

Lumos Debate invites you to a National Speech and Debate Association sanctioned, virtual debate tournament for novice debaters in grades 6-10 on December 12, 2020 from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m.

Competitors will debate in four full Public Forum Debate rounds on the topic: Resolved: The United States ought to replace the Electoral College with a direct national popular vote.

Winners will be decided based on win-loss record and speaker points, with team awards and individual speaker awards as well.

Please note: competitors are permitted to use the shorter, MMSFPL format for this tournament without penalty. Judges will be instructed not to deduct speaker points for students who do not fill the full PF speech times. Rounds will be hosted on NSDA Campus, and, throughout the day, teams will be able to congregate in “squad rooms,” on Tabroom.

Registration details

Please register online at http://lumos_01.tabroom.com. Registration opens on Friday, October 23, 2020. The deadline for adding or dropping teams is Saturday, December 5, 2020, but if you must drop a team after December 5, 2020, email julian.fefer@gmail.com. Registration costs \$5 per student, or \$10 per team. Registration fees may be paid by Paypal using this link: <https://www.paypal.com/paypalme/lumosdebate>. Please pay for all students together, one payment per school.

Note: Entry fees owed as of 3 p.m. Sunday, November 6 are final, even if you drop teams after that time because the NSDA requires us to reserve online rooms ahead of time and to pay for those rooms whether or not we use them.

Independent entries are allowed, as long as a “Person in Charge” is designated for those entries. That person must be reachable during the tournament via phone, and must be able to reach all participants from their school, including competitors and judges. The tab staff will not have cell phone numbers for competitors and may depend on each school’s “person in charge” to contact competitors or judges from their school, when necessary (e.g., when individuals have not entered the online debate session they have been assigned to).

Everyone who registers will automatically be put on the waitlist, which will be cleared closer to the tournament date.

Direct competitors to the Competitor Resources web page on the tournament page on Tabroom.com. Click on the yellow buttons on the right on the tournament home page.

REGISTRATION MUST BE PAID BY SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6.

Judging

You are required to bring one judge for every two entries (rounded up) in the tournament. Judges must be available for all four rounds, from 10 a.m until 5 p.m. If they can not judge all four rounds, please arrange for a replacement judge to take their place. There will be a \$100 fine for each missing judge. Judges will attend a brief judge training from 9:15-9:30 on Saturday morning before the first round.

Please note that judges must be upperclassmen or college students who have previous experience in Public Forum Debate. Since the tournament is virtual and all balloting is online, all judges must have access to a computer and reliable internet connection throughout the tournament.

A limited number of Public Forum Debate judges will be available for hire for \$65 per judge. Please write to Julian Fefer (julian.fefer@gmail.com) for more information.

The tournament will use electronic balloting. All judges must have accounts on Tabroom.com. For more information on setting up accounts, see [here](#). We ask that all judges familiarize themselves with the use of online ballots by reviewing this documentation ([here](#)).

Direct judges to the Judge Resources web page on the tournament page on Tabroom.com. Click on the yellow buttons on the right on the tournament home page.

Event-Specific Information

Competitors will debate the topic: Resolved: The United States ought to replace the Electoral College with a direct national popular vote.

The format of each debate will follow Public Forum Debate structure:

Speech	Speech Time
Case 1	4 minutes
Case 2	4
Cross Examination	3
Rebuttal 1	4
Rebuttal 2	4

Cross Examination	3
Summary 1	3
Summary 2	3
Grand Cross Examination	3
Final Focus 1	2
Final Focus 2	2

Note: throughout the round, teams will have three minutes of prep time

Awards

Awards will take place at the conclusion of preliminary rounds, probably around 5:00 PM. Physical awards will then be mailed to the top 10 speakers and five teams. We will post a link for the awards ceremony on the tournament's main page.

Details for the Morning of the Tournament

"Onsite" registration will take place on Saturday morning. There will be an "On-site registration" tab. On that tab, there will be a check box to confirm your team is set and ready to participate. Please complete this registration by 9:00.

Getting Help During the Tournament

We will provide:

In-round help when judges or competitors submit a request from within the NSDA Campus platform – i.e., without having to leave your in-round video session.

Between-round help in a judge room that will be available as a link from your Tabroom account.

Tentative Tournament Schedule

Event	Time
Registration	5:00-9:00
Mandatory meeting for all judges	9:15-9:30

Round 1	10:00
Round 2	11:45
Round 3	1:30
Round 4	3:15
Awards	5:00

If you have any questions about the tournament plan or registration, please email julian.fefer@gmail.com or call / text 617-775-3735.