

Speech and Debate 2007-2008 Registration Packet

Please return the following by September 4th

- Registration/Medical Form
- Copy of health insurance card
- Registration Fee Check
- Cougar Paw Check
- Volunteer Form

Welcome to the Chattahoochee HS Cougar Forensics Team

The Coaches and the Board of the 2007-2008 Forensics Team welcome you to what promises to be another exciting year of Chattahoochee debate competition. This packet contains all that you will need to get your student registered for the team as well as information on coaches, the booster club board and the obligations and benefits of being part of this competitive and nationally recognized academic team

If you have questions about the workings of the team please contact a coach. If you would like to know how you or your company can actively support the team through booster club participation, please contact **Mark Rayburn** (770-777-7996). The team cannot function without parent support; if you are not already working with the Booster Club please contact **Sue Cambre** (770-754-9852) or **Cathy Frederickson** (678-393-1645) to see how you can help.

Again, welcome and we look forward to working with each and every one of you!

Registration Packet – Due Sep. 4th

Registration/Medical Release Form – return with check payable to CHS Forensics. **Please remember to include a copy of both front and back of insurance card**; place card away from edge and enlarge to 150% if possible. The insurance card is the most overlooked item, and the most important. In case of accident or illness, this form serves as your permission for your minor child to be treated. Without it, hospitals **will not** treat your child until you can be contacted; if the situation is life threatening they will treat him/her but your insurance company may refuse to pay. Please return form and checks to Mr. Herndon by Sep. 4th. Thank you!

Registration Fees:

- ❖ Novice (1st year) \$150/student
- ❖ JV/Varsity \$175/student
- ❖ Speech \$150/student

Fees must be submitted by check and made payable to CHS Forensics Team

****Fees are nonrefundable****

Cougar Paw Car Magnet Fundraiser

Cougar Paw Fundraiser is mandatory. Each team member should sell at least 6 paws for a total of \$36. Please return a separate check by Sep. 4 to receive your Cougar Paws.

Included Items

- ❖ Registration form (to be returned with check)
- ❖ Handbook
- ❖ Parent Volunteer Form (to be returned with registration)
- ❖ Forensics Coaches and Board roster
- ❖ 2007-2008 Tournament Schedule
- ❖ 2007-2008 Estimated Tournament Costs
- ❖ Cougar Paw Fundraiser Information

Forensics Team Registration Form (2007-2008)

Student Name (Print Clearly) _____

Grade _____ Team: _____ Novice _____ JV/Varsity _____ Speech (check one)

Parent Name(s) _____

Parent Employer(s) _____

Address _____

Parent home phone

Parent cell phone

Parent e-mail address

Parent work phone

Student cell phone

Student e-mail address

T-shirt Size: (please circle) Small Medium Large X-Large XX-Large

Medical Release Form

I hereby give my permission to any chaperone of the Chattahoochee HS Forensics Team to secure emergency medical care for my son/daughter _____ while he or she is participating in a school sponsored Forensics function.

My child has the following allergies: _____

My child is taking these prescription medications: _____

If I cannot be reached, please call: _____

Other pertinent information: _____

Please attach a photocopy (front and back) of your insurance card; place card away from the edge of the copy area and enlarge to 150%.

Parent signature

Parent name (please print)

Date: _____

Acknowledgement

I have read and understand all of the Chattahoochee Debate Team Handbook. I understand that I will be held accountable for all of the information in the handbook. I agree to abide by all of the rules and regulations set forth in this document, and if I fail to follow said policies that I will accept the possible consequences. Agreeing to follow the team requirements is a prerequisite for competing on the CHS Forensics Team.

Student signature

Parent signature

DEBATE HANDBOOK

PHILOSOPHY:

The competitive debate opportunities are available to all students. Students choose to participate and also choose the level of their participation. A sincere effort will be made to provide appropriate opportunities to every deserving student at every level of competition. However, it is important to remember that forensics is a **competitive activity**, and the most successful students will be those that exhibit intelligence, hard work, determination, motivation, and natural skill

Participation on the CHS debate team is designed to yield the following benefits:

- 1) offer student an environment where knowledge, effort, and intellectual skills are promoted and reinforced
- 2) provide basic and advanced instruction for debate students in argumentation theory, cross examination, analysis, and synthesis of ideas
- 3) provide frequent practice and tournament opportunities
- 4) provide the opportunity to work as part of a team of students and teachers/coaches, emphasizing mutual respect and support for the experiences of all participants
- 5) provide support for the forensics activity (co-curricular and extra-curricular) in the state of Georgia.

Parents are an important resource to the Chattahoochee team in many ways. They can support their children's participation in practice rounds and tournaments, and assist with hosting the Chattahoochee Cougar Classic Speech and Debate Tournament and the Novice/JV State tournament. Parents are a critical resource for transportation to and from tournaments. No matter what level of involvement, parents are welcome and encouraged to observe their child engaged in the activity.

PROCEDURES:

Tournament and Travel Procedures

Students compete in all events by preparing at school and then attending tournaments held at other schools. Students also help to host a tournament in mid-November and another in February here at Chattahoochee. Tournaments are usually two day events that begin Friday afternoon and continue on Saturday until the late afternoon or evening. Some Varsity tournaments extend to Sunday and Monday. Some novice tournaments are Saturday only. Students may attend tournaments in Georgia, North Carolina, Tennessee, Illinois, Texas, Michigan, Kentucky, Washington D.C., Massachusetts and California. Travel will usually be by car or bus. Occasionally, students will fly to a tournament.

Students may be responsible for registration fees, housing, travel, and material fees. These fees are reduced in part by fundraising, but costs, which may be substantial, do exist. We at Chattahoochee believe that money, however, should never be an impediment to debating; if assistance is required please speak to one of the coaches privately and we will make arrangements to cover fees.

Students and teachers should be on time to depart and return from tournaments. While we can tentatively establish return times, these times change on a moment to moment basis. Tournaments run notoriously behind schedule and our departure is often dependent on how successful students are at the tournament. If a Chattahoochee debater has made it to the finals, we cannot leave before the tournament is over; whereas we could leave early if all Chattahoochee debaters are eliminated in the quarterfinals. While coaches make every effort to inform parents in advance, it is **ultimately** the child's responsibility to relay changes back to parents. Phones are always available on campus and a number of students carry cell-phones.

Parents will be notified of the tentative schedule of tournaments at the beginning of the year. No student is required to attend any particular tournaments. Sign up sheets are posted in advance in P40 for students to sign up. These sign up sheets indicate the **interest and intent** of the student to debate at the tournament. Once sign up sheets have been taken down, the student who has signed up has committed to attending the tournament. If a student must cancel because of minor illness, poor grades, family concerns, too much homework, etc. the student will be responsible for non-refundable fees incurred by the team in securing that slot. Additional consequences may also occur. Please see the section entitled CONSEQUENCES. Deaths in the family or illnesses warranting doctor intervention are excused from penalties. Because many tournaments limit the number of students we may bring (and sometimes they won't tell us this number until a few days before the tournament), it may be possible that a debater will not be able to attend that specific event; the coaches will attempt to notify students of this situation as early as possible. The coach's decisions on tournament attendance are final.

There is a tournament information sheet given out the week of the tournament listing the tournament specifics. Tournament specifics include: location of tournament, approximate arrival and departure times, costs, transportation information, emergency contact information and lodging specifics (if necessary). While we endeavor to provide contact phone numbers in advance, this is not always feasible. We encourage all students to carry a cell-phone for such times. Coach's and chaperone's cell phone numbers are always provided and available.

Who is eligible to travel

Any debater in good standing is eligible to travel at the local and state level. National travel is reserved for JV and Varsity debaters or by invitation only for Novices.

GENERAL TEAM RULES AND POLICIES:

1. Chattahoochee often brings in outside help so students can have practice rounds and work with individual college debaters and other debate veterans. There are sign up sheets posted for students to sign up to work with their coaches as well as these individuals. When you sign up for a specific time slot, it is just like signing up for a tournament. If you do not show up WITH the necessary materials for your commitment, there will be consequences that could include **suspension from at least 1 future tournament and reimbursement of any money paid to the individual we brought in.** We take this very seriously.
2. Partner assignments in policy debate are accomplished through student preference wherever possible. Partner assignments for junior varsity and varsity are assigned based on a combination of student preference, work ethic, skill, and personality. Coaches, however, make the final decisions. Those decisions are made for the benefit of both individuals and the team as a whole.
3. Students are responsible for completing their school work. Some tournaments require the team to leave before school is out on a Friday. It is the student's responsibility to notify their teachers of absences at least one week prior to that absence. Students generally have a minimum of two weeks' notice of when they are going to a tournament. It is the student's responsibility to do their work and study ahead of time so conflicts do not occur when the tournament arrives. Debate work **SHOULD NEVER** take precedence over school work
4. No student may miss a class they are failing. The coaches will obtain a copy of the progress reports given to students. If a student has a failing grade in a class on the progress report, they are not allowed to miss that class until a note sent to one of the coaches from the teacher of that class indicating the student is passing that class. This note must be received by the coaches at the time they register for the tournament. There will be no exceptions.
5. While trading evidence citations with other schools increases education for everyone, **students may not trade or give another school the evidence.** You also **CANNOT** tell someone of another school new arguments Chattahoochee is developing. Failure to adhere to these rules can result in **EXPULSION** from the team. If a team ever asks you for the cites of evidence you have read in a debate, you must give it to them. If it is evidence you have never read, you do not have to give it to anyone.
6. While attendance is voluntary at the majority of tournaments (see tournament and travel procedures) there are a few tournaments where it is required. All speech and debate students must attend the two tournaments hosted at Chattahoochee and any fundraisers. All Varsity will be expected to attend the Emory University tournament to help scout and research. All students who are invited by coaches to compete at the state tournament will be required to attend. Finally, all students who qualify for the TOC will be required to attend. Failure to attend these tournaments will result in severe consequences.
7. Trophies help bring awareness of our team and its success to the rest of the school and the community. It is the support of the school and the community that is essential to our success. As a result, trophies earned belong to the team and the school. You may take the trophies home from a tournament to show to your family, but on the next school day you must bring your trophy to the main office where it will be displayed for about a week, and then put in our trophy case. At the end of the year, most trophies will be given back to you. The school does however keep all first and second place trophies from most tournaments, as well as semifinal and quarterfinal trophies from certain national tournaments. Individual awards, such as speaker awards, are an exception and may be kept by the student.

GENERAL TEAM RULES AND POLICIES:

8. All school and GHSA rules will be enforced. In particular, please note the CHS Debate Team has a zero-tolerance policy toward drug, alcohol, and tobacco use. You will be considered in violation of these rules if you are using one of these substances or with someone who is using them.
9. In addition to attending and participating in tournaments as a debater, every sophomore, junior, and senior member of the Chattahoochee debate team is required at a MINIMUM to attend at least 1 tournament a semester solely for the purposes of judging debates [this excludes the Chattahoochee tournament]. Judging debates is part of the learning process of becoming a better debater and also provides the school with excellent opportunities to decrease ever rising costs. Students will accrue no travel expenses when attending a tournament to judge for the school.
10. As part of a competitive activity based on persuasion, it is important that debaters display a certain level of professionalism. As such, Chattahoochee debaters are expected to follow the following dress code during preliminary debate round days at all tournaments: no jeans, no shorts, no athletic pants. Further restrictions will be made on a tournament by tournament basis and it is the student's job to make sure they are in accordance with the dress codes.

TRAVEL RULES:

1. When staying in a hotel, students may not leave their room after they have been checked in for the night. The penalty for violating this rule will be a **SUSPENSION OF AT LEAST THREE TOURNAMENTS**. If the coaching staff is unable to determine which student left a particular room, all people in the room will be held responsible.
2. It is impossible for Chattahoochee debate coaches to visually supervise all students at all times. For example, when students are at tournaments, they are often scheduled in up to 30 different rooms of the host school. It is therefore imperative that at all times when we are away from Chattahoochee, a student must always be in the presence of another Chattahoochee debater. This includes at tournaments, in a hotel, at the airport, etc.
3. No student from Chattahoochee is allowed to be in the hotel room of someone of the opposite sex unless a coach is present.
4. Chattahoochee students are not allowed to go into rooms of debaters from other schools and students from other schools are not allowed into Chattahoochee rooms. Socializing must take place in public areas.
5. While students are at debate tournaments, they must behave as if they are at Chattahoochee. All rules that cover a student's behavior while at Chattahoochee, such as rules regarding drinking, smoking, etc. will be strictly enforced. If a student is found violating these rules, they will be sent home. It will be the parents' responsibility to make and pay for said arrangements. Students will also face discipline from the school in addition to severe consequences from the team. A second offense involving alcohol or tobacco by a student will result in immediate expulsion from the team. Any offense involving illicit drugs will result in immediate expulsion from the team.

HOST FAMILIES:

Occasionally, schools will offer to house our debaters overnight for debate tournaments. The families of the host schools offer to do so to help alleviate some of the high costs of debate travel. A good host family will adhere to the following guidelines.

1. A good host family should provide a safe environment for students.
2. A good host family should house males and females separately.
3. A good host family should provide adequate sleeping accommodations (students should generally bring sleeping bags)
4. A good host family should be available if there are any questions or problems.
5. A good host family should not offer or make available illegal substances for students to consume.

If for any reason these guidelines are not met or a student feels uncomfortable, the student should contact one of the coaches immediately. The coach will then take the necessary steps to either correct the situation or arrange for alternate accommodations.

CONSEQUENCES FOR RULE/POLICY INFRACTIONS:

Failure to perform tasks or meet responsibilities is a serious concern. When a student fails to update a file or drops from a tournament at the last minute, their behavior affects everyone else on the team, and in some cases, other schools and debate teams. Due to the severity of an infraction or its repeated nature, consequences may be assigned to students. The consequence should be commensurate to the infraction.

Consequences may include but are not limited to:

- Reimbursement of non-refundable fees
- Mandatory scut work (copying, filing, etc.)
- Compulsory judging obligations
- Suspension from 1 or 2 tournaments
- Suspension from the team for one semester
- Permanent suspension from the team
- Coaches discretion

VARSITY LETTERS:

Debate is considered a competitive sport by the Georgia legislature. As such, students can earn varsity letters for their involvement and success in forensics. Please note the qualifications below. No first-year debater may qualify for a varsity letter.

1. Attend at least 5 tournaments at the varsity level **OR**
2. Break to quarterfinals at a varsity/open tournament competition **OR**
3. Coaches discretion based upon the following:
 - a. Dedication/commitment
 - b. Years involved
 - c. Enthusiasm
 - d. Effort
 - e. Leadership

HALL OF FAME:

In order to qualify for the Chattahoochee Forensics Hall of Fame, debaters must meet any one of the following criteria:

- a. Qualify for the Octofinal round at the Tournament of Champions.
- b. Compete in the Tournament of Champions in three separate years.
- c. Qualify for the semifinal round at any two tournaments that have octofinal TOC bids over the course of your time at Chattahoochee.

2007-08 Forensics Volunteer Form

The Chattahoochee Cougar Forensics Team is a nationally recognized team. The coaches and students work hard all year to prepare for tournaments but they need our support to ensure they have the resources to attend these tournaments. This team cannot operate without support from **all** parents. Please indicate below where you will be able to assist the Board.

Chairpersons needed:

_____ Chair-Tournament – working with a committee, arrange for the student meals, concessions and coaches’ lounge parts of the fall tournament

_____ Chair-Webmaster - update and maintain current website

General help needed:

_____ Chattahoochee Classic Tournament (November)

_____ Car Wash (date TBA)

_____ Chaperone (attend local overnight tournament)

Name _____ Student’s name _____

E-mail _____ Phone # _____

CHS Forensics Coaches and Board

2007-2008

Coaches

JV/Varsity Coach	James Herndon	herndonj@fulton.k12.ga.us
Novice/JV Coach	Luke Hill	hilll06@fulton.k12.ga.us
Speech Coach	Jan Jensen	jensenj2003@yahoo.com

Board

Co-President	Sue Cambre	scamb@aol.com	770-754-9852
Co-President	Cathy Frederickson	c.fred@comcast.net	678-393-1645
Secretary	Robin Scales	robinscales@hotmail.com	770-442-5644
Treasurer	Mila Chatterjee	sharmila_chiran@hotmail.com	404-437-7362

Vice-President - Publicity

Vice President	Afshan Raees	araees@ana-gen.com	678-393-2184
Chair – Webmaster	OPEN		

Vice President – Transportation

Ginger Foretich	gingerforetich@comcast.net	770-753-0045
-----------------	--	--------------

Vice President – Social

Donna Butts	dmbutts@bellsouth.net
-------------	--

Vice President – Fundraising

Co Vice President	Mark Rayburn	mrayburn@demandvoice.com	770-777-7996
Co Vice President	Denise Robinson	robi7278@comcast.net	770-771-4660
Co Vice President	Jinghong Ma	jinghongma@yahoo.com	678-367-0309
Chair – Car Wash	Florence Milway	fmilway@comcast.net	
Chair – Cougar Paws	Adriana Mettler	adrianamettler@mindspring.com	678-319-0184

2007-2008 Debate Schedule

First Semester Schedule

Date	Days	Tournament	Location	Varsity	J.V.	Novice
9/8	Sat	Westminster One-Day	Atlanta, GA			X
9/14-16	Fri-Sun	Wake Forest	Winston-Salem, NC	X	X	
9/12-14	Wed-Fri	Greenhill Round Robin	Dallas, TX	X		
9/14-17	Fri-Mon	Greenhill	Dallas, TX	X		
10/5-6	Fri-Sat	Calhoun	Calhoun, GA	X	X	X
10/18-21	Th-Sun	St. Marks	Dallas, TX	X	X	
10/26-28	Fri-Sun	Westminster Varsity	Atlanta, GA	X	X	
10/30-11/2	Tue-Fri	Michigan Round Robin	Ann Arbor, MI	X		
11/2-4	Fri-Sun	University of Michigan	Ann Arbor, MI	X		
11/9-10	Fri-Sat	* Cougar Classic	CHATTAHOOCHEE	X	X	X
11/16-17	Fri-Sat	Carrollton	Carrollton, GA	X	X	X
11/16-20	F-Tues	The Glenbrooks	Chicago, IL	X		
11/30-12/3	F-M	Ohio Valley at UK	Lexington, KY	X	X	X

Second Semester Schedule

Date	Days	Tournament	Location	Varsity	J.V.	Novice
1/4-7	F-M	MBA	Nashville, TN	X		
1/11-12	Fri-Sat	Milton	Alpharetta, GA	X	X	X
1/18-21	Fri-Sun	Lexington	Boston, MA	X	X	
1/25-27	Fri-Sun	Barkely Forum at Emory	Atlanta, GA	X		
2/8-9	Fri-Sat	GHSA State Debate	Whitewater HS, Augusta	X		
2/15-18	Fri-Mon	Berkeley	Berkeley, CA	X		
2/13-15	Wed-Fri	Harvard RR	Boston, MA	X		
2/15-18	Fri-Mon	Harvard	Boston, MA	X		
2/22-23	Fri-Sat	Novice/JV State	Carrollton, GA		X	X
2/22-23	Fri-Sat	Vestavia Hills	Birmingham, AL	X	X	X
3/1-3	Fri-Sun	University of Georgia	Athens, GA	X	X	X
4/4-6	Fri-Sun	Woodward N/JV Nationals	Atlanta, GA		X	X
4/11 – 14	Fri-Sun	NDCA	East Lansing, MI	X		
4/19-20	Fri-Sun	All-State Tournament	Atlanta, GA	X		
5/2-5	Fri-Mon	Tournament of Champions	Lexington, KY	X		

2007-08 Chattahoochee Forensics Estimated Tournament Costs

Below are estimates, based on previous years' expenses, of the total costs for attending various tournaments. The tournaments are broken into four general categories based on costs which may include hotel, car and van rental, tournament registration, judging, additional coaching, airfare, gasoline, coach expenses, etc. Thus, the prices are guaranteed to fluctuate. Students may occasionally be invited to attend a Round Robin tournament prior to or after a regular tournament. The Round Robin and the tournament count as separate tournaments and will double the cost of the event for those particular students.

Each student can sign up for as many or as few tournaments as they desire. Regular participation is appreciated and encouraged but not required. Please remember that many tournaments have limits on how many students can participate from each school so please make decisions early and sign up for the appropriate tournaments. **If your student is participating in a debate which requires flying, we will be carpooling in groups of two and you will need to provide transportation either to or from the airport.**

\$50	\$100	\$150	To Be Announced
Westminster	Calhoun	Vestavia	Wake Forest
Milton	Carrollton	UGA	Greenhill
Varsity State	Emory	Woodward	New Trier
Districts	Novice/JV State		St. Marks
			Michigan
			Glenbrooks
			Ohio Valley
			MBA
			Lexington
			Berkeley
			Harvard
			TOC

Chattahoochee Cougar Paws

Sold only by
Chattahoochee Debate
and Speech Team
Members

\$6.00 per PAW

One check for \$36 must be turned in
with your completed registration
forms

6 Paws will be given to you after
your \$36 check is received

Make checks payable to **CHS Forensics
Team**