

“BIG LEX” WINTER INVITATIONAL
251 Waltham Street
Lexington, MA 02421

October 2013

Dear Coaches and Debaters:

It is with great pleasure that we invite you to attend Lexington's annual winter tournament, to be held Friday through Monday, January 17 through 20, 2014. We are a trifecta TOC qualifier at quarterfinals in policy, Lincoln-Douglas and public forum debate. Please read the invitation carefully. Debaters will only be allowed to compete under their school name with administration sanction and if accompanied by a responsible adult as defined by the Massachusetts Forensic League. Those home schooled may be entered under their town name and accompanied by a parent/guardian in accordance with MFL rules.

LINCOLN DOUGLAS AND PUBLIC FORUM TOURNAMENT

RESOLUTIONS: In Lincoln-Douglas, the NFL January-February resolution, to be announced December 1 by the NFL national office. The Public Forum division will debate the January NFL topic.

FORMAT: We offer novice and open LD and open PFD on Friday and Saturday, January 17-18. In varsity LD we will attempt to have 3 double-flighted rounds on Friday and three double-flighted rounds on Saturday. We may single flight rounds on Saturday if possible (that component of the schedule is subject to change). PFD and Novice LD will be double-flighted throughout. Registration for these divisions will be held at the high school on Friday from 12:30-2:15pm.

In the open LD & PFD division, we will offer six preliminary and five elimination rounds. The novice LD division will offer five preliminary rounds and an appropriate number of elimination rounds based on entry numbers. We will use MPJ in Varsity LD.

Sunday and Monday there will be a Lincoln-Douglas Invitational Round Robin. Students remaining on site while the policy divisions conclude are invited to watch the Round Robin debates.

ENTRY LIMITS: Initially, 5 entries per category. Extra entries will go on a waiting list, but please note that our first priority is to grant entry to additional schools.

JUDGES: Schools should make every effort to cover their entries with qualified judges. Schools must provide one judge per 1-3 entries in each division – this means you need to cover your varsity entry separately from your novices. For example, if you have two varsity debaters and one novice debater in LD, you need two judges, one for each pool. Advanced, experienced debaters (third or fourth year) may judge in the novice division. Very qualified judges are expected in the varsity divisions. Please note in your entry where you would like your judges placed. You may not cover varsity entries with novice judges. Hired judging info, see below.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Registration for all LD and PFD events is 12:30-2:15 in the Science Lecture Hall. Classes are still in session, please be considerate! If you have not registered by 2:15pm, you will not be on the round one pairing.

Novice LD- all prelim rounds flighted

Friday

3:30 pm Round 1

5:30 pm Round 2

Dinner

8:15 pm Round 3

9:30 Housing

Saturday

7:30 am Round 4

10:00 am Round 5

Lunch

1:00 pm Doubles

2:30 pm Octos

4:30 pm Quarters

6:15 pm AWARDS

7:30 pm Semis

8:30pm Finals

Varsity LD

Friday - rounds are flighted

3:30 pm Round 1

5:30 pm Round 2

Dinner

8:00 pm Round 3
9-10 pm Housing

Saturday – single flighted rounds 4&5

7:30 am Round 4
9:00 am Round 5
10:30 am Round 6
Lunch
1:00 pm Doubles
2:45 pm Octos
4:30 pm Quarters
6:15 pm AWARDS
7:30 pm Semis
8:30pm Finals

PFD Division – All rounds flighted

Friday

4:00 pm Round 1
Dinner
6:30 pm Round 2
8:15 pm Round 3
9:30
Housing

Saturday

7:30 am Round 4
10:15 am Round 5
12:00 pm Round 6
Lunch
Octos 3:30 pm
5:00 pm Quarters
6:15 pm AWARDS
7:30 pm Semis
8:30 pm Finals

POLICY TOURNAMENT

RESOLUTIONS: We will be debating the 2013-2014 NFL resolution.

FORMAT: Two divisions of Policy (Novice and Varsity) will be offered Saturday through Monday, January 18-20, 2014. This will allow us to run 6 preliminary rounds in Varsity and Novice. The Varsity division will break

to Double Octafinals and the Novice division to Octafinals. We will use MPJ in Varsity Policy.

ENTRY LIMITS: Initially, 6 entries per category. Additional entries will go on a waiting list, but please note that our first priority is to grant additional schools entry.

JUDGES: Schools need to make every effort to cover their entries with qualified judges. For all divisions of Policy, one judge must be provided for every two entries or fraction thereof. Novice and Varsity entries must be covered separately. That means if you have one novice team and one varsity team, you need two judges, one for each pool. Advanced, experienced debaters (third or fourth year) may judge in the Novice division. Very qualified judges are expected in the Varsity divisions. Novice judges cannot cover varsity entries. Hired judging see below.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Saturday, January 18th

11:00am-12:15pm Registration. If you are not registered by 12:15pm, you will not be on the round one pairing. (Teams with LD or PFD entries can register on Friday)

1:00PM Opening Assembly

3:00PM Round 1 Open (Novice debaters are encouraged to watch debates)

5:00PM Round 2 Open, Round 1 Novice

Dinner

7:30PM Round 3 Open, Round 2 Novice

Housing Follows at the High School

Sunday, January 19th

7:00AM Pairings Released

7:30AM Round 4 Open, Round 3 Novice

10:00AM Round 5 Open, Round 4 Novice

Lunch

1:00PM Round 6 Open, Round 5 Novice

4:00pm Double Octafinals Open, Octafinals Novice

6:00PM Dinner

7:30 PM Octafinals Open, Quarterfinals Novice

Monday, January 21st

7:15AM Pairings Released

8:00AM Quarterfinals Open, Semis Novice

Elimination Rounds Continue

GENERAL TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

HOUSING: Available for competing students and student judges in the novice division. We will accept the first 250 requests. We reserve the right to close housing when we have received 250 requests, so early response is very important. Housing must be requested & confirmed on Tabroom.com. Please indicate on tabroom when you will be arriving and departing, keeping in mind that some events will be concluding and others will be starting. Please understand that meeting the *entry* deadline does not guarantee that housing is available – we have often filled up housing far in advance of the entry deadline. Please indicate total number of students, genders and names on the entry website. Students should bring sleeping bags, towels and other necessities for an overnight stay. Coaches and other adults may secure housing at one of our local hotels.

The tournament hotel will be the Marriott in Burlington, which is about a ten minute drive from the high school. They have offered us a rate of 89.00 per night, which includes parking and complimentary internet access. You can book this rate online by following the link below:

[Book your group rate: Lexington High School Debate >>](#)

Or by calling: (781) 229-6565 and mentioning and mentioning Lexington Debate. The block is held until the 17th of December.

It would help the tournament tremendously if you would register with our block with the Marriott. It helps us house the judges we bring in to give you the strongest pool possible.

FEES:

\$25 school fee. If your registration check is postmarked by January 6th, we will waive the school fee.

\$130 per Policy team

\$55 per Lincoln-Douglas debater

\$75 per Public Forum team

\$300 per hired judge

Fees will be reduced by half for Urban Debate League programs and any school that has not competed in the tournament in the last 2 years. Apply with the tournament director for half fees.

HIRED JUDGING: In order to hire judges you must provide at least one judge in the category you are hiring. We can only sell hired judging for the judges we have to hire. You must SPECIFICALLY request hired judging on www.tabroom.com . You should not assume your hired judge has been filled until your invoice is adjusted. If we run out of hired judges, you will need to drop entries with unfilled judging.

ENTRIES ARE DUE ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 10 at 11:59PM. FEES ARE FIXED AND FROZEN MONDAY, JANUARY 13 AT 11:59 PM. PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING CAREFULLY. Drops are possible after this deadline, but that will NOT affect the fees due at registration. Massachusetts Forensic League rules require that any drops the day of the tournament be called in to the tournament director, Sara Sanchez, at [801-635-7008](tel:801-635-7008). A \$25 per change nuisance fee will be assessed at the registration table for any changes made at that time (this includes name changes, so PLEASE call ahead). Entering our tournament accepts these rules. Invoices are available on the registration site, massforensics.org. PO payment plans are available with prior approval only. You must have full payment at registration to be allowed to compete.

HOW TO REGISTER: We will close the tournament when it is full. Registration will take place on the Massachusetts Forensics League [website-www.tabroom.com](http://www.tabroom.com) . Schools outside the League can set up an account by logging in with the requested information. Please be sure to register for the “Lexington Winter Invitational.”

QUESTIONS: Email is strongly preferred -- send them to Sara Sanchez at biglex@lexdebate.org . We cannot accept email or telephone registrations; phone us only for late changes: [801-635-7008](tel:801-635-7008).

We look forward to welcoming you to scenic, historic Lexington in mid-January.

Sara Sanchez, Director of Debate
Chris Palmer, LD Coach
and the 2013-2014 Lexington Debate Team

DIRECTIONS TO LEXINGTON HIGH SCHOOL: Route 128/Interstate 95 is the best approach from any direction. Exit 30 is the second Lexington exit, regardless of the direction you are coming from; it is marked ROUTE 2A. Follow ROUTE 2A EAST into Lexington. Travel for a little more than a mile until you reach the first FULL traffic light; there is a Dunkin' Donuts

on this corner. Then turn left onto WALTHAM STREET; pass through another traffic light; Lexington High School is immediately on your left. Lexington is twelve miles from Boston's Logan International Airport. Southwest Airlines fly into Providence and Manchester (NH) airports -- they are each about 75 minutes' drive from Lexington, and the fares are very low. We are also 20 minutes' drive from a suburban Amtrak station. Contact us for further details.