

To the Debate Community of Connecticut,

The Yale Debate Association is pleased to invite you to attend the 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Rollin G. Osterweis Debate Tournament on Sunday, March 29, 2020.

For those of you unfamiliar with the tournament, the Osterweis is a free tournament for Connecticut high school students to experience the collegiate style of parliamentary debate. The Osterweis will feature both a novice and varsity division. Novice participants should be debaters in their first year of high school debate, and not above Sophomore year.

Novice participants will have the opportunity to learn about parliamentary procedure in the morning with a demonstration round, and then debate with a partner for 3 preliminary rounds, before breaking to semifinals and a final round. Varsity teams will compete in 4 preliminary rounds, breaking to semifinals and finals.

Debates will focus on issues familiar to the average student, including American and international politics, ethics, and justice. Students will be given a free lunch and a breakfast, and Yale debaters will judge and offer feedback. Awards will be given to the top varsity and top novice teams and speakers.

Please note that registration will be hosted on tabroom.com. You can register on tabroom.com. Registration opens March 9 at 8.00am and closes March 22 at 6.00pm.

You can access a set of helpful instructions for registering your team using Tabroom's online manual under "Help/About" on the main menu. However, should you have difficulty registering, please contact us and we will personally enter your teams. We intend to cap the size of our tournament this year, and will therefore set a soft cap of 3 teams accepted per school. All entries should be registered before 6.00pm on March 22.

We highly encourage schools to register at least 1 novice team for every 2 varsity teams – we feel it is important to give younger debaters a chance to participate. We also encourage you to register as many as 5 teams, because if we do not reach our cap, we will be admitting additional teams, with final notification sent out after 10.00PM on March 22. We will try to accommodate any changes made to registration prior to this deadline, but ask that you notify us as soon as you can.

*Students may be photographed and rounds may be recorded during this tournament. Participation in the tournament constitutes consent to such recording.*

Email us at osterweis2020@gmail.com with any questions or concerns. Feel free to pass this information on to other schools who might be interested.

We look forward to seeing you in March!

Best,

Ananya Kachru and Alex Gordon, Tournament Directors

**Osterweis 2020 Schedule**

9:00AM to 9:30AM	Registration and breakfast
9:30AM to 10:30AM	Varsity Round 1, Novice demonstration round
10:45AM to 11:45AM	Varsity Round 2, Novice Round 1
12Noon to 1PM	Varsity Round 3, Novice Round 2
1PM to 2PM	Lunch
2PM to 3PM	Varsity Round 4, Novice Round 3
3:30PM to 4:30PM	Semifinal rounds
4:45PM to 5:45PM	Final rounds
6:00PM to 6:30PM	Awards

### **Osterweis Debate Format**

Speech	Time (minutes)
Prime Minister Constructive	7
Leader of Opposition Constructive	8
Member of Government	8
Member of Opposition	8
Leader of Opposition Rebuttal	4
Prime Minister Rebuttal	5