

# The New Year Swing: Cougar Classic & Dobie Tournaments

2nd Annual, January 8 - 9 2016

at the University of Houston – with Dobie High School

We're happy to cordially invite you to attend the Cougar Classic & New Year Swing TOC & TFA Invitational Qualifying Tournament to be held on the University of Houston & Dobie Campuses. The UH Speech & Debate team and Dobie High School are thrilled to be hosting a swing tournament to open the new year. The UH portion of the swing is a TOC bid tournament for Policy & Lincoln Douglas.

All Debate CX, LD, PF & CD plus extemp will be on the UH campus. Registration is available at [www.cougar.tabroom.com](http://www.cougar.tabroom.com)

All IE's, except extemp, will be at Dobie High School. Please register at [www.joyoftournaments.com/tx/newyrswing](http://www.joyoftournaments.com/tx/newyrswing)

We will keep the same elements that you have come to expect from both Dobie and UH tournaments. We as always will offer great trophies, a fantastic hospitality room, quality judges and we will strive as always to stay on schedule. We are committed to a quality tournament experience for students, coaches, and judges. We are working diligently to create a memorable tournament.

## Two full tournaments

Students will have, during the course of the weekend, the ability to compete in both the UH and Dobie portions of the swing. This will maximize the breadth of events offered and the rounds available to students. In debate events, students who do not reach the elimination rounds will have an entire extra day of competition available. Individual events will be held at the nearby Dobie campus and we will have a shuttle between the tournaments for coaches who need to move between locations.

## Hospitality

We are committed to providing an enjoyable and sustainable tournament experience for all participants. We have worked closely with our schedule to ensure that students and coaches will feel at home and focus their energy on debate and competition. In striving to provide first-class hospitality to our guests, we intend to provide several amenities to competitors, coaches, and judges:

**Food:** The UH tournament will provide Breakfast and Lunch on Friday & Saturday and a Pizza Dinner on Friday. There will be abundant coffee at all times.

A well-appointed judge's lounge will be available for coaches and judges.

**Facilities:** After completing nearly a billion dollars of construction in the last few years, the UH campus will be turned over in near entirety to the Cougar Classic. Each division will be located in a particular "neighborhood" of campus, clusters of closely and conveniently located buildings, eliminating the need for major room moves or hikes across campus for competitors and judges. Each of the neighborhoods is only a short walk from the coaches' and judges' lounge in the Honors College. Ample free parking is available. And the campus is easily accessible from the Metro light rail line to campus.

**Internet:** UH has a robust guest network that should easily handle any Internet access needs for tournament guests.

**High-quality Judging**

We will have the highest quality judge pool that we can gather. Our choice of hosting during the holiday break is intentionally oriented towards this goal, because it will allow us to recruit experienced judges and coaches who are at other times too busy to attend.

**High-quality, Accessible Competition**

Our goal in (re)building this tournament is to create access to the most educational and challenging competition for students. We believe that these competitive spaces can be rigorous without being exclusive. The value of access motivates our commitment to hospitality, collaborative planning and the unique blend of TOC, TFA and UDL circuits in this tournament.

See you in January,

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### Locations (for both the UH & Dobie portions of the Swing)

All rounds of CX, LD, PF, CD and Extemp will be held on the [University of Houston campus](#).

All IE rounds (minus extemp) will be held at [Dobie High School](#)

There is no cross-entry between events at between locations.

We will have a shuttle from UH to Dobie at 3:00 pm on Friday 1/8 and Saturday 1/9 at 7:00 am, with a return bus both days, for schools that are entered in both IEs and Debate.

Please email all names of students that will be taking transport Friday/Saturday by December 18<sup>th</sup>.

### Hotel

We have secured a courtesy block at the [Doubletree Houston Hobby](#), for \$99/night which includes free internet and parking. You can book through their website - <http://goo.gl/RbEhOR> using the Group code **DEB** or by phone, 713-645-3000.

In addition, there is now (*as of 12/8/15*) a block of rooms available at the [Hilton](#) on the UH campus for \$129/night. The Hilton is a great option for teams competing on campus because its literally steps away from competition rooms. You can use [this link](#) to book at the Hilton or call 832-531-6325 and reference the Group UH Speech Debate - New Year Swing.

### Judging Requirements

Teams are required to provide qualified judging to cover their entry (see chart below). The tournament will offer hired judging (calculated by the whole judge). Teams hiring judging for both the UH and Dobie tournament will not be charged twice.

Event	Entries per judge	Hired Judge Rate
Policy	2	\$175
Public Forum	4	\$175
Lincoln Douglas	4	\$175
Congress	5	\$75
Extemp	5	\$75

Mutual judge preference will be used in CX & LD. Preferences will open on January 5<sup>th</sup> and will be due at 6 pm on January 7<sup>th</sup>. Tabroom.com will be used for all entry, pairings and balloting. All judges are required to have a tabroom.com account and all students should sign up for an account (to receive emails/texts with pairings and announcements).

### Fees

For CX, LD and PF, entry fees for the UH tournament include fees for the Dobie tournament. I will remove Dobie fees manually from invoices for teams entered in both tournaments.

Event	Entry Fee UH	Entry Fee Dobie
Policy	\$100	\$40
Public Forum	\$80	\$40
Lincoln Douglas	\$50	\$20
Congress	\$50	-
Extemp	\$20	\$10

Fees cover tournament costs and include food for all contestants and judges. All drops after 11:55 pm on January 3<sup>rd</sup> will result in the loss of entry fees and hired judge fees until the day of the tournament. Drops or no shows after 11:55 pm on January 6<sup>th</sup> will result in an additional \$75 fee.

For events held on the UH campus (CX, LD, PF, CD, Ext):

Make checks payable to the **University of Houston**.

The University's W9 is available here: <https://goo.gl/ZwJHMq>

Our mailing address:

UH Speech & Debate  
Honors College  
M.D. Anderson Library  
4333 University Dr. Rm 212  
Houston, TX 77204-2001

## **Logistics & Rules**

For both the UH and Dobie tournaments, all debate events and extemp will be on the UH campus and all IE events (excluding extemp) will be on the Dobie campus.

Entry for the Debate tournaments (held at UH) will be <http://cougar.tabroom.com>, for the Individual Events tournament (held at Dobie), entry will be at [joyoftournaments.com](http://joyoftournaments.com).

Teams are encouraged to enter both the UH and Dobie tournaments, if a team breaks in the UH tournament in CX, LD or PF, we will “drop” them from the Dobie portion of the tournament.

We will freeze entries on tabroom.com at midnight on January 3<sup>rd</sup>. Any changes after that date must be communicated to the tournament staff directly.

TFA rules will be followed in all TFA events.

The current NSDA topics will be used in all debate events.

Contestants must be accompanied by a coach or an approved adult sponsor.

If entries from the same school meet in elimination rounds, we will not break brackets.

Panels will be used in all elimination rounds.

The use of tobacco is prohibited on the UH campus including the parking lot and sidewalks.

Any defacing or damaging of school property will result in instant disqualification of that student. The incident will be reported to the authorities and students may be subject to arrest.

## **Awards**

Awards will be given to all contestants in elimination rounds. Debate speaker awards will be given to the top ten speakers in each division. Three sweepstakes places will be awarded for performance at both the Dobie and UH tournaments.

## **Cross-Entry**

Contestants may not cross-enter in events held on different campuses:

UH events: CX, LD, PF, CD, Ext

Dobie events: DUO, DUET, IMP, PR, PO, OO, DI, HI

Contestants may enter only one division of extemp.

Contestants may cross-enter in a maximum of 2 events on the UH campus with the following exceptions:

No cross-entry for any contestant in CX.

No cross-entry between PF & LD.

Contestants should make an effort to notify their judges when they are cross-entered. Tardiness to rounds may result in disqualification unless excused by the tournament director.

## **Congress**

Presiding officers will be elected. Please indicate students who wish to run for PO on the entry. We will use direct questioning in finals. Congress legislation can be found in the Congress section on the TFA website at [www.txfa.org](http://www.txfa.org).

Congress legislation will be debated as follows:

Prelims: Items 1-12

Semis: Items 13-21

Finals: Items 22-30.

## UH Tournament

CX, LD, PF, CD, Ext.

Friday 1/8	7:00 am	Breakfast & Pairings
	7:30 am	Extemp Draw
	8:00 am	Round 1 <i>CX, LD, PF Preset</i>
		Round 1 <i>Extemp</i>
	9:00 – 10:45 am	Congress Session 1
	10:15 am	Round 2 <i>CX, LD, PF Preset</i>
	11:00 am	Extemp Draw
	11:30 am	Round 2 <i>Extemp</i>
	12:00 pm	Lunch
	12:30 – 2:15 pm	Congress Session 2
	1:30 pm	Round 3 <i>CX, LD, PF High-Low within Brackets</i>
	2:30 pm	Extemp Breaks <i>Coaches' Challenge</i>
	3:00 pm	Extemp Draw
	3:30 pm	Semifinals <i>Extemp</i>
	3:45 pm	Round 4 <i>CX, LD, PF High-Low within Brackets</i>
	5:15 pm	Extemp Draw
	5:45 pm	Finals <i>Extemp</i>
	6:00 pm	Pizza
	6:45 pm	Round 5 <i>CX, LD, PF High-Low within Brackets</i>
	6:45 – 8:30 pm	Congress Session 3

## UH Tournament

Cont.

Saturday 1/9	7:00 am	Breakfast & Pairings <i>Coaches' Challenge</i>
	8:00 am	Double Octafinals <i>CX, LD, PF Double Flighted, LD, PF</i>
	9:00 – 11:00 am	Congress Finals
	10:45 am	Octafinals <i>CX, LD, PF Single Flight, all events</i>
	12:00 pm	Quarterfinals <i>LD &amp; PF Single Flight</i>
	12:30 pm	Lunch
	1:30 pm	Quarterfinals <i>CX</i>
	2:00 pm	Semifinals <i>LD &amp; PF Single Flight</i>
	4:00 pm	Awards
	4:30 pm	Semifinals <i>CX</i>
	4:30 pm	Finals <i>LD &amp; PF Single Flight</i>
	7:15 pm	Finals <i>CX</i>

## Dobie Tournament

CX, LD, PF, Ext.

<b>Saturday 1/9</b>	7:00 am	Breakfast & Pairings
	7:30 am	Extemp Draw
	8:00 am	Round 1 <i>CX, LD, PF</i>
		Round 1 <i>Extemp</i>
	10:00 am	Round 2 <i>CX, LD, PF</i>
	11:15 am	Extemp Draw
	11:45 am	Round 2 <i>Extemp</i>
	12:00 pm	Round 3 <i>CX, LD, PF</i>
	1:00 pm	Extemp Breaks <i>Coaches' Challenge</i>
	1:30 pm	Extemp Draw
	2:00 pm	Semifinals <i>Extemp</i>
		Debate Breaks <i>Coaches' Challenge</i>
	2:30 pm	Octafinals <i>CX, LD, PF</i> <i>Double Flighted, LD, PF</i>
	4:00 pm	Awards
	4:30 pm	Extemp Draw
	5:00 pm	Finals <i>Extemp</i>
		Quarterfinals <i>CX, LD, PF</i> <i>Single Flighted All Events</i>
	6:00 pm	Semifinals <i>LD &amp; PF Single Flight</i>
	7:00 pm	Semifinals <i>CX</i>
		Finals <i>LD &amp; PF Single Flight</i>
9:00 pm	Finals <i>CX</i>	

### Hired Judging

If you know judges who would like to be hired, please share.

<https://houstondebate.typeform.com/to/NXb6k3>

	CX & LD (@ UH)	PF, CD, Extemp (@ UH)	IEs (@ Dobie)
<b>Rate Per Round</b>		\$20	\$20
<b>One Day Rate</b> <i>Either 1/8 or 1/9</i>	\$100	\$80	\$80
<b>Full Commitment</b> <b><i>Both 1/8 &amp; 1/9</i></b>	\$200	\$160	\$160