Judging Debate

First and foremost, we would like to have every judge participate in electronic-balloting. This speeds up the tournament substantially. We want to take a minute to thank you for pre-registering an account so that we can communicate information like this ahead of the event. Please bring an electronic device capable of accessing the internet. **Laptops and tablets are preferred**, smartphones are also capable but *not recommended* if you have a laptop/tablet. **A device with a keyboard will be best** for providing written feedback at the end of the round. Wi-Fi will be available via the guest network. There is a short registration process for the guest network, so please try to get connected as you arrive on the campus. You must also be able to log into your tabroom.com account in order to complete the ballot. **Please try to take a moment now to make sure you can log in.** Your username will be this email address. If you forgot your password, please reset it before the event, as that will help keep us all organized. There is an extensive e-balloting guide on the next page.

In debate events, the students may ask you for your 'judging paradigm.' What they want to know is how you will judge the round and/or your familiarity and experience with academic debate. A good paradigm is to be honest with the students regarding how often you judge debates, and what your role in the community is (parent / coach / teacher / volunteer). Students are taught to adjust their performance to their audience.

Debaters will time themselves. Cell phones may be used as timers. Computers are allowed in all debate rounds except Parliamentary debate.

For ALL debates, your personal opinion/knowledge should not be a part of your decision. The students do not decide what to debate or what side they are on. The winner is the team/debater who defended their side the best.

In preliminary rounds, please provide written feedback on the ballot screen. All judges should provide a minimum amount of written feedback for each round judged.

In Elimination rounds, there will be 3 judges. Each make an independent decision without conferring with anyone else.

Elimination rounds are required to disclose the panel decision. After all 3 judges enter a decision, any judge can refresh their screen and see the decision. This should be announced to the debaters. There should be a brief discussion in which each judge should indicate which side they voted for and the reasons that motivated their decision. If there is an award, it goes to the non-advancing team as the advancing team will debate again.

Parliamentary Debate (Parli)
2 on 2 debate- resolutions are DIFFERENT for every round.
Topic will announced before each round
Each side should talk about the other one's arguments
There is NO cross examination, There is NO prep time
Make sure that the right debaters are debating.
Check the names to ensure you are watching the right debaters!

Lincoln Douglas Debate (LD)
1 on 1 value debate
The **Affirmative** upholds the resolution, the **Negative** proves them wrong.
Make sure that the right debaters are debating.
Check the names to ensure you are watching the right debaters!

Public Forum (PF)
Public forum debate can be compared to a nationally-televised debate, such as 'Crossfire' in which the debaters argue a topic of national importance, typically one involving foreign or domestic policy as opposed to Lincoln-Douglas' more philosophy centric debate, in terms that a "common" person would understand.
Make sure that the right debaters are debating.
Check the names to ensure you are watching the right debaters!

Policy Debate
2 on 2 policy debate on the resolution:
Each side should talk about the other one's arguments.
This is an evidence-intensive debate.
You will probably not be asked to judge Policy Debate

Judging / Balloting Step-By-Step Procedure

E-balloting procedures for all Debate events are straightforward, but when technology is involved, we feel it prudent to provide a detailed procedure.

1. Getting your Notification/Assignment: There is no need to check in with the tournament when you arrive. You may have to check in with your program coach, but that is different for each program. When we publish the pairings, you will get an email and/or a text message indicating which room you are scheduled for, and the entries that are debating. A typical text/email notification looks like this:

[Your Last Name] / Judging Round 1 in PSY 101
Aff: Blue School WX
Neg: Red School HM
At 8:00 A PDT
[Short message from Staff]

2. Getting to the Room: This means that you should go to PSY 101, the round is scheduled to start at 8:00 AM, and the affirmative will be Blue School. In some events you will get 2 texts back to back. This means that there are two debates scheduled for that classroom, and we are asking you to judge both of them. We will try to send notices around 20-30 minutes before round start time so everyone has ample time to arrive at the room.

3. Starting the Round: After you arrive, please open your laptop/tablet, and log into your account. If you are already logged in, please scroll to the very top of the screen and click on your email address. You will see a screen with your active ballots and a green "Start" button. Once all 2 or 4 participants in the debate have arrived, please press that green "Start" button. When you press this button, it sends a signal to the staff that the round is started. If you are missing a competitor, do not press the start button. Someone from our staff will come by to assist you with the irregularity. After pressing the "Start" button, the screen will turn into your ballot. You will see the names of the competitors, some basic instructions for that event and the fields for you to submit your decision and feedback. If you are judging 2 debates in the room, please only press "Start" for one, and press the other "Start" button immediately prior to the 2nd set of competitors.

4. Submitting the Ballot: At the conclusion of the debate, you will be asked to select a winner, assign speaker points for each speaker, and submit the ballot decision. First, you should consider who, in your opinion, won the debate. After determining that, please assign points using the scale on the right side of your e-ballot. Our point scale is from 24.0 to 30.0 in increments of 0.1 points. It may help to think of it as a 100 point scale. i.e. a student you want to rate a B+ at 89% will become a 28.9/30. This would be an above-average debater. Points below 25.0 or 50% are for you to send a signal that the debater was rude or unprofessional. Please refrain from giving a 30.0 or 100%. We like to send a message that there is always room for improvement. Once you've entered points for all speakers, please press the blue "Submit Ballot" button, and confirm your decision. You will then be given the option to go back to the home screen.

5. Writing Feedback: After the ballot decision is recorded, and you're back at the home screen, there is a blue button to the right of your screen that says "Current Ballots and Panels". You can also get to this screen using this link: https://www.tabroom.com/user/judge/panels.mhtml
Here, you will find your ballot, and an "Edit Feedback" button where you can type remarks to the debaters. We recommend keeping a word processor open to type your notes, and pasting them into the feedback field. You can continue to update the feedback for any round until Monday afternoon.

Speech Times and Topics for Debate Events

Parliamentary Times:

1st Aff Constructive	7 minutes
1st Neg Constructive	8 minutes
2nd Aff Constructive	8 minutes
2nd Neg Constructive	8 minutes
Neg Rebuttal	4 mins *(No New Arguments)*
Aff Rebuttal	5 mins *(No New Arguments)*

Resolution will change each round

Public Forum Times:

Aff Constructive	4 minutes
Neg Constructive	4 minutes
Crossfire (between 1st speakers)	3 minutes
Aff Rebuttal	4 minutes
Neg Rebuttal	4 minutes
Crossfire (between 2nd speakers)	3 minutes
Aff Summary	2 minutes
Neg Summary	2 minutes
Grand Crossfire (All speakers)	3 minutes
Aff Final Focus	2 minutes
Neg Final Focus	2 minutes
(No New Arguments in either Final Focus)	
Prep Time	2 minutes per team

PF--Resolved: Resolved: The United States should accede to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea without reservations.

LD Times:

Aff Constructive	6 minutes
Cross Examination	3 minutes
Neg Constructive	7 minutes
Cross Examination	3 minutes
1st Aff Rebuttal	4 minutes
Neg Rebuttal	6 minutes *(No New Arguments)*
2nd Aff Rebuttal	3 minutes *(No New Arguments)*
Prep Time	4 minutes per debater

LD-- Resolved: In the United States, reporters ought to have the right to protect the identity of confidential sources.

Policy Times:

1st Aff Constructive	8 minutes
Cross Examination	3 minutes
1st Neg Constructive	8 minutes
Cross Examination	3 minutes
2nd Aff Constructive	8 minutes
Cross Examination	3 minutes
2nd Neg Constructive	8 minutes
Cross Examination	3 minutes
1st Neg Rebuttal	5 minutes
1st Aff Rebuttal	5 minutes
2nd Neg Rebuttal	5 minutes *(No New Arguments)*
2nd Aff Rebuttal	5 minutes *(No New Arguments)*
Prep Time	8 minutes per team

Policy-- Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially reduce its restrictions on legal immigration to the United States.

Speaker Point Scale for Debate Events

24.0 - 25.0	Rude / Discourteous
25.0 - 26.0	Beginner / Unprepared
26.0 - 27.0	Needs Improvement
27.0 - 27.4	Below Average
27.5.....................	**Average Debater**
27.6 - 28.0	Above Average
28.0 - 29.0	Very Good Debating
29.0 - 29.9	Phenomenal Debating
30.0.....................	Perfection (Very Rare)

&

Please Refrain from giving a 30.0