

2021 Beehive Bonanza Highlights

1. **Online** – For the first time the Beehive Bonanza will be hosted via the NSDA campus platform.
2. **No Cost** – This year's Bonanza will be offered free of entry fees, however, schools must provide sufficient judging to cover their entries.
3. **Competition Opportunities** – 5 preliminary rounds for open and novice debate competitors with elimination rounds.

Dear Colleagues,

The John R. Park Debate Society (the University of Utah forensics team) and the Department of Communication cordially invite your team to attend the 11th Beehive Bonanza, October 8th and 9th, 2021, hosted online via the NSDA campus platform. The tournament will feature competition in policy, LD, and public forum debate. We will offer both novice and varsity divisions in all events (provided adequate entries). The Beehive Bonanza will also offer three \$1000 partial scholarships to top varsity finishers in the tournament in Lincoln-Douglas, Public Forum (top speaker on the winning team receives a scholarship) and Policy Debate (top speaker on the winning team receives a scholarship) when (and if) they attend the University of Utah and join the John R. Park Debate Society.

This year's Bonanza is going to be different in modality (online) and in offerings (debate only). While this is the tournament format that allows us to keep the event cost free and manageable, we welcome feedback as we consider what shape the Bonanza may take in future seasons.

If you have any additional questions about the tournament, feel free to email (jason.jordan@utah.edu). From our team to yours, we wish you the best for the competitive season.

Best Wishes,

Jason Jordan, Ph.D.
Director of Forensics

Tournament Information:

Rules: UDCA & UHSAA rules and regulations will be in effect, unless otherwise specified in this invitation.

Competitor Eligibility: Any high-school student who is currently enrolled and in “good standing” (as determined by their school’s administration) is eligible to compete. No person who has competed more than 8 semesters or has competed in four years of national high-school speech or debate tournaments may compete.

Out of State Schools: In accordance with the UHSAA guidelines for online forensics competition, schools from outside of Utah may participate in the 2021 Beehive Bonanza if they abide by Article III Section 10 of the UHSAA 2021–2022 Handbook. This requires out of state schools to, in advance, provide documentation that “ the out of state School registering is an actual school sponsored club/team, verified with a letter from principal on school letterhead approving their participation” and that “students competing are sanctioned by their coach who agrees in writing and agree to ensure judges and meet any financial obligations that may be incurred by attending.” This documentation should be sent to Jason.Jordan@utah.edu prior to the beginning of the tournament.

Entry Procedure: The Beehive Bonanza will be using Tabroom (tabroom.com) exclusively for entries. Entries must be completed by 5:00 PM MST on Monday, October 4, 2021. We will not collect entry fees for this year’s Beehive Bonanza. However, all entries must be covered by school provided judges. We won’t be charging nuisance or judging fees that don’t show up (virtually), but your school will not be able to enter/compete beyond your judge coverage.

Harassment and Discrimination: Please note that the University of Utah takes a firm stance against harassment and discrimination on the basis of sex, gender, sexuality, race, ethnicity, national origin, veteran status, and bodily ability. We will use the University of Utah Discrimination and Sexual Harassment Complaint Policy to guide arbitration of instances of harassment and discrimination. For details, see <http://www.regulations.utah.edu/humanResources/5-210.html>.

Rules and Other Appeals: Prior to the beginning of the tournament, the tournament director will recruit a 3-person committee of high school coaches attending the tournament who will serve as an ad hoc committee for appeals made by coaches in attendance. This committee will hear appeals related to rules violations, tabulation disputes, etc. The tournament director will issue a decision based on consultations with the appeals committee. In the event that an appeal implicates a team associated with a coach on the committee, the coach will be asked to refrain from participating in the decision-making of the committee.

Tab Room, Warm Room, and Ballot Review: **Coaches interested in tabulation details may follow publicly posted ‘warm room’ results via Tabroom.com.** We are confident that this will provide adequate transparency, as well as opportunities for coaches to work as our partners to ensure an excellent tournament experience. Virtual Help and Ombud’s rooms will also be made available should questions or concerns arise during the tournament.

Debate Events:

Topics: We will use the 2021–2022 NSDA policy topic, the September/October 2021 LD topic, and the September/October 2021 PFD topic. The tournament will also observe novice topics (**NOVICE LD WILL USE THE NOVICE TOPIC**) and novice argument lists established by the Utah Debate Coaches Association. Likewise, we will use the speech times set forth by the NSDA (policy: 8 minute constructive, 5 minute rebuttals, 5 minute prep time per team; LD: 6–3–7–3–4–6–3, with 4 minutes of prep time per team; PF: 4–4–3–4–4–3–2–2–3–2–2 with 2 minutes of prep time per team).

Divisions: We will offer Novice and Varsity Divisions, provided there are at least 10 entries per division. Eligibility is determined based on the partner with the most experience. No debater in the Novice division should have more than one year of debate experience. A year means that the student has competed in at least three tournaments per semester of any style of debate.

Disclosure: In order to keep the tournament running in a timely fashion, the tournament **discourages** post-round disclosure. Delays caused by coaches/judges may, at the tournament director’s discretion, result in penalties to that school’s teams, including removal from the tournament. We don’t want to do it, so don’t put us in a position where we would be forced to do it.

NOTE TO JUDGES: All rounds must have one winner and one loser. If a judge does not assign one winner and one loser, the tabulation staff will flip a coin to determine the winner and may forfeit all teams from that judge’s school for the round in question.

Preliminary Rounds: The computer will randomly match Rounds 1 and 2. Additional rounds will be matched as indicated in the schedule.

Elimination Rounds: Advancement to and seeding in elimination rounds will be first based upon wins, followed by adjusted speaker points, then total speaker points, next by opposition record, and finally by judge variance. In elimination rounds, brackets **will not be** broken. If there are more than 32 entries in any division, the tournament will advance to a full-octafinal round.

Entry Limits: Schools are limited to no more than 10 entries in any division of any debate event.

Judge Coverage:

Entry Fees: We will not be collecting entry fees for this tournament. However, you must ensure that adequate judging is provided to cover your school's entries. We will remove entries at the tournament if a school does not have adequate judging provided, please don't make us do that, make sure your judges show up to our online tournament.

Judging: One judge can cover up to 2 policy debate teams or 3 entries in PFD & LD. We will assume every entered judge is available for a full judging commitment, please provide early notification of judges with irregular availability. Judges with availability that removes them from a majority of the rounds of the tournament will not be counted toward a school's total judge count. Judges who fail to pick up their ballots in a timely fashion will not be considered active judges for purposes of determining if a school has covered their judging obligations. All debate judges are committed through one round beyond their team's/debater's elimination. Meeting this commitment is essential in order for the tournament to run effectively. We will not be providing judging for hire.

Tournament Awards:

Debate Awards: We will offer awards for every team advancing to elimination rounds in each division: double-octafinalists and octafinalists will receive t-shirts, quarterfinalists will receive medals, semifinalists and finalists will receive trophies. Additionally, the top 10 speakers in each division will receive awards: first-fifth places will receive medals and sixth-tenth places will receive t-shirts. Speaker awards will be determined in the following way: adjusted points, total points, double adjusted points, judge variance (Z-score).

Scholarships: We will offer \$1000 partial scholarships to the top varsity competitors in Lincoln-Douglas, Public Forum (top speaker on winning team) and Policy Debate (top speaker on winning team). Please keep in mind that these scholarships can only be used by students who attend and compete at the University of Utah.

Sweepstakes: The top five schools competing in the tournament will be awarded sweepstakes trophies. We will calculate sweepstakes awards using the UHSAA's "Quartile System." All contestants (including disqualifications, drops, no shows, etc.) in each category shall be ranked in order of finish. The category shall then be divided into equal fourths. Odd numbers shall be placed in the highest fourth possible (one odd number shall be added to the first quarter; two odd numbers shall add one to each of the two highest quarters, etc.). The first quarter shall be 'Superiors', the second quarter shall be 'Excellents', the third quarter shall be 'Goods', and the final quarter shall be 'Fairs'. Points shall be assigned as follows:

Quartile	Policy and PF debate	LD Debate
Superior	10	5
Excellent	6	3
Good	2	1
Fair	0	0

When quartiles do not break cleanly, adjustment will be made in the direction which least skews the quartile. For example: If ten superiors are needed and the choice is between nine superiors or seventeen superiors, nine will be used since it more closely approximates the quartile. If the number is the same, regardless of direction, the greater number would be used. Rankings in Policy, Public Forum and Lincoln Douglas Debate shall be based on win-loss records in preliminary rounds. Ties shall not be broken on speaker points. Unavoidable ties shall increase the higher quartile by the number of teams involved and decrease the lower quartile by the same number.

Tournament Schedule:

(subject to change until Oct. 8, 2021)

Friday, October 8

1:30–2:30 Registration
2:45–3:15 Opening Assembly
3:30–5:30 Round I, Debate (Preset)
5:30–7:30 Round II, Debate (Preset)
7:30–9:30 Round III, Debate (Lag High–Lo)

Saturday, October 9

8:00–9:45 Round IV, Debate (High–Lo)
10:00 –12:30 Round V, Debate (High–Lo)
1:30–3:30 Debate Elim 1
3:30–5:30 Debate Elim 2
5:30–7:30 Debate Elim 3
6:00–6:30 Awards
7:45 Debate Elim 4 (if necessary)

*As possible, the Tournament Director will work to expedite the tournament, i.e., if possible elimination rounds will be accelerated. Look for announcements as elimination rounds progress.

Tournament Participation and Usage Agreement

The Beehive Bonanza is made possible by the willingness of the University of Utah to allow us to use campus resources (such as access to online platforms). The NSDA Campus access associated with the Beehive Bonanza should only be used for official tournament purposes. Students should follow all campus online usage policies. It is the coach's responsibility to provide chaperones/judges to monitor their students.

If any participants are found misusing University provided resources they will immediately be removed from the tournament, all participants from the student's school will be automatically disqualified from the tournament, and the school district and school administration will be notified. In addition, the University may take legal actions as warranted.

Additionally, in accordance with UHSAA rules, this document serves as indication that our tournament rules prohibit any students, coaches, judges, or other attendees or participants from recording any portion of the 2021 Beehive Bonanza. The penalty for violating this rule will be dismissal from the tournament at the discretion of the tournament director.

All participants (including coaches and judges) will behave in a way that demonstrates respect for themselves, their schools, the University of Utah, their fellow participants, and judges. With this in mind, there are a number of steps we hope you will take.

- 1) Discuss with your students the need to treat online competition spaces with respect.
- 2) Provide enough chaperones and judges to supervise the students attending the tournament.
- 3) Be conscientious about what students you enter in the tournament. If you know you can trust your students to be responsible, we can avoid the most problems.
- 4) Ensure that your students, judges, and coaches are all aware that recording of any kind is prohibited at this tournament.

Failure to abide by these guidelines will require campus-use deposits in future years. This will only increase the costs for everyone involved.

By signing, I agree that I have read and understand this document, that I have informed my students of these guidelines, and that I accept financial and ethical responsibility for any damages caused in part or whole by any member, coach, judge, or other person affiliated with the team I represent.

School Name: _____

Coach's Name: _____

Coach's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Email: _____

Contact Number (during tournament): _____

***** MUST BE SUBMITTED AT TOURNAMENT REGISTRATION. Schools without a useagreement on file will not be allowed to compete.**