

Seattle University



ONLINE Middle School PUBLIC FORUM Debate Tournament Invitation Version 1.1 Sunday, April 3, 2022

We welcome you to a middle school PUBLIC FORUM DEBATE tournament hosted by Seattle University featuring **4** rounds of debates for ALL debaters with judge feedback PLUS SEMIS AND FINALS for top teams along with awards and recognitions ALL ONLINE using **Zoom**!

Two Items due before the Tournament Starts

TUESDAY MARCH 29:

https://www.tabroom.com/index/tourn/index.mhtml?tourn_id=23255

THURSDAY MARCH 31: You put parental release forms into the folder <https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/15CRkAUW7QsUAq1jUh4wD07ZX9Fom-fIm> (and, for yourself, you should have collected parental use of Zoom forms).

1. Support Each Other Positively and Inclusively

At all times, treat each other with courtesy and respect. Every person. Every room. We want a fun, positive, and educational environment.

2. TOPIC Resolved: On balance, standardized testing is beneficial to K-12 education in the United States.

3. Debate Speaking Times

When the rooms get posted in Zoom, then debaters go to their debates and begin immediately.

Each debater gives 2 speeches and engages in 1 crossfire plus the grand crossfire.

- 1 Pro Constructive: 4 minutes, present pro case
- 1 Con Constructive: 4 minutes, present con case
- *Crossfire (questions) 3 minutes between 1 Pro and 1 Con*
- 2 Pro Rebuttal: 4 minutes, refute con case
- 2 Con Rebuttal: 4 minutes, refute pro case
- *Crossfire (questions) 3 minutes between 2 Pro and 2 Con*
- 1 Pro Summary: 3 minutes, defend pro case and/or address key points of clash
- 1 Con Summary: 3 minutes, defend pro case and/or address key points of clash
- *Grand Crossfire (questions) 3 minutes among all debaters*
- 2 Pro Final Focus: 3 minutes, give reasons to vote for pro
- 2 Con Final Focus: 3 minutes, give reasons to vote for con

4 min. prep. during the debate for each team to use as they choose before their speeches or before crossfire. No prep time prior to the debate.

4. Debating Rules—NOTE: THE RULES ARE DIFFERENT FROM 3 ON 3 PARLI

- Pro teams of two debaters (1Pro debater and 2Pro debater) defend the topic. Con teams reject the topic. Con teams of two debaters (1Con debater and 2Con debater) reject the topic.
- Con teams cannot run counterplans; they must discuss the topic/the current policies.
- Debaters use prepared materials in their debates. Debaters may/should use printed materials and/or laptops during the debate.
- No POIs, No heckling. No Coin tosses.
- Debaters may speak to teammates who are speaking BRIEFLY AND RARELY and can pass notes or text messages/chat. Remember, interrupting your debate partner can hurt their debating—do it at most once or twice during an entire speech and only in urgent situations.
- Use your own flow paper.
- Using printed materials, laptops, and electronic devices during the debate is permitted. You may also access the internet including during the debate (but you CANNOT communicate with any person including a coach or parent unless it is an emergency).
- Coaching help prior to the debate is fine but the debate starts on time. No coaching during the debate.

5. Judges

Thank you for serving as a judge. You are helping students grow and become better communicators.

Ballots are sent via email. Judges do the following:

1. Be kind and supportive to the debaters—before the debate starts and during in your facial and other reactions to the debaters and after the debate when you give feedback.
2. After the debate ends, **ASAP, email a reply to the ballot with just who won and speaker points (61-99 point scale)**.
3. After emailing win/points, Judge gives constructive feedback to debaters verbally.
4. **After verbal feedback, Judge fills out an online form** with 1) the reason for decision; 2) at least 1 good thing each debater did; 3) at least 1 thing each debater needs to improve on.

6. Coaches

We want to make sure you and your team know what is going on—topics, pairings, etc.

- Tournament announcements happen on the Tournament web page (address to be shared later) and/or in the Zoom Tournament room.
- Issues/concerns during the tournament—please facebook message Jim Hanson.
- In the Zoom Tournament Room, We will have staff available to address issues.
- Judge no shows? You need to notify Jim Hanson as soon as possible.

7. Parents

We welcome parents supporting their children's growth as speakers! Please abide by our tournament rules:

- You should watch by viewing your child's computer screen.
- If you must watch on your own device, you need to use Zoom and you need to notify your coach; your child will know the page to go to access the Zoom rooms.
- No video or audio recording, no photographs during debates.
- Please, no talking with students from other schools.
- Do not speak or message debaters during debates. You may NOT coach during the debate.
- Spectators should remain neutral and quiet during the debate. You may applaud for all competitors after the final speech. We encourage you to be supportive of your debater.
- Complaint about a judge? Two things: 1) Remember not everyone agrees even if you feel really strongly your child should have won. 2) If a judge violated a rule and especially if they did not treat students with courtesy and respect—please report it to your coach who can bring the issue to the attention of Jim Hanson.

8. PREP AHEAD WITH ZOOM!

Jim Hanson is ready to help you INCLUDING arranging a time to help your participants address tech problems. Email Jim Hanson at hansonj@seattleu.edu

PLEASE MAKE SURE

1. **Test your Wifi Speed Quality at** <https://www.fusionconnect.com/speed-test-plus/>
2. Download should be 25 mb or more. Upload should be 8mb or more.
3. Latency should be 50ms or less. Jitter should be 30ms or less.
4. **Scores worse than the above?** Reboot router/modem. Move computer closer to router/modem. Consider getting better service. Scores worse than above = likely problems with video/sound.
5. **You must use wifi or be plugged in with ethernet.** A cell phone hotspot is NOT likely to work. PLEASE SIT CLOSE—within 25 feet—TO YOUR WIFI ROUTER/CABLE MODEM.
6. **Your computer should be fully charged or, preferably, plugged in.** The event is long; your battery may not last as long as the event.
7. **We strongly recommend you don't use a separate microphone;** use the one built into your laptop. Yes, you can use headphones/earbuds.
8. **You should have only one computer connected to Zoom per room.** Additional computers in the same room running Zoom create nasty feedback loops that will hurt your ears.
9. **Be ready to provide your cell phone number as a backup.** Have the person with problems call, then put them on speakerphone, and they'll be heard over Zoom so that they can debate or judge in the event you can't get connected to Zoom.

9. Team and Judge Registration--Due Tues. MARCH 29

All coaches are responsible for entering their students' information in the registration spreadsheet.

[Here is a link to the registration on Tabroom](#)

Do NOT make changes to your registration after early evening Thursday March

31. After that date, you may make ONLY minor changes for emergencies, illness, or unusual situations AND YOU MUST get the permission of Jim Hanson.

10. Collect Parental Release Forms

All coaches are required to collect signed parental release forms for each student who debates, observes, or just attends the tournament. All coaches are required to put the completed forms into this google folder: <https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/15CRkAUW7QsUAq1jUh4wDO7ZX9Fom-flm>

All coaches are required to collect parental signed forms for the use of Zoom. You keep these forms for yourself; you do not need to share with Jim Hanson.

11. Paying Fees

Judging Needs

You need 1 judge for your first team

You need 1 judge for additional increments of 1 or 2 teams

Example: 5 teams need 3 judges

If a judge no-shows, we add \$35.00 to your fees per round missed.

WE HAVE A LIMITED NUMBER OF HIRED JUDGES AVAILABLE. Contact Jim Hanson at least one week before the tournament to see how many judges are available.

Fees

Fee Per Debate Team: \$24.00

Fee for each _team_ needing a judge (not for each judge): \$65.00

Note: Fee reduction for providing excess judging is given only if Jim Hanson gives approval after the registration deadline.

Parent wishes to observe debates?

The parent should watch using their child's computer.

IF the parent must observe on their own computer—please notify Jim Hanson as we have a limit on the number of zoom users.

You can pay by credit card (Jim Hanson will provide a link) or you can mail a check mail your check made to Seattle University to:

Jim Hanson, Communication Department/Debate
901 12th Avenue
Seattle WA 98122.

12. SCHEDULE

SUNDAY APRIL 3 All times are US Pacific Coast Time

9:30 Judges review the Judging Instructions Page (sent by Jim Hanson)

And confirm you received an emailed "test" ballot.

9:30 Students check-in with their Coaches in their School Room

Go to the Zoom Meeting—it will show which breakout room to go to for your school.
Go to that room to check-in with your coach.

By 9:50am, COACHES Report Any Missing Teams (not students).

10:00 Teams gather in the Zoom Main Room.

Debaters should find themselves in the list of teams shared on the Zoom Screen.
Team names will look like this: Climb 509.june.r-rohan.b-sasha.v
Go to the Breakout Room Number to the right of your team name (next to judge name)

10:10 Round 1

NO COIN TOSS! Pros always go first.

11:30pm Lunch break

Noon Round 2

NO COIN TOSS! Pros always go first.

1:30 Round 3

NO COIN TOSS! Pros always go first.

3:00 Round 4

NO COIN TOSS! Pros always go first.

4:15 Break

4:45 Semi-Finals

Top 4 Teams in each division
NO COIN TOSS! Pros always go first.

6:15 Awards

Watch in the Zoom Meeting.

6:30 Finals with coin toss

ONLY ROUND WITH COIN TOSS BUT PRO TEAM STILL GOES FIRST.