

**Lumos Debate invites you to a National Speech and Debate  
Association-sanctioned, virtual debate tournament for novice debaters in  
grades 6-10 on May 1, 2021 from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m.**

Competitors will debate in four full Public Forum Debate rounds on the topic: “Resolved: The US should significantly increase NASA's Mars colonization budget.”

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

Please note: Rounds will be hosted through Tabroom, and, throughout the day, teams will be able to congregate in “squad rooms.” After registering their teams, each coach should email a squad room link to [julian.fefer@gmail.com](mailto:julian.fefer@gmail.com).

## **Registration details**

Please register online at [http://lumos\\_01.tabroom.com](http://lumos_01.tabroom.com). Registration opens on March 30, 2021. The deadline for adding or dropping teams is Monday, April 26, 2021, but if you must drop a team after Monday, April 26, 2021, please email [julian.fefer@gmail.com](mailto:julian.fefer@gmail.com). Registration costs \$10 per student, or \$20 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.

During registration, please provide each student’s contact information. This will facilitate troubleshooting on the day of the tournament.

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.

**Competitors will be required to create Tabroom accounts for this tournament.**

**REGISTRATION MUST BE PAID BY MONDAY, APRIL 26, 2021.**



## 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 US should significantly increase NASA's Mars colonization budget.”

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 four minutes of prep time

## Important Notes

1. Rounds will be posted for competitors to access on Tabroom. Judges will receive email and text blasts notifying them of their round. The link to the schematic, as well as other important information, will be emailed to coaches the week of the tournament, and coaches are expected to pass the information along to judges and competitors.
2. We need the contact information for every student so that our Technical Support team can directly reach them to troubleshoot and avoid forfeits. Please send [julian.fefer@gmail.com](mailto:julian.fefer@gmail.com) a spreadsheet with first name/last name, contact email, and contact cell for each student - before Monday, April 26, midnight.
3. We encourage teams to have an online "squad" room, where students can meet with teammates and coaches between rounds. If you plan to have a squad room, please send us the link you would like to use to [julian.fefer@gmail.com](mailto:julian.fefer@gmail.com) so we can direct lost students there.
4. During online debate rounds, debate pairs often call each other on a separate platform (phonecall, google meet, etc) so that they can speak with each other during prep time. If this is something your students plan to do, please remind students to practice this ahead of time to make sure the tech works.
5. If you have a judge who has never used the Tabroom software before or has not judged a debate round before, please email [julian.fefer.com](mailto:julian.fefer.com) so we can make sure they are ready for the tournament. There will also be a judge briefing on the day of the tournament.

## 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

"On-site" 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

For all:

- Tabroom helpline email: [lumostournament@gmail.com](mailto:lumostournament@gmail.com)
- Tabroom helpline phone number: 617-651-2632

For judges:

- You can join the judge lounge on this Zoom call: LINK WILL BE POSTED CLOSER TO THE TOURNAMENT

For competitors

- You can join the student lounge on this Zoom call: LINK WILL BE POSTED CLOSER TO THE TOURNAMENT

## Tentative Tournament Schedule

Event	Time
Registration	5:00-9:00
Mandatory meeting for all judges	9:15-9:30
Opening meeting	9:45-10:00
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](mailto:julian.fefer@gmail.com) or call / text 617-775-3735.**