

State Speech and Debate Virtual Meet Instructions

- Virtual tournaments can look quite different than in-person tournaments, so to make sure everyone is on the same page regarding the procedures utilized during this year's UIL State Meet, please take time to make sure all coaches, students, and judges have familiarized themselves with the SpeechWire platform well in advance of the meet. Both students and judges will need to access their SpeechWire accounts to get to their NSDA Campus competition rooms.
- All participants will need SpeechWire accounts to compete in the State Meet competition. Check out all the helpful links and videos in this document for more detailed instructions on how to do this. ***I highly recommend you do this with your students as well.***

Account Set-Up – SpeechWire

1. Coaches, make sure all competitors have SpeechWire accounts – these should be **created by the coach and not independently by the student** in the SpeechWire system.

View the step-by-step video here: Click on Student Accounts video.

<https://www.speechwire.com/p-video-resources.php>

Also provided is a pdf:

<https://www.speechwire.com/handbooks/registrationhandbook.pdf>

2. If your students are new to competing virtually through SpeechWire, you should also share this video with them to walk them through the virtual tournament experience: NOTE: Because this video is generic, it discusses multiple platforms. **UIL State rounds will be synchronous on NSDA Campus/Zoom** and your students should focus on that particular info since they will be competing live.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MQggptPqNtA>

Judges – Ballot Pick up and Stand-By

Making sure all ballots get picked up and handling subsequent “pushes” is critical. Gone are the days of walking through the Judges Lounge to see who’s available to pick up a ballot. To help make this virtual process smoother, we need the help of our amazing judges in a few key ways.

1. Ballots become available on *live.speechwire.com*. There is a large highlighted yellow banner to take you there, or you can go directly to <https://live.speechwire.com/>
2. At the beginning of your round, make sure to formally “**start the round**” on your SpeechWire Ballot. Do not wait until you begin making comments to open your ballot. This allows the tab room to determine which ballots need to be pushed.
3. You will be asked to provide your cell phone number with the first electronic ballot that you open. Please provide a cell phone number at which you can be reached for the entirety of the tournament.
4. Your eballot will have a button on it to **Enter NSDA Campus room**. Clicking this will take you to the NSDA Campus room in which your round will happen. Students will access the room through their own accounts.
5. If you DO NOT receive a ballot, please wait in the Judge’s Lounge for at least the first 10 minutes after the start of the round so that you can be easily located.
6. If you are pushed a ballot you should receive an email and/or text from SpeechWire alerting you to the ballot, but make sure to be in the Judge’s Lounge during the time when ballots are being pushed so that we may locate you if we need you.

Extemp Draw:

Check back here to receive instructions on where draw is happening.

When it is your turn to draw, the person running draw will release the topics to you in SpeechWire. You'll also want to be logged in at: <https://live.speechwire.com/>

Follow these steps:

- click the name of the tournament,
- then once it is time for you to draw, click the link to enter draw
- once the proctor actually opens draw for you specifically,

you will see a link that will say “Click here to draw now”

- After clicking it, you will see your 5 extemp topic options.
- Click on the one that you wish to speak on.
- **You must click on the question and select it as that is what places the other four questions back in the virtual “envelope/bag” for others to draw from.**

HELP, I'M LOST!

If you have watched all the instructional videos, and have walked through the step-by-step instructions listed, and still can't get it figured out, then please feel free to reach out for help.