

District 7 Qualifying Tournament Information

NDT Rules

A copy of the NDT Standing Rules can be found here: <https://nationaldebattournament.org/about/standing-rules/>.

D7 Rules

The rules governing the District 7 Qualifier tournament are posted on the D7 Tabroom website (<http://d7.tabroom.com>) – they are the D7 Rules-Revised Fall 2023.

Tournament Dates

Friday, February 20th – District meeting 4:30 pm, via zoom.

Saturday, February 21st- Sunday, February 22nd – Rounds 1-6, awards [Van Bokkelen Hall, 7903 Glen Dr, Towson, MD 21204]

Deadlines

Deadline for entry: Friday, February 13th. Please complete entry at Tabroom.com. In the process, please check your individual team's "bid sheets" on Tabroom.com to verify their accuracy. Contact person for entries/eligibility: Jackie Poapst, japoapst@gmail.com

Your entry must be accompanied by sufficient judging in order to be considered complete.

Deadline for judge waivers: Friday, February 13th. For more information on judging qualifications and waivers, please see Rules Section II.D. Contact person for judging: Danielle Verney-O'Gorman, danielle.verney@gmail.com.

Ranking deadline: Saturday, February 14th. For more information on ranking process, please see Rules Section II.H. Contact person for rankings: Jackie Poapst, japoapst@gmail.com.

Format

Tournament format: 6 rounds: All rounds preset

Teams may not hit a prior opponent.



In accordance with Rules Section II.G, debates shall use the format specified by the standing rules of tournament procedure for the National Debate Tournament.

Entries

Please see Rules Section II for eligibility criteria.

NDT Eligibility Requirement: Don't forget to submit NDT eligibility documents to <https://bit.ly/NDTEligibility2026> —make sure you view the submission process to avoid delays, which can be found: here. The due date is February 8th, 2026. If anyone has questions, please contact Adrienne Brovero (adri.debate@gmail.com).

Reminder: Third teams are allowed to compete. If you would like a 3rd team to be eligible to qualify for the NDT through the 2nd round at-large process, you need to enter that team in the tournament. If you have already qualified two teams for the NDT, you may not enter additional teams to compete, but any additional teams need to be ranked in the District ranking, as per Rules Section II.B.

Swing Team Entry

If you have a team that you would like to be eligible to be a swing team (if one is necessary), please send the Chair an email identifying that team, **and** enter the team on Tabroom.com as well. This will speed up our ability to select a swing team in the event one is needed. Please see Rules Section II M regarding selection procedures for the swing team. Contact person for swing team: Jackie Poapst, japoapst@gmail.com.

Judging Obligations

Judging obligation per team competing: 6 rounds.

Note: Your entry must be accompanied by sufficient judging in order to be considered complete, and all judges must have a judging philosophy on Tabroom.



As a reminder, recent revisions to the rules have altered judging obligation expectations. In particular:

District Workers:

District workers: Individuals in attendance at the district tournament who provide significant coaching to, or argument production for, any team participating in the district tournament and who meet the judge eligibility requirement are required to enter the judging pool. If they do not meet the minimum judge requirement, the district committee may, at their discretion, place the individual in the judging pool or require them to provide a significant equivalent contribution to the tournament. (Section II.K.6)

Fees

\$75 per person—including judges, observers, and participants.

- Fees will be locked in on Monday, February 16th.
- Fees are expected to be paid prior to the end of the D7 tournament.
- Fees must be paid by check.
- **We CANNOT accept checks written to Towson Debate. Make checks payable to the Towson University Foundation. Please list "Debate Competition Fee – 14540" in the memo line. (NOTE: If they are made out to "Towson University" or "Debate Team" and not specifically to the Towson University Foundation, unfortunately we are unable to process them, and they will be returned.)**

Dietary Requests

Please be sure to **UPDATE** on Tabroom.com any vegetarians/vegans/other dietary requests in your contingent, as well as the total head count of your contingent.

All participants debate at the invitation of Towson University according to its tournament rules as well as any rules of their sponsoring institutions. We abide by all rules and norms of the American Forensics Association.

Audio and Video Recording

All rounds (defined as the speeches of the participants) are open to **registered** tournament participants and may be electronically recorded for **private** educational use by tournament participants (registered coaches, debaters and helpers, and TU tournament staff) only. Please **notify** and consent with participants prior. Public distribution of such recordings is expressly **prohibited** unless prior written consent of all people on the recording is obtained and unless prior written consent of Towson University is obtained.

Hotel Block

Hampton Inn Towson - Hilton



21 West Susquehanna Avenue, Towson, MD 21204

Rate - \$119.99 [Doubles]

We have a room block reserved at Hampton Inn Towson for February 20, 2026 through February 22, 2026. Booking your room is simple: <https://www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/d7attowsontowsonuniverfeb2026hamptoninntowsonmd/>

Please note: the block closes on February 9th, 2026 – please secure rooms prior.

Having any issues? Contact Director of Sales, Norma Delgadillo, at 667-275-7100 Ext. 4605 OR norma.delgadillo@shaminhotels.com.

Hospitality

Snacks and refreshments throughout the day, lunch + dinner on Saturday, and a reception after round 6 with lunch.

Parking

Since it's the weekend, there are no parking enforcements that will occur on campus during the tournament times; however, PLEASE make sure you don't park in spaces that are always marked/reserved [e.g., specialty parking, administrative spaces, TU facility spaces, etc.].

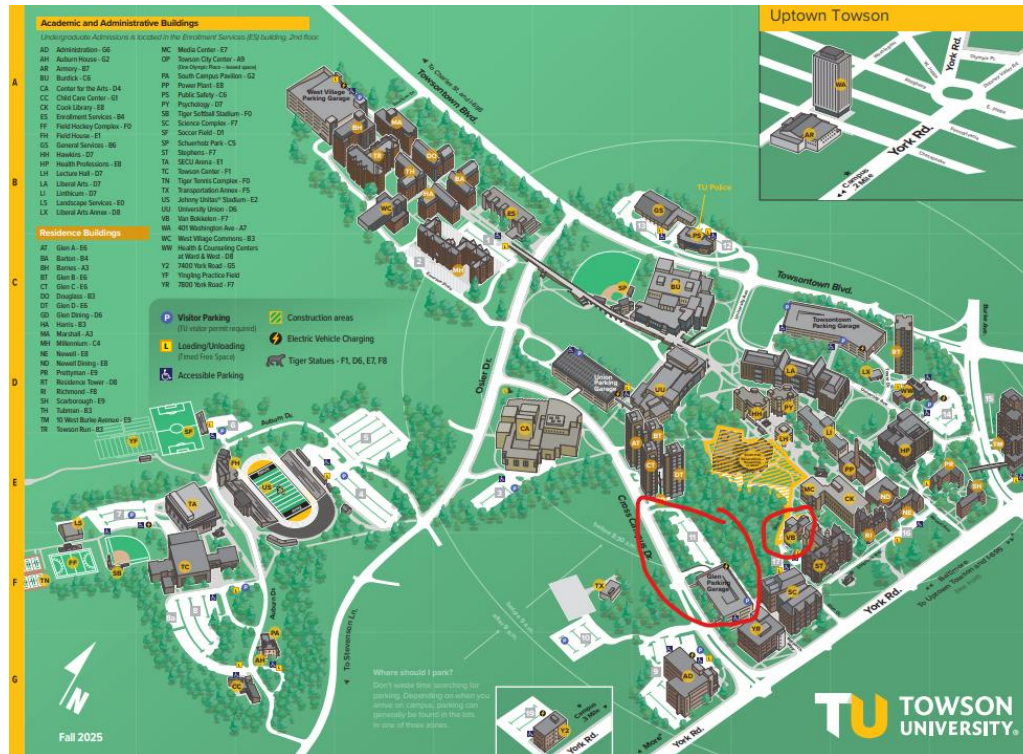
I recommend dropping students/staff off beside the building and then having the driver park; therefore, everyone doesn't have to walk up the stairs to the building. For accessibility and those who cannot do the stairs, there's accessibility through the science complex or around that building—but again, recommend dropping folks off prior to avoid.

Campus Map

Green map: [here](#).

Campus map on tabroom. Additionally, screenshot of building and parking below—Van Bokklen (VB) is circled and the closest parking would be in Glen Parking garage OR if have a van with clearance issues, Lot #11 right beside the garage:





District 7 Tournament Schedule

Friday, February 20th

4:30pm – Registration/District meeting via zoom.

Preset pairings for District will be released as soon as possible following the conclusion of the meeting. They will be released on as many of the following as possible: D7 Google Group, Tabroom, CEDA Forums.

Saturday, February 21st – Van Bokkelen Hall (ALL Rounds)

7:15am – Building opens. Do not arrive earlier. Buildings and rooms will not be open. Light Breakfast/refreshments served (VB 107), full free breakfast at tournament hotel.

8 am – Round 1



10:45 am – Round 2

12:30 pm – Lunch break (VB 107)

2 pm – Round 3

4:30 pm – Round 4

6:00 pm – Dinner (VB 107)

Sunday, February 18 – Van Bokkelen Hall (ALL Rounds)

7:15am – Building opens. Do not arrive earlier. Buildings and rooms will not be open. Light Breakfast/refreshments served, full free breakfast at tournament hotel.

8 am – Round 5

10:45 am – Round 6

12:30/1 pm – Lunch (VB 107) & Awards Reception (VB 204)

