



## 2021 University of Michigan H.S. Debate Tournament Invitation

The 2021 University of Michigan High School Debate Tournament

Saturday, November 6th- Monday, November 8th, 2021

- Tournament of Champions (TOC) Octafinals Bid Tournament- Varsity Policy Division
- Tournament of Champions (TOC) Finals Bid Tournament- Varsity Public Forum Division

On behalf of the University of Michigan and Michigan Debate Program, we are pleased to invite you to participate in the 25th annual University of Michigan High School Debate Tournament.

The tournament will provide competition in the varsity, junior varsity, and novice divisions of two person (policy) and varsity and novice divisions of public forum (PF). The tournament has been certified as an OCTAFINALS tournament of champions qualifier for policy debate in the varsity division and public forum varsity division at the FINALS level.

This year's tournament will be online through the [NSDA Campus Platform](#) for all rounds in public forum and for all preliminary rounds and the first elimination rounds in all policy divisions. For elimination rounds on Monday, we will use a Zoom Room Moderator model. We will send out a Zoom link for the elim rounds with the password. Each debate will take place in a breakout room – the room numbers listed on the pairing will correspond to the breakout room for that debate. This will allow coaches and debaters to watch elimination rounds on Monday.

### HOW TO REGISTER AND SEND PAYMENT TO GET OFF THE WAITLIST

Registration for the tournament will open on August 13th. We will accept as many entries as we can while maintaining the tournament schedule, elimination rounds, etc. This means we may have to impose entry caps on divisions.

All teams entering will initially be placed on the waitlist. In order to get off the waitlist and into the tournament, you need to pay the appropriate tournament entry fees associated with your account. Registration and Tournament Entry/Judging Fees will be frozen on Monday, September 27<sup>th</sup>. **No refunds will be provided after this date.**

Check should be made out to Michigan Debate or University of Michigan and mailed to:  
Debate Program- Attention Aaron Kall  
Michigan Union Building- Suite 3480  
530 South State Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48109

You may also pay via credit card at <https://michigandebate.com/payment-gateway/>

If you don't already have a username and password to pay via credit card, please email Aaron Kall at [akall@umich.edu](mailto:akall@umich.edu)

Last year we reached capacity in all divisions and had to turn several entrants away, particularly those who registered informally. Please enter early to assure your teams a spot at the tournament. All registration and entries should be done at [www.tabroom.com](http://www.tabroom.com). The exact URL for our tournament registration can be found at <http://umichtournament.tabroom.com>.

The tabroom.com online registration system will be enabled the evening of Friday, November 5th.

## **POLICY DIVISIONS TOURNAMENT FORMAT**

Competitors will debate the 2021-2022 policy topic; Resolved: The United States federal government should substantially increase its protection of water resources in the United States.

The schedule is always subject to change based on entries. We plan to clear full elimination rounds provided all teams qualifying for elimination rounds have a winning record.

The varsity policy division will consist of seven preliminary debates: two preset rounds on Saturday and five additional preliminary rounds on Saturday and Sunday. The top 32 teams will clear to a Double Octafinals on Sunday evening.

The junior varsity and novice policy divisions will also consist of seven preliminary rounds: two preset rounds on Saturday and five additional preliminary rounds on Saturday and Sunday. The JV and novice divisions could clear to Double Octafinals or Octafinals on Sunday evening depending on entry numbers. Either way, a maximum of 32 teams will reach the elimination rounds if we go to Double Octafinals.

To maximize judge preferences, each team entered has a 4 round prelim judging obligation, but a single judge can cover the commitment of two teams. All judges are obligated for the first elimination round. Judges are further obligated to judge one round after the elimination of their last team. Schools whose judges do not meet their obligations are subject to a penalty fee of \$50/missed round.

Student judges in their junior or senior year of high school may judge the novice division and **MUST** be marked as **NOVICE ONLY**. They can **ONLY** cover your **NOVICE ENTRIES** and may not cover your commitment in other divisions.

Judges must have a tabroom.com account, are required to enter their ballots online, and must have a public philosophy online by Monday, November 1st.

The tournament plans to use the tabroom.com virtual coin flip option to determine sides in elimination rounds.

## **PUBLIC FORUM DIVISIONS TOURNAMENT FORMAT**

Competitors will debate the November/December 2021 Blockchain topic.

The public forum divisions will consist of six preliminary rounds on Saturday. There will be between two and five elimination rounds on Sunday, depending on entry numbers. The first two preliminary rounds will be preset and the remaining preliminary rounds will be power matched high-low.

The elimination round break point will be appropriately determined by the number of teams entered, but a maximum amount of 32 teams would reach the elimination rounds if we break to Double Octafinals.

Each team entered has a 3 round prelim judging obligation and a single judge can cover the commitment of two teams. All judges are obligated for the first elimination round. Judges are further obligated to judge one round after the elimination of their last team. Schools whose judges do not meet their obligations are subject to a penalty fee of \$25/missed round.



Judges must have a tabroom.com account and are required to enter their ballots online.

## **NOVICE AND JV DIVISION ELIGIBILITY**

We cannot verify the experience of each individual entrant in our tournament, so it is incumbent upon individual coaches to ensure their students are entered in the right division. Entrants found to be in violation of eligibility rules may be removed from the tournament at the Tournament Directors' discretion.

Please note that in order to compete in any division labeled, "novice," a student or students must be the first year of high school debate. If a team has previously won the Novice Division of a Tournament of Champions qualifying tournament, they must enter the JV or Varsity division.

Please note that in order to compete any division labeled, "junior varsity," a student or students must be in their first or second year of high school debate.

If there are any students that may have special circumstances regarding these eligibility definitions, please email Tournament Director Aaron Kall at [akall@umich.edu](mailto:akall@umich.edu)

## **TOURNAMENT AND JUDGING FEES**

Fees for the tournament are \$100.00 per team for policy debate and \$50.00 per team in public forum.

A limited number of hired judges will be available at \$50.00/round in policy and \$25.00/round in public forum. In other words, a full judge in policy would cost \$350.00 and cover two teams. It would cost \$200.00 for a 1/2 judge in policy.

In public forum it would cost \$150.00 for a full judge to cover two teams or \$75.00 for a 1/2 judge.

## **TABROOM**

I am pleased that Chris Palmer of the NSDA and Brian Manuel of NSDA, Edgemont High School, and Stanford University have agreed to be in charge of the tournament tabroom again.

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Aaron Kall, Director of Debate, [akall@umich.edu](mailto:akall@umich.edu)

Michigan Debate  
Michigan Union Building- Suite 3480  
530 South State Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48109

(734)764-6808- Michigan Debate Office

(734)734-239-3996- Aaron Kall Cell

## 2021 DATES AND DEADLINES

Friday, August 13th- Tournament Registration Opens

Monday, September 27th - Registration and Tournament Entry/Judging Fees Frozen - **No refunds will be provided after this date**

Tuesday, November 2nd- All policy judge philosophies must be posted/available on tabroom.com

Wednesday, November 3rd- Judge Preferences for applicable divisions will open on tabroom.com

Friday, November 5th- The tabroom.com online registration system will be enabled in the evening

## TECHNOLOGY

We strongly encourage debaters to operate from direct Ethernet connections, as opposed to WiFi.

We strongly encourage every debater to wear a headset with a microphone or to use similar technological equipment.

Debaters are required to have their web cameras on during the time that they are speaking. Judges are required to have their camera on at any point when students are speaking. If there is a technological issue that prevents this from happening, limited exceptions are permitted; otherwise, this is the expectation of the tournament.

The use of Zoom backgrounds are permitted, but must be age and content appropriate.

debatehelp@umich.edu is the email address for technological assistance/questions that arise during the tournament.

Further advice and recommendations regarding online debate can be found here-

<https://hsimpact.wordpress.com/2020/03/18/um-debates-tech-tips-for-online-debate/>

<https://hsimpact.wordpress.com/2020/08/26/final-debate-tech-post-for-now-and-q-and-a/>

<https://hsimpact.wordpress.com/2020/08/19/workstation-set-up-avoiding-asthenopia-eye-fatigue-and-other-problems/>

<https://hsimpact.wordpress.com/2020/08/13/reviewing-microphones-for-online-debate/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wMliUupFz7w>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=koCar2mjDvY>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KzM73I7Qy2Y&t=1807s>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tUSiftlfrOA>



## **2021 Tournament Policy Divisions Schedule (all times in ET – we will also post a schedule with all time zones prior to the tournament)**

**\*SUBJECT TO CHANGE\***

### **Saturday, November 6th:**

10:00 AM – Verify all of your participants have checked in (students AND judges)

10:15 AM – Rd 1 and Rd 2 Pairings Released

10:45 AM – Round 1 (Check in 10:20 AM, Report Time 10:40 AM, Decision time 12:45 PM)

12:45-1:45 PM - Break/Prep Time for Round 2

1:45 PM – Round 2 (Check in 1:20 PM, Report Time 1:40 PM, Decision time 3:45 PM)

4:00 PM – Rd 3 Pairing

4:30 PM – Round 3 (Check in 4:05 PM, Report Time 4:25 PM, Decision time 6:30 PM)

6:30-7:00 PM - Break

7:00 PM – Round 4 Pairing

7:30 PM – Round 4 (Check in 7:05 PM, Report Time 7:25 PM, Decision time 9:30 PM)

### **Sunday, November 7th:**

10:00 AM – Verify all of your participants have checked in (students AND judges)

10:15 AM – Rd 5 Pairing

10:45 AM – Round 5 (Check in 10:20 AM, Report Time 10:40 AM, Decision time 12:45 PM)

12:45-1:15 PM - Break

1:15 PM – Rd 6 Pairing

1:45 PM – Round 6 (Check in 1:20 PM, Report Time 1:40 PM, Decision time 3:45 PM)

4:00 PM – Rd 7 Pairing

4:30 PM – Round 7 (Check in 4:05 PM, Report Time 4:25 PM, Decision time 6:30 PM)

6:30-7:00 PM - Break

7:00 PM – Double-Octafinals Pairing

7:30 PM – Double-Octafinals (Check in ASAP, Flip 7:05 PM, Report Time 7:25 PM, Decision time 9:45 PM)

10:00 PM – Release judge list and standby judges for Monday morning

### **Monday, November 8th:**

10:00 AM – Verify all of your participants have checked in (students AND judges)

10:15 AM – Octafinals Pairing

10:45 AM – Octafinals (Check in ASAP, Flip 10:20 AM, Report Time 10:40 AM, Decision time 1:00 PM)



1:00-1:30 PM - Break

1:30 PM – Quarterfinals Pairing

2:00 PM – Quarterfinals (Check in ASAP, Flip 1:35 PM, Report Time 1:55 PM, Decision time 4:15 PM)

4:30 PM – Semifinals Pairing

5:00 PM – Semifinals (Check in ASAP, Flip 5:05 PM, Report Time 4:55 PM, Decision time 7:15 PM)

7:30 PM – Finals Pairing

8:00 PM – Finals (Check in ASAP, Flip 7:35 PM, Report Time 7:55 PM, Decision time 10:15 PM)

**2021 Tournament Public Forum Divisions Schedule (all times in ET – we will also post a schedule with all time zones prior to the tournament)**

**\*SUBJECT TO CHANGE\***

**Saturday, November 6th:**

10:00 am – Pairings Release for Rounds 1 and 2

10:20 am – Round 1 (Room check-in at 10:10 am)

11:50 am – Round 2 (Room check-in at 11:40 am)

12:45 pm – 1:30 pm – Break

1:30 pm – Round 3 Pairing

1:50 pm – Round 3 (Room check-in at 1:40 pm)

3:10 pm – Round 4 Pairing

3:30 pm – Round 4 (Room check-in at 3:20 pm)

4:55 pm – Round 5 Pairing

5:15 pm – Round 5 (Room check-in at 5:05 pm)

6:30 pm – Round 6 Pairing

6:50 pm – Round 6 (Room check-in at 6:40 pm)

8:00 p.m.- Release list of teams clearing, judge list, and standby judges for Sunday morning

**Sunday, November 7th:**

10:00 am – First Elim Pairing

10:20 am – First Elim (Room check-in at 10:10 am)

11:50 am – Second Elim Pairing

12:10 pm – Second Elim (Room check-in at 12:00 pm)

1:30 pm – Third Elim Pairing

1:50 pm – Third Elim (Room check-in at 1:40 pm)



3:00 pm – Fourth Elim Pairing

3:20 pm – Fourth Elim (Room check-in at 3:10 pm)

4:30 pm- Fifth Elim Pairing (\*if needed)

4:50 pm- Fifth Elim (Room check-in at 4:40 pm \*if needed)