

2020 Autumn Online Classic

Welcome! This is the formal invitation to the 2020 [Autumn Online Classic](#) tournament. In this invitation you will find the schedule, logistics, topic areas, and more. Please read the entire invitation before sending us any questions; your answers may be below. Scroll down for both the Judge and Competitor Guides.

The entire tournament will be in **PDT**. Please adjust times for your corresponding time zone.

Contact sdonlineclassic@gmail.com with questions; text the helpline (TBA) during the tournament. We encourage you to save this number in case you experience problems. Please remember that we experience a high volume of messages during the tournament, so please be patient and we will get to you.

Links

- [Competitor registration](#)
 - Non-independent entries must sign up through their schools
- [Judge registration](#)
- Judge training 1: TBA
- Judge training 2: TBA
- Judge training slides: TBA
- [Judge Webex codes](#)
 - Codes will be posted closer to the tournament date
- [Judge Check-In \(Finals\)](#)
 - Judges who are selected to judge finals should fill out this form

Registration

To register for this tournament, you should first determine whether you are signing up through your school or as an independent competitor/judge. If you are signing up through your school, your coach will handle your registration.

For independents, registration is just one step: fill out the Google Form above. **Every independent competitor MUST bring a judge or email us with their circumstances. Please fulfil the ratio of 1 judge : 4 entries for speech and 1 judge : 1 entry for debate.**

We are unable to efficiently run the tournament without enough judges. The only qualification for judges is that they must be older than high school age. The independent judge signup form can be found above.

If you are signing up with your school, there is no need to fill these forms out.

We allow multiple entries **up to 2 per competitor**. Note that triple entry is not permitted in this tournament.

Judge Training

TBA

Schedule (PDT)

Friday, 10/9 - Speech

| | |
|---------|------|
| Round 1 | 4:00 |
| Round 2 | 5:30 |
| Round 3 | 7:00 |

Saturday, 10/10 - Debate

| | |
|---------|-------|
| Round 1 | 8:00 |
| Round 2 | 10:00 |
| Round 3 | 2:00 |
| Round 4 | 4:00 |

Sunday, 10/1 - Elims

Fees must be paid prior to competing

| | |
|---------------------|-------|
| Semifinals - speech | 8:00 |
| Finals - speech | 10:00 |
| QF - debate | 1:00 |
| Semis - debate | 3:00 |
| Finals - debate | 4:30 |

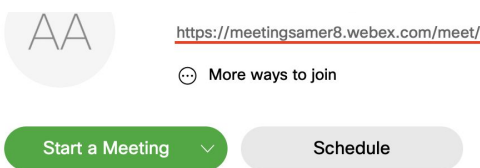
Prizes

- There MAY be cash prizes for placing 1st and 2nd in each event. Details TBA.

Logistics

Rounds will be held on Cisco Webex, a free video conferencing platform. The reason we are not using Zoom is because there is a 40 minute cap on calls with 3+ participants, which leaves little room for error.

Judges will be expected to have Webex accounts. Once these accounts are made, all the judge has to do is go to the Webex home page and send us the link that appears underneath “___’s Personal Room.” Attached is an image for guidance:



Fill out the form at the top with your Webex code by Wednesday, 10/7 at 11:59PM PDT.

Judges will be required to join their personal meeting rooms 10 minutes before each round in case there are any unprecedented issues. Competitors, these links will be included in a spreadsheet. When you see who your judge is, join the room linked on the spreadsheet.

Join the room when the round begins. While it is another speaker’s turn, you are expected to mute your mic. Extemp speakers are expected to join the room as soon as their 30 minutes of prep are over.

Competitors do not have to download Webex to join meetings, however I do recommend it for your own convenience. It is much easier to join meetings once you have the app.

Competitors should practice speaking in front of their webcam so they know how to best present themselves. Judges are *not responsible* if hand gestures cannot be seen.

If there are issues with Webex, text the Tabroom help line. We have backup Zoom rooms set up for you to use.

All speech events **except** Extemp and Impromptu will be VIDEOTAPED. Please submit your entries to the link at the top by midnight 9/3 or we will be forced to drop your entry.

Extemp Logistics

Extemp prep begins 30 minutes before each round. Topics will be sent out in intervals of 10 minutes.

Topics will be sent out through email. Competitors then prep and join the room once 30 minutes of prep are over. It is the responsibility of each competitor to check their email. It is not the responsibility of the tournament directors if there are delays: make sure your inbox is open and your Wifi is strong.

Topic Areas

Round 1: US Politics

Round 2: Science and technology

Round 3: COVID-19

Semifinals: Asia and Australia

Finals: Middle East & Africa

Impromptu Logistics

The judge will send 3 topics to speakers through Webex's individual chat feature. Speaker responds on the chat with the topic they have chosen and takes 2 minutes to prep. Topic areas will be Round 1 - concrete, Round 2 - abstract, Round 3 - quote, Finals - current event.

SPAR Logistics

SPAR is a spontaneous form of speech. The following structure will be used: 1 minute prep for both sides, 2 minute aff constructive, 2 minute neg constructive, 5 minute cross-ex, 1 minute neg closing, 1 minute aff closing.

There will be no question and answer period between judges and competitors. The logistics would become far too complicated for online rounds to run effectively.

In terms of timings: students will be given time slots to enter their rooms. They must enter at the beginning of the slot and leave when the round is over. If another round is occurring when competitors enter, they should mute themselves and turn off their videos so as not to disturb the previous round.

Time Limits

All interp events: 10 minutes

OO: 10 minutes

Expos: 10 minutes

OPP: 10 minutes

Extemp: 7 minutes

Impromptu: 5 minutes

There will be a 30-second grace period before competitors are penalized.

If your league time regulations differ, please inform your judge before you speak in the video. Grace periods will not differ.

Competitor Guide

General

- Text the helpline (number TBA) with questions during the tournament.
- Pairings will be released around 40 minutes before each round (except finals.) When you see who your judge is, please view the spreadsheet (will be linked soon) and join your judge's room at the start of the round. **Please check pairings as soon as they are released. If you have conflicts, text the helpline immediately.**
- Please wear formal clothing for this tournament. Even though we are online, it is still a speech and debate tournament and normal etiquette should be observed.
- You should stand during the round. Please set up in a well-lit room with space for you to stand 3-4 feet away from your laptop. This helps the judge see your hand gestures and body language as well as ensure that you are not reading off a script.
- If you are not speaking, please mute yourself. If you are spectating a friend's round, please mute yourself and turn your camera off.
- You are free to leave once you are done speaking.
- If you are late to a round because of double/triple entry, please tell your judge and they should be able to accommodate. If adjustments cannot be made for any reason, text the helpline.
- Since we can't ensure that students aren't on the internet, extemp speakers can use internet prep. Extemp topics will be emailed out beginning 30 minutes before the round's start time. Please keep your inbox open. Extemp speakers should know their speaker order and their corresponding virtual draw time. You can find a timetable for drawing and speaking times below. It is not the responsibility of the tournament directors if there are delays: make sure your inbox is open and your Wifi is strong. Topics will be sent to your tabroom email.
- For impromptu: The judge will send 3 topics to speakers through Webex's individual chat feature. Speaker responds on the chat with the topic they have chosen and takes 2 minutes to prep. Speaker then speaks for 5 minutes.
- SPAR competitors will enter rooms at 25-minute intervals. Please check the tables below (TBA) and ensure that you are entering your room at the time listed according to pairings. You should not be entering any sooner or later.
- Good luck!

Judge Guide

General

Logistics

- Please enter your personal meeting room 10 minutes prior to each round. Ensure that your mic and webcam are working, make sure your settings are enabled to let other people in, and that you have Tabroom up and running. Speakers should join when the round starts or slightly before. Wait until all competitors are online. If 2-3 minutes have passed and you are missing a speaker, please begin the round with the first speaker you have present (e.g. if Speaker 1 is missing, Speaker 2 will start.) You may just be missing a double entered speaker.
- Please inform all speakers to turn their mics off while other speakers are performing.
- Judge should time the speech. Speakers may ask for time signals which you are obligated to provide if they request (for all non-prepared events). You will be holding your fingers up to show how much time is left. Speakers will specify what kind of time signals they want. Do not stress out about this; it is the speaker's responsibility to ensure that you understand what they expect.
- Speakers are allowed to leave once they finish their speech.
- If a speaker arrives late, excuse them, as they may be double entered. If your round is getting drastically behind time, inform the helpline so we can adjust speaker order as necessary.
- For videotaped elim rounds, you may choose to watch the speeches alone or screenshare with the other judges.
- All videos can be found in a Google Drive folder (TBA).
- Finals: join the WebEx room of the first judge listed in pairings.

As always, email sdonlineclassic@gmail.com with any questions. If there are issues during the tournament, please text the helpline (TBA). We encourage you to save this number in case you experience issues.

Continue on to event specific guides for extemp, impromptu, and SPAR.

Event-Specific Guides

Impromptu Guide

Basics

- Speakers receive topics and have 2 minutes to prep a 5 minute memorized speech
- Judge based on content, delivery, organization, language, and other factors as you see fit
- Topic areas will be Round 1 - concrete, Round 2 - abstract, Round 3 - quote, Finals - current event.

Logistics

- The judge will send 3 topics to speakers through Webex's individual chat feature. *Judges should NOT make up their own topics!*
 - Judges will be emailed topics the night before the tournament. Please keep these topics to yourself - we are doing this on the honor system.
- Speaker responds on the chat with the topic they have chosen and takes 2 minutes to prep.
- Judge must delete the speaker's topic from the list of topics
 - The two topics the speaker did not choose should be given to other speakers as options

Extemp Guide

Basics

- Speakers receive topics and have 30 minutes to prep a 7 minute memorized speech
 - Speakers will prep **out of round** - ideally, you will only have one speaker in the room with you. However, there are likely going to be overlaps (e.g. Speaker 2 arrives before Speaker 1 is finished.) In this case, mute and turn off Speaker 2's camera so as not to disturb Speaker 1.
- Judge based on content, delivery, organization, language, and other factors as you see fit
- Topic areas
 - Round 1: US Politics
 - Round 2: Science and technology
 - Round 3: Global economy
 - Finals: Asia and Australia

Logistics

- Tournament administrators will send each speaker in the round 3 unique topics. They will choose one, take 30 minutes to prep, and join the call as soon as their 30 minutes are up.
- If the speaker does not offer their topic, judge should ask what the speaker's chosen topic is.

Timetables

- If speakers arrive late, use your discretion to determine whether it was a technology error or other innocent mistake. If you believe it was an integrity violation, please text the helpline (408) 692-1176 with the competitors name, event, round number, and a description of the violation.

SPAR Guide

Basics

- SPAR is a spontaneous form of speech. The following structure will be used: 1 minute prep for both sides, 2 minute aff constructive, 2 minute neg constructive, 5 minute cross-ex, 1 minute neg closing, 1 minute aff closing.
- There will be no question and answer period between judges and competitors. The logistics would become far too complicated for online rounds to run effectively.

Logistics

- In terms of timings: students will be given time slots to enter their rooms. They must enter at the beginning of the slot and leave when the round is over. If another round is occurring when competitors enter, they should mute themselves and turn off their videos so as not to disturb the previous round.
- You can expect to judge 3 SPAR debates per round.
- When the team arrives, give them a topic (sides will be pre-assigned) and set a timer for one minute. When one minute of prep is over, the competitors should begin.
 - ‘Aff’ and ‘Neg’ are left and right. E.g. in a Biden vs. Trump round, Aff would be Biden and Neg would be Trump.
- You will choose the side you believe won. Do not judge based off of your personal opinion of the topic, rather on the competitors' argumentative and delivery skills.

Debate Event Guides

Public Forum and Lincoln Douglas will be using April topics.

LD topic: **Resolved: Predictive policing is unjust.**

PF topic: **Resolved: The United States should remove nearly all of its military presence in the Arab States of the Persian Gulf.**

Public Forum:

Public Forum Debate features four high school students on teams of two debating a timely issue in highly structured speech times. The teams compete for the vote of a judge or panel of judges, who will decide the round based on which team debated better. Debate in Public Forum should be conducive to adjudication by citizen judges and should not require special knowledge or training to judge. The debaters will use their common knowledge, reasoning, and evidence from third-party experts to support and substantiate their arguments. Individuals give short (2-4 minute) speeches that are interspersed with 3 minute "crossfire" sections, questions and answers between opposed debaters. The debate centers around advocating or rejecting a position, or "resolution", which is a proposal of a potential solution to a current events issue. Public forum is designed to be accessible to the average citizen.

Structure: Aff speaks first for all speeches

| Aff | Neg |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1. 4 minute constructive | 2. 4 minute constructive |
| 3. 3 minute cross-examination period (between 1st speakers) | |
| 4. 4 minute rebuttal | 4. 4 minute rebuttal |
| 5. 3 minute cross-examination period (between 2nd speakers) | |
| 6. 3 minute summary | 7. 3 minute summary |
| 8. 3 minute cross-examination period (between all speakers) | |
| 9. 2 minute final focus | 10. 2 minute final focus |

Logistics:

2 teams will enter the judges' WebEx room, and the debate will start as soon as everyone is ready. Following the completion of the round, judges will be given 8-10 minutes to finish their RFDs, then the second flight of competitors will enter and begin. Essentially, each round will have a ratio of 4 teams to one judge.

Lincoln Douglas:

Lincoln-Douglas debate (more commonly referred to as LD) is a competitive speaking activity that involves two debaters arguing for and against a resolution that is selected by the NFL (National Forensics League). Today, LD focuses on the conflicting values of social and philosophical issues, for example, by examining questions of morality, justice, democracy, etc. Typically, LD debates concern themselves with deciding whether or not certain actions, or states of affairs, are good or bad, right or wrong, moral or immoral. Debates can often be non-topical, however, debaters should refrain from delving too deep in complex philosophy or 'theory' if in front of an inexperienced judge.

Structure: Aff speaks first for all speeches

| Time (minutes) | Abbreviation | Speech | Description |
|---------------------------|---------------------|---|---|
| 6 | AC | Affirmative Constructive | The Affirmative reads a pre-written case. |
| 3 | CX | Cross Examination | The Negative asks the Affirmative questions. |
| 7 | NC (1NR) | Negative Constructive (and first negative Rebuttal) | The Negative (almost always) reads a pre-written case and (almost always) moves on to address the Affirmative case. |

| | | | |
|---|---------|---------------------------------|--|
| 3 | CX | Cross Examination | The Affirmative asks the Negative questions. |
| 4 | 1AR | First Affirmative Rebuttal | The Affirmative addresses both their opponent's case and their own. This speech is considered by many debaters to be the most difficult, as debaters must use 4 minutes to respond to a 7-minute speech, whereas the Negative has 6 minutes to respond to the 1AR of only 4 minutes. |
| 6 | NR (NR) | Negative Rebuttal | The Negative addresses the arguments of the previous speech and summarizes the round for the judge. New arguments and evidence are typically frowned upon because the affirmative only has 3 minutes to respond to this speech. |
| 3 | 2AR | The Second Affirmative Rebuttal | The Affirmative addresses the arguments of the previous speech and summarizes the round for the judge. No new arguments or evidence are allowed in the 2AR as the negative does not have another speech to answer these arguments. |

Logistics:

2 competitors will enter the judges' WebEx room, and the debate will start as soon as everyone is ready. Following the completion of the round, judges will be given 8-10 minutes to finish their RFDs, then the second flight of competitors will enter and begin. Essentially, each round will have a ratio of 4 competitors and two debates to one judge.

Parliamentary:

At the most basic level, Parli is a form of debate in which you and a partner from your own team debate 2 people from another team. You are debating to support or oppose a “resolution,” which is the topic of the round. The side supporting the resolution is usually trying to solve a problem in how the world works now, while the side opposing the resolution is usually arguing that the supporters’ ideas are wrong, or that the world isn’t broken. Unlike the other three debate forms, Parliamentary (“Parli”) is unprepared: you don’t know the topic of the round or the arguments you’ll be making in advance. After the debaters decide on the topic for the round (more about that later), each team has 20 minutes to work with your partner privately to develop your arguments. Debaters can’t consult anyone but your partner during this 20 minutes of “prep time.” Also unlike the other three debate forms, Parli debaters don’t bring scripts, evidence, or outside materials to the round, except for an English dictionary and blank paper to take notes on.

Structure: Aff always speaks first

Since this event is not well known in much of the USA, please read this guide as well:

<https://tinyurl.com/CAParliGuide>

| Aff | Neg |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. 7 minute Proposition | 2. 7 minute Opposition |
| 3. 7 minute Proposition | 4. 7 minute Opposition |
| 5. 5 minute Rebuttal | 6. 5 minute Rebuttal |

Logistics:

Competitors will be emailed the topic, and will be given 20 minutes to prepare before joining their WebEx rooms. **ARRIVING MORE THAN 5 MINUTES LATE TO YOUR ROOM WITHOUT LETTING TAB KNOW OF ANY DIFFICULTIES MAY RESULT IN AN IMMEDIATE LOSS.**