

Connecticut Debate Association

Novice Scrimmage

AITE, September 23, 2023

On behalf of AITE and Coach Claude Morest, you are invited to the CDA's 14th annual Novice Scrimmage in Stamford on Saturday, September 23, 2023. We will use the Parliamentary debate format.

As we did last year, we are distributing the motion and packet prior to the tournament so Novices can review it with their Coach prior to the event. The topic is:

This House, as a teacher, would permit the use of Chat GPT and other generative AI for class assignments.

The motion packet is available for download or copying in three formats:

- Word: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1QNMBc5d8f9YA1zkryyh2IC9YCzjUutAQ/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=101100541858518353190&rtpof=true&sd=true>
- PDF: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/18smYAfVR-57VcPzRN96xUTjULcjNFM0e/view?usp=sharing>
- Google Doc: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1gyNZgQ_VvkFx6ViOtJSjEzELV7XwbmFJeC7F7yve5nk/edit?usp=sharing

All Novice debaters are expected to have read the packet and prepared their cases before the tournament. Coaches and Varsity debaters are welcome to work with Novices during the two weeks before the event. ***We do ask all parties to refrain from doing additional research.***

All debaters and coaches should be familiar with the [CDA Parli Style Guide](#), as well as other material available on the [CDA website](#).

The day will start with a demonstration debate between two experienced CDA Varsity teams, followed by a question-and-answer session. Novice debaters will then have 30 minutes to revise their cases, while Varsity debaters who are judging attend a brief workshop on judging debate.

Novices will be paired in two rounds of debate, with lunch in between, judged by Varsity debaters. Each team will debate once on Government (in favor of the motion) and once on Opposition (against the motion).

The detailed schedule is at the end of this note. We expect to finish by 3:30PM.

Registration opens Monday, September 11, at 8AM. Registrations is done through tabroom.com (www.tabroom.com) as with our regular tournaments. If you are unfamiliar with Tabroom, email us for instructions.

Tabroom Registration Procedure

We have set up two events:

- **Novice** for novices who will debate. These should be two-person teams. See eligibility requirements below.
- **Observer** for students who will simply observe the demonstration round. You must register observers so that we can manage admission to the main Zoom call..
- Varsity debaters who will judge should be entered in the system as **Judges**. (Anyone with a Tabroom ID can be entered as a debater, judge or coach. Entering a debater as a judge for one tournament does not affect your ability to enter them as a debater in a subsequent tournament.)

Coaches: Debaters cannot attend individually. Each team to be accompanied by a Coach or responsible adult who will follow and manage the team’s activities. Per CDA rules, the Coach must have emergency contact information for all students on their team, whether debaters, observers, or judges.

Debaters and Judges: all debaters and judges must have tabroom.com accounts that are linked to their Novice Scrimmage registrations. 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.

Novice Eligibility: The Novice division is primarily for students starting debate in the CDA this year, though Sophomores who will be Novices may also debate. Juniors may only debate if they have never debated before. Seniors, even if they are new to debate, are not eligible to debate in the Novice Scrimmage, though they may attend as observers.

Observers: Students wishing to observe should be registered. They will be able to view the demonstration debate, participate in the case preparation with their teammates, and observe the practice rounds.

Judges: Schools must bring one judge for every four debaters, plus one extra. ***For this scrimmage, experienced Varsity debaters may serve as judges!*** Student-judges should those be planning to debate at the Varsity level for the upcoming 2022-23 season, Juniors and Seniors preferred. Since we expect all judges will be students, the Judges Workshop will be oriented toward teaching the Varsity debaters about judging. ***Judges will need a laptop or tablet to use electronic ballots to enter results.***

Schools new to CDA without Varsity debaters are not required to bring judges. We should be able to cover you with Varsity debaters from other schools.

Novice Scrimmage Schedule:

8:15-9 AM	Check-in
9-11AM	Demonstration round followed by Q & A
11-11:30AM	Debater case prep, judge workshop
11:30AM-1PM	Debate round 1
1-1:30PM	Lunch and discussion
1:30-3PM	Debate round 2
3-3:30PM	Questions, results and closing remarks.