# 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

**DATES/TIMES:**
- Saturday, 1 February 2025, **7-game Main Event**, check-in at 9:00am.
- Sunday (afternoon), 2 February 2025, **5-game Late Bird**, check-in at 1:00pm.

Games begin about 20 minutes after check-in times and should finish between 4-5:00pm each day.

**CITY:** Auburn, Alabama.

**GAMES/PAIRINGS:**
- **Main Event:** 7 games. Division sizes will not exceed 8 players and will be based upon number of entrants and ratings of entrants (at the discretion of the director).
- **Late Bird:** 5 games. Division sizes will not exceed 6 players.

For each event: registrants capped at 32 players, Gibson Rule used if needed, and NWL23 lexicon used. These are fully rated NASPA tournaments.

**ENTRY FEES:** $35 for Main Event, $25 for Late Bird. You may play in either or both events. **If you play in both, your get a $10 discount on the registration fee ($50 total).** Registration is *free* if you have never played in a NASPA tournament before. Players must be active NASPA members (visit www.scrabbleplayers.org to join or renew membership). No walk-in participants allowed; all players must at least tentatively register with the director by 11:59pm, Thursday, 30 January (see "Payment/Register" below).

**PRIZES:** All money from entry fees (less ratings fees to NASPA) will be returned as cash prizes. Prizes awarded to 1$^{st}$ and 2$^{nd}$ places in every division, and 3$^{rd}$ place in divisions of 8 players. A "High Loss" prize is also awarded in each division for each round.

**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 on Saturday and 1:00pm on Sunday (hence the start times of the events). 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 into 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.*

**HOTELS:** If anyone is planning to stay the night in Auburn before, between, or after the events, 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:**
- **Main Event:** a lunch break will be taken after Game 3, and the afternoon games should resume around 1:15pm (exact time will be announced at mid-tournament).
- **Late Bird:** the games do not begin until 1:00pm, so you should plan to grab breakfast and lunch in Auburn beforehand; we will play the 5 Late Bird games straight through with no breaks.

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 lunch and 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 (specify which of the two events you want to play in). You must at least tentatively register by 11:59pm, Thursday, 30 January. To confirm your participation you should pay me in one of these ways:
- Send me money via Paypal to the email address above (please designate payment for "Friends and Family" not for "Goods and Services"),
- Bring cash and pay me on site.

**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.

**WEBSITE:** To see past results of my tournaments as well as tentative dates for future tournaments, visit http://www.ericharshbarger.org/scrabble/tourneys/