



Texas Forensics Union “Kinky VII” Debate Tournament
University of Texas at Austin
February 5-8, 2016

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Welcome

Welcome to Texas! We ask humbly for your cooperation in keeping the tournament running efficiently. Please take several moments to read this document to its end; if you still have questions or if we need to clarify, please contact us. Also, we invite you to re-read the invitation. It contains information not found in this document. **Directors, pass on this document to all of your participants and judges; important pre-tournament information can be found [here](#).**

Important Announcements

No Registration Friday Night, Presets Released Saturday Morning: Get in. Grab a meal. Punch the “confirm onsite” button on tabroom.com by 7PM. Confirm changes with Bruschke and Palmer. Pay Joel entry fees on Saturday in the tabroom (MEZ 1.104).

CEDA Diversity Amendment: To meet the spirit of the CEDA rule, we will employ an opt-in system to increase diversity in judge placement for racial minorities and women. Opt-in on the tabroom.com website. Go to your school’s entry for the Texas Open; click on the tab for judges; click any judge name. Top row is a checkbox for diversity-enhancing judges; check it and hit the green save button at the bottom.

Judge availability and no shows: Last year we only had 4 judges available for the final debate, and that was after some arm-twisting. If you are available for later rounds, please let us know. Too, several judges were very late or no showed to the first elimination round on Monday. Traffic is terrible on Monday morning--please give yourself ample time to make it to the hotel.

Judge placement and pairing assumptions: In prelims, prepare to debate for the top 50% of your preferences. However, it may be necessary to go to mutual preference between 51%-70% in order to place opt-in and high commitment judges. Two presets and then tabroom will use SOP for pairing preliminary debates. We will seek to construct diverse panels in elimination debates, and will hope to place 5 judges on elim panels, as long as the pool and constraints permit. We may have some rounds where some debates have 5-judge panels and others have 3-judge panels, where adding more judges to the 3-judge panels is either impossible or does not serve the goal of inclusion. We do need judges for late elimination rounds, so stay if you can. For late elim rounds we will use Mutual Preference as much as possible, but we can only place judges willing and able to judge.

Internet: Saturday and Sunday, connect to attwifi on campus and select the Coupon Code option; the coupon code is WPWS-LETJ-LE. Call the AT&T help line 1-888-888-7520 for technical assistance. Test your computers for malware and spyware before coming to the UT campus and remove any threats! Do not download or share those things that are illegal to download or share. If AT&T or UT deny you access, we can’t help you. There will be a code for internet access on Monday at the Austin Marriott South. If you are staying in the hotel, internet will be available in your rooms and the hotel lobby on Monday but is somewhat spotty in the competition rooms.



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Hands Free Driving Ordinance! The City of Austin adopted one and it went into effect January 1, 2015. Yes, it’s Draconian, and, yes, they will enforce it. Information can be found here: <http://www.austintexas.gov/handsfree>

Parking: Please, please read this. More information is below under Parking, but be aware: Private ‘surface’ lots WILL tow you, for NO apparent reason. Even if you have paid and follow their rules, you STILL might get towed (e.g. a Texas staffer was towed in December from a pay lot because the owners needed the spaces for a special evening event that was not posted). Follow the instructions in the parking section below.

SMOKERS BEWARE! Austin is a Clean Air City—which means no smoking on campus, bars, or restaurants. Beware! The hotel does not permit smoking. If you smoke in the hotel the charge is \$250 per incident. There are designated smoking areas outside the hotel. Please dispose of your cigarettes in the containers provided.

On April 9, 2012, The University of Texas at Austin became a tobacco free campus. The use of any tobacco products is prohibited in university buildings and on university grounds within the state of Texas, including parking areas and structures, sidewalks, walkways, and university owned buildings. The full text of the policy including the definition for tobacco products and approved exceptions is available on the University Policies website. Click the orange ink. For those of you with FAQs, there’s this: <http://www.utexas.edu/tobaccofree/faq.php>
We’re so happy to have y’all in Austin. If you want for anything, feel free to ask!

- The Longhorns (Joel, JV, Kate, Teddy, Micheal, Leonardi, Ralph, Jishnu and team)



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Directions

Hotel to Campus

Austin Marriott South to UT South Mall

1. Take left ramp onto (I-35 N) toward US-290 E – go for 4.5 mi
2. Take exit #235A/Univ of Texas/15Th & Mlk Blvd/State Capitol onto N I-35 – go for .5 mi
3. Turn left onto Martin Luther King Jr Blvd – go for .7 mi
4. Turn right onto University Ave – go for .2 mi
5. You should be looking at the Tower and the Fountain. Without traffic the trip takes 5.8 mi/ and 9 mins. With traffic it can be over 30 minutes.

Campus to Hotel

UT South Mall to Austin Marriott South –from the fountain

1. Go West on 21st St to Guadalupe - go for .1 mi
2. Turn left onto Guadalupe St - go for .1 mi
3. Turn left onto Martin Luther King Blvd - go for .6 mi
4. Turn right onto I-35 Frontage Road - go for .3 mi
5. Take left ramp onto I-35 S – go for 4.4 mi
6. Take exit #229/Stassney Lane onto S I-35 Frontage - go for 1.3 mi
7. Turn left onto E Stassney Ln – go for 330 ft.
8. Turn left onto N I-35 Frontage Road – go for 1.1 mi
9. Your destination of Austin Marriott South is on the right. The trip takes 8.1 mi/ and 12 mins with no traffic, with traffic it can take over 30 minutes. Austin Marriott South, 4415 S I-35, Austin, TX 78744



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Parking

Campus

Parking near campus may seem daunting, but below is all the information you need to park near the tournament buildings and not get towed.

DO PARK (see map below)

Dobie Parking Garage (DPG)

2005 Whitis Ave, Austin, TX 78705, \$20/day

AT&T Conf Center Garage (CCG)

1900 University Ave., \$18/day

<http://www.utexas.edu/parking/parking/garages/ccg.php>

Brazos Parking Garage (BRG)

210 E. MLK Blvd, \$18/day

<http://www.utexas.edu/parking/parking/garages/brg.php>

DON'T PARK IN UNIVERSITY OR PRIVATE PAY ‘SURFACE’ LOTS

The University will definitely have you towed or booted.

Private ‘surface’ lots WILL tow you, for NO apparent reason. Even if you have paid and follow their rules, you STILL might get towed (e.g. a Texas staffer was towed in December from a pay lot because the owners needed the spaces for a special evening event that was not posted)

DON'T PARK IN METERED SPACES UNLESS YOU BABYSIT THE METER

You WILL get ticketed or possibly towed if you're not standing at your vehicle when the meter runs out.

Map of all other campus parking garages:
<http://www.utexas.edu/parking/maps/visitor/visitor-map.pdf>



Hotel

Hotel parking is free! There is underground garage and surface parking at the Marriott. For bus and large vehicle parking, call the Marriott South to arrange.



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Maps, rooms & buildings

Maps

Campus map: <http://www.utexas.edu/maps/index.html>

Campus Parking Map: <http://www.utexas.edu/parking/maps/index.html>

Campus Building Map: <http://www.utexas.edu/parking/maps/visitor/visitor-map.pdf>

FOR MOBILE DEVICES: The Campus Map feature is quite good. GPS allows you to identify your location, search, pan, and zoom in on UT campus buildings. You can find the buildings you need, complete with a photo of it, and other helpful information.

For Apple Devices ---> <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/the-university-texas-at-austin/id347883008?mt=8>

For Google/Android -->

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.nasageek.utexasutilities>

Tournament ‘Help Table’ Locations

Parlin (PAR) and Calhoun (CAL)—PAR 2nd floor hallway

Mezes (MEZ) and Benedict (BEN)—MEZ 2nd floor lobby

University Teaching Center (UTC)—1st floor hallway

Garrison (GAR)—2nd floor foyer

McCombs School of Business (CBA) and (GSB)--2nd floor foyer

Classroom buildings and rooms

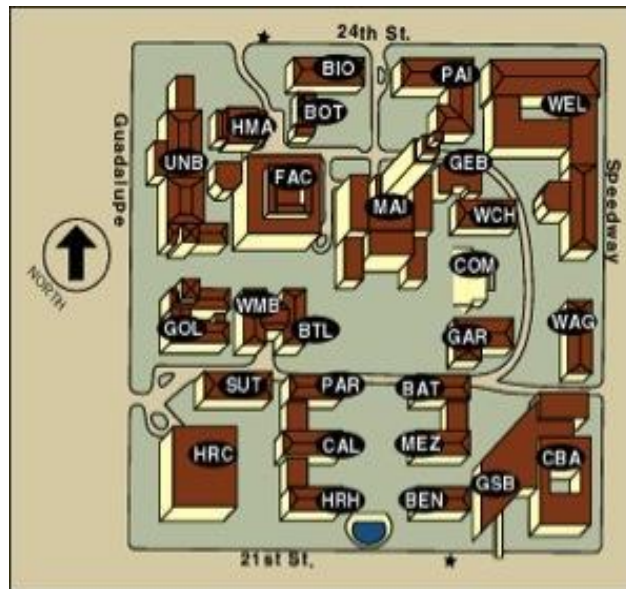
Several lunatics designed the system. Note that some of the buildings are connected and you won’t know when you move from one building into another, and other buildings are artificially sealed off for no apparent reason. Also, no consistent numbering system is used from building to building. Leave yourself a little extra time to find your rooms. You will enter most buildings on the second floor, but that is not always the case. So, you might want to send a coach or partner ahead to locate the quickest path between rooms before you start moving your tubs, if you have them. See the list below for the location of ballot desks by building. Preliminary debates will be held in University buildings and elimination debates will be at the Marriott Austin South hotel.

We will be using the following buildings:

BEN, CAL, CBA, GAR, GSB, MEZ, PAR, & UTC (See Images Next Page)



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Internets

Campus

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Schedule

Schedule

Friday, February 5

7:00 p.m. Arrive in Austin. Click the “confirm onsite” button in tabroom.com. Pay registration fees to Joel or JV in the tabroom (MEZ 1.104) on Saturday.

Saturday, February 6

6:30 a.m. Pairings released for rounds 1-2

7:00 a.m. Coffee and breakfast items on campus. Pay Joel or JV in the tabroom (MEZ 1.104)

8:00 a.m. Round 1--ballots due at 10:30 a.m.

10:45 a.m. Round 2--ballots due at 1:15 p.m.

NDT Committee Meeting (CAL 200)

12:30 p.m. Lunch: In the courtyard between GSB and MEZ. If inclement, in GSB 2.124.

1:45 p.m. Pairings for Round 3

2:15 p.m. Round 3--ballots due at 4:45 p.m.

NDT Committee Meeting (CAL 200)

5:15 p.m. Pairings for Round 4

5:45 p.m. Round 4--ballots due at 8:15 p.m.

We encourage you to make dinner reservations if you plan on dining out.

Sunday, February 7

6:30 a.m. Pairings Released for 5 & 6 – Austin Marriott South and on-line

7:00 a.m. Coffee and breakfast items on campus

8:00 a.m. Round 5--ballots due at 10:30 a.m.

District 3 Committee meeting (CAL 200)

11:00 a.m. Round 6 (lagged)--ballots due at 1:30 p.m.

1:00 p.m. Lunch: in the courtyard between GSB and MEZ. If inclement, in UTC 2.112A

2:00 p.m. Pairings for Round 7

2:30 p.m. Round 7 --ballots due at 5:00 p.m.

5:30 p.m. Pairings for Round 8

6:00 p.m. Round 8--ballots due at 8:30 p.m.

9:30 p.m. Banquet and Awards – Austin Marriott South Ballroom

Monday, February 8

7:00 a.m. Pairings for First Elimination Round —all elimination debates will be held at the Austin Marriott South

8:00 a.m. First Elimination Round

11:30 a.m. Second Elimination Round

3:00 p.m. Third Elimination Round

6:30 p.m. Fourth Elimination Round

10:00 p.m. Fifth Elimination Round

Decision times

Courtesy demands and we insist that rounds start on time and be adjudicated punctually. We have tightly scheduled the tournament. We will enforce strictly the time limits for judge decisions in prelims AND elims. Judges have 150 minutes (+15 for elims) from published start time to render a decision. If you used all 150, limit remarks to 10 minutes.



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Food

Breakfast

Coffee, bagels, doughnuts (yes, and vegan doughnuts!) and more will be available in the Courtyard between GSB and MEZ. (weather permitting) on Saturday and Sunday mornings. In the case of inclement weather, we will serve breakfast in the MEZ 1.306

Lunch

On Saturday and Sunday we will be serving lunch the Courtyard between GSB and MEZ, weather permitting. In the case of inclement weather, see the schedule for alternative locations.

Dinner

Banquet Sunday night at the Austin Marriott South Ballroom, 9:30 pm. Return to the hotel for the banquet as soon as you can after the conclusion of Round 8.

Snacks

Available throughout the tournament in MEZ 1.306.

*****If you did not register as vegetarian or vegan, don't eat their food, that's *super* rude.*****



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Tournament host expectations

Hands off classroom tech

Don't mess with stuff. Do not leave doors propped open. Do not mess with the cables, Ethernet, AV stand or anything else in the campus rooms. This stuff is rigged; mess with it and you'll set off the alarm and police will arrive and you will be fined \$50.

Fire/smoke

No fire or smoke in the rooms. Licensed pyrotechnicians must be hired, on-site and approved for any smoke or flames in the classrooms; we aren't paying for it. If you set off the smoke and fire alarms, it will cost you.

Music

If your music reaches beyond your classroom, it has gone too far; classes and conferences are scheduled on Saturday and Sunday in buildings that we are using. The Registrar will remove our ability to use the rooms if we interfere with classes or scheduled events.

Mess

Clean up after yourselves. Please help after lunch and at the conclusion of rounds 4 and 8. Trash bags will be distributed to each room. You will find cleaning easier if you pick-up periodically through the course of the day. PLEASE be vigilant about cleaning-up your own mess. We can only run the tournament with the cooperation of the University and Registrar, and complaints about trash left in the competition rooms inhibit our ability to host in the future. If you need trash bags, ask.



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Tab room, technical, and misc.

Rules, Rules, Rules

Each judge will be **REQUIRED** to declare **ONE AND ONLY ONE WINNER** and **ONE AND ONLY ONE LOSER** in each debate to which they are assigned by the tab room. Compliance with this rule requires each judge to complete an official judge ballot as designated by the tab room. The side (affirmative or negative) and school affiliation must match the assignments made by the tab room.

Judges will also be required to assign speaker points to each participant in the debate, 30 point scale in 10th's with no ties. No flipping coins and assigning high points. If we think no debate has occurred we will average or give zero speaker points at our discretion. Judges are also required to render a decision in accordance with the aforementioned criteria no more than 150 minutes beyond the designated start time of any debate that they are assigned by the tab room to adjudicate, with an extra 15 minutes allotted for elimination debates. Please do not submit judges unable or unwilling to fulfill these requirements.

We will not break brackets or have side equalization. The tournament employs the now traditional 9-3-6 format with ten minutes of preparation time allocated to each team. Transfer of data needs to be accounted for and should be considered part of prep time.

The first two rounds are preset. Round 6 is lagged. We employ a “mutual judge preference” (MJP) placement system and attempt to enhance diversity. Eight preliminary rounds are scheduled, followed by five single-elimination rounds. Coaching time expires ten minutes prior to the scheduled start time for each round. Please cooperate with those getting the rounds started.

Ballot Distribution

Ballots will be distributed on-line only. Sign up for text messaging for on-line ballot entry on the tabroom.com site. If you do not have computer access, those at the desks can assist you in entering your ballot. **PRESS THE START ROUND BUTTON** once all the competitors have arrived and you are ready to begin.

All Gender restrooms

Can be found in several places on campus. CBA, MEZ, PCL (Library). The following link will take you to a map and specific room numbers.

<http://ddce.utexas.edu/genderandsexuality/all-gender-restrooms/>

Quiet rooms

Can be found on each floor of the PCL. The PCL is adjacent to many competition buildings.

Accommodations

We're delighted to help any of our visitors with any accommodations they might need before or during the tournament. Please contact Kate Richey at 512 698 1206 or katerichey@gmail.com and we'll do everything in our power to ensure a smooth tournament experience for you.

Evidence Storage

MEZ 1.306. Please don't leave valuables. Don't lock the doors behind you. **TAKE EVERYTHING FROM CAMPUS SUNDAY NIGHT AT THE CONCLUSION OF ROUND 8. WE WILL NOT BE BACK ON CAMPUS MONDAY.**



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Digital, internet, recording & tech

Caselist & Scouting

Participating teams and schools are expected to contribute to <http://opencaselist.paperlessdebate.com> and should provide their most recent affirmative and negative information by the Tuesday before the tournament at latest. Teams and schools should cooperate with Texas students and staff assigned to gather material

Audio & Video Recording

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 The University of Texas is obtained.