

Hello Presiding Officers and Congress debaters –

We're excited to welcome you to the Aggie Invitational. Some of the procedures for the tournament will be a little different than a typical CVFL tournament, so we'll try to outline them here.

Deuces Wild: 2 2-hour 2-bill Prelim Sessions

The magic number for Prelims is **2**. There will only be 2 prelim rounds, but each will be 2 hours long, and have 2 bills assigned 2 it.

Rooms will be available 15 minutes before round start for seating/docket-setting.

Students will be able to vote on the order to debate the bills in, in addition to deciding when to vote on a bill and switch to the other. The chamber does not need to allocate 1 hour to each – if there's more discussion on one bill than another, feel free to allocate more time to it.

2 hours is on the long side, so if you need to call for a 5-10 minute recess between bills, that would be a natural break. 2 hours is a hard-stop; the session can end earlier if the chamber decides to do so and everyone has had an opportunity to speak once.

By the nature of having ~14 students in a 2 hour session, not every student will be able to speak on each bill. Judges will be instructed that giving multiple speeches is largely a function of chance and should not be a deciding factor, though it can give a student another opportunity to showcase their debating ability.

The Final round, composed of the top 7 or 6 students from each chamber, will more closely resemble a standard CVFL round, with a 90 minute hard stop and single bill.

Presiding officer voting

- PO votes will be determined by judges, not students.
- The top PO from each prelim session will advance to Finals.
- With 5 POs and 2 chambers, one session will have 3 POs (40 minute presiding blocks) and one will have 2 POs (60 minute presiding blocks).
- Presiding officers stay with the chamber and not rotate chambers, in the interest of not needing to transfer recency documentation.

Some evergreen reminders

- The bills for each session will still be announced by the tournament, not chosen by the chamber.
- Recency is pre-set and does not reset between sessions, but does reset for finals.
- The first Aff and Neg speech for each bill will have an additional minute of questioning, but not an additional minute of speech time.