

Treasurer's Report

New York Catholic Forensic League

For our fiscal year ended August 31, 2023



Prepared by

Christopher Franz, Treasurer

Prepared on

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Treasurer's Remarks

Incorporation and Status

- The New York Catholic Forensic League formally incorporated this year (2023) as a not-for-profit corporation under the laws of the State of New York under the name, "New York Catholic Forensic League." Our corporate papers have been filed and registered with the Secretary of State of the State of New York, and our principal office for the purposes of incorporation is in the Borough of Staten Island in the City of New York, the County of Richmond of the State of New York.
- For many years now we have been registered as a not-for-profit entity for purposes of youth development under the Internal Revenue Code (Section 501(c)(3)), with employer identification number 47-3844584, and registered as a charity with the New York State Attorney General's Office, with registration number 46-76-18.
- Our incorporation does not alter our status with either the federal government or the state as a tax-exempt charity, but it may make it easier for us to update or alter our bank accounts in the future as banks are now demanding more formal corporate organization to comply with their own policies.
- Our bank accounts (one savings account, one checking account) remain with Santander Bank, N.A., where we have held accounts for many years. The league's original accounts were with Staten Island Savings Bank, and as that bank has merged with and been acquired by various banks over the years (through SI Bank and Trust, Independence Community Bank, Sovereign Bank, and finally Santander), we have simply maintained the accounts with each of its successors.

Fiscal outlook

- This year we continued to emerge from the shadow of Covid and to adapt to the constantly changing conditions for forensics teams in our members schools. We have also seen a diminishing number of students competing in the league.
- We have also faced new costs: [tabroom.com](https://www.tabroom.com) is no longer a free service, for instance, and now that we are back to awarding some trophies at tournaments our expenses for student recognition have risen.
- Inflation is also an issue for our league. The Consumer Price Index for the last competition year (June 2022 through June 2023) rose 2.97%, and while that may not seem high, members should note that we have not raised our fees since before the Covid pandemic. The cumulative inflation rate since June of 2019, to take that as a marker date, has been over 19%.
- Our actual participation this year was as follows, as contrasted with last year and 2018-2019 (our last "normal" year before Covid):

	2022-2023	2021-2022	2018-2019
o Schools paying dues as members:	35	33	41
o Total speakers for the year:	2,122	2,405	2,457
o Schools in the Grand Tournament:	18	18	23
o Speakers in the Grand Tournament:	167	166	163

- The result is that our league ended the year with a deficit of \$3,469. Last year we had a deficit of \$2,044.
- The situation is not dire. We have a sufficient reserve that we can absorb these deficits with some capacity to spare, but this has clearly become a structural issue which we must address

Recommendations

- The treasurer will recommend
 - o an increase in our regular tournament registration fees, from \$6 per student to \$8 per student.
 - o an increase in our regular tournament fees to \$10 per student for out-of-league schools (in those tournaments in which they may participate)
 - o raising the fees for the Online Policy League, which is facilitated by our league, to the same rates as above
 - o continuing a \$1 per student discount for host schools for the tournament that school hosts
 - o instituting that same \$1 discount at all of our tournaments for those schools which host three or more of our regular tournaments in any year
 - o the maintenance of Grand Tournament fees at \$10 per student, while also maintaining our existing \$12 per school Grand Tournament fee
 - o the maintenance of our policy of free entry for the Mini-Stuyvesant Tournament
 - o a simplification of language in our by-laws to indicate that all of our league tournaments (exclusive of the Grand Tournament and the Mini-Stuyvesant) will follow this fee structure (eliminating reference to different fees for the Sister Raimonde Tournaments, etc.)
 - o a minor clarification to language in provisions for the National Catholic Forensic League national tournament fees (maintaining our current policy whereby the league pays half the student registration costs, but updating the language to make this cost-sharing clearer)
- It is the opinion of the treasurer that the above changes to our fee structure will probably be sufficient to eliminate the deficit, assuming participating in the league does not significantly diminish.
- However, the treasurer notes that further increases may well be necessary next year or the year after to continue to address these fiscal issues.

Corporate and Not-for-profit Status Information

The New York Catholic Forensic League is incorporated as a charitable, not-for-profit organization. We incorporated as, "New York Catholic Forensic League," under the laws of the State of New York with our principal office in Richmond County, New York. We are registered with the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization (our tax-exemption number is 47-3844584) under section 509(a)2 of the Internal Revenue Code, identifying us as an organization that receives less than one-third of our support from donations and more than two-thirds of our support from dues or fees charged for services. "Fees for services" (such as speaker registration fees) are not tax-deductible for individuals or for-profit businesses, but donations ("non-compensated gifts") are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.

We are also registered with the New York State Attorney General's Charities Bureau (registration number 46-76-18). This allows the League to receive contributions, but we may not solicit contributions in excess of \$25,000.

Statement of Financial Position Comparison

As of August 31, 2023

		Total
	As of Aug 31, 2023	As of Aug 31, 2022 (PY)
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Bank Accounts		
Checking	8,020.22	11,492.20
Savings	10,017.83	10,015.05
Total Bank Accounts	18,038.05	21,507.25
Total Current Assets	18,038.05	21,507.25
TOTAL ASSETS	\$18,038.05	\$21,507.25
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		
Liabilities		
Total Liabilities		
Equity		
Opening Balance Equity	3,932.01	3,932.01
Retained Earnings	969.99	-3,927.00
Unrestricted Assets	16,605.25	16,605.25
Net Revenue	-3,469.20	4,896.99
Total Equity	18,038.05	21,507.25
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$18,038.05	\$21,507.25

Statement of Activity Comparison

September 2022 - August 2023

		Total
	Sep 2022 - Aug 2023	Sep 2021 - Aug 2022 (PY)
REVENUE		
Membership Dues	3,510.00	3,330.00
Sales	-411.00	15.00
Services	18,256.00	18,609.57
Unapplied Cash Payment Revenue	-785.00	1,377.00
Total Revenue	20,570.00	23,331.57
GROSS PROFIT	20,570.00	23,331.57
EXPENDITURES		
Bank Charges	91.43	146.14
Charitable Contributions	1,000.00	1,000.00
Extemp Questions NSDA	1,680.00	1,440.00
Judging stipends	250.00	100.00
National Dues	1,300.00	1,300.00
National Tournament Fees	4,930.00	4,680.00
NSDA Campus Room Fees	989.00	5,208.00
NSDA Rooms for Online Policy League	372.00	929.00
Office/General Administrative Expenditures	355.06	
Other General and Admin Expenses	1,054.21	936.33
Reimbursement for school costs	870.00	
Scholarships	2,000.00	2,000.00
Sympathy gifts	250.00	250.00
Tabroom Usage Fees	1,806.80	
Trophies	7,093.48	454.58
Total Expenditures	24,041.98	18,444.05
NET OPERATING REVENUE	-3,471.98	4,887.52
OTHER REVENUE		
Interest Earned	2.78	3.04
Other Miscellaneous Revenue		6.43
Total Other Revenue	2.78	9.47
NET OTHER REVENUE	2.78	9.47
NET REVENUE	\$ -3,469.20	\$4,896.99

Revenue by Member Summary

September 2022 - August 2023

		Total
	Sep 2022 - Aug 2023	Sep 2021 - Aug 2022 (PY)
Brearley School	200.00	
Bronx High School of Science	5,202.00	5,980.00
Byram Hills	488.00	437.00
Chapin School	206.00	206.00
Collegiate School	172.00	364.00
Convent of the Sacred Heart (Conn.)	112.00	100.00
Convent of the Sacred Heart (NYC)	1,172.00	921.00
Democracy Prep Bronx Prep	723.00	315.00
Democracy Prep Charter High	100.00	100.00
Democracy Prep Endurance	100.00	100.00
Democracy Prep Harlem	100.00	100.00
Democracy Prep Harlem Prep Charter High School	100.00	100.00
Fordham Preparatory School	348.00	192.00
Harrison High School	428.00	321.00
Hendrick Hudson High School	112.00	112.00
Horace Mann High School	100.00	100.00
Hunter College High School	158.00	124.00
Independent Entries		
Acton-Boxborough Regional High School	42.00	132.00
Arlington High School	12.00	
Battle Ground Academy	12.00	
Berkeley Carroll School		26.00
Berkeley Preparatory School	18.00	
Boston Latin School		174.00
Brookline High School		42.00
Cambridge Rindge and Latin School	72.00	36.00
Canton High School		36.00
Chelmsford High School		126.00
Cherokee High School	12.00	
Concord Carlisle High School		84.00
Cypress Bay High School	42.00	
East Chapel Hill High School	6.00	114.00
Fairview High School	6.00	
Horace Greeley High School		6.00
Leon Goldstein High School (deleted)	0.00	55.00
Lexington High School	72.00	510.00
Lincoln-Sudbury Regional HS		72.00

		Total
	Sep 2022 - Aug 2023	Sep 2021 - Aug 2022 (PY)
Mamaroneck High School		85.00
Marlboro High School		6.00
Milton Academy		138.00
Needham High School		48.00
Newark/Science Park High School	167.00	
Newton South High School		402.00
North Attleboro High (deleted)		24.00
Okemos High School	54.00	
Peninsula High School		10.00
Pennsbury High School		27.00
Pine View School	12.00	
Pittsburgh Central Catholic		36.00
Portsmouth High School		168.00
Ridge High School	66.00	25.00
Saddle River Day School	12.00	
Sharon High School		42.00
Shrewsbury High School		84.00
Spence School	72.00	60.00
Success Academy High School of the Liberal Arts		30.00
Urban Academy Laboratory High School		24.00
Walpole High School		72.00
Waring School		24.00
Washington Urban Debate League (deleted)		5.00
Wayland High School (deleted)		24.00
Webster Schroeder High School		6.00
Weston High School		36.00
Wooster High School		10.00
Wylie E. Groves HS	54.00	
Total Independent Entries	731.00	2,799.00
Iona Preparatory School	284.00	142.00
Irvington High School	112.00	100.00
Loyola School	360.00	460.00
Masters School (deleted)	0.00	100.00
Millennium High School (deleted)	0.00	100.00
Montfort Academy	350.00	188.00
Monticello High School	100.00	112.00
Msgr. Farrell High School	100.00	126.00
Newburgh Free Academy	184.00	

	Total	
	Sep 2022 - Aug 2023	Sep 2021 - Aug 2022 (PY)
Notre Dame Academy (Staten Island)	100.00	
Pelham Memorial High School	635.00	304.00
Pleasantville High School	330.00	172.00
Regis High School	3,576.00	4,060.00
Riverdale Country Day School	160.00	165.00
Rye Neck High School	100.00	75.00
Salesian High School		18.00
Scarsdale High School	1,242.00	846.00
St. Joseph Hill Academy High School	112.00	136.00
Stuyvesant High School	2,642.00	2,059.00
West End Secondary School (deleted)	0.00	100.00
Xavier High School	416.00	221.00
TOTAL	\$21,355.00	\$21,855.00

Member Balance Summary

As of August 31, 2023

	Total
Byram Hills	-30.00
Convent of the Sacred Heart (NYC)	-407.00
Independent Entries	
Berkeley Carroll School	-5.00
Brooklyn Emerging Leaders Academy	6.00
Cypress Bay High School	-30.00
Mamaroneck High School	-70.00
Newark/Science Park High School	12.00
Newton North High School	36.00
Newton South High School	-78.00
Success Academy High School of the Liberal Arts	-35.00
Total Independent Entries	-164.00
Iona Preparatory School	-136.00
Irvington High School	-37.00
Loyola School	-250.00
Msgr. Farrell High School	-24.00
Salesian High School	34.00
TOTAL	\$ -1,014.00