



ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY

Illinois' first public university

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the Illinois State Forensics Union, I cordially invite you to participate in the 9th Annual Lincoln-Douglas Redbird Debate Tournament, to be held online via Tabroom and Zoom on November 6-7, 2021. The weekend will be comprised of a 6 round prelim tournament with requisite outbounds by division.

Divisions

We will offer Varsity, Junior Varsity, Novice divisions. For the purpose of this tournament:

- **Varsity** - any student eligible to compete in NFA-LD
- **Junior Varsity** - any student in their first 2 years of collegiate debate.
- **Novice** - any student in their first 2 semesters of collegiate debate (3 tournaments = 1 semester)

Judge Coverage

Each program must cover at least 75% of their debate entry to ensure that the judging pool is diverse and qualified. Due to contractual obligations, we are unable to hire any of the graduate students at the university to help cover judging, BUT you can hire them! We do have a few who have actual debate experience and if you are needing judges let us know so we can put you in contact with them.

Additionally, in an effort to increase the quality of the LD judging pool we are offering 1 free slot per judge above a team's commitment (maximum of 2 free entries). We recognize that there is a lot of talent we do not have contact information for and would love to employ those individuals for the weekend. If you assist in securing hires for the pool, we will pay the judge AND offer your team a free entry slot.

FEES

\$35 per covered LD entry (1 judge covers 2 debaters)

\$110 per uncovered LD entry (This is the \$35 entry fee + \$75 uncovered fee)

Judges dropped at registration will incur a \$75 + the uncovered fee for the event.

If you need entry fee assistance, please reach out as opportunities are available. The sooner you reach out the easier it will be for us to accommodate you.

ENTRIES DUE:

5:00 pm (CST) Tuesday, November 2, 2021. Mark your calendars!

Any adds after Wednesday, November 3, 2021, will be at the tournament's discretion.

Any no-shows for the tournament will be assessed the following fees:

- A debater no-show, DURING THE TOURNAMENT, is an additional \$30 AND the debater will be dropped from the rest of the tournament.
- A judge no-show fee is an additional \$50 per round the judge no-shows.

The tournament will be utilizing Tabroom.com this year and the Zoom platform. All registration will occur through the Tabroom.

Payment

Please make checks payable to: Illinois State University Forensics Union; EIN# 964785. W9 is available upon request. If sending a check, we ask that you have them sent to us at least 2 weeks after the close of the tournament. Please mail checks to:

ISU Forensics
Campus Box 4480
Normal, IL 61790-4480

If you would like to pay by credit card we have the option for you to pay online. [Online Payment Portal](#)

Awards - We will award the top 5% or top 5 speakers in each field, depending on which is a higher number. If the novice division does not make, we will ensure we recognize the Top Novice. The speaker awards are named after Howard C. Nelson, a member of the Illinois State University debate team in the 1920s. Mr. Nelson was a committed member of the team, and the speaker awards are awarded in his honor and to continue the legacy of competitive debate at Illinois State University. We will also offer awards to all advancing debaters.

Sweepstakes - Debate sweeps will be awarded to the top three schools based on prelim and elimination wins.

Rules and Tiebreaks - The tournament will be using NFA-LD Rules. The first tie break will be Opponent Wins and the second tie break will be based dropped High/Low speaker points. (please note this is different than the NFA-LD national tournament)

Judge Commitments- All judges will be committed for the first FULL outround and then 1 round after their last debater's loss. We would appreciate it if you could stay for all the outrounds to allow for diverse panels, especially since we are all virtual this year. **If you do need or want to be done after your official commitment, please notify Tab ASAP on Sunday.**

Title IX and Clery Act Information - Members of the Illinois State coaching staff will complete mandatory Title IX training and our team members will complete mandatory Bystander Training prior to the start of the tournament. In addition, we are working to have a training program for our guest alumni and judges prior to the start of the tournament. For information on ISU's policies and a link to our online reporting system, please visit: <https://titleix.illinoisstate.edu/> To report an incident to campus police please call 309-438-8631 or visit police.illinoisstate.edu

Please direct any questions to sjcarl3@ilstu.edu

Looking forward to seeing you in November,

Shanna Carlson
Director of Debate

Megan Koch
Director of Forensics

Ryan Tinlin
Assistant Director
of IE

Schedule

Saturday, November 6, 2021, all times are Central Standard Time

Round 0 - 9:30a
Round 1 - 10:00-11:30a
Round 2 - 11:45-12:15p
LUNCH - 12:15 - 1:15p
Round 3 - 1:30-3:00p
Round 4 - 3:15-4:45p
Round 5 - 5:00-6:30p

Sunday, November 7, 2021

Round 6 - 10:00-11:30a
Outround 1 - 11:45-12:15p
LUNCH - 12:15-1:15p
Outround 2 - 1:30-3:00p
Outround 3 - 3:15-4:45p
Outround 4 - 5:00-6:30p

AWARDS - Will be hosted live ASAP

*Debaters and/or judges that are more than 10 minutes late to a round WITHOUT notifying tab will be listed as a no-show, fines will be issued, and debaters will be dropped from the tournament.

Some best practices for judges...

- We request that judges avoid penalizing directly or indirectly a student for video quality issues. These issues are rarely the student's fault. Please focus on the performance and not the video itself.
- Students may decide to sit to perform. Again, we believe that should be up to the student to determine what works best for them in their situation.
- A student may need to perform their selection from a tight space in an office, classroom, dorm, or even from their home. Please be understanding of this even if you believe that the background isn't sufficiently "professional."
- Judges please mute your email or applications you may be using while judging. This can be distracting for the performers. Please also mute your microphone whenever you are not speaking.
- You may find it useful to have some paper with you to make a few notes about performances.
- On your e-ballots, please do your very best to provide constructive feedback for the debaters. We highly recommend that you work on filling out your ballot during CX and prep time to ensure you are providing meaningful feedback. As best you are able, please also provide a rationale for your decisions.

Some best practices for competitors...

- ▫ Please have a reliable laptop or other device at the ready and make sure it is near a reliable power source.
- Try to be in a place where you can have at least 6 MBPS internet speed.
- You may wish to use headphones or a microphone.
- As best you can, try to set up in a distraction-free environment for each of your rounds.
- You should receive an email (or text) from the tournament with your e-postings. This should happen about 10 minutes prior to the round. You may need to monitor your junk or spam email folder as some email programs might not recognize it initially.
- Please keep your microphone muted when you are not speaking.

We plan to have a "help" room set up. We will tell you what the specific link is for that as the tournament approaches. Feel free to reach out to us there if you have questions.