

Connecticut Debate Association
Debate Tournament Invitation
October 10, 2020

On behalf of the CDA, you are invited to our first regular tournament of the 2020-21 season on Saturday, October 10, 2020. We will follow our standard tournament format of one hour for case preparation, three rounds of debate in Varsity and Novice divisions, and a final round between the top two Varsity teams. *This will be an online tournament using Zoom and NSDA Campus.*

Please read the following carefully:

1. **Numbers:** There is no limit on the number of debaters who may attend, *provided you can find judges to cover them.* You must have one qualified judge for every two teams. Since the event is online, we suggest that in addition to using parent volunteers, you reach out to your recent debate graduates in college and see if they would be willing to contribute their Saturday to judging for you.
2. **Registration:** You must register your teams and judges through tabroom.com . Instructions for using tabroom.com for CDA can be found here: <http://ctdebate.org/PDFs/Using%20Tabroom.pdf> . We will be using tabroom.com for registration for all tournaments.
 - a. There will be three events: Varsity, Novice and Observer.
 - b. For Judges there will be two categories, Varsity and Novice.
 - c. We will be using the NSDA Campus system to run the debate rounds. *Campus room reservations must be made on the Wednesday before the tournament, **so your registrations must be in by end of day on Tuesday, October 6.*** You can change your entries afterwards, but we need a good count that day.
3. **Divisions:** We will break the Varsity and Novice entries into groups of approximately 40 teams each:
 - a. Each “Varsity+Novice” group of approximately 80 teams will mirror our “real world” practice of holding multiple tournaments at separate host schools.
 - b. Each group, Varsity or Novice, will be eligible for trophies and qualify for State Finals, top 3 or top 5 depending on total numbers on the day. To qualify for State Finals a debater will be required to trophy at a tournament or go undefeated at two separate tournaments, the same as in previous years.
 - c. Every school that enters the tournament will have all its teams in only one of these divisions, again similar to attending to the same “host school.”
 - d. We will decide centrally how to divide attending schools into different divisions, first to balance their size, and second to diversify the opponents each school meets during the year.
4. **Novices:** Please abide by the rules for Novice eligibility (unchanged from last year):
 - a. The Novice division will be open to Freshman and Sophomores, regardless of experience or record. They may qualify and participate as Novices in State Finals both years. However, they may move up to Varsity at any time if they or their coach choose, and once having moved up, may not return to Novice. Coaches are encouraged to move Sophomores up to Varsity if they have been successful as a Freshman but are not required to do so.

- b. Juniors who have never debated before in CDA may participate as Novices in their first regular CDA tournament. Otherwise they may only debate in Varsity. They may not participate in State Finals except in Varsity. They may only qualify for State Finals while debating in Varsity.
 - c. Seniors may not participate as Novices in any CDA tournament.
- 5. **Coaches:** Debaters cannot attend individually. As at an in-person tournament, we expect each team to be accompanied virtually by a Coach or responsible adult who will follow and manage the team's activities, and be available for discussion if required. The Coach may also judge.
 - a. Tabroom will require you to enter the coach/responsible adult's name and cell phone number at registration. The coach/adult must have the ability to contact all attendees from the school—debaters, observers, judges—and emergency contact information for all students.
- 6. **Software Accounts:**
 - a. All debaters and judges must have tabroom.com accounts that are linked to their tournament entries. This is the only way they can get into the "rooms" NSDA Campus creates for debates. Here (http://docs.tabroom.com/Sign_Up) is the link to signing up for a tabroom account.
 - b. All debaters and judges must have Zoom ids and must register for the Zoom meeting for their "Division". Go to <http://zoom.us> for more information.
 - c. Tabroom and Zoom ids are emails registered with those services. It is suggested the debater/judge use the same email for both.
 - d. All debaters and judges must have the Google Chrome browser installed on their laptop or tablet in order to use NSDA Campus. Campus may, but is not certified to, work with any other web browser. Go to <http://google.com> for information.
 - e. More detailed documentation for coaches, debaters and judges at our online tournaments should be available shortly. It will describe the id and registration process outlined above.

If you have any questions or comments, please email me at ejrutan3@ctdebate.org .

Tournament Day Schedule

Time	Activity	Location
8-9AM	Registration and coffee	Cafeteria
9AM	Resolution and packet distributed	Cafeteria
9-10AM	Preparation for debaters Workshop for judges	Cafeteria As directed
10-11:30AM	Round 1 (random pairings)	Room listed on round schedule
11:30AM-1PM	Round 2 (random pairings)	Room listed on round schedule
1-2PM	Lunch	Cafeteria
2-3:30PM	Round 3 (power matched, flip for side)	Room listed on round schedule
3:30-5PM	Varsity Final Round	Auditorium or cafeteria
5-5:30PM	Awards	Auditorium or cafeteria
5:30PM	Departure	