top six groups at the awards banquet. This event will not count toward team sweepstakes.

* **FEES**: $7.00 per entry. $14.00 per Duo Acting and Improvisational Pairs. $7.00 per student in each group interpretation team.
* **JUDGES**: Schools must supply one judge for every 6 entries or portion thereof. There will be a $5.00 judge fee per uncovered entry. For example, if the entry form contains 35 entries and you have 4 judges, your school is covering 24 entries with your judges. Therefore, your school would have 11 uncovered entries. (35-24=11) Since the fee is $5.00 per uncovered entry, your school's fee would be $55.00. Duet Acting and Improvisational Pairs count once in terms of computing the number of judges needed and twice for entry fees.

**New on the judge front this year:** All judges must check in fifteen minutes before their first round at the tournament, whether Thursday, Friday, or Saturday. Coaches should be on standby for every round because if a judge from your team does not show up for the round, the coach will be required to judge it.

Coaches must fill out the judge training certification sheet and submit it at registration. Reminder: **Please take care to insure that all judges and chaperones at KESDA have passed background checks.**

**Stand-by Judges:** Stand-by judges must remain in the judges’ area until all sections have been covered and announced by tournament director. Schools will be assessed a $10.00 penalty per section for each stand-by judge who is not available when called. A judge will not be considered a "no show" if they are held up in a round that is running late.

 **AWARDS**: Awards will be presented to 1st-6th in individual events. First-Sixth Place schools will be recognized for Sweepstakes. A school’s top three entries in each event will count toward sweepstakes. However, all students are eligible for individual awards.

**TRITHON AWARD:** To compete in Trithon, students must enter one event in each of the following areas:

**Original Prepared Speaking**: Public Speaking, Student Congress (\*\*\*in order for it to count, student must give at least one speech during the competition), Declamation

**Interpretation:** Prose, Poetry, Solo, Duet Acting, Storytelling, Interpretation of Lit., Group Interp

**Limited Prep**: Broadcasting, Extemp, Improvisational Pairs, Impromptu, Student Congress

**DEADLINE**: **Deadline for entries is February 28th at 5:00 p.m.**

* **ACCOMMODATIONS**: Since the prelim rounds of the Tournament will be held in motel rooms, schools traveling to Lexington will stay in the Clarion. We have received a special rate of $95 per room.  (Be sure to bring your tax-exempt certificate to save the state tax. You will, however, be charged a 10.07% local occupancy tax.) The hotel is a beautiful facility with large rooms and warm southern hospitality. If you wish to come in on Wednesday, or stay over on Saturday, you may do so at the same rate. Make your reservations as soon as possible and send a rooming list to the hotel. Students cannot be reassigned to different rooms from those indicated on the rooming list. **The deadline for your rooming list reaching the hotel is February 14.**  Reservations made after this date will be subject to the prevailing hotel rates at the time of the request and are subject to availability.
* The rooming list should be faxed to Scott Hait at 859-825-5046. If you would like to email/scan the completed form, please send it to ccravens@bluegrasshotels.com. If you have questions please call (859) 233-0512 Ext. 288.
* If cancellation of an individual room becomes necessary, to avoid forfeiture of any deposits paid or payment of penalties, the **hotel must receive notification by 4:00pm on the day of arrival**.
* **COMPETITION ROOMS:** Because we use sleeping rooms during part of the tournament, all teams (with the exception of those in Fayette County) must stay at the Clarion. **Every competitor must be listed on a rooming list booked at the KESDA rate.** We are sorry if this causes inconvenience, but in the interest of fairness, we need all teams contributing rooms for competition. Individual exemption requests must be presented to the tournament directors, not the hotel.
* If you have team parents who do not wish their rooms to be used for competition, they must make their own separate arrangements without any mention of KESDA. They will be offered the walk-in room rate; those rooms will not be eligible for the KESDA discounted rate. **Make sure parents understand that if they book a room through your school using the KESDA rate, their room is open to use for competition**.
* **SAFE ROOMS:** Each school will have a minimum of one "safe room,” provided five rooms are reserved. **Safe rooms will not be used for competition** so that you can keep valuables in there or simply use this room as a gathering spot for your students between rounds.  In the event that a school uses less than five rooms, we will attempt to have at least one of your rooms designated a safe room, but this may not be possible. The safe room(s) must be indicated on the rooming list and the people sleeping in that room(s) cannot be changed after check-in.
* Each school will be entitled to one late Saturday checkout room per five rooms rented. Late check out is 5:00 p.m.  If you wait to check out from 5:00 until 6:30 p.m., a 1/2 day rate will be charged.
* **IDENTIFICATION:** Due to security concerns at the hotel and for easy identification of tournament participants by KESDA and hotel personnel, **ALL tournament participants** (contestants, coaches, judges, and chaperones) will be issued a KESDA nametag. This identification is to be **worn at all times** during the Tournament. Contestants will not be allowed to compete without the identification being displayed. This id will allow the student entrance to the dance. Replacement ids cost **$5.00** each.
* **MEALS**: The hotel offers a free hot breakfast. For other meals, the hotel restaurant is open, and several places offer delivery to the Clarion.
* **No type of cooking (aside from use of the provided microwave oven) is permitted in the hotel rooms. Cooking in rooms violates both hotel policy and the fire code.**
* **CELL PHONES: Cell phones may be used as timers.** However, no person in a room besides the judge may have a cell phone or electronic device during competition.
* **CHAPERONES AT THE DANCE:** We ask that each school provide a minimum of two chaperones at the dance. Chaperones will be stationed at every entrance to the Ballroom for the dance. They will check to make sure that all dance participants have proper identification, mingle throughout the Ballroom, and monitor the outside doors as well. Please advise your students that if they are not at the dance, they must be in the pool area or in their rooms with adult supervision. Chaperones will meet 10 minutes before the beginning of the dance.

**BANQUET:**  Formal dress is not required. We do want to point out, however, that the majority of students embrace the occasion as a chance to dress up.

* **TAB ROOM STAFF:** As usual, the KESDA senior board members will be manning the tab room. In addition, we will be requiring each coach to work all of one flight in the tab room or at the ballot tables. At registration, each coach will be assigned a block of time to work during the tournament. If this presents a hardship, please contact the tournament directors.
* **MANUSCRIPTS DUE**: Manuscripts of original speeches must be submitted via email as attached Word Documents up to March 7.The cover page with signatures must be submitted in hardcopy form at registration.
* For your protection, you should also have original manuscripts of ALL scripts with you at the tournament in case a question of authenticity arises.
* **DROPS**: Drops after 5:00 pm, February 28thwill result in a drop fee of **$10.00 per drop** in individual events. Drops after Wednesday,March 6 at 4:00 p.m. will be assessed a **$25 charge per drop**. Judgesdropped afterMarch 6 will be assessed a **$50.00 drop fee** unless a substitute judge is provided. Schools will be charged a $5.00 per change nuisance fee if any name changes/substitutions are made after March 6 at 4 pm.

**STUDENT CONGRESS:** Student **may not** enter both Group Interp and Congress. In order to be able to run Congress, each team who has entries in Congress must bring people who are able to judge the event. Please designate Congress judges on your entry.

This year, students are invited to write their own legislation. It must be submitted to the directors for review by February 14. For all Student Congress rules, please see the handbook at [www.kesda.xyz](http://www.kesda.xyz).

**KESDA Junior Tournament Schedule** (times subject to change as needed)

* **Thursday, March 7** Team room blocks should be available after 2:30 pm
* 11:00-2:30 Registration & Judge Sign-In—Pre-function area
* 4:00 Opening Assembly—STUDENTS, COACHES AND JUDGES
* 4:30 Round 1—Flight A (Public Speaking, HI, Broadcasting, DI)
* 5:00 Extemp Draw (Claiborne)
* 6:00 Round 1—Flight B (Extemp, Poetry, Story, Improv Pairs)
* 7:30 Round 1 –-Flight C (Declamation, Prose, Duet Acting, Impromptu)
* 9:00 Group Interp, The Ad Game, and Student Congress Round 1
* 11:30 Curfew
* **Friday, March 8**
* 7:30 a.m. Continental breakfast for judges begins, Judge Sign-In
* 8:00 Round 2—Flight A
* 9:00 Extemp Draw (Claiborne)
* 9:30 Round 2—Flight B
* 11:00 Round 2—Flight C
* 12:30 Group Interp and Student Congress Round 2
* 1:00 Broadcasting Draw (Claiborne)
* 1:30 Round 3—Flight A
* 2:30 Extemp Draw (Claiborne)
* 3:00 Round 3—Flight B
* 4:30 Round 3—Flight C
* 6:00 Group Interp, The Ad Game, and Student Congress Round 3 and one quarterfinal

for an event with 60 or more entries (as needed)

* 8:00 Dance
* 10:30 Quarterfinalists and Semifinalists posted (Semi’s for events w/out Quarterfinals)
* 12:00am Curfew
* **Saturday, March 9**
* 7:30 a.m. Continental breakfast for judges begins; Judge Sign-In
* 7:30-8:45          Student Congress Session 4
* 8:00 Group Interp Final Round
* 8:15 Broadcasting Draw for Quarterfinals, if necessary
* 8:30 Quarterfinals—for all events with 60 or more entries
* 9:30-10:30        Student Congress Session 5
* 10:00 Broadcasting Draw for Semifinals
* 10:30 Semifinals— Duet Acting, Interp of Lit, Broadcasting, Solo, Story, Public Speaking
* 12:00 Extemp Draw for Semifinals, Final Round of Group Interp
* 12:30 Semifinals—Extemp, Poetry, Declamation, Improv Pairs, Prose, Impromptu
* 1:30 Broadcasting Draw for Finals
* 2:00 Finals-- Duet Acting, Interp of Lit, Broadcasting, Solo, Story, Public Speaking
* 3:00 Extemp Draw for Finals
* 3:30 Finals-- Extemp, Poetry, Declamation, Improv Pairs, Prose, Impromptu
* 6:00 Banquet and Awards
* **Certification of Judge Training**
* Coaches need to read and sign the following statement and bring it to the KESDA Tournament. Any questions about judge qualification and training should be sent to the KESDA Directors.
* As a head coach, I realize the importance of bringing only qualified judges to the KESDA tournament. My signature on this document confirms that each of my team’s judges for the 2019 KESDA Junior Tournament has been trained to participate fully. Every judge traveling with me is qualified to judge any event offered at the forum. Rules and regulations have been read and understood by each judge.
* Head coach’s signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* **2019 KESDA JUNIOR STATE TOURNAMENT FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

**(For Your Records)**

* SCHOOL CODE
* **A. ENTRY FEES:**
* Number of entries X $7.00 = $
* Number of Trithon entries X $7.00 = $
* Students must participate in at least 3 events including at least one event in each of the following events:
* Original Prepared Speaking: Public Speaking and Declamation
* Interpretation: Prose, Poetry, Solo, Duet Acting, Storytelling, Interp of Literature, Group Interp
* Limited Prep: Broadcasting, Extemp, Improv Pairs, Impromptu, Student Congress
* **B. JUDGING FEES:**
* # of Judges supplied= X 6 = (covered slots)
* Total # entries = - (covered slots) = (number of uncovered entries)
* Judging: Number of uncovered entries X $5= $
* (Remember, one judge for every 6 entries or portion thereof. Duet Acting and Improv Pairs count twice in fee computation but only once in judges needed.)
* C. BANQUET TICKETS:  **X approx. $14=$**
* **SUB‑TOTAL DUE** (when registration is submitted): $
* ENTRY DROPS OR ADDS (after the deadline): drops X $10 = $
* JUDGE DROPS (after the deadline): drops X $50 = $
* **TOTAL AMOUNT DUE: $**
*
* Amount paid at registration: $ check # Cash amount: $
* Balance due (if any): $
*
* **KESDA ROOMING LIST**
* The rooming list should be faxed to Scott Hait at (859) 825-5046. If you would like to email/scan the completed form, please send to ccravens@bluegrasshotels.com. If you have questions, please call (859) 233-0512 Ext. 288.
* **Clarion Hotel will take reservations and requests on a first-come, first-served basis. Sleeping room locations and room types may be requested but not guaranteed.**
* **PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL TEAMS MUST STAY AT THE CLARION AND ANY ROOM WITH A COMPETITOR IN IT MUST BE RESERVED AT THE KESDA RATE**
* School Name - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Director and/or Main Contact - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Address - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* City, State & Zip Code - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* E-Mail & Phone # - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Sleeping Rooms – Check-in date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Check-out date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Tax Exempt # - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Form of Payment - \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* ***\*\* Please bring a copy of your tax exempt certificate with you and show at check-in.***

**Please fill in the names of students and adults occupying each room. Limit 4 per room.**

Room 1:

Room 2:

Room 3:

Room 4:

**Room 5:**

**SAFE ROOM**

* **REMEMBER: UNLESS YOU REQUEST AT LEAST 5 ROOMS, YOU ARE NOT GUARANTEED A SAFE ROOM.**

Room 6:

Room 7:

Room 8:

Room 9:

Room 10:

**SAFE ROOM**

Room 11:

Room 12:

Room 13:

Room 14:

Room 15:

**SAFE ROOM**

Room 16:

Room 17:

Room 18:

Room 19:

Room 20:

**SAFE ROOM**