



Competitor Invitation Packet

Tournament Dates: July 25-26, 2020

Note: We are not affiliated with TJHSST, FCPS, WACFL, VHSL, NSDA, or any other debate tournament leagues and organizations.

Sorry in advance if there are any mistakes in this packet. If there are, please contact Simrith Ranjan or William Gutiérrez via email (simrith.ranjan@gmail.com and willjgutierrez@gmail.com, respectively)

Description:

Welcome to the Midsummer Invitational! This is an online tournament open to all students who are currently in high school or will enter into high school next year. We will be using NSDA rules and procedures.

Schedule:

Our tournament will take place on July 25th and 26th. Preliminary and semi-final rounds will occur on the 25th. Finals will be on the 26th and live streamed on YouTube.

Tentative Schedule (All Times in EST)

Please try to be in your chamber by competitor call time in order to work out any technical difficulties beforehand. Additionally, all the sessions have a somewhat hard stop with some flexibility (one or two speeches).

Saturday, July 25:

Judge Call Time	10:40 AM
Competitor Call Time	10:45 AM
Prelims 1st Session Begins	11:00 AM
Prelims 1st Session Ends	12:00 PM
Lunch (aka Break)	12:00 - 12:30 PM
Prelims 2nd Session Begins	12:30 PM
Prelims 2nd Session Ends	1:30 PM

Semifinals breaks will be released ASAP

Semifinals Session 1 Begins	4:00 PM
Semifinals Session 1 Ends	5:00 PM
Break	5:00 - 5:10 PM
Semifinals Session 2 Begins	5:10 PM
Semifinals Session 2 Ends	6:10 PM

Finals breaks will be released ASAP

Sunday, July 26:

Finals Session Begins	1:00 PM
Final Session Ends	2:00 PM
Awards	ASAP

More about the tournament

Registration:

Competitors, please register using this link:

<https://tinyurl.com/midsummercompregistration>

For competitors, please register by **Wednesday, July 22nd by 9:00 PM EST.**

If you wish to judge, please register using this link:

<https://tinyurl.com/midsummerjudgeregistration>

If you want to see all competitors and judges, we have attached a Google Sheet with all of the names. We will try to keep the sheet updated frequently.

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1PNSqFUk-jOdTtADx8no-_tB5SgvohvksfuXsAbFC7OA/edit?usp=sharing

Legislation:

Legislation for preliminary rounds will be provided by the competitors and voted on in chamber. Please submit bills using this link by **Sunday, July 12th, 2020 at 9:00 PM EST:**

<https://tinyurl.com/midsummerlegislationsubmission>

We will release all of the legislation on **Wednesday, July 15th, 2020 at 9:00 PM EST.** (the link will be below and in the discord)

Rules:

All of our rules and procedures default to the NSDA standard. To elaborate:

Procedure

- You can use the discord to discuss splits, presiding officers, etc. that can be debated.
- All rounds will have two bills each. The chamber will propose the docket to create the order in which they are debated.
- The session will end at the time allotted, although chambers are allowed to end earlier if everyone has spoken and the chamber agrees to it.
- Bill for Semis and Finals will be released in the bill packet.
- All bills for Prelims are provided by the competitors, and we will provide the bills for Semis and Finals.

Questioning

- Direct questioning will be used in all rounds
- The author/sponsor of the legislation and the first negative speech will have a mandatory 2 minutes of questioning with 30 second questioning blocks. All other speakers will have a mandatory 1 minute of direct questioning with 30 second questioning blocks.
- This **cannot** be changed under any circumstances

Parliamentary Procedure

- Competitors will be referred to as “Representatives” in prelims and “Senators” in the breaking rounds (outrounds).
- Presiding Officers will be elected by the chamber to serve for the entire session
- All other rules will follow NSDA parliamentary procedure and rules **cannot** be suspended under any circumstance.

Chambers Information:

- Chambers will be released by **July 24th, 2020 by 9PM EST.**

Presiding Officers:

- Students will be allowed to be presiding officers during **ALL** sessions

Politicking:

Please politic in this discord: <https://discord.gg/yM6eeRY>

Requirements and Recommendations:

Requirements:

- Discord Account
- Grid View Extension for Google Meets (Required for Presiding Officers, Optional for other competitors):
<https://chrome.google.com/webstore/detail/google-meet-grid-view/klailfgofoqmmldlhgmjigenehkjoioip?hl=en>

- Make sure to have a placard!
 - We've created a placard for you to use, but you may also use your own (<https://tinyurl.com/midsummercongressplacards>)
 - Download the file, open it in Microsoft Word, and make any edits from there. This will ensure proper formatting.
- For POs, make sure to have a way to give time signals!
 - Considering the online circumstances, visual methods tend to work best. Examples of these include the reflection method and card signals.
 - We've created time cards for you to use, but you may also use your own (<https://tinyurl.com/midsummercongresstimecards>)

Recommendations:

- Formal Attire (Western Business Attire)

Contacts:

If you have any questions about the tournament or anything else, feel free to contact us! We look forward to seeing everyone at the tournament.

Simrith Ranjan: simrith.ranjan@gmail.com

William Gutiérrez: willjgutierrez@gmail.com

Drops:

If you need to drop for any reason, please fill out this form to officially drop the tournament:

<https://tinyurl.com/midsummercongressdrops>

Good Luck!