**AFA-NIET District III Tournament Invitation for Friday-Saturday, March 2-3, 2012**

On behalf of the AFA-NIET District 3 Committee, it is my pleasure to invite you to the 2012 AFA-NIET District 3 Qualifier. John McCabe-Juhnke and Bethel College will serve as our host in Newton, Kansas for the Friday-Saturday, March 2-3, 2012 tournament.

This letter contains information relevant to the tournament as well as important information for reporting legs/at-large qualifications, important deadlines for nationals, and other district news.

***There is one item that I’m not prepared to give you all the information you need quite yet: The cost/deadline for plaques recognizing at-large qualifiers that will be given away at the District 3 tournament. I apologize, but I will be sending that information out ASAP. But I wanted to make sure you got the other information given below now***.

I will also be posting this invite and any follow up news (including plaque information) on the K-State forensics team website ([www.k-state.edu/forensics](http://www.k-state.edu/forensics)).

**Please forward (or refer them to the K-State team website) this to any district schools who might not otherwise receive this information.**

**ENTRY DEADLINES:** Your initial entry needs to be e-mailed (only e-mailed entries will be accepted) to District Chair Craig Brown (craigb@ksu.edu) by **Thursday, February 16, 2012.** No additional entries can be accepted after this deadline.

If you have students entered in the District tournament who qualify at-large over the February 17-19 weekend, you can drop them without penalty by **Tuesday, February 28, 5:00 pm**.

You can replace the entries in that event that you dropped because of the at-large qualification. **February 28, 5:00 pm** is also the last chance to drop or change any other portion of your entry without penalty.

**ENTRY PROCEDURE:** Please use the form provided on the K-State forensics team website ([www.k-state.edu/forensics](http://www.k-state.edu/forensics)) for your entries. Fill out the form and send it to Craig Brown as an attachment no later than **Thursday, February 16, 2012**. If you have a hard time getting the form to work for you, let me know and I will e-mail it to you directly.

If you need to drop students/entries because of at-large qualifications earned after the entry deadline or make other changes, e-mail Craig Brown no later than **February, 28, 5:00 pm** to avoid drop/change fees.

**FEES**

* **Entry Fees**: $8.00 per slot.
* **Judging Fees**: $10 per uncovered slot. Each judge covers five slots per pattern.
* **AFA Dues**: If you have not paid your dues yet, they are $50.

You can get the Invoice for 2011-2012 Membership to the NIET. I would advise you to pay the AFA Dues to our District Treasurer Randy Cox of the University of Texas-Austin. While you can pay the dues directly to the national organization, it’s a more convenient deal for the District if you pay us. You can pay the dues any time prior to the District tournament or at the District tournament. You cannot compete at the AFA-NIET without having paid your AFA dues.

If you are paying with a check, make it payable to AFA-NIET District III. This applies to both payments for the tournament or the AFA Dues.

**DROPS/CHANGES AFTER FEBRUARY 28, 5:00 PM**

* Starting after February 28, 5:00 pm drops will be charged $10 per drop.
* Drops on or after Thursday, March 1 will be charged $50 per drop, including those made at registration.
* Dropping a judge after February 28, 5:00 pm will incur an additional $150 fee.

**ENTRY RULES UNIQUE TO THE DISTRICT 3 TOURNAMENT**

* Schools are limited to no more than five (5) entries per event.
* Students are limited to no more than two (2) events per pattern.
* Students may not enter an event if they are qualified at-large for that event. (Clarification- If you have qualified at-large in a Duo with one partner, you may enter another Duo with another partner.)
* All events will use the AFA-NIET rules/descriptions.
* The tournament will use the AFA-NIET conflict pattern.
1. INF, PRO, IMP B) POI, EXT, DUO, PER C) ADS, DI, CA, POE

**TENTATIVE AFA-NIET DISTRICT III TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE**

**Friday, 3/02/12 Saturday, 3/03/12**

Noon District Committee Lunch Meeting 8:00 Extemp Draw

(This is for the tourney host and the D3 9:30 Round II-B

committee.) 9:45 Round II-C

1:30 Registration 11:00 D3 Coach Meeting/Verification A

2:15 Extemp Draw 12:00 F/SF for A Events

2:45 Round I-B (Ext, Per, Duo, POI) 1:15 Verification B

4:00 Round I-A (Imp, Pro, Inf) 1:30 Extemp Draw

5:15 Round II-A 2:00 F/SF for B Events

6:30 Round I-C (CA, DI, Poe, ADS) 3:15 Verification C

 3:30 F/SF for C Events

 4:30 Remaining Finals if needed

 5:45 Student Meeting

 ASAP Awards

Over the last few years because of the size of the tournament, we have not had events

go to semi-finals. I will inform all schools as soon as possible about changes to the

schedule once we know the size of the tournament. I will also give schools specifics

on where we will meet for registration, extemp draw, verification, and other meetings.

**AT-LARGE QUALIFICATIONS**

You will need to submit for verification all at-large qualifications earned prior to the District 3 tournament. Legs and qualifications should be reported using the AFA-NIET At-Large Qualification form. You can find the form at [www.afa-niet.org](http://www.afa-niet.org).

Please send me (via e-mail as an attachment/PDF or as a fax to Craig Brown, 785-532-3714) all your at-large qualifications as soon as possible. Previously unverified leg/at-large qualifications must be delivered to me by **February 16, 2012**.

If your students qualify more events over the next weekend, please get the at-large qualification form to me by **February 28, 2012**.

**At-Large Documentation Should Include:**

1. The ***At-Large Qualification Form*** for each student.
2. The ***tab sheets*** from the tournaments you are using for the at-large qualification. If Kansas State was at the tournament, I already have the tab sheets.
3. A ***results cover sheet*** for each tournament listing how each finalist placed, the number of people in the event, and the number of schools at the tournament. If you are using Joy of Tournaments, the final summary sheet is designed to provide the necessary information and will suffice without actual round by round results unless there was a tabulation error. If you are not using Joy of Tournaments, I need the actual tab sheets along with a results cover sheet so that I can verify the accuracy of the information listed on the at-large qualification form.

**STUDENTS ON TWO LEGS GOING INTO DISTRICTS**

If you have a student on two-legs the week of the district tournament and they are competing at the district tournament, I also need the same three pieces of information listed above for events already qualified at-large. This will enable me to verify their two-leg status and assist in being able to accurately know who may additionally qualify for nationals based on what happens at the District tournament.

**STUDENT VERIFICATION**

In order to prove that your students are enrolled and meet the AFA-NIET eligibility requirements, you will need to have your school fill out the **Student Verification Form** and turn it in at the District tournament. This is a change from past years where you brought it with you to nationals. Starting last year, you now bring the form to the District tournament. You can find the form at [www.afa-niet.org](http://www.afa-niet.org).

If you are going to nationals but not attending the District tournament, I need the form by the March 12, 2012 entry deadline for nationals. You can scan the documents and e-mail them to me (craigb@ksu.edu), fax them to me (785-532-3714) or mail them to me (Craig Brown, Communication Studies, Nichols Hall 134, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS 66506). If you choose to mail them, make sure you send them early enough so that I get them by March 12.

**AT-LARGE QUALIFICATION PLAQUE**

We plan to acknowledge all students who have qualified at-large prior to the District tournament. We also will give you the chance to purchase a plaque for those students. We will present them with their plaques when we read the names of the at-large qualifiers.

I will soon be sending you how much the plaques will cost and the deadline for ordering the plaques.

You can pay for them during registration at the District tournament. If paying by check, make it payable to AFA-NIET District III.

**ITEMS FOR COACH/STUDENT MEETINGS**

**Monday, February 27** is the deadline for submitting agenda items for the district coaches and student meetings. Items for the coaches meeting should be sent directly to me.

Student items should go to the District 3 student representative William Igbokwe (UT-Austin) at williamgbokew9@gmail.com.

**ALL-AMERICAN NOMINATIONS**

**Monday, February 27** is also the deadline for the NIET All-American Team nominations. A complete information packet includes:

* A letter from the student’s program director
* An additional letter of support, resume (including service work),
* A forensics resume
* An OFFICIAL transcript confirming the student’s GPA is above 3.0.

Each school can nominate at most two seniors. Materials can be scanned and sent to me by e-mail and will be reviewed by the District 3 Committee at the tournament.

More information about the All-American Team can be found at the AFA-NIET website.

**HOTELS IN NEWTON, KS:**

**Newton**

*Newton Econo Lodge Comfort Inn & Suites First Inn*
1620 E. Second Street 1205 E. First Street 1515 E. First Street
316-283-7611 316-804-4866 316-283-8850

*Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites Best Western Red Coach Motel*
1430 E. Broadway Court 1301 East First Street
316-804-7040 316-283-9120

*Days Inn Newton*
105 Manchester
316-283-3330

**Hesston** (10 minutes from campus – North)

*America Inn*
1-800-396-5007 or 620-327-2053

**THE 2012 AFA-NIET at TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY-SAN MARCOS**

The 2012 AFA-NIET will be hosted by our very own TSU-San Marcos and is scheduled for Friday, April 6 for meetings and registration, and competition running over Saturday-Monday, April 7-9.

Your AFA-NIET entry is due to Larry Schnoor by **Monday, March 12, 2012**. You need to use the official AFA-NIET entry form that can be found at the AFA-NIET website ([www.afa-niet.org](http://www.afa-niet.org)).

March 12 is also the final day for you to send me any remaining at-large qualification documentation. **DO NOT SENT YOUR AT-LARGE QUALIFICATION DOCUMENTATION OR LEGS FORM TO LARRY**. You only send those to me. You only send Larry your AFA-NIET entry.

As always, the District III tournament, the buildup to nationals and the long AFA-NIET weekend is my favorite stretch of the year. I’m excited to see how the district has been doing and to help you all finish the year on a strong note. I will have the hotel and plaque information to you ASAP. Check out the list of deadlines on the next page.

Until then, if you have questions, please call/e-mail me-

Craig Brown, D3 Chair and Director of Forensics at Kansas State University

W 785-532-6790 C 785-313-2377 E craigb@ksu.edu Fx 785-532-3714

K-State Forensics team website: [www.k-state.edu/forensics](http://www.k-state.edu/forensics)

**SUMMARY LIST OF DEADLINES**

***Thursday, February 16:*** Entry deadline for the D3 tournament and at-large qualification documentation.

***Monday, February 27:*** Deadline for agenda items for either the coaches or student meetings at the D3 tournament.

This is also the deadline for AFA-NIET All-American Nomination material.

***Tuesday, February 28, 5:00 pm:*** Last chance to drop newly qualified events from the D3 tournament or make any changes without penalty.

This is also the deadline for at-large qualification earned over the weekend.

This is also the deadline for the documentation for all two-leggers going to the D3 tournament.

***Friday, March 2:*** AFA Dues need to be paid before you can compete at the tournament.

This is also the deadline for the Student Verification Form (can be turned in at the D3 tournament registration).

The D3 tournament begins on this day.

***Monday, March 12:*** AFA-NIET entry deadline (send to Larry Schnoor).

This is also the deadline to send any remaining at-large qualification documentation and/or Student Verification Forms.

**Deadlines for ordering plaques to follow soon.**