



Belvidere North Thunder Invitational Debate Tournament



Saturday, December 8, 2018

Welcome to our third invitational! We are so excited to have you and look forward to having a day of spirited competition. We will offer competition in all three divisions of Lincoln-Douglas and Public Forum. Entries will be capped at 4 per division per school, so register early. We will use a waitlist if there are additional openings.

The entry cost will be \$20 per team in Public Forum and per person in Lincoln-Douglas. Please make checks payable to Belvidere North High School.

One adult judge is required for every two Public Forum pairs/teams. One adult judge is required for every two Lincoln-Douglas entries. In the Novice level, students with 3 or more years of experience in a specific division will be allowed to judge in that division.

Whether or not the tournament will use Tabroom for ballots still up the air, and I will update as I know that information.

PF Topic: RESOLVED: The United States federal government should impose price controls on the pharmaceutical industry.

LD Topic: RESOLVED: In a democracy, the public's right to know ought to be valued above the right to privacy of candidates for public office.

Tentative Tournament Schedule

7:30-8:00	Registration
8:00	Tournament Announcements
8:30	Round I (preset)
9:45	Round II (preset)
11:00	Round III (power matched from I & II)
12:00	Lunch (Student concessions and Complimentary Judges Lounge)
12:45	Round IV (power matched from III)
2:00	Round V (power matched from IV)
3:15	Awards in the Cafeteria

Please text Nicole the morning of the tournament with any changes: 847-877-0816.



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Judging Expectations

IT IS THE OBLIGATION OF THE OF THE PROGRAM'S HEAD COACH TO make sure each JUDGE had read and understood the FOLLOWING EXPECTATIONS.

THIS IS an educational activity and the students are our main priority. Please do your best to support our mission. JUDGES at all times are expected to act in a dignified and professional manner.

- 1. If you are a new judge, please let the tab room know asap.**
- 2. All judges are expected to be available for the duration of the tournament (8:00 through round V).** Tournaments aren't perfect, so delays may happen, but we've tried to anticipate potential problems. Once round 5 is complete, it is the coach's discretion to dismiss judges.
- 3. Please wait in the judge's lounge if you are not scheduled to judge** to see if you are needed to fill-in for a round. This is really important to keep the tournament on time.
- 4. Judges should be the first ones to enter a room and the last one to leave the room.** Judges and debaters are not to touch anything other than student desks (i.e. DO NOT SIT AT THE TEACHER'S DESK OR UNPLUG ANYTHING). Please do not bring anything but water into a classroom. Any unusual classroom conditions should be reported to the tab room immediately.
- 5. Please check all pairings to make sure you do not have a judge assignment.** Your room number should be listed on your ballots.
- 6. Rounds should start ASAP.** If a debater is not present within 10 minutes of the release of pairings, please have someone communicated that with the tab table. DO NOT JUST SIT IN THE ROOM. Students who do not report to their room within 10 minutes will receive a forfeit for the round.
- 7. Judges should verbally verify the debater information that is on the ballot.** In Public Forum, especially, please confirm School Names, Sides of the Debate, and Speaking Order (e.g. the CON may at times speak first instead of the PRO, unlike Lincoln-Douglas procedure). Debaters should legibly write their team information on the boards in the classrooms or on the ballot itself. Please make sure to include School Name and codes on the ballot. Please be mindful

of who is in the room. Make sure the correct teams are there and did not accidentally walk into the wrong room.

- 8. Be attentive during all parts of the debate.** Judges are expected to flow (take careful notes) during speeches and listen attentively during Cross-Ex/Crossfire. Judges can use timers and laptops to adjudicate the round, but texting during the debate conveys serious disregard to the debaters in the round (and the coaches/schools who hired you).
- 9. DO NOT DISCLOSE YOUR DECISION,**
- 10. Please provide constructive and specific feedback on ballots.** This provides great insight for coaches after each tournament. Vague and/or sparse ballots are not useful educational tools. Reasons for Decision (RFD) should in particular specify the arguments that the judge found most convincing (or not) and how/why the arguments were weighed. RFD's such as "The NEG presented their side better" or "The AFF did a better job debating" would be considered vague.
- 11. Oral critiques are acceptable, as long as they are brief and constructive.** If a judge feels a lengthier critique is needed, they should turn in the ballot first, then speak with the debaters in the student area. Serious concerns from the round should be addressed on the ballot and communicated to the school's coach immediately.
- 12. Please be mindful of awarding speaker points.** Scores can range from 20-30. Use the guide on each ballot to help determine points. Note that 30s are rare and denote exceptional debate skills. Half points (28.5) will be accepted and tabbed.
- 13. Be nice to the kids.** This may be their first debate tournament ever and it is important to be honest, but always be supportive and professional in any criticism. No one is suggesting you avoid critical feedback, but please be professional and effective representatives of your school's program.
- 14. Ballots should be returned to the tab table immediately** and no later than 10 minutes after the round ending. If more time is needed, please bring the ballot to the tab table, so the decision can be communicated immediately. Please be kind to our tab table staff and wait for them to check your ballot for errors. Speaking of errors...
- 15. Low Point Wins are acceptable,** but must be noted on the ballot with LPW or "Low Point Win" written on the ballot. Please make sure school/team codes are consistent with the side debated.
- 16. No scouting.** Observers are only allowed in rounds where members of their own school are competing or judging. *Observers are allowed to flow for educational purposes.* Schools with observers are allowed to observe any debate.

Thank you for taking time to support our students and for adhering to our rules. We realize how important our judges are to the success of this tournament, and we are here to support you and our students. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the tab room immediately.