

F R I E N D L Y
E A S T A L A B A M A
S C R A B B L E
T O U R N A M E N T

DATE: Saturday, 1 June 2024, check-in 9:00 - 9:20am (Central Time Zone), games start promptly at 9:30am.

CITY: Auburn, Alabama.

GAMES/PAIRINGS: 7 games. Tournament limited to 32 players. Division sizes will be based upon number of entrants and ratings of entrants, and will be adjusted at the discretion of the director (who will serve as an alternate player to even out divisions, if needed). Ideally divisions of 8 players to allow for true Round Robin. Gibson Rule used if needed. We will use the NWL23 lexicon.

ENTRY FEE: \$35 (free if this is your first NASPA tournament). Players must be active NASPA members (visit www.scrabbleplayers.org to join or renew membership). This will be a fully rated NASPA tournament. No walk-in participants allowed; all players must at least tentatively register with the director by 11:59pm, Thursday, 30 May (see “Payment/Register” below).

PRIZES: All money from entry fees (less ratings fees to NASPA) will be returned as cash prizes. Divisions of 8 players will have prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places. High Game Prize per division as well. Other prizes possible.

EQUIPMENT: Please bring your boards, tiles, and clocks.

VENUE: The “Newspaper Reading Room” within Auburn University’s Ralph B. Draughon Library. The library opens at exactly 9:00am; easiest access is to park on the top level (open sky above you) of the parking deck off Roosevelt Drive (no parking tags are required on the weekends). When you walk to the library’s South Entrance, you will see a circulation desk ahead of you. *Immediately before the circulation desk to the right is the “Newspaper Reading Room” where we will play.*

For those who came to my first tourney in April 2024, this is the same parking deck and library entrance, but the game room is different and *much* easier to find... it is right inside the building when you enter... no need to go to the elevator... just enter the library and turn right.

Note that while this Newspaper Reading Room is easily accessible, I am not allowed to “reserve” it for our tournament. There is plenty of space, and we are allowed to play in the room all day (9am - 6pm), but we are not allowed to exclude other library patrons from using the room. It is a library, though, so generally everyone’s studying and being fairly quiet (honestly, we will probably be making the most noise in the room). But don’t be surprised if a few curious people wander about watching as we play.

HOTELS: If anyone is planning to stay the night before or after in Auburn, there are plenty of hotel choices. The closest would be The Hotel at Auburn University which is, literally, right across College Street from the Ralph B. Draughon Library. It is one of the more expensive hotels, though. Less expensive choices are available, including plenty near the interstate (Exit #51) on South College Street (taking College Street north, away from the I-85 exit, leads you directly toward the university/library/parking deck).

LUNCH: A lunch break will be taken after Game 3, and the afternoon games should resume around 1:45pm (exact time will be announced at mid-tournament). We will be right in the heart of downtown Auburn, so research the variety of eateries nearby. There is no prohibition against food or drink in the library, so you may bring your own snacks. There are also some vending machines (coffee, soda, sandwich, candy) in the Newspaper Reading Room itself and the library lobby.

PAYMENT/REGISTER: To tentatively register, send me, Eric Harshbarger, an email at eric@ericharshbarger.org stating your intent to show up. You must at least tentatively register by 11:59pm, Thursday, 30 May. To confirm your participation you will have to pay the \$35 entry fee in one of these ways:

- Bring cash and pay me on site,
- Send me money via Paypal to the email address above (please designate payment for “Friends and Family” not for “Goods and Services”),
- or mail a check to me at: Eric Harshbarger, 435 E Samford Ave., Auburn, AL, 36830 (please mail early enough for it to arrive by Tournament Day).

CONTACT: My email address is eric@ericharshbarger.org. My phone number is 334-821-6616 in case you need to call or text before/during the tourney.