



Massachusetts Speech and Debate League Newton South Novice Public Forum Scrimmage

Resolved: The benefits of the International Monetary Fund outweigh the harms.
Saturday, May 22, 2021

Description:

Absent an invitation to national tournaments, the debate season after States offers limited opportunity for interscholastic competition. To fill this gap and to give new members of the league an opportunity to hone their skills, we are happy to announce a no-stakes, friendly competition: the **MSDL Novice Public Forum Scrimmage**, to be held on **May 22** under the direction of the MSDL board, with help from current circuit juniors and seniors. The sole event will be by **Novice Public Forum**, which will be held on the Tabroom NSDA Campus platform.

Qualification:

All debaters and judges must have a Tabroom account and must be able to use the NSDA Campus video platform. See directions [here](#) for checking if you can connect.

Competitors: Competitors must be in their first year of debate (see Section 3.3.2.2 of the MSDL Rules and Regulations - [here](#)) to compete and must register as part of their school team. Mavericks (solo debaters) are allowed.

Judges: Any student with two or more years of high school debate experience - including the current year - can judge, although students with more experience are preferable. Schools must provide one judge for every two entries, or fraction thereof (e.g., the obligation for 3 teams is 2 judges).

Supervision: When registering, each team must identify an adult sanctioned by their school to be the point of contact during the tournament. That individual does not have to judge, but they do need to be available by cell phone and email during the competition.

Fees:

The MSDL has generously offered to pay the NSDA Campus costs for this tournament. As a result, **there will be no entrance fee**. However, because NSDA does charge for our virtual rooms, we ask schools to **sign up only those debaters who intend to compete**. The MSDL reserves the right to charge up to \$5 per entry dropped after the registration deadline (below).

Registration Instructions:

The registration deadline is 5:00 PM on Tuesday, May 18 (we need to reserve our rooms by that time). All teams must be entered into Tabroom by that time. Drops and other changes after that time should be emailed to theo@datta@gmail.com and jcohen1964@gmail.com.

Registration Confirmation:

Please **confirm your registration by email by 8:15 AM on Saturday morning, May 22** to theo@datta@gmail.com and jcohen1964@gmail.com. Please be sure to include in your message (1) your school name and (2) a phone number for us to call if we have questions.

Tentative Schedule:

Judge briefing: 8:30 to 9:00 AM - Mandatory for all judges
Student meeting: 9:00 AM - Mandatory for all debaters

The tentative schedule is four single-flighted rounds:

	Pairing Time	Start by:
Round 1:	9:10 AM	9:30 AM
Round 2:	10:45 AM	11:00 AM
Round 3:	12:45 PM	1:00 PM
Round 4:	2:15 PM	2:30 PM

We anticipate competition will conclude by 4:00 PM.

This schedule is subject to change

Debate Format:

The competition will follow Public Forum Debate rules.

We will use the April 2021 NSDA Topic: "Resolved: the benefits of the International Monetary Fund outweigh the harms". Each team will have four minutes of preparation time.

Student Conduct:

This tournament, being under the jurisdiction of the MSDL, follows the MSDL Rules of Student Conduct:

Internet usage. Internet usage must comply with rules specified in the MSDL Rules and Policies document, Section 3.3.3.6: "In round internet access in LD, Policy, PFD and Big Question debate events is permitted for research, retrieval and communication but not for communication with persons not actively judging or competing in that debate. Violation of communication rules will result in disqualification of the individuals involved. If a coach is in violation, it will also result in the notification of the principal/head of the associated school. Internet access is not guaranteed. A team that is unable to provide their evidence upon request is assumed not to have that evidence."

Connectivity problems during the competition. Each team will be allocated a bank of 15 minutes to resolve technical issues interfering a competitor's participation in the round. After that time is elapsed, participation must continue. If one member of a two-person entry cannot participate due to technical problems, his or her teammate may not act as a substitute.

Inclusion. The Massachusetts Speech and Debate League fosters a culture of diversity and inclusion. We expect all members of our community to treat one another with respect. Should you have any issues, please come to the TAB room and ask to speak with a member of the MSDL Board.

Professionalism. Standard rules of professionalism, etiquette, and respect for our hosts and their school shall apply at all times.

If you have any questions, please email theo@datta@gmail.com and jcohen1964@gmail.com.

We look forward to seeing you!

Version: May 1

Subject to changes - See last page

Invitation change log - Changes since May 1

None.