

2015-2016 NVHS Speech Audition Packet

PLEASE DO NOT PRINT THIS ENTIRE PACKET. ONLY PRINT THE PAGES YOU
NEED.



Hi! If you're reading this packet, it's because you're interested in trying out for the Neuqua Speech Team. Or you clicked on a wrong link somewhere on the Internet. Either way, we hope this packet will answer most of your questions!

Everything you need to know about Speech is somewhere in this packet. Read it, love it, and talk it over with your family (really). If you still have questions, our contact information is in here, too.

We hope this is helpful and that you decide to audition for one of the most competitive, useful, and enjoyable activities Neuqua has to offer!

page 1.....You're looking at it!
page 2-4.....What is speech?
page 5.....Category leader responsibilities
page 6.....Tentative schedule of tournaments
page 7.....Still have questions?
page 8.....THE FORM
page 9.....Extended form for returning speakers

What is Speech???



HI MOM!

- Speech consists of 14 different categories, each different from the others. A student on the Speech Team may be in one event or two, though most first-year members will only be in one.
- **How can I audition for the team?**
 - First, come to an orientation meeting to get more details! We have two of them, but you only need to attend one!
 - Monday, Sep. 21 at 2:30p in the LMC (Main Building)
 - Tuesday, Sep. 22 at 2:30p in the Forum Room (Birkett Center)
 - After that, you can sign up for an audition slot. Auditions take place in D219 (Main Building) on September 30 and October 1. There are several available time slots and you don't need to stay very long. This year we will be using Sign-Up Genius (tinyurl.com/nvspeech) to organize the audition process. Please sign up for **one** of the twenty-minute slots for either date. Slots will be limited to 5 people so sign up early! (Please take the earliest available slot if possible.)
 - Fill out the form on page 8 of this packet!
 - On the day of your audition, **please arrive outside D219 15 minutes early.** (We need to get some information from you!)
 - If you cannot audition on your specific day, email Coach Mehta with a legitimate reason at mpromptu@gmail.com and your case will be handled on an individual basis.
- **What should I prepare for my audition?**
 - Two impressions/voices of anyone you want (e.g. Arnold Schwarzenegger). They can be fictional characters or real people. You will be asked to speak to us in these impressions. We want to see how convincing you can be!
 - A one-minute speech to read and perform for us. (You can find all sorts of examples online, whether it's a commencement address or a TED talk.) It does **not** have to be memorized, but show us your best presentation skills! (If you have material that you prepared from the Summer Speech Camp, YOU CAN USE THIS!)
 - We may ask you to read other material for us at the audition. Do your best, have fun, and let us see your personality!

- **What if I'm already a member of the team?**

- For returning members we will be having open auditions on **Wednesday, September 30 from 2:45-5:00p.** We will have a sign-in sheet when you arrive that will work on a first-come first-serve basis. Former Team members are required to have a **FULL SCRIPT** ready for auditions. You will be giving between **1-2 minutes from any part of your speech that we choose** (so be ready!).

- **How will I know if I made the team?**

- We will post the roster on Friday night, October 2, on nvspeech.com. Please check the site for further instructions that evening. If you make the team, you **must** make arrangements to be in D219 Monday, October 5, from 2:45-4:00p. It's a mandatory meeting!

What is the commitment for Team Members?

- **The basics:**

- We have tournaments every Saturday (all day) from November through February, minus the holidays. You are expected to be present at every tournament, whether or not you're competing – unless there is a conflict that the coaches have pre-approved.
- We have **mandatory** team meetings after school on Mondays (until 3:15p). There will also be weekly Category Meetings and individual rehearsals, but the exact days/times will be decided by team members and category leaders after we pick the Team. You are expected to attend all of these -- unless there is a conflict that the coaches have pre-approved.

- **A few miscellaneous items**

- Those who have been on the team for more than one season are considered Varsity. If you're new to the team, we consider you Novices.
- Most competitions do not distinguish between the two levels. So our Team's freshmen may compete against seniors from other schools.
- When the team is picked, there will be 5-6 spots ("strings") per category. We seek to put together the strongest team in every category – experience and age do not necessarily guarantee you're one of the top strings.
- District 204 mandates that Team Members pay a \$200.00 dollar activity fee and complete a health form.
- In every category, you either write or find the material you perform. Coaches or Category Leaders will help you with this. You are never alone and we want to help you succeed. For most events, you will keep that same script for the duration of the season.
- We always try to keep the categories balanced in number (5-6 strings each), and we decide which students will be in humorous/dramatic duets – so if you try out

with a partner, you may not be with that partner during the season. The needs of the Team mean you may not get in the category you want. But we will always put you in an event in which we think you'll do well – and we're pretty good at noticing individual talent and strength!

We are only interested in those individuals wishing to make the commitment to work towards excellence, realizing that success may not come immediately.

Speech is an IHSA event, meaning all IHSA rules and regulations regarding the use of illegal substances and grades of team members during the season will be enforced and proper discipline will be taken.

Also keep in mind that Speech is not a Club – it is not a place for casual or occasional effort. We are a competitive, hard-working Team.

If you do not wish to make the commitment, please do not audition! We have a tradition of success and we will do what it takes to continue that tradition!

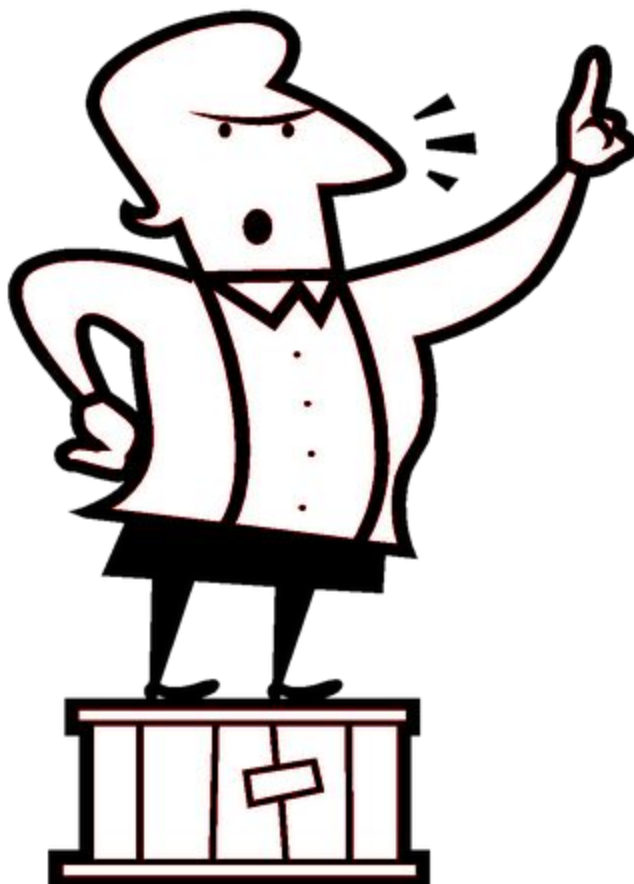
Category Leader Responsibilities

FOR RETURNING MEMBERS ONLY:

If you are interested in becoming a Category Leader this season, your responsibilities will be greatly increased. So read this over carefully. THIS IS DIFFERENT FROM PREVIOUS YEARS:

- Category Leaders are responsible for coaching the lower 2 or 3 strings in your category. You will also be running Category Rehearsals at least once a week with everyone in your event, as well as keeping a record of who in your category misses weekly rehearsals and Monday meetings. This, of course, means your attendance is MANDATORY at all Monday meetings and you will be in charge of **strictly enforcing** attendance from your category members. Do not sign up to be a Category Leader unless you are willing to take on this responsibility.
- These responsibilities will not be taken lightly and captains and coaches will hold category leaders to their highest expectations. If the expectations **are not met**, the category leader will be **excused** from the position and a new team member will step up.

If you are still interested in being a Category Leader, please also complete the first question of the **EXTENDED FORM** (page 9).



Tentative Schedule of Tournaments

What follows is a **TENTATIVE schedule for this year** just so you have an idea of what our season looks like. This year's official schedule is still being put together, but you can expect it to be similar to this. Exact departure and return times will be announced as soon as they are determined. Items in **RED** are non-Saturday events.

- Sat October 30th** **Mock Tournament** (Novices only)
- Tues November 3rd** **6:00p – 7:00p – Info Meeting for new members and parents**
- Sat November 7th** **Downers Grove North Invitational** (Novices compete; everyone attends)
- Sat November 14th** **Wheaton North**
Downers Grove South (only Novices will compete)
- Sat November 21st** **Thornton Turkey Tourney** (only top 3 strings compete)
- Mon November 23** **5:00p – 9:00p– NVHS Open House** (All levels perform)
- Sat December 5th** **TBA**
- Sat December 12th** **Naperville Central**
Glenbard East/South Comfy Classic
- Sat January 2nd** **Thornwood T-Shirt Tourney** (only Varsity will compete and attend)
- Sat January 9th** **Glenbard West Topper Tourney**
TBA
- Sat January 16th** **Wheaton Warrenville South Tiger Tourney**
TBA
- January 22-23** **Downers Grove South Invitational** (*Fri and Sat*) (Top two strings only)
TBA
- Sat January 30th** **Metea Valley Pre-Post Season Tourney**
- Thurs February 4th** **2:45p – Regional Runthrough** (All Team members)
- Sat February 6th** **Regional Tournament** (Top string only)
- Thurs February 11th** **6:00p – Sectional Runthrough** (All Team members; Family may attend)
- Sat February 13th** **Sectional Tournament** (Top string only)
- February 19-20** **IHSA State Championships (Peoria)**

“So, like, what if this packet doesn’t help me?”

There is no way you can completely understand Speech from the material in this packet, but don’t panic. There is no reason for you to feel lost. After being on the team just a short time, you’ll understand everything. If you want to join the Speech Team, no one will let you become hopelessly lost or fall between the cracks. The Coaches, Captains, and Category Leaders will look out for you until you gain a feel for how everything works. We are a family, after all. We know that right now you might be a bit overwhelmed by all that has been presented, but we assure you, you will soon get a handle on all that is happening. If you can make the commitment as described so far in this packet, then you can handle Speech and we will help you succeed.

Contact Information- *feel free to ask questions! :D*

Coach Hemant Mehta	Mpromptu@gmail.com
Akshay Ravi	akravi98@gmail.com
Archit Dhar	dhar.archit@gmail.com
Hailey Kingsbury	haileykin0454@k12.ipso.org
Marissa Bruner	mariss.bruner@gmail.com
Monika Martinek	napermoni@gmail.com
Sruthi Rameshkumar	srurameshkumar97@gmail.com

Good luck and we hope you decide to audition!

The Form

(Bring this form with you to auditions on **9/30 or 10/1** in D219... PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY)

Name - _____
Grade 9 10 11 12 (circle one)
Address _____ City _____ ZIP _____
Locker # - _____ (if you don't know, go look)
Home Phone - _____ Cell Phone - _____
Student ID # - _____
E-Mail - _____
Current English Class - _____ Current English Teacher - _____

There are several Speech categories and it's impossible to understand them all in detail until you're on the team. But they all make use of different skills. Below, please rank those skills from your best (1) to your worst (4).

Improvisation () Acting () Writing () Storytelling ()

Answer the following with a yes or no:

Do you have a working knowledge of current events and politics? _____

Can you work with a partner if we paired you up? _____

Please list ALL possible conflicts you have between October and February. (Include work, sports, family obligations or any other activities that may compromise your commitment to the program!) Please be honest.

Please read the following with your parents and if you can agree to the requirements set forth in this document, sign this form and bring it with you to auditions: I wish to be a part of the 2015-2016 NVHS Speech Team. I understand the commitment, including multiple rehearsals per week and attendance at all team meetings, category rehearsals, and tournaments. By being part of the team, I will make the effort necessary to represent myself and my school proudly. My parents and I have discussed the obligations necessary and our signatures below indicate our willingness to see that I do my best to meet those expectations. I also know that communication counts, and I am required to notify coaches any time there is a conflict (including these events listed above) *before* the rehearsal or competition arrive. I understand that failure to meet these requirements will result in removal from the team.

Student Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

If you are a returning member you MUST also complete Page 9 of this packet.

EXTENDED FORM

FOR ALL RETURNING MEMBERS OF THE NEUQUA VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL SPEECH TEAM.

The following responses should **be typed** and completed to the best of your ability using full sentence form.

- 1) **(Only for those who wish to be Category Leaders)** Please tell us why you deserve to be a Category Leader (Refer to page 4 about category leader responsibility.)
- 2) Did you attend a summer speech camp? If so, how was that experience for you? Do you feel camp was beneficial? If not, what did you do over the summer to prepare for this season? (List any camps that you attended or any individual work you did or help you may have received!)
- 3) What did you contribute to the team last year? “Competing” is not an acceptable answer.