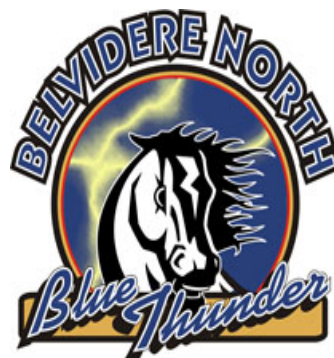




Belvidere North Thunder Invitational Debate Tournament

Saturday, December 11, 2021



Welcome to our sixth invitational! We are so excited to have you and look forward to having a day of spirited competition. We will offer competition in all three divisions of Lincoln-Douglas and Public Forum.

The entry cost will be \$20 per team in Public Forum and per person in Lincoln-Douglas. Please make checks payable to Belvidere North High School.

One adult judge is required for every two Public Forum pairs/teams. One adult judge is required for every two Lincoln-Douglas entries. In the Novice level, students with 3 or more years of experience in a specific division will be allowed to judge in that division.

PF Topic: RESOLVED: Increased United States federal regulation of cryptocurrency transactions and/or assets will produce more benefits than harms.

LD Topic: RESOLVED: A just government ought to recognize an unconditional right of workers to strike.

Tentative Tournament Schedule

7:30-8:00	Registration
8:00	Tournament Announcements
8:30	Round I (preset)
9:45	Round II (preset)
11:00	Round III (power matched from I & II)
12:00	Lunch
12:45	Round IV (power matched from III)
2:00	Round V (power matched from IV)
4:00	Awards



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Judging Expectations

It is the obligation of the program's head coach to make sure each judge has read and understood the following expectations and has been trained in how to judge the event for which they have been registered.

This is an educational activity and the students are our main priority. Please do your best to support our mission. Judges at all times are expected to act in a dignified and professional manner.

Competition Guidelines

IT IS THE OBLIGATION OF THE PROGRAM'S HEAD COACH TO MAKE SURE EACH JUDGE HAD READ AND UNDERSTOOD THE FOLLOWING EXPECTATIONS.

THIS IS AN EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITY AND THE STUDENTS ARE OUR MAIN PRIORITY. PLEASE DO YOUR BEST TO SUPPORT OUR MISSION. JUDGES AT ALL TIMES ARE EXPECTED TO ACT IN A DIGNIFIED AND PROFESSIONAL MANNER.

1. **If you are a new judge, please let the tab room know asap.**
2. **All judges are expected to be available for the duration of the tournament (8:00 through round V).** Tournaments aren't perfect, so delays may happen, but we've tried to anticipate potential problems. Once round 5 is complete, it is the coach's discretion to dismiss judges.
3. **Please wait in the judge's lounge if you are not scheduled to judge** to see if you are needed to fill-in for a round. This is really important to keep the tournament on time.
4. **Judges should be the first ones to enter a room and the last one to leave the room.** Judges and debaters are not to touch anything other than student desks (i.e. DO NOT SIT AT THE TEACHER'S DESK OR UNPLUG ANYTHING). Please do not bring anything but water into a classroom. Any unusual classroom conditions should be reported to the tab room immediately.
5. **Please check all pairings to make sure you do not have a judge assignment.** Your room number should be listed on your ballots.
6. **Rounds should start ASAP.** If a debater is not present within 10 minutes of the release of pairings, please have someone communicate that with the tab table. DO NOT JUST SIT IN THE ROOM. Students who do not report to their room within 10 minutes will receive a forfeit for the round.
7. **Judges should verbally verify the debater information that is on the ballot.** In Public Forum, especially, please confirm School Names, Sides of the Debate, and Speaking Order (e.g. the CON may at times speak first instead of the PRO, unlike Lincoln-Douglas procedure). Debaters should legibly write their team information on the boards in the classrooms. Please be

mindful of who is in the room. Make sure the correct teams are there and did not accidentally walk into the wrong room.

- 8. Be attentive during all parts of the debate.** Judges are expected to flow (take careful notes) during speeches and listen attentively during Cross-Ex/Crossfire. Judges can use timers and laptops to adjudicate the round, but texting during the debate conveys serious disregard to the debaters in the round (and the coaches/schools who hired you).
- 9. You may disclose your decisions in all divisions except novice.**
- 10. Please provide constructive and specific feedback on ballots.** This provides great insight for coaches after each tournament. Vague and/or sparse ballots are not useful educational tools. Reasons for Decision (RFD) should in particular specify the arguments that the judge found most convincing (or not) and how/why the arguments were weighed. RFD's such as "The NEG presented their side better" or "The AFF did a better job debating" would be considered vague.
- 11. Oral critiques are acceptable, as long as they are brief and constructive.** If a judge feels a lengthier critique is needed, they should turn in the ballot first, then speak with the debaters in the student area. Serious concerns from the round should be addressed on the ballot and communicated to the school's coach immediately.
- 12. Please be mindful of awarding speaker points.** Scores can range from 20-30. Use the guide on each ballot to help determine points. Half points (28.5) will be accepted and tabbed. Ties are also acceptable.
- 13. Be nice to the kids.** This may be their first debate tournament ever, and it is important to be honest, but always be supportive and professional in any criticism. No one is suggesting you avoid critical feedback, but please be professional and effective representatives of your school's program.
- 14. Ballots should be submitted** no later than 10 minutes after the round ending. If more time is needed, please submit your decision and then go back and edit/add feedback. Please be kind to our tab staff.
- 15. Low Point Wins are acceptable,** but please be sure that you are justifying that decision on the ballot. Please make sure school/team codes are consistent with the side debated.
- 16. No scouting.** Observers are only allowed in rounds where members of their own school are competing or judging. *Observers are allowed to flow for educational purposes.*

Thank you for taking time to support our students and for adhering to our rules. We realize how important our judges are to the success of this tournament, and we are here to support you and our students. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the tab room immediately.

Speaker Point Scale

Judges must follow the speaker point scale, regardless of what they are used to or may prefer, so that there is a fair standard across all rounds. Plus, if we have a standard, points provide meaningful feedback! The other thing to keep in mind with regard to speaker points, is that you can tie teams, giving them all the same points, or giving two or three speakers the same points.

30: I wish I could frame your speeches – hard to imagine a better speaker

29.0-29.5: you left no doubt about who won and are an excellent speaker

28.0-28.5: you were effective and strategic, and made only minor mistakes

27.5: you hit all the right notes, but could improve (e.g. depth or efficiency)

27.0: you mainly did the right thing, but left something to be desired

26.5: you missed major things and were hard to follow

26.0: you advanced little in the debate or cost your team the round

25.0-25.5: you are not ready for this division/tournament

Below 25: you were offensive, ignorant, rude, or tried to cheat (MUST come to tab)

Low-point wins (where the winning team has fewer points than the losing team) are allowed.

This is the third tournament of the season, please be generous with your choices in speaker points, and do not go below a 26 unless something egregious happens.