



2021 Ivy League Parliamentary Championship

February 20 - February 21, 2021

January 10th, 2021

Hosted by the Columbia Debate Society

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Dear Speech and Debate Coach,

On behalf of the Columbia Debate Society, we are delighted to invite you and your team to the Ivy League Parliamentary Championship high school debate tournament on Saturday February 20th and Sunday February 21st, 2021 at Columbia University in New York. All elimination rounds will be judged by a hand-picked group of highly competitive college-level parliamentary Ivy League debaters, and we look forward to an exceptional level of debate throughout the weekend.

Our tab director will be Rodda John of Columbia University and founder of the New York Parliamentary Debate League. This invitation and additional information is or will be posted on our tournament website, <http://ivyleagueparliamentary.tabroom.com>. If you have additional questions or need assistance please email us at columbiadebate@gmail.com. Please do not hesitate to contact us if your team is experiencing financial difficulties. We look forward to building a premier event for the high school parliamentary debate community. We hope to see you online in February.

Sincerely,

Matthew Simons, Tournament Director
Esther Kardos, Deputy Tournament Director



COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

2021 Ivy League Parliamentary Championship
High School Forensics Tournament

Columbia University, February 20th - February 21st, 2021
For problems during the tournament, please contact:

Tournament Director: Grace Protasiewicz (317) 937-5428

Tab Phone Number: Rodda John (917) 613-4279

Equity Officer: Layne Donovan (414) 882-9084

Note: Please read the entire invitation carefully. We hope it will answer most of your questions.

Registration

Please register for the tournament using on tabroom, at <http://ivyleagueparliamentary.tabroom.com>. If you are unfamiliar with tabroom, there are online instructions. We can also answer your questions about the system and help you to get registered properly.

We will initially limit each school to 6 teams, though we encourage you to register more if you have debaters who are interested in attending. All teams will be automatically waitlisted, but we will try to clear the waitlist so you have plenty of time to make reservations and travel plans.

There is no limit to how many teams/entries we can take as a whole - however, 6 teams will be the initial cap for teams per school. We will accept new registrations up until the week before the tournament but we will begin allocating additional entries above 6 to teams two weeks before the tournament so you will have sufficient notice.

Divisions

We plan to offer a Varsity and Novice division. Any student of high school age may compete in the Varsity division.

For this tournament a Novice is defined as someone in their first year of high school debate and who is in their Freshman or Sophomore year.

- *Students who have debated in middle school and are in their Freshman year count as Novices.*
- *Students who debated as Freshman and are entering their Sophomore year are not Novices and must debate as Varsity.*
- ***Students who have never debated before but are in their Junior or Senior years are not Novices for this tournament regardless of their inexperience and must debate in the Varsity division.***

We feel it is important to give younger debaters experience in national tournaments and the Parli format, and we hope each school that attends will include at least one or two Novice teams in their initial six entries.

Registration

There will be a fee of \$30 per team. Please make checks payable to: Columbia Debate Society

Fees may be mailed ahead of time or paid at registration on February 20th. Teams with financial difficulties or who are travelling from afar should contact columbiadebate@gmail.com for a reg break when submitting their registration.

Fines and Deadlines

Judge misses a preliminary round \$10/round

Judging Requirements

Teams should bring one qualified judge for every two teams or part thereof ($n+1/2$: so three teams would mean two judges, as would four teams).

A qualified judge is an adult or college student who understands the activity, speaks English, and is experienced taking a flow and keeping time. A qualified judge knows how to decide the round, to assign ranks and speaker points, and to fill out a ballot including a reason for a decision. Judges familiar with Parliamentary debate are preferred, but experience judging other forms of debate is acceptable. We will post a guide for debaters and judges on the web site at least a month before the tournament which we hope your judges and debaters will review.

This is not a tournament where there is sufficient time or resources to train judges. Please do not bring inexperienced judges to the tournament.

Supervision

All students must have a parent or legal guardian that can be reached at all times, or a school-approved adult guardian, teacher, or coach who is empowered to deal with emergencies, medical or otherwise. The adult guardian may not be another high school student: *high school students who have passed their 18th birthday do not count*. All registered teams must provide a name and phone number for an adult contact who will be reachable during the tournament and is responsible for the students in case of an emergency.

Parliamentary Debate Format

We will follow the collegiate APDA style with the 7-8-8-8-4-5 format. We will provide a more detailed style guide for debaters and judges on the tournament web site at least a month before the event. For a broader discussion of the format please see the APDA web site, apda.online.

We will release one or more straight-link motion for each round, and debaters will have 15 minutes before the start of debate to prepare cases. Some rounds teams may be assigned sides, others motion and side will be determined by a coin toss.

The format is extemporaneous debate. Debaters are not permitted to use briefs, prepared cases, research material or the internet during their preparation period or during the debate. They may use laptop or tablet computers to take notes during preparation or the round, or to speak from the podium, but they may not use research material stored on said devices. They may use electronic devices to keep time. This does not mean that debaters cannot cite facts or references during the debate, only (following APDA guidelines) that these facts be generally well known or fully explained in the speech to both the other team and the judge so they can be critically evaluated.

Schedule

The tournament will run on Saturday with out rounds on Sunday. We will have five preliminary rounds of single-flight debate breaking to quarter-finals in the Varsity Division, providing a sufficient number of teams. Novices will break to semi-finals. We will update you on this as registration progresses.

Saturday, February 20th

Time	Activity
10-10:30 AM	Registration
10:30-11AM	General assembly
11-12:30PM	Round 1
12:30PM-2:00PM	Round 2
2:00-3:00PM	Lunch
3:00-4:30PM	Round 3
4:30-6PM	Round 4
6-7:30PM	Round 5
7:30-8PM	Speaker awards and closing

Sunday, February 21st

Time	Activity
10-10:30AM	Check-in
10:30-12PM	Novice Semis and Varsity Quarter finals
12PM-1:30PM	Novice Finals and Varsity Semi finals
1:30-3PM	Grand Finals
3-3:30PM	Awards and closing

We will try to run on time and appreciate everyone's cooperation toward that end.

Rules and schedule are subject to change. The tournament will make you aware of any changes at or prior to registration.

Equity

Creating a safe and equitable environment for all participants is one of Columbia Debate Society's top priorities. Our Equity Officer (contact information will be published prior to the tournament) will be present at the tournament and available as a resource. We aim to hold a tournament free from harassment on the basis of gender, race, sexual orientation, disability, or any other factor.

If you are made to feel uncomfortable or harassed, or if any other equity-related issue occurs, please feel free to contact the equity officer or submit an anonymous complaint. All complaints will be investigated by the equity officer and other tournament officials may be involved where appropriate with the complainant's consent. If the equity officer feels that a violation has occurred, repercussions may be applied (in consideration with the wishes of the complainant if provided) that include a verbal warning, requiring an apology, or removal from GA and/or the tournament.

Anonymous complaints may be submitted via a Google form, the link for which will be published prior to the tournament.

More information about equity can be found on APDA's website, <http://www.apdaweb.org/about/eof>.

Online Software

The tournament will be hosted on NSDA's online campus. If you have any concerns about using this software or about your access to technology, do not hesitate to reach out for assistance. Further details will be forthcoming.