



**Middleton-Cross Plains Area High School and James Madison Memorial High School**  
*Proudly Host*  
**The Badgerland Debate Tournament**

Dear Debate Coaches:

The Middleton Debate Team is honored to host its fifth annual debate tournament. This year we have partnered with James Madison Memorial High School in order to offer an expanded weekend of competition. To recognize this new partnership, we have changed the name of our tournament to the **Badgerland Debate Tournament**. We invite you and your forensics or debate team for an enjoyable weekend of competition on **Friday, November 13** and **Saturday, November 14**.

We will continue to offer an efficient event with excellent judging and superior competition. Similar to previous Middleton Tournaments, we will offer individual awards for winning team members, including speaker awards in all divisions. We feature some of the lowest entry fees for a Tournament of Champions caliber event.

We are proud to announce that this year's event has been awarded a University of Kentucky **Tournament of Champions qualifying event in Public Forum Debate** at the **semifinal level** and **Tournament of Champions qualifying event in Lincoln Douglas Debate** at the **finals level**. We have expanded our hotel options from last year. In addition to the Fairfield, Courtyard, and Residence Inn from last year, we have added a Hampton Inn. All of the hotels are within a ten minute drive of Middleton or Madison Memorial High School.

Please review the information that we have loaded to this website. If there is something that we can do to assist your squad in attending our event, please ask. We would be honored if you joined us.

Sincerely,

Nick Bubb  
Tournament Director

P.S. - If you are wondering, "Where is Middleton?" or "Where is Madison Memorial?" The City of Middleton is directly adjacent to the City of Madison. Middleton is a West Side suburb of Madison. Madison is Wisconsin's second largest city, the state capital, and home to the University of Wisconsin. James Madison Memorial High School is about a five-minute drive from Middleton High School.

If there is anything that we can do to increase your enjoyment of our community (restaurant recommendations, etc.), please let us know. We enjoy living in Dane County and we want you to have an enjoyable visit.

## Events Offered

**We are offering the following events for competition. All events run concurrently, students may only register for one event.**

**Public Forum:** The Public Forum division will offer seven preliminary rounds over Friday and Saturday. We will be debating the November Topic. The division will likely break to octafinals, but depending on the number of entries this may change. Our intent is to clear all debaters with a 5-2 record. We are running this division "Apple Valley style" - meaning that this division will not be double flighted. If the division becomes extremely large, we may offer a novice division for first year debaters.

Why seven rounds? A couple reasons: First, in PF we observe a coin-toss - so we do not have any side-skewing concerns. Second, we like giving all students more opportunities to debate. Third, for Wisconsin Debaters seeking state qualification, we need to offer an odd number of rounds.

**Lincoln-Douglas:** The Lincoln-Douglas division will offer seven preliminary rounds over Friday and Saturday. We will be debating the November-December Topic. The division will likely break to octafinals, but depending on the number of entries this may change. All rounds will be in the 6-3-7-3-4-6-3 format, with 4 minutes prep. This division will not be flighted.

**Open Policy Debate:** The open policy debate division will offer five preliminary round over Friday and Saturday. This division will likely break to quarterfinals, but depending on the number of entries this may change. All rounds will be in the 8-3-5 format with 8 minutes prep. Wisconsin teams, please note, this is a two-person division that will switch sides.

**Novice Policy Debate:** The novice policy debate division will offer five preliminary rounds over Friday and Saturday. This division will likely break to semifinals, but depending on the number of entries this may change. All rounds will be in the 8-3-5 format with 5 minutes prep. Wisconsin teams, please note, this is a two-person division that will switch sides.

Why five rounds in policy debate? Two reasons: For Wisconsin Debaters seeking state qualification, we need to offer an odd number of rounds. A lower number of rounds helps keep the CX divisions on a similar schedule as the PF/LD divisions.

**Congressional Debate:** The Congressional Debate Division will offer two or three sessions. There will be one Friday session and one or two Saturday Sessions. Each session will be its own competition - meaning we will give out two or three sets of awards. On Saturday, if there is sufficient interest, we will have one session that breaks to a Super Session. If there is not sufficient interest to make a Super Session on Saturday work, we will offer a second session on Saturday with the opportunity for eliminated students in the other divisions to re-register and participate in Congressional Debate. We are intending to give awards to the best presiding officer, the top debaters (as determined by the judges), and the top debaters (as determined by the students). Schools wishing to submit legislation must do so by Monday, October 26. We are hoping to release the legislation to be debated by November 2.

## Information

### Hospitality

Dinner (on Friday Night), light breakfast items (on Saturday), lunch (on Saturday), and snacks (all weekend) for students will be sold at affordable prices. Dinner, light breakfast, lunch, and snacks will be provided for coaches and judges throughout the weekend.

We are also hoping to offer a Coaches' Hospitality location on Friday night at an area restaurant. (More details to be provided later).

### Lodging

We have secured a discounted block of hotel rooms. The block begins on Thursday, November 12 and runs through Saturday, November 14. We strongly encourage all teams to stay inside the hotel block, unless they are attending from the Madison area.

The hotel properties are:

Middleton/Madison West Fairfield Inn and Suites  
8218 Greenway Boulevard  
Middleton, WI 53562  
Phone: 608-831-1400  
[Link to make online reservations](#)

West Madison Hampton Inn and Suites  
483 Commerce Dr  
Madison, WI 53719  
Phone: 608-271-0200  
[Link to make online reservations](#)

Middleton/Madison West Courtyard by Marriott  
2266 Deming Way  
Middleton, WI 53562  
Phone: 608-203-0100  
[Link to make online reservations](#)

Middleton/Madison West Residence Inn  
8400 Market Street  
Middleton, WI 53562  
Phone: 608-662-1100  
[Link to make online reservations](#)

Details: The Fairfield and the Hampton have the most number of rooms reserved. These properties offer single king rooms at \$89/night and two queen rooms at \$104/night. These properties offer a complimentary breakfast. The Residence offers suites for \$99/night and also features a complimentary breakfast. The Courtyard has single kings at \$99/night and two queens at \$119/night. All properties offer complimentary wifi.

To reserve a room at a single property, you can call that property directly and mention the Badgerland Debate Tournament group block. You may also use the links to reserve rooms the

discounted rate. To guarantee the discounted rate, please book rooms by October 13. If you miss the deadline, but still want to reserve rooms: Please contact the hotel. Subject to available rooms, it is possible that the hotel will honor the block rate. This is not guaranteed, to ensure that you have rooms reserved please book by October 13.

## **Fees**

Checks should be made out to **Middleton High School Debate**.

Fees are as follows:

Public Forum Debate - \$50/team

Lincoln Douglas - \$30/debater

Policy Debate (Open/Novice) - \$40/team

Congressional Debate - \$10/debater/session (Friday debater - \$10, Saturday - \$10)

Registration will close on Tuesday, November 10 or until we reach capacity. We are operating on a first come, first served basis. We expect registration to open on September 1.

Your fees will freeze on Tuesday, November 10. **After this deadline, you own your full registration fees.** Name changes can be made up until Thursday, November 12. You may make drops up until this time, but you are still obligated for any teams not dropped before Tuesday.

**ALL Judge names must be registered by Tuesday.** Schools without judges will be charged a \$300/missing judge. A limited number of hired judges will be available at a rate of \$100/day or \$200/tournament. Please contact Nick to hire judges. Do not assume that because you have a missing judge that it means that we are hiring one for you.

**Please bring a check or a copy of the purchase order at registration.** Compared to other tournaments, we are very lenient and flexible on this issue. Do not take advantage of this or we will need to change our policy in future.

## **Judging Information**

Because we have a single-flighted tournament, we need your judges. Your school must provide one judge for every two Public Forum Teams, every two policy teams, or every two Lincoln-Douglas debaters. Your judges are obligated in each division one round beyond your school's elimination. For example, if you cleared a PF team to quarterfinals, all of your PF judges are obligated to semifinals. Please bring qualified individuals.

You may split the obligation between Friday and Saturday (e.g. one person on Friday and a different person on Saturday). However, you may not split the obligation so that it is not evenly distributed (e.g. two people on Saturday and none on Friday).

We are not combining the PF and LD pools.

Because of the likely large field, we cannot hold your obligation towards the combined number of entries. For example, if you register 3 PF Teams and 1 LD debater - we have to hold you to three judges (two PF and one 1 LD) - not two. We may move your judges around between division to best suit the needs of the entire tournament. We will notify you if this impacts your judges. If we make a change that goes against your preferences, please let us know and we will fix it (or try our best).

Middleton is west-side suburb of Madison. Madison Memorial (if used) is on the far west side of Madison. Both schools are pretty easy to get to from the highway, but not necessarily so for UW-Madison students without their own transportation. We may be able to make arrangements to transport judges to and from UW's campus. If your judges are interested in this, let us know and we will try to work something out.

Mentioned earlier, but worth repeating: Hired judges will be available at the rate of \$100/day or \$200/tournament. Yes that is high. We would rather have your judges than your money. If you need to hire a judge, please contact Nick directly. If you are missing a judge at the deadline, we will assess our even larger missing judge fee (\$300). We have generous registration deadlines because we want to make it as easy as possible for you to participate in our event. However, we do need to impose some deadlines to continue to offer an excellent tournament.

We are not offering a missing judge penalty for schools registering in Congressional Debate. We ask that schools registering in Congress make an adult educator available to the tournament in some capacity.

### **Judge Preferencing and Judge Strikes**

We plan on offering limited strikes in Public Forum. We plan on offering some kind of mutual preferencing in Lincoln Douglas. If there are adequate entries and judges, we will offer judge preferences in policy debate. Novice policy will have a random judge assignment.

We encourage all judges to post a paradigm to <http://judgephilosophies.wikispaces.com>  
In elimination rounds, we will try to create panels with diversity goals in mind.

### **Tabulating Information**

Rounds 1 and 2 in all debate divisions will have a random assignment. In PF and LD we will try to use a regional check to ensure that schools traveling are not meeting schools from their region in the first two rounds. Each round thereafter will be paired high-low in brackets. Unless something terrible happens, we won't lag-pair.

We plan on using our same operating procedures: We will public post all results after round 2. We will also post PDF's of each rounds ballots during the tournament, as time allows. Generally speaking this means that round 1 ballots are available during round 2 - and so on during the duration of the tournament.

We will be using a warm room. We will not be using electronic ballots. Despite the fossil records, there are dinosaurs in Wisconsin.

We will not break brackets in elimination rounds. In elimination rounds, if teammates are scheduled to debate, the tournament will not assign judges unless you request to do so. We assume that you will coach over.

### **Directions**

Decisions about where registration will be held and which division will be in which building have not been made yet. At least Middleton High School will be used. If

registration is large, we will also use James Madison Memorial High School. Unlike last year, we have school on that Friday. We are trying to figure out if the Middleton High School can accommodate registration or if we need to move off site. More information will be posted shortly.

## **Schedule**

**The following schedule is a guide. We will endeavor to run faster than the schedule. Please pay attention to postings.**

We'll post a grid via google docs. This may be modified because of site concerns.

### **Friday**

Registration: 1:00-3:30 pm

Opening Meeting/Judge Instructions: 4:00 pm

Round 1, All Events: 4:30 pm

Friday Congress Session begins: 4:30

Round 2, PF/LD: 5:30 pm

Dinner Break: 6:30 pm

Round 2, CX: 7:15 pm

Round 3, PF/LD: 7:15 pm

Round 4, PF/LD: 8:15 pm

### **Saturday**

Round 3, CX: 8:00 am

Round 5, PF/LD: 8:00 am

Saturday Congress Session Begins: 8:30 am

Round 6, PF/LD: 9:30 am

Round 4, CX: 10:15 am

Round 7, PF/LD: 11:00 am

Lunch Break: 12:00-1:00 pm

Round 5, CX: 1:00 pm

Second Saturday Congress Session: 1:00 pm

First Elimination round, PF/LD: 1:00 pm

Second Elimination round, PF/LD: 2:15 pm

Awards, All events: 3:30

Additional elimination rounds, all events to follow.