



# Yale Debate Association Twenty-Eighth Annual Yale Invitational Tournament

October 2020

Dear Speech and Debate Coach:

## TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS

**Alan Joaquin George**  
**Zhengdong Wang**

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The Yale Debate Association (YDA) is an undergraduate organization of Yale University in New Haven, CT. Every year, the YDA travels throughout the United States and the world to compete in Parliamentary Debate.

To encourage speech and debate activities among high school and college students, the YDA hosts several tournaments each year. Our five annual tournaments are the Yale Invitational Tournament, the Adam's Cup Tournament, the Osterweis Tournament, the Yale APDA debate tournament, and the Yale College IntersVarsity Tournament.

On behalf of the Yale Debate Association, we invite you and your team to the Twenty-Eighth Annual Yale University Invitational Tournament from Friday, October 2nd, 2020 to Sunday, October 4, 2020. The tournament will consist of competition in Varsity and JV Lincoln Douglas Debate, Varsity and JV Policy Debate, Varsity and JV Public Forum Debate, an open division in Congressional Debate, an open division in Parliamentary Debate, and eight Speech events (DEC, DI, EX, HI, INF, OI, POI, and OO).

This year, due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, we have decided it is in the best interest of the health of those who attend our tournament for the Yale Invitational to be a virtual tournament. Although we are disappointed that we will not be able to welcome you to our beautiful campus this fall, we are encouraged by the success of online tournaments that have been held so far, and are confident in our ability to offer a top-notch competitive experience and a safe online environment for a virtual Yale Invitational. This invitation details our plan for hosting this tournament online, and further information about our technology protocol is forthcoming.

Year after year, our tournament grows and gains more national recognition for its high level of competition. Like last year, quarterfinalists in Varsity Lincoln Douglas Debate, octofinalists in Varsity Public Forum Debate, and the Top 60 in Congressional Debate will earn bids to the Tournament of Champions. In addition, top finishers in DI, EX, HI, INF, OI, OO, and POI will earn a bid to the University of Kentucky TOC, depending on the number of [entries](#). We will be the first major invitational to conduct all speech events LIVE. **We will be using the NSDA Campus video conferencing software, integrated with Tabroom.com.**

We are pleased to offer a team of nationally recognized and successful tab coordinators. Lincoln Douglas Debate tab will be led by Crawford Leavoy, Policy Debate by Sheryl Kaczmarek, and Public Forum Debate by Jeffrey Kahn. Congressional Debate will be led by Kimberly Bayan-Berlat, and Parliamentary Debate by Everett Rutan. Speech tab will be led by Joe Vaughan. The ability of our tab staff, as well as an excellent pool of judges, will help to ensure a smooth tournament.

The information provided within this invitation and on our tournament website should answer any initial questions you may have about our tournament.

If you need additional assistance, please email us at: [yaleinvitational2020@gmail.com](mailto:yaleinvitational2020@gmail.com) . We also welcome any ideas, concerns, questions, or suggestions you may have as the tournament approaches.

Please do not hesitate to contact us by September 1 if your team is experiencing financial difficulties. Best wishes for a restful and enjoyable summer. We look forward to having many of you come and compete with us.

Sincerely,

Alan George and Zhengdong Wang  
Tournament Directors

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## Guide to the Invitation

[\*\*PUBLIC FORM LIVE DOC\*\*](#)

[\*\*LINCOLN-DOUGLAS LIVE DOC\*\*](#)

[\*\*POLICY LIVE DOC\*\*](#)

[\*\*CONGRESS LIVE DOC\*\*](#)

[\*\*PARLI LIVE DOC\*\*](#) - Yale Parli procedures can be [found here](#)

[\*\*SPEECH LIVE DOC\*\*](#)

**Please read the entire invitation.** Even if you've been at the tournament before, some information has changed. All rules and procedures in this invitation are also subject to change at the tournament directors' discretion without notice. All subsequent updates to this invitation will be highlighted in yellow, and an update will be posted on the main page of our Tabroom.

The online nature of our tournament this year presents many challenges, but it also creates many opportunities for us to create a better experience for all participants. As we hope to return to hosting our tournament on Yale's campus in future years, we have tried to maintain the competition you are familiar with as much as possible, where it makes sense. In addition, after much discussion with our tab directors and the community, we have also made some changes in order to better accommodate the online format. Please note that we plan to revert many of these changes when we return to an in-person tournament. While we are constantly looking to improve our tournament year after year, do not consider any differences between this invitation and previous years as guarantees moving forward. We welcome your feedback.

Please take special care to read the rules of events you plan to participate in, our judging expectations, registration limits, etc. Here you will find many important changes reflecting the new environment of competing online. Many of our other policies, such as our registration process, and expectations for ethics and integrity, are similar to our policies of previous years. However, please note that they are more important than ever before, to ensure a smooth and fair virtual experience. Familiarity with these policies is expected of all participants. Thank you for your attention to this year's unique tournament.

# Technology Desk and Event Hotlines

Always try email first, then text as a backup, but DO  
NOT CALL

Please identify yourself with your name, status (student, judge, coach),  
school, and NSDA Campus room number (if applicable)

**TOURNAMENT-WIDE TECHNOLOGY CONTACT**  
for NSDA Campus problems, Tabroom/ballot problems, or personal  
computer/internet problems.

**Email:** [help.yaleinvitational@gmail.com](mailto:help.yaleinvitational@gmail.com)

**Text:** (203) 493-1873

## **Public Forum**

[helpmepftab@gmail.com](mailto:helpmepftab@gmail.com)

Text: (215) 436-9130

## **Congress**

[yalecdhelp@gmail.com](mailto:yalecdhelp@gmail.com)

Text: (203) 397-6018

## **Lincoln-Douglas**

[yaleldcxtab@gmail.com](mailto:yaleldcxtab@gmail.com)

Text: (919) 666-7223

## **Parli**

[yaleparlitab@gmail.com](mailto:yaleparlitab@gmail.com)

Text: (646) 345-6628

## **Policy**

[yaleldcxtab@gmail.com](mailto:yaleldcxtab@gmail.com)

Text: (845) 541-6242

## **Individual Events/Speech**

[yalespeechtab@gmail.com](mailto:yalespeechtab@gmail.com)

Text: (914) 715-7337

## Competition

### Division Eligibility

We will have two divisions for Lincoln Douglas Debate, Policy Debate, and Public Forum Debate (Varsity and Junior Varsity):

- Varsity: Level of competition that is awarded bids (in LD and PF). This division is for more experienced debaters.
- Junior Varsity: Open to students in their first two years of experience in a debate event. This means that who would be considered varsity status in a debate event should not enter in any Junior Varsity division. Any student who broke at a national tournament in JV last year should enter the Varsity division, if competing in that same event. Students in middle school are welcome to register for this division.

We strongly encourage coaches to choose divisions with the educational purpose of debate in mind. That purpose is hurt if overqualified debaters compete in JV. Students should not enter these divisions to win trophies; they are learning divisions. In extraordinary cases, schools should reach out to the tournament directors to request exemptions.

The level of break for each speech and debate division will be determined based on entry totals. We will make that information publicly available in advance of the tournament.

For this year only, all debate events will be single-flighted. This means that all preliminary rounds will be single-flighted. However, we reserve the right to double-flight early elimination rounds, which will be announced ahead of time. We think it is important not to overburden our students and judges, and a day of debate with 10 rounds of judging online is not fair to those judges volunteering their time to be of service to the activity. The well-being of participants and judges is important. Consequently, we had to adjust our judge obligation ratio and pricing to accommodate this change.

### Lincoln Douglas Debate

The resolution will be the 2020 September-October National Speech and Debate Association (NSDA) topic. Both LD divisions will follow the 6-3-7-3-4-6-3 format. Debaters will have **five minutes** of prep time. Ties will be broken based on record, high/low adjusted points, total points, opponent's record, z-score, and coin flip, in that order. There will be six prelim rounds.

### Policy Debate

The resolution will be the 2020-2021 NSDA resolution. Teams will give eight minute constructive speeches, three minute cross-examinations, and five minute rebuttals and will have **nine minutes** of prep time. Ties will be broken using the same criteria as Lincoln Douglas Debate. There will be six prelim rounds. We reserve the right to collapse Policy Debate into one open division depending on the number of entries.

### Public Forum Debate

The tournament will be using the NSDA topic for September/October of 2020. We will follow the NSDA format, with **three minute summary speeches**. However, teams will have **four minutes** of prep time. Ties will be broken using the same criteria as Lincoln Douglas Debate. There will be six prelim rounds.

### Congressional Debate

There will be a single, open division of Congressional Debate. There will be three preliminary sessions. Session 1 will take place on Friday evening; Sessions 2 and 3 and quarterfinals will take place on Saturday; and the Semifinal and Final Sessions will take place on Sunday.

Please note that **registration for Congressional Debate registration is due before that of other events**, on September 4, 2020, so we can create chamber assignments. We will add late entries as we have drops in released chambers. We will assign chambers and dockets, for prelims and outrounds, and publish both on the Yale Invitational website by **Friday, September 18th**.

The legislation submission process will be announced shortly, and an update will be posted on the Tabroom page, and the deadline for submission will be **Friday, September 4 at 11:59pm**.

Additionally, the use of student preferential balloting will be suspended for this year due to the constraints of an online platform. Tabulation information and procedures will follow as it becomes available.

### Parliamentary Debate

There will be a single, open division of Parliamentary Debate. We will follow American Parliamentary Debate Association (APDA) format with its 7-8-8-8-4-5 speech times. A full style guide can be found [here](#) and on our tournament website. We will release the straight-link resolution **15 minutes** before the start of each round to create a more equitable experience. There will be **five** preliminary rounds.

### Speech Events

**All speech events will be performed LIVE.**

Students will be limited to entering a **maximum of two speech events**. Students entering in **EX may not double enter**. We will again be scheduling **five preliminary rounds**.

Students may enter each event only once. Students may use the same source material in only one event. For example, a student may not perform the same piece for OI and DI. Students performing the same source material in more than one event will be disqualified from **both events** at tab's discretion. Two works from the same collection, volume, or anthology do not qualify as the same material. However, two cuttings from the same work do. Feel free to email us

in advance if you have questions about this rule.

*EX, OO, DI, HI, POI, and INF* will follow **National Speech and Debate Association (NSDA)** rules and guidelines. *Oral Interpretation of Literature* and *Declamation* will follow **National Catholic Forensic League (NCFL)** rules and guidelines. Declamation is open to competitors in ninth or tenth grades only, per NCFL rules. Please keep in mind that we are offering Declamation for this year only, due to the online format. We will use the NCFL's guidelines for published material in Interp events. The grace period will be 30 seconds for all speech events. Any IE participant who exceeds the grace period may not receive a rank of 1 in the round. Any further penalty will be at the discretion of the judge. A participant may be penalized for a time violation only if the judge has used a precise timing device and notes the penalty on the ballot.

Speech tabbing will be cumulative throughout the tournament, with the worst prelim score dropped. We will advance as many students tied on ranks as logistics permit to each consecutive elim round. If there are too many tied competitors to advance all competitors with a given cumulative score, ties will next be broken by reciprocal ranks. Students on the edge of breaking who are tied on both ranks and reciprocals will always be advanced to the next elim round. **The EX final round will NOT feature cross-examination** to create a more equitable experience.

We are unfortunately unable to offer Duo Interpretation at this year's invitational. We believe that we cannot safely and equitably hold the event for students. Duo will return for next year's invitational. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.

### Source Integrity

#### *Debate:*

All students must have copies of all sources, which must include the full context of the citation, not simply a retyped list of short sentences and quotes. Upon request, competitors must make these sources available to their opponent(s) in the round and/or their judges (after the round). Debate entries failing to do so or debaters who significantly misrepresent sources in the round may be disqualified at tab's discretion.

#### *Speech:*

Speech contestants should have the full original source and their cutting of all material in interpretive events available at the tournament. Oratory, Info, and Extemp students should have the text of any material they cite in their speeches available at the tournament. Students misrepresenting sources or using unavailable sources may be disqualified at tab's discretion.

### Evidence Ethics

#### *LD, Policy, and PF:*

If a team believes an opponent committed an evidence ethics violation, the accusing team should stop the debate and ask the judge to adjudicate the challenge. This type of challenge includes the following:

- A team reads evidence is that fabricated
- A team reads evidence that is meaningfully altered to change the author's original

meaning

- A team misrepresents how much evidence they have read in a debate, such as improperly highlighting their evidence, “clipping cards” (the team says they read more than they actually did by clipping a card short of the indicated end), or “cross reading” (the team skips words or sentences in the middle of the text, but indicates that they read all the highlighted words)

The accusing team will explain to the judge what alleged violation is being asserted. The judge will evaluate the violation based on the evidence available to the judge. Prior to evaluating the challenge, the judge should inform both teams that the round will end following the investigation of the challenge, in accordance with the procedures outlined below. If the challenging team wishes to withdraw their challenge, they may at this point elect to do so.

If the judge finds that an ethics or evidence violation was committed, the offending team will be assigned a loss. If a single team member committed the violation, that debater will receive zero speaker points. The judge should contact tab regarding giving the offending team zero speaker points and averaging the other team’s speaker points from their other rounds.

Any decision to challenge evidence violations or unethical behavior must be made during the round in which the infraction occurred before the judge submits a decision to the tab room. No challenge can be made to conduct committed in any round after the ballot has been submitted to Tabroom. The judge assigned to the round will decide the challenge made in the round based solely on the evidence submitted by the teams in the round. No appeal, modification or reversal of the judge’s decision regarding the challenge or the consequences resulting from the challenge is permitted.

### *Parliamentary Debate*

New motions will be released prior to each round and debaters will have 15 minutes time for case preparation. Debaters are not permitted to use research materials, prepared briefs or the internet while preparing their cases or during the round. This does not mean debaters cannot use facts, data, quotations or other information to support their arguments, only that these either be generally known or clearly explained. The evidentiary standard is “a well-read person” or “The New York Times”, that is, what someone who regularly reads a national newspaper should know. Debaters are expected to understand and abide by this standard.

For more information see the Parliamentary Style Guide posted on the tournament website, or visit the APDA website for their general approach to parliamentary debate.

### Results, Awards, and Ballots

We will publicly post the results of each round in LD, Policy, and PF after each round is tabbed, to serve as a double-check. Judges in debate events are encouraged, but not required, to give feedback and critiques and to disclose their decisions to the debaters. However, you must submit your ballot to the tab room prior to giving oral critiques.

Awards will be given to all competitors reaching eliminations. Our awards will consist of newly designed, unique, and beautiful plaques, medals, and certificates. A procedure for the distribution and mailing of awards will be released before the tournament.

All ballots will be available online on the Tabroom website. All judges must fill out the Tabroom ballots, as we will not have physical ballots to give students, so this is the best way for students to receive feedback.

## Judging

### Obligations by Entry

Teams should bring **one qualified judge for every two LDers, Policy, PF or Parliamentary** teams, and **one qualified judge for every five Speech** entries, rounded up in the case of fractional obligations. Teams with Congress entries must bring **one qualified Congress judge for every six entries, and all schools with six or more entries must in addition provide a qualified parliamentarian.** In other words, 1-5 entries = 1 judge. 6+ entries = 1 judge & 1 parliamentarian. Each division of Varsity and JV debate are separate -- you may not cover Varsity entries with JV-only judges.

**Judges in LD and PF are obligated to stay and judge the first elimination round on Sunday OR one round past any round in which their students are actively competing, whichever is later. Judges in Parli and Policy are obligated to stay and judge the first full elimination round on Sunday OR one round past any round in which their students are actively competing, whichever is later.** That is, these judges are obligated for the first full break round (through Sunday morning) no matter what, and then one round past their students' participation after that. **Contact us if you are leaving. ALL Speech judges and ALL Congress judges are obligated to be on call for ALL rounds of the tournament, though you will not be asked to judge every single round.** Congress judges may be asked to judge another event; please indicate when registering which other pool a Congress judge would like to judge if we cannot use them in Congress. Likewise, qualified Speech judges may also be asked to judge Congress.

You are required to provide judges for all of your obligated rounds, but we are willing to accommodate circumstances where you might need to split a judge obligation between judges. You may fulfill your obligations by days (Friday/Saturday/Sunday) and also time shifts (Morning/Afternoon). We understand that a full day or full weekend judging an online tournament is a large commitment, and may be draining for some people, so we ask that you have an honest conversation with your judges about their ability to commit to enthusiastically judging and providing students with valuable feedback as part of the tournament's educational experience. If you decide that you need to split your judge days/times of day between multiple judges, please mark the correct time blocks in Tabroom for each judge. **These time blocks will be available shortly.**

Please note that the judges you bring need to be the judges you registered online by the deadline. **You may not substitute another judge in a rated pool.** Substituting another judge in a rated pool isn't good enough; people have rated your old judge, not your new judge. Schools that change their judges after online strikes and Mutually Preferred Judging ratings in debate events have opened will **lose all their strikes and ratings in the division(s) in which they made the offending changes.** Do not bother to bring judges unregistered by the deadline; they are useless to the tournament. If you have a judge who has some kind of emergency and cannot come to the tournament, you will have to pay the dropped judge fee to keep your ratings because we will not be changing the judge pool at the last minute.

Finally, **no school will get entries for a given event until they have entered at least one judge for said event.**

### Judge Expectations

Please keep in mind that a qualified judge understands the activity and is either experienced sitting in the back of the room with a ballot or flow pad or has been carefully trained by the team they are accompanying. A qualified judge knows how to assign ranks or wins/losses, speaker points, and knows how to fill out a ballot. **All judges must be older than high school age.** Please do not try to sneak in an untrained judge. When you provide an incompetent judge, we usually find out about it only after a number of competitors have been unfairly adjudicated.

LD, PF, Policy, Parliamentary, Congress, and Speech tab will post updates on **tabroom.com**. **All judges are expected to have a Tabroom account. All judges must have their email addresses and phone numbers entered in Tabroom.** Please make sure that you have your notifications sent to your cell phones and email, and that all of your team, including students and judges, are plugged in. Students and/or judges who miss rounds will not be forgiven because of “technical problems,” with the exception of those that will be delineated in our technology rules and procedures. We have discovered over the years that the inevitable technical problem that the person is suffering from the malady has turned off Tabroom notifications. Attendance at tournaments in 2020 presupposes that registrants have access to the tools of 2020, and know how to use them. We expect all participants at our tournament to familiarize themselves with Tabroom, and we will offer a guide to do so.

**We require all debate judges to post paradigms** under their Tabroom accounts profile. In any case, judges should be willing to indicate to competitors before a round a general sense of their vision of debate (if any) or a sense of their experience, to aid competitors in choosing how best to make their arguments. **Debate entries will not be allowed to submit preferences and strikes unless all of their judges have paradigms. This is true for Policy, PF, and LD.**

Keep in mind that the more judge cell numbers you register on Tabroom, the fewer times we'll be calling you. Schools whose judges fail to appear for an assigned round will be fined \$25 for a prelim round or \$50 for an elim round. **We do not want your money; we want judges to show up.** However, schools with unpaid fines will not be given ballots or awards, and they will be prevented from registering at other tournaments we run until those fines are paid. **Our tab staff runs many, many tournaments. Don't break the rules, or else you will be prevented from competing at any of those.**

### Hired Judging

We are also committed to hiring a quality pool of judging, but **hires are not guaranteed and will be very limited.** To aid us in that effort, the registration system will ask you to explicitly request judge hires. **Please request early;** we will not harm the quality of our tournament by oversubscribing hired judging. Please note also that **we will not allow schools to hire out their whole commitments in any event category.** We will notify you if your hires are confirmed, so

to that end, we strongly recommend requesting hired judges early. **Judges dropped after registration is frozen on Friday, September 25 will incur a fee, even if students are dropped to compensate.** Similarly, if you add a judge after September 28<sup>th</sup>, you still have to pay for the hired judges you signed up for, unless someone else should need a last-minute hire, since we will be paying that judge either way.

**We charge for hired judges by the student, not by the whole judge.** For example, if you have seven IE students entered, and only one judge covering five of those students, you owe two hired judging fees. This system is fairer because it does not require you to hire a whole judge just to cover a fractional obligation. Speech or Congress hired judges cost \$50 per entry they cover. If you have 12 speech entries and two judges, your hired judge costs \$100. Congress judging carries a maximum charge of five entries; you do not need to hire for entries beyond your first 5 (\$250). LD, Policy, and PF hires cost \$125 per covered entry. We also pay these judges more for judging Friday night. Parliamentary debate judges cost \$100.

### Lincoln Douglas Mutually Preferred Judging

Yale will again be using Mutually-Preferred Judging in Varsity LD Debate. Each debater in the Varsity division, provided their judging obligation is covered, will be able to rank all judges from 1-6 (6 being a strike). Conflicts will be handled separately, and instructions will be provided for defining conflicts both for teams and for judges; keep in mind that a conflict is a judge who likes you too much, not another chance for you to get more strikes. Students found to be misusing conflicts face repercussions up to and including disqualification from the tournament.

We wish to emphasize that we expect students participating in non-school sponsored “club programs” are expected to follow the conflict regulations set forth by **both** their school and tier club. Debaters who are discovered to not be following any set of conflict guidelines applicable to them can lose all of their prefs.

MPJ ratings will be available on Tabroom the Tuesday before the tournament. They will close Thursday night at 11:59 PM EST. If you are not getting a ranking option when you go into your online registration, your judging obligation was not covered, or your judges do not all have paradigms.

If you have **extra** experienced and qualified judges, we are willing to consider hiring that judge as part of our tournament hires, offering a registration break on entry fees, **or** lowering your judge burden in a different event. Please email [yaleinvitational2020@gmail.com](mailto:yaleinvitational2020@gmail.com) with contact information for your extra judges, or any questions about judging.

## Registration

All registration will be conducted online at our Tabroom page. We cannot accept email or phone registrations, but we are happy to help you navigate the registration website. If you have any questions concerning registration, please contact [yaleinvitational2020@gmail.com](mailto:yaleinvitational2020@gmail.com).

## Caps and Limits

We have limited space in order to ensure a fair break in all divisions and to maintain the quality of our judge pool. We will impose limits in a few events. The following table details our initial event caps. As we gauge interest throughout registration, we may raise the cap in some events above these initial limits.

Varsity Lincoln Douglas Debate	180 teams
JV Lincoln Douglas Debate	150 teams
Varsity Policy Debate	100 teams
JV Policy Debate	75 teams
Varsity Public Forum Debate	300 teams
JV Public Forum Debate	150 teams
Congressional Debate	360 entries
Parliamentary Debate	100 teams
Speech Events (DEC, DI, EX, HI, INF, OI, POI, and OO)	160 entries (each event)

We reserve the right to change any of the aforementioned limits. Please keep in mind that these limits are different from what we have offered in the past for this year only due to the online nature of the tournament.

**NOTE:** This year for tournament registration, we will again begin with universal waitlist status. All entries will automatically be placed on a waitlist. Two weeks after registrations open, we will fairly and evenly take students off the waitlist. No schools will be given an additional entry beyond the initial limit until 7 PM on September 15, to allow other schools a chance to register and get approval. Additional entry slots will be given on a first-come, first-served basis.

We will hand out waitlist spots as they are available, but we cannot predict when that will be. That is a function of whether other schools drop entries, our ability to maintain a fair break, and our ability to have a quality judge pool. When you send us an email asking what the likelihood of

your getting off the waitlist is, we will simply refer you to this paragraph in the invitation. Please note, however, that we are extremely committed to ensuring regional and school diversity in our competitor pool. Schools which correctly follow registration need not worry about not receiving any entry slots. Schools wishing to enter a large number of entries in the same event, however, will not receive slots for additional teams before other schools receive their first slots. Some preference may be given to schools that have attended the Yale Invitational in the past. As in years past, we plan to open registration on **August 1**. In the rare event that date changes, we will post a notification on our website. **Just as last year, students from schools owing outstanding fines to our tournament will be permanently wait listed until those fines are paid.** Those schools will be registered after other schools based on availability.

### Forms and Permissions

We require multiple required forms in order to participate in our tournament. The deadline for submission of all forms is **Friday, September 25th at 11:59PM ET**.

**Each participating school must provide one form**, signed by an authorized individual/official of the school:

1. Participant Supervision Agreement Form found [here](#) or on our Tabroom

**Each participating student must provide two forms**, signed by a parent or legal guardian

1. Parent/Guardian Release Form found [here](#) or on our Tabroom
2. Parent/Guardian Use of Images Form found [here](#) or on our Tabroom

All forms shall be compiled by the designated coach, and submitted through our form submission portal found here: <https://forms.gle/FmM83JRqmbvWgm6G8>.

In this portal, you (the coach) will submit 3 PDFs:

1. one, 1-page PDF of the school form (Participant Supervision Agreement Form)
2. one PDF with one Parent/Guardian Release Form **per** student
3. one PDF with one Parent/Guardian Use of Images form **per** student

**NO CHANGES ARE PERMITTED ON ANY OF THESE FORMS. DO NOT MAKE ANY EDITS, HANDWRITTEN OR TYPED, OR YOUR ENTIRE SCHOOL'S ENTRY WILL BE REJECTED.**

We are also **requiring all competitors to have a Tabroom account**. In order to submit these forms and complete your registration, all coaches, judges, and students must have a Tabroom account, complete with email and phone contact information.

Again, all forms must be submitted to participate in the tournament. Please do not approach us about altering the forms.

Please contact [yaleinvitational2020@gmail.com](mailto:yaleinvitational2020@gmail.com) with any and all questions.

## Safety

The tab room phone number will be announced on Tabroom in August. Please make all your students and judges aware of this number so they can contact our tab staff. This number is for tournament use only and will be answered only during the tournament.

Every student must be virtually accompanied to the tournament by a school-authorized individual to care for that student in the event of an emergency and serve as a point of contact with parents. The contact information for this adult must be given to tab at registration. The Yale Invitational takes no responsibility for the health and safety of students beyond notifying this accompanying adult of concerns or problems as we become aware of them. The Yale Invitational staff reserves the right to refuse entry to the tournament to anyone—be they a competitor, judge, coach, or observer—at its sole discretion.

## Fees

Due to the online nature of our tournament, we have lowered our entry fees compared to previous years for this year only. Your entry fees go to the costs of the online platform, hiring technology support, hiring qualified and experienced judges, tournament staffing, the purchase and mailing of trophies, and other expenditures incurred during for the operation of the tournament. A portion of entry fees will be allocated to subsidizing the registration of schools representing Urban Debate Leagues.

Public Forum Debate (V & JV)	\$80 per entry
Policy Debate (V & JV)	\$75 per entry
Lincoln Douglas Debate (V & JV)	\$75 per entry
Congressional Debate	\$60 per entry
Parliamentary Debate	\$50 per entry
Speech Events	\$50 per entry
School Fee	\$50 per school with 10 or more entries

Fees are due by the first day of the tournament, Friday, October 2nd before competition begins. We understand there may be changes during the week before the tournament, both increases and decreases, but we require payment before that date and will make adjustments to your invoice and provide refunds as necessary. If your school's payment is late, that will be between you and your school, not the tournament and your school; ***payment is required up front***. We will accept payment through PayPal, and by check in extreme circumstances. Please pay via PayPal.

**We will accept PayPal up to the start of the tournament to [treasurer.yda@gmail.com](mailto:treasurer.yda@gmail.com).**

If you must mail a check, you must complete the following steps:

1. Email [yaleinvitational2020@gmail.com](mailto:yaleinvitational2020@gmail.com) with the subject line "SCHOOL NAME - Payment by check" and a notification that you are unable to pay by PayPal. Please do this in advance so we can communicate with you and note in our records to expect a check.

Checks should be made out to:

"Yale Debate Association"

Memo: "SCHOOL NAME - Yale Invitational"

Checks can be mailed to:

Yale Debate Association

206 Elm St PO Box 205955

New Haven, CT 06520

2. Email us a proof of school purchase order for fees, or a USPS tracking number for your mail, by Wednesday, September 30th at 11:59 PM Eastern. Unless we receive a tracking number by that time, we will assume payment will be made through PayPal. Again, please do not hesitate to contact us by September 1 if your team is experiencing financial difficulties.
3. We will confirm with you receipt of payment, or receipt of confirmation of payment.

Some schools in the past have not reported all their drops to the tournament. An unreported drop is defined as a drop that occurs after the first round of that event. This harms our ability to panel rounds for good competition. Schools with *unreported* drops will be assessed a fee of \$50 per drop. Please notify tab immediately if a student falls ill or withdraws from competition during the tournament.

We understand that in the era of COVID-19 that situations change and emergencies arise. Accordingly, please do not hide your drops from us.

## Deadlines

Thursday, August 1 1:00 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Online registration begins at <a href="http://yaletourney.tabroom.com">yaletourney.tabroom.com</a></b></li></ul>
Friday, September 4 at 11:59 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Congress registrations due.</b> We may accept requests for late additions in Congress by email until Sept. 25th. Acceptance will be based on availability in chambers. No legislation from late additions will be accepted.</li><li>● <b>Congress bills due on Tabroom.com.</b> Bills without authors or schools will be returned for revision.</li></ul>
Friday, September 18th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Congress chambers and dockets released</b> on Tabroom.</li></ul>
Friday, September 25th at 11:59 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>New entries due in all events</b> (or as events hit their caps). We fill fast so register early.</li><li>● <b>Registration fees and judge burdens are frozen.</b> At this point, rooms are paid for and judges hired. That means you owe us the money and the judges, <b>whether or not you come.</b> If you do not meet your judge obligation or drop a judge after this deadline, you will be charged for a hired judge and a \$100 fine. We will notify you if we are unable to fulfill any hired judge requests. Make hired judge requests early to increase your chance of us being to meet demand.</li><li>● <b>LD judge registration &amp; names due.</b> We will likely run out of hires long before this; be sure to request hired judges early.</li></ul>
Tuesday, September 29th at 7:00 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>LD MPJ ratings can be entered online.</b> Your judges must be the judges you registered online by the judging deadline. Substitutes will not be accepted.</li></ul>
Wednesday, September 30th at 7:00 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>IE Speaker Codes made available;</b> therefore, <b>do not print codes</b> until you receive an email saying it is time to print codes. Field reports in the debate events will also be posted in advance of the tournament.</li><li>● <b>All non-LD judge names &amp; information due.</b> We will likely run out of hired judges long before this; be sure to request hired judges early.</li><li>● <b>Drops will no longer be made online</b> and must be emailed to <a href="mailto:yaleinvitational2020@gmail.com">yaleinvitational2020@gmail.com</a>.</li><li>● <b>\$10 nuisance fines</b> in addition to registration fees for each drop made after this time.</li></ul>

Thursday, October 1st at 11:59PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>LD MPJ ratings are due.</b> MPJ is closed at this time.</li> </ul>
Friday, October 2nd from 11:00 AM to 2 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Tournament Registration.</b> Drops will be fined an additional \$25 after 10:30am. Coaches must register during these registration sessions, whether or not they have changes. We will need to confirm with you that all your entries, judges, and fees remain the same, as well as to answer any questions you may have. More details will be provided closer to the tournament.</li> </ul>

### Independent Entries

Unfortunately, we will not be allowing independent entries. All entries must be affiliated with a school and registered by an authorized individual from that school. This decision is final.

## Online Platform

### Platform

We will be using the NSDA Campus software for our tournament. This requires **all coaches, students, and judges to have a Tabroom account** linked to their entry and registration. We will provide instructions for how to use NSDA Campus at a later date.

For any calls greater than 15 people, such as extemp draw and judging assemblies, we reserve the right to use Zoom.

### Safety

We are confident in our ability to provide a safe online debate environment for our students. The NSDA Campus software limits access to calls for only authorized Tabroom users in our tournament, meaning that we can guarantee the only people with access to a specific competition room at a specific time are the assigned participants, the assigned judge, and our administrative team, which will be roaming throughout rooms to ensure that everyone is safe and the competition is running smoothly. Observers are not permitted.

We will not be recording any rounds through NSDA Campus, and the independent recording of rounds by judges or students is strictly prohibited. Any violation of this rule will result in disqualification from the tournament without return of fees. **DO NOT RECORD.**

However, we will be live-streaming elimination rounds and final rounds of competition in various events, because the ability for eliminated students to watch these rounds is one of the most valuable educational aspects of speech and debate competitions. Accordingly, in order to participate, we require all students to provide an Use of Images form signed by their parent or guardian, in the event they reach a round in which their performance will be live-streamed.

Additionally, there will be a change in **procedure for extemp**. The 6th (or last) speaker will be required to observe the first speaker, and then will go to prep. All subsequent speakers are required to watch all other speakers for the duration of the round after they speak. This is to ensure there are always three or more individuals in any given call. One on one interaction between an adult and student is strictly prohibited.

Please direct any questions or concerns regarding participant safety to [yaleinvitational2020@gmail.com](mailto:yaleinvitational2020@gmail.com). We assure you that student safety is our top priority.

### Equity

We will be putting together an equity team for our tournament in efforts to provide an improved speech and debate environment. These individuals will put out an equity policy and be on call

during the tournament to act as a resource for students and judges pertaining to equity-related issues.

### Online Best Practices and Regulations

We will have a technology Ombudsman on call to resolve unexpected issues that may arise. In addition, we will also have room-checkers to ensure that competitors are in the rooms they are supposed to be in, and that rounds start on time.

We will release a document in August, detailing procedures and practices for our online tournament in both speech and debate events. These suggestions will be the result of discussion with other members of the debate community, as well as what has worked best so far at online tournaments held to date. This document will be available on the tournament's Tabroom website.

# Master Schedule of Events

## Varsity Public Forum - All Times Eastern

Friday, October 2 - VARSITY PF

Saturday, October 3 - VARSITY PF

Sunday, October 4 - VARSITY PF

## JV Public Forum - All Times Eastern

Friday, October 2 - JV PF

Saturday, October 3 - JV PF

Sunday, October 4 - JV PF

## Varsity Lincoln-Douglas - All Times Eastern

Friday, October 2 - VARSITY LD

Saturday, October 3 - VARSITY LD

Sunday, October 4 - VARSITY LD

## JV Lincoln-Douglas - All Times Eastern

Friday, October 2 - JV LD

Saturday, October 3 - JV LD

Sunday, October 4 - JV LD

## Varsity & JV Policy Debate - All Times Eastern

Friday, October 2 - Policy Debate (V & JV)

Saturday, October 3 - Policy Debate (V & JV)

Sunday, October 4 - Policy Debate (V & JV)

## Congressional Debate - All Times Eastern

Friday, October 2 - Congressional Debate

Saturday, October 3 - Congressional Debate

Sunday, October 4 - Congressional Debate

## Parliamentary Debate - All Times Eastern

Saturday, October 3 - Parliamentary Debate

Sunday, October 4 - Parliamentary Debate

## Individual Events - All Times Eastern

Saturday, October 3 - Individual events

[There is an extemp specific schedule here.](#)

Sunday, October 4 - Individual events

[There is an extemp specific schedule here.](#)

# Varsity Public Forum - All Times Eastern

## Friday, October 2 - VARSITY PF

	Pairings Released	Tech Check	Start Time	Decision Time
Round 1	4:00 pm	4:15 pm	4:30 pm	5:45 pm
Round 2	6:30 pm	6:45 pm	7:00 pm	8:15 pm

## Saturday, October 3 - VARSITY PF

	Pairings Released	Tech Check	Start Time	Decision Time
Round 3	8:30 am	8:45 am	9:00 am	10:15 am
Round 4	10:45 am	11:00 am	11:15 am	12:30 pm
Round 5	1:30 pm	1:45 pm	2:00 pm	3:15 pm
Round 6	3:30 pm	3:45 pm	4:00 pm	5:15 pm
Quads	6:00 pm	6:15 pm	6:30 pm	7:45 pm

## Sunday, October 4 - VARSITY PF

	Pairings Released	Tech Check	Start Time	Decision Time
Trips	8:30 am	8:45 am	9:00 am	10:15 am
Doubles	10:30 am	10:45 pm	11:00 am	12:15 pm
Octos	1:00 pm	1:15 pm	1:30 pm	2:45 pm
Quarters	3:00 pm	3:15 pm	3:30 pm	4:45 pm
Semis	5:00 pm	5:15 pm	5:30 pm	6:45 pm
Final	TBD			

# JV Public Forum - All Times Eastern

## Friday, October 2 - JV PF

	Pairings Released	Tech Check	Start Time	Decision Time
Round 1	4:10 pm	4:25 pm	4:40 pm	5:55 pm
Round 2	6:40 pm	6:55 pm	7:10 pm	8:25 pm

## Saturday, October 3 - JV PF

	Pairings Released	Tech Check	Start Time	Decision Time
Round 3	8:40 am	8:55 am	9:10 am	10:25 am
Round 4	10:55 am	11:10 am	11:25 am	12:40 pm
Round 5	1:40 pm	1:55 pm	2:10 pm	3:25 pm
Round 6	3:40 pm	3:55 pm	4:10 pm	5:25 pm
Triples	6:10 pm	6:25 pm	6:40 pm	7:55 pm

## Sunday, October 4 - JV PF

	Pairings Released	Tech Check	Start Time	Decision Time
Doubles	8:40 am	8:55 am	9:10 am	10:25 am
Octos	10:40 am	10:55 pm	11:10 am	12:25 pm
Quarters	1:10 pm	1:25 pm	1:40 pm	2:55 pm
Semis	3:10 pm	3:25 pm	3:40 pm	4:55 pm
Final	5:10 pm	5:25 pm	5:40 pm	6:55 pm

# Varsity Lincoln-Douglas - All Times Eastern

## Friday, October 2 - VARSITY LD

	Pairings Released	Tech Check	Start Time	Decision Time
Round 1	4:05 pm	4:25 pm	4:35 pm	5:50 pm
Round 2	6:05 pm	6:25 pm	6:35 pm	7:50 pm

## Saturday, October 3 - VARSITY LD

	Pairings Released	Tech Check	Start Time	Decision Time
Round 3	8:30 am	8:55 am	9:05 am	10:15 am
Round 4	10:30 am	10:55 am	11:05 am	12:20 pm
Round 5	1:30 pm	1:55 pm	2:05 pm	3:20 pm
Round 6	3:30 pm	3:55 pm	4:05 pm	5:20 pm
Trips	5:30 pm	5:50 pm	6:00 pm	7:15 pm

## Sunday, October 4 - VARSITY LD

	Pairings Released	Tech Check	Start Time	Decision Time
Doubles	8:30 am	8:55 am	9:05 am	10:15 am
Octos	10:30 am	10:55 pm	11:05 am	12:20 pm
Quarters	1:00 pm	1:25 pm	1:35 pm	2:50 pm
Semis	3:00 pm	3:25 pm	3:35 pm	4:50 pm
Finals	5:00 pm	5:20 pm	5:35 pm	6:50 pm

# JV Lincoln-Douglas - All Times Eastern

## Friday, October 2 - JV LD

	Pairings Released	Tech Check	Start Time	Decision Time
Round 1	4:15 pm	4:35 pm	4:45 pm	6:00 pm
Round 2	6:15 pm	6:35 pm	6:45 pm	8:00 pm

## Saturday, October 3 - JV LD

	Pairings Released	Tech Check	Start Time	Decision Time
Round 3	8:45 am	9:05 am	9:15 am	10:30 am
Round 4	10:45 am	11:05 am	11:15 am	12:30 pm
Round 5	1:45 pm	2:05 pm	2:15 pm	3:30 pm
Round 6	3:45 pm	4:05 pm	4:15 pm	5:30 pm
Trips	5:45 pm	6:05 pm	6:15 pm	7:30 pm

## Sunday, October 4 - JV LD

	Pairings Released	Tech Check	Start Time	Decision Time
Doubles	8:45 am	9:05 am	9:15 am	10:30 am
Octos	10:45 am	11:05 pm	11:15 am	12:30 pm
Quarters	1:15 pm	1:35 pm	1:45 pm	3:00 pm
Semis	3:15 pm	3:35 pm	3:45 pm	5:00 pm
Finals	5:15 pm	5:35 pm	5:45 pm	7:00 pm

# Varsity & JV Policy Debate - All Times Eastern

## Friday, October 2 - Policy Debate (V & JV)

	Pairings Released	Tech Check	Start Time	Decision Time
Round 1	4:00 pm	4:20 pm	4:30 pm	6:40 pm
Round 2	6:30 pm	6:50 pm	7:00 pm	9:10 pm

## Saturday, October 3 - Policy Debate (V & JV)

	Pairings Released	Tech Check	Start Time	Decision Time
Round 3	8:30 am	8:50 am	9:00 am	11:10 am
Round 4	11:30 am	11:50 am	12:00 pm	2:10 pm
Round 5	2:30 pm	2:50 pm	3:00 pm	5:10 pm
Round 6	5:30 pm	5:50 pm	6:00 pm	8:10 pm

## Sunday, October 4 - Policy Debate (V & JV)

	Pairings Released	Tech Check	Start Time	Decision Time
First Elim	8:30 am	8:50 am	9:00 am	11:15 am
Second Elim	11:30 am	11:50 pm	12:00 pm	2:15 pm
Third Elim	2:30 pm	2:50 pm	3:00 pm	5:15pm
Fourth Elim	5:30 pm	5:50 pm	6:00 pm	8:15pm

# Congressional Debate - All Times Eastern

## Friday, October 2 - Congressional Debate

	Pairings Released	Tech Check Chambers 1-15	Tech Check Chambers 16-30	Session begins	Session ends	Decision Time
Session 1	4:30pm	4:30 pm	4:45 pm	5:00 pm	7:30 pm	7:45 pm

## Saturday, October 3 - Congressional Debate

	Pairings Released	Tech Check Chambers 1-15	Tech Check Chambers 16-30	Session begins	Session ends	Decision Time
Session 2	9:30 am	9:45 am	9:30 am	10:00 am	12:30 pm	12:45 pm
Session 3	1:00 pm	1:00 pm	1:00 pm	1:30 pm	4:00 pm	4:15 pm

Quarters	6:00 pm	6:00 pm		6:30 pm	9:00 pm	9:15 pm
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## Sunday, October 4 - Congressional Debate

	Pairings Released	Tech Check	Session begins	Session ends	Decision Time
Semis	9:30 am	10:00 am	10:30 pm	1:00 pm	1:15 pm
Finals	2:00 pm	2:00 pm	2:30 pm	5:30 pm	5:45 pm

# Parliamentary Debate - All Times Eastern

## Saturday, October 3 - Parliamentary Debate

	Pairings & Motion released	Tech Check	Choice of Motion and Side	Case prep	Round Start time	Decision Time
Round 1	10:00 am	10:05 am	10:10 am	10:15 am	10:30 am	11:45 am
Round 2	12:00 pm	12:05 pm	12:10 pm	12:15 pm	12:30 pm	1:45 pm
Round 3	2:00 pm	2:05 pm	2:10 pm	2:15 pm	2:30 pm	3:45 pm
Round 4	4:00 pm	4:05 pm	4:10 pm	4:15 pm	4:30 pm	5:45 pm
Round 5	6:00 pm	6:05 pm	6:10 pm	6:15 pm	6:30 pm	7:45 pm

## Sunday, October 4 - Parliamentary Debate

	Pairings & Motion released	Tech Check	Choice of Motion and Side	Case prep	Round Start time	Decision Time
Doubles	10:00 am	10:05 am	10:10 am	10:15 am	10:30 am	11:30 am
Octos	11:30 pm	11:35 pm	11:40 pm	11:45 pm	12:00 pm	1:00 pm
Quarters	1:30 pm	1:35 pm	1:40 pm	1:45 pm	2:00 pm	3:00 pm
Semis	3:00 pm	3:05 pm	3:10 pm	3:15 pm	3:30 pm	4:30 pm
Finals	4:30 pm	4:35 pm	4:40 pm	4:45 pm	5:00 pm	6:00 pm

## Individual Events - All Times Eastern

### Saturday, October 3 - Individual events

There is an extemp specific schedule [here](#).

	Ballots Released	Judges Push Start By	All Judges and Competitors in Room by	Scheduled Start Time of Round
Round 1	At end of judge meeting	At end of judge meeting	9:20 am	9:30 am
Round 2	11:00 am	11:15 am	11:20 am	11:30 am
Round 3	2:00 pm	2:15 pm	2:20 pm	2:30 pm
Round 4	4:00 pm	4:15 pm	4:20 pm	4:30 pm
Round 5	6:00 pm	6:15 pm	6:20 pm	6:30 pm

### Sunday, October 4 - Individual events

There is an extemp specific schedule [here](#).

	Judge Call for Pooled Judges	Ballots Pushed out Judges Push Start By	All Judges and Competitors in Room By	Scheduled Start Time of Round
Octafinals (OO, EX, DI)	8:20 am	At end of judge meeting	8:50 am	9:00 am
Quarterfinals (OO, EX, DI, INF, HI, POI) Semifinals (DEC, OI)	10:50 am	At end of judge meeting	11:20 am	11:30 pm
Semifinal (OO, EX, DI, INFO, HI, POI)	1:20 pm	At end of judge meeting	1:50 pm	2:00 pm
Final (OO, EX, DI, INF, HI, POI)	3:50 pm	At end of judge meeting	4:20 pm	4:30 pm

Our Yale Invitational Hospitality Team is working on crafting an engaging program of events after the hours of competition to bring students virtually to Yale's campus. Some potential programming may include: a keynote speaker, a Yale admissions office info session, a Yale Debate Association demo debate, a Q&A with Yale students, or more. Additional information on this programming is forthcoming.

The awards ceremony will take place on Sunday evening.