Hello Middle School Debate Community,

I would like to cordially invite you to the ‘MS Poly Prep for the TOC Tournament’ being held on May 1, 2021. We hope to offer a fun, simple, 4 round prep tournament open to both competitors that are competing in the MSTOC, and anyone else looking for another opportunity to compete. We will offer all TOC events along with novice and 5th grade divisions for PF. We will also be offering elementary spar debates for students in grades 3-4.

We hope the hallmark of the tournament will be great judging. We will be flooding the pool with our best high school judges and veteran volunteers from the Brooklyn Debate League. Our judges will be chosen with providing the best educational feedback in mind and we hope our entries will do the same when choosing their judges. We will also be able to provide hired judging for anyone in need.

We believe in setting an early example for our middle school students of the expectations they should have from tournament tabrooms. As such, we will have an equity officer, endorsed by the leadership of the Brooklyn Debate league, who will be available to any competitor or coach throughout the tournament. We also believe in celebrating the diversity of Speech & Debate so our tabroom is being entirely run by women and people of color.

I’m sure your youngest kids are as bummed as mine that trophies have been scarce this season. In order to celebrate our competitors, we will be sending out medals to our top entries in Speech events and all those with positive records in debate events. In order to offer everything above, we are going to charge a flat $20 per student. Financial barriers should never bar anyone from our community so if this is an issue, please let us know and we will be happy to work with you.

We hope to see you on May 1st!

Thanks.

Janna White

Director of Speech & Debate

Poly Prep Country Day School

**Events and Divisions**

Middle School

Debate

For middle school debate students, we offer the following divisions: Policy Debate, Lincoln-Douglas Debate, Open, Novice, and 5th Grade Public Forum Debate, and Congressional Debate

Congressional Debate will utilize resolutions similar to the ones that will be debated at TOC by choosing bills within the same genre of each TOC session:

Session 1 - Education

Session 2 - Justice & Policing

Session 3 - Energy & Climate

Speech

For middle school students – All TOC Events

Elementary School

For your youngest competitors, we have a division of Elementary Impromptu Speaking and a division of Elementary Spontaneous Argument (SPAR).

Elementary school students are also welcome to enter any of the middle school divisions.

**Logistics**

Location/Platform

This competition will take place online on the NSDA Campus platform.

All competitors must be linked to a Tabroom.com account associated with their school in order to access their competition rooms.

All rounds will be single-flighted in order to reduce screen time for both competitors and judges.

Time Zone

Due to our school’s location in Brooklyn, all times for the tournament will be on Eastern time (but we hope the schedule will work for those on both coasts).

**Registration, Waitlist, and Limitations**

Registration

Entries will be accepted online at [http://www.polyprep.tabroom.com](http://www.polyprep.tabroom.com/). You can also locate the tournament name from the Tabroom homepage to register. You can also search for the tournament by entering " MS Poly Prep for the TOC Tournament’ " into the search box.

You can find us under the National Circuit (NatCir) for high schools on Tabroom.com.

Waitlist Process

Teams will clear the waitlist once their entries are covered by judging or by tournament-approved hired judging requests.

If you feel you have teams waitlisted despite these conditions being met, please contact the tournament.

**Judging Information**

Each Judge covers up to 2 entries in Debate.

Each Judge covers up to 5 entries in Speech.

Each Judge covers up to 6 entries in Congress.

All judges are required to have a linked Tabroom account. This is to ensure they have access to both their ballots and the competition rooms on the NSDA Campus platform.

Judges for Middle School events may be current high school students with significant forensics experience.

We encourage all judges to review the NSDA Cultural Competency resources ([www.speechanddebate.org/judge-training/](http://www.speechanddebate.org/judge-training/)) and take the course. If you have newer judges, we strongly recommend the Adjudicating Speech and Debate course available via the NSDA ([www.speechanddebate.org/judge-training/](http://www.speechanddebate.org/judge-training/)).

Finally, we expect all judges to act in a manner that is inclusive, equitable, and offers constructive criticism to the competitors, regardless of their background or experience.

Independent Entries

Independent entries are welcome at ‘MS Poly Prep for the TOC Tournament’. All independent entries must have an adult coach or adult parent who can be reached if/when needed by the tournament.

**Deadlines and Schedule**

Dates and Deadlines

Online registration will accept changes until 6:00 PM on Friday, April 30, 2021. You are able to add or drop up until the day of the tournament; **however, drops made after Friday, April 30, 2021 at 6:00 pm will be charged their entry fee.**

Judge changes are due at the Drop/Fees Freeze deadline –

Wednesday, April 30, 2021 at 6:00 pm.

If you would like to buy out of judging, we hope you can do so by Wednesday, April 28 at 6:00 PM at the latest. Requests made after this deadline may or may not be able to be fulfilled.

Schedule – All Events Except Congress:

Round 1 – 11am

Round 2 – 1pm

Round 3 – 3pm

Round 4 – 5pm

Awards: 7pm

Congressional Debate Schedule:

Session 1 – 11am-12:30pm

Session 2 – 1:15pm-2:45pm

Session 3 – 3:30-5:00pm

Awards: 7pm

Cost:

$20/student ($40 for 2 person events ie. PF or Duo)

$25 School Fee

$125 – Hired Judge

$30 – Missed Ballot Fee