DEBATING UNION

Welcome to the 3rd Annual Harvard College World Schools Invitational

The dates for the invitational are: March 23-25th, 2017. We hope to see you there! Our registration process will open on December 1, 2017 and will close on March 1, 2018.

Our tournament offers:

• High-Quality Judging:

• The majority of our judge pool is composed of former WSDC Champions, WSDC National team members, out-round WSDC judges, highly successful British Parliamentary collegiate debaters, and other members of the Harvard College Debating Union who come from highly successful domestic and international backgrounds.

• High-Quality Competition:

• We frequently have multiple national teams attend our tournament as they prepare for the upcoming World Schools Debating Championship in the summer.

• High-Quality Training:

 Every year we host multiple workshops on the WSDC format and other important issues that come up in debate, as well as a college admissions workshop led by a representative from the Harvard College Admissions Office.

Competition Rules and Procedures

The Harvard College World Schools Invitational will be in the World Schools Debating Championships style. All rules and formats on tournament procedure will follow the WSDC handbook.

In following the spirit of WSDC, all teams will be of 3-5 students. All speakers in a team must be 19 years of age or younger in March 2019. Teams are not limited to being of a single school. Novice eligibility shall be defined of competing at three tournaments (including the HCWSI 2018) or less.

Registration

All registration will be done through Tabroom at

(https://www.tabroom.com/index/tourn/index.mhtml?tourn_id=8973).

Once you submit registration, please confirm by sending us an email at

<u>worldschoolsinvitational@gmail.com</u>. We will use this to double-check that participants have submitted information correctly into tabroom. Feel free to ask for instructions on how to register over tabroom through this account.

Contact

Please feel free to email us at worldschoolsinvitational@gmail.com for any questions.

The Tournament Director, Tiana Menon, may be reached at tianamenon@college.harvard.edu.

The President of the Harvard College Debating Union, Danny DeBois, may be reached at ddebois@college.harvard.edu.

Fees

Each member of a team is required to pay an entry fee of \$80. For example, a team of three is required to pay a \$240 entry fee. In order for your spot to be confirmed at the tournament, we expect a **deposit to be paid** in full by March 1st, 2018. Each school's deposit will be 25% of the overall fees they are expected to pay.

Eligibility

- All speakers in a team are from the same institution.
- All speakers in a team must be 19 years of age or younger in March 2019
- All speakers must neither be enrolled in a university or equivalent post-secondary learning institution nor be attending university varsity debating training in March 2019
- An eligibility check will be done on each team interested in competing for a berth at HCWSI in the month prior to the event

Judging Requirement

One judge is required for every two teams per school. A missing judge fee is applied at a rate of \$100 per day for teams that fail to meeting their judging obligation. For example, a judge missing for each day of the tournament will be expected to pay \$300.

Schedule

*Location will be finalized at the end of January, but it will likely be Emerson Hall (25 Quincy St, Cambridge, MA 02138)

Friday, March 23, 2018	Saturday, March 24, 2018	Sunday, March 25, 2018
12:00 PM Registration Opens	8:00 AM Round 4 (Impromptu)	8:00 AM Octos (Impromptu)
2:30 PM Registration Closes	10:30 AM Round 5 (Prepared)	10:30 AM Quarters (Prepared)
3:00 PM Round 1 (Prepared)	1:00 PM Round 6 (Impromptu)	12:00 PM Lunch
4:30 PM Round 2 (Impromptu)	3:30 PM Round 7 (Prepared)	1:00 PM Semis (Impromptu)
7:00 PM Dinner	5:00 PM Dinner + Break + Speaker Awards	4:00 PM Finals (Prepared)
8:00 PM Round 3 (Prepared)		5:30 PM Awards

Food

Dinner will be provided on Saturday, March 24th to all attendees. Participants are expected to get food on their own for all other meals, however, we will be coordinating a meal-order form for pizza on Friday night and sandwiches on Saturday afternoon for those who would like to minimize the time they have to spend in Harvard Square buying food. More information on ordering food will be available on our website closer to the tournament.

Lodging

The Hyatt Regency Cambridge, 575 Memorial Drive, Cambridge

Price: \$169.00 per night

20 rooms. Situated on the Charles River, a five-minute drive to Harvard. The Hyatt is a spectacular property. The hotel also provides one-way complimentary shuttle service to CRLS in the mornings. Rates are \$169.00 per night for the 23-24th nights for up to four persons per room; this includes complimentary access to the Hyatt health club with full lap pool. Reservations can be made by calling 800-233-1234 or 617-441-6529 by March 2, 2018 and referencing the Harvard College Debating Union.

Holiday Inn Express & Suites, 250 Msgr O'Brien Highway, Cambridge

Price: \$159.00 per night

20 rooms. Rates are **\$159.00** a **night**. This rate includes a comp breakfast buffet, WiFi and individual parking. The hotel is located 3 blocks from the Lechmere Green Line T Station, 1 mile from Kendall Square and 1/2 mile from the Cambridgeside Galleria Mall. Reservations can be made by calling 617-577-7600 (and referencing the "Harvard World Schools Tournament Block") by **February 23, 2018**.

Le Meridien, 20 Sidney St, Cambridge

Price: \$209.00 per night

20 Rooms. Le Meridien is a 4 Diamond rated property, located 3 blocks walking distance from the Central Square subway stop on the Red Line, one stop to Harvard Square. Rates are \$209.00 per night for up to two persons per room and \$10.00 per person per night for up to two more per room. Complimentary wired and wireless Internet is available in all guestrooms and public areas. Reservations can be made by calling 617-551-0311 or booking at this link: https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/harvardcollegedebatingunion no later than February 23, 2018 and mentioning Harvard Debate.

Holiday Inn, Boston-Bunker Hill, 30 Washington St., Somerville

Price: \$149.00 per night

10 Rooms. Easily accessible from I-93 and only a five to seven minute drive to the Harvard campus. Complimentary Internet service throughout the hotel. The rate is \$149.00 for up to four people! Free Parking and the lowest local area hotel tax. Reservations by calling 1-877-840-7557 or booking rooms at the link (https://goo.gl/4hLdbd), and mentioning the Harvard World Schools Tournament Block by February 21, 2018.

The Royal Sonesta, 40 Edwin Land Blvd, Cambridge

Price: \$169.00 per night

25 rooms. Rates are **\$169.00 per night** for up to four people per room. Spectacular hotel towering above the Charles River, convenient to both Logan Airport and Harvard. Complimentary WiFi is included in the rate. This is a tremendous value. Parking is available for \$20.00 per night for self-parking and \$25.00 per night for valet parking. Reservations may be made by contacting 617-806-4200 by **February 21, 2018** and mentioning Harvard Debate.

Cambridge Schools Debating Competition

This year, HCWSI has become the official United States qualifier for Cambridge Schools in 2019.

Cambridge Schools is one of the largest schools competitions in the world and is held in the British Parliamentary format. Within Britain and all across the world, over 1000 speakers compete for berths to attend the Final hosted at the University of Cambridge. The competition boasts excellent opportunities for young people to get to grips with speaking in public, hone their analytical skills and countless other things, all useful for later life. With University applications and interviews just around the corner for many of those participating, the Cambridge Union Schools Debating Competition is not to be missed.

Finals day is hosted in the historic Cambridge Union building. Built in 1815, the Cambridge Union is the oldest speaking Union in the world, and has a rich history of controversial debates and influential speakers. Speakers who have addressed the Union in the past include: the Dalai Lama, President Ronald Reagan, and Sir Winston Churchill. The tradition of high quality speakers continues to this day, with the Union recently hosting Wikileaks founder Julian Assange and notable actors Sir Patrick Stewart and Sir Ian McKellen, to name but a few.

This tournament is made possible through sponsorship by:

Capstone Educational Group

Capstone is an education services that is driven by our students. We were founded on the belief that talented students thrive on a robust education that nurtures individual strengths. Capstone has since been the leader in critical thinking, debate training, and admissions consulting services in Hong Kong and Asia for over a decade.

As a testament to our educational philosophy and teaching effectiveness, Capstone students find success in nearly every intellectual and academic pursuit. At the 2016 World Schools Debating Championship in Germany, two Capstone debaters placed in the Top 5 in the world individual rankings. This is on top of a full stable of debaters that have made the finals series and top speakers lists at World Individuals 2017, Cambridge Schools 2017, Oxford Schools 2017, HCWSI 2017, and more.

Every year, Capstone students are accepted into the Ivy League, Oxford and Cambridge, and other world leading universities at a rate that is typically 5 to 8 times higher than normal. Such has become the culture and norm because of Capstone's emphasis on the core thinking and communication skills of each student, enabling them to achieve more.