

BIG APPLE DEBATE TOURNAMENT ONLINE

Sunday, 27 September 2020

***Registration at [Speechwire.com](https://www.speechwire.com)
Deadline to Register: Tuesday,
22 September 2020 @ 5PM EST***





Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of Queens College, the City University of New York (CUNY) and the Queens College Speech Society, I would like to cordially extend an invitation for you to attend our online 2nd Annual Big Apple Debate Tournament at Zoom on **Sunday, September 27, 2020.**

****This tournament will be a synchronous online tournament on Zoom with registration & tabulation taking place on Speechwire.com, and online payment via PayPal. ****

The competition will feature IPDA Debate for both Novice and Varsity Divisions, as well as, open divisions of NPDA and NFA-LD in a single kickoff weekend. Competitors will compete in FOUR preliminary rounds of individual competition both on Sunday, September 27th.

All entries must be received by Tuesday, September 22nd, 2020, at 5:00 pm EST. You must register at the Speechwire.com website which provides all of our tournament information. **Emailed entries will not be accepted.** Changes will be accepted without charge until Thursday, September 24th, 2020 at 12:00 p.m. EST at which point fees will be set. Late fees will be charged for any changes after the 24th at noon (in addition to any fees associated with the entry).

My hope is that this will be an excellent opportunity for new debaters to have their first tournament experience and for returning varsity competitors within our district to get into their groove for the 2020-2021 competition season. Pre-tournament updates will be distributed via the Speechwire website.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact me at any time.

Cordially,

Randy Perez

Director, Queens College Speech Society



NAVIGATING THE ZOOM & SPEECHWIRE ONLINE TOURNAMENT PLATFORMS

STEPS STUFF TO DO

1. REGISTER IN SPEECHWIRE

Register your team's entry through SpeechWire.com like normal. Nothing new or fancy here!

2. EMAIL YOUR TEAM CONTACTS

Email a list of your team members (participants and judges) including their emails to me at qcspeechteam@gmail.com. Why? We need to email your students their tournament packets if they are participating in that event and want to be sure your team is correctly set up for the tournament. We will only use email addresses for this purpose. Your information is secure!

3. SEND ENTRY PAYMENT

Once registered, we will send an invoice through Paypal complete which includes your detailed Speechwire Invoice. Send your touchless Registration Payment as a check (or) credit card by clicking on the payment button in the email through Paypal. All teams will receive an invoice.

4. SUBSCRIBE FOR LIVE UPDATES ON SPEECHWIRE

Shortly before the tournament you will receive a URL from qcspeechteam@gmail.com and posted in SpeechWire. Use this URL to log in to your Speechwire account to subscribe for live tournament updates!

5. CONNECT JUDGES TO SPEECHWIRE.COM FOR EBALLOTS

Judges need to set up accounts in SpeechWire.com so they can receive their eBallots. Judges will receive an email from the tournament director containing a link to sign into Speechwire to access their electronic ballots. Follow the link and instructions provided. You will receive detailed eBallot instructions for judges.

6. ON TOURNAMENT DAY

Take a few minutes to go into our Zoom “Auditorium” and look around. You will also see the live updates containing the schematics posted on Speechwire. That’s where round-by-round postings will be made available including finals postings.

All participants and judges will see live tournament announcements by visiting our tournament “Auditorium” for our opening announcements and the awards ceremony,

Going to your COMPETITION ROOM is easy! In the schematic, participants see their name/code in their event. Just click on the room and they are there. **Times are Eastern Standard Time!**

7. ELECTRONIC BALLOTS & RESULTS

After the tournament, be sure to go to your team’s SpeechWire account to retrieve your students’ ballots as a PDF and view the tabulation sheets! As always, SpeechWire will send results to the major forensics and debate organizations.

ALL TIMES POSTED WILL BE IN EASTERN STANDARD TIME (EST)!!

SCHEDULE

Registration will commence at 8:00AM EST on Sunday morning on our virtual Tab & Registration Room to permit the initial IPDA debate draw at 8:30AM EST. We anticipate debate rounds to be “flighted” so that everyone will be accommodated with minimal delays.

Sunday, Sept. 27 EASTERN STAND. TIME (EST)

8:00 - 8:30AM EST Registration

8:30 EST Debate Draw for IPDA Debate Rounds

9:00 Round 1, IPDA

9:30 EST Debate Draw for NPDA

9:45 Round 1, NPDA & NFA-LD

10:00 EST 2nd Debate Draw for IPDA Debate

10:30 Round 2, IPDA

11:00 EST 2nd Debate Draw for NPDA

11:15 Round 2, NPDA & NFA-LD

11:45AM – 12:30PM Lunch Break

12:30PM 3rd Debate Draw for IPDA Debate

1:00 Round 3, IPDA

1:30 EST 3rd Debate Draw for NPDA

1:45 Round 3, NPDA & NFA-LD

2:00 EST 4th Debate Draw for IPDA Debate

2:30 Round 4, IPDA

3:00 EST 4th Debate Draw for NPDA

3:15 Round 4, NPDA & NFA-LD

3:45 – 4:00 Coaches Review

4:00 EST IPDA Semifinals & NPDA Finals Draw

4:15 NPDA Finals

4:30 IPDA Semis & NPDA, NFA-LD Finals

5:15 EST IPDA Finals Draw

5:45 IPDA Finals Rounds Begin

6:30PM EST Awards & Results

SCHEDULE NOTES

- The 15-minute forfeit rule will apply if a debater fails to appear at their designated virtual debate room.
- Updates to the schedule will be posted on Speechwire if they occur. Please be vigilant!

ENTRY RULES

All entries are due by Tuesday, September 22nd at 5pm EST via Speechwire.

All debaters must be undergraduates enrolled at their respective institution.

It is up to your discretion to place and enter students in their proper division (novice or varsity).

FORMAT OF IPDA DEBATE DIVISIONS

We will be offering novice and varsity divisions of Individual IPDA Debate and open divisions of NPDA and NFA-LD Debate. (NOTE: A Novice debater is a student who has absolutely NO prior debate experience including high school. Please do not place experienced debaters in novice division of IPDA.) **Due to past limited entries, we will NOT be offering Junior Varsity or Professional divisions of IPDA Debate or novice divisions of NPDA and NFA-LD!**

AWARDS

1. Awards will be presented to each finalist within their respective divisions.
2. In debate, there will be two elimination rounds (depending on number of entries): Semifinals, and Finals.
3. Sweepstake points are awarded as follows:
 - a. 5 points for each preliminary win
 - b. 2 points for reaching Semifinal Rounds
 - c. 2 points for reaching Final Round
4. In addition, the top individual speakers and top debate schools within across the three debate formats will be recognized.

WARM ROOMS

Our tournament will not have "warm rooms." While we encourage cordial and constructive feedback between judges and debaters, judges should not be obliged to engage in conversation with students. Debaters should not pressure their judges for commentary after rounds. **JUDGES SHOULD NOT DISCLOSE THEIR REASON FOR DECISIONS (RFD) DURING OR AFTER ROUNDS!**

JUDGING

All schools should attempt to properly cover their entries. If you don't feel comfortable judging IPDA Debate, please note it here when you place your entry so that we can accommodate you. We are fortunate to be placed in a region of many highly qualified judges, educators, and former debaters!

TOURNAMENT FORFEIT RULE

Any debater who is more than 15 minutes late automatically forfeits their round, resulting in a "bye" or automatic win for the opposing debater. Please make every effort to have your debaters appear at their appointed rounds so that our tournament runs smoothly.

ETHICS STANDARDS OF IPDA, NPDA & NFA-LD DEBATE

The Big Apple Debate Tournament will adhere to the rules prescribed by the International Public Debate Association, the National Parliamentary Debate Association, and the National Forensic Association. Before tournament day, please take time to familiarize yourself and your team to the rules contained within the Constitution and its Bylaws of these three organizations.

PAIRINGS

All four preliminary rounds will be randomly paired. However, brackets will not be broken in elimination rounds.

IPDA COMPETITION RULES

It is my wish for everyone to have an enjoyable experience at the tournament. To ensure fairness, our tournament will follow IPDA rules found within the IPDA Constitution and Bylaws which were last updated on October 2018. To view the constitution, please visit the website at: <http://www.ipdadebate.info/constitution--bylaws.html>.

According to the IPDA Constitution, “IPDA” or the “International Public Debate Association” is an audience-friendly debate format with great emphasis on persuasion, rhetorical speaking abilities, and inclusivity of interested individuals who are encouraged to debate “regardless of educational background, prior experience, or any other demographics.” **The philosophic tenets of the IPDA Constitution are sevenfold, which are *inclusivity, lay judging, limited preparation, extemporaneous delivery, rhetorical delivery, and ethos.***

It is important to note that IPDA Debate differs from other collegiate debate formats since it encourages *lay judging* – judges with limited debate experience and training to ensure fairness within debate rounds. **Therefore, handouts of the IPDA debate format will be distributed at check-in to all lay judges who request a copy of the IPDA Debate rules.**

The IPDA Debate format are as follows:

- A. Topics will be announced in-round with 5 topics (2 value, 2 policy, 1 metaphor) provided for strikes. Negative strikes first, and then turns are taken until one topic remains to be debated.

- B. **Debaters will not be allowed to consult any other person during prep time, including coaches.**
Per IPDA rules, they will be allowed paper and/or electronic research material, which may be quoted or paraphrased from notes during the round, but not read directly, as extemporaneous delivery is required.

- C. Time limits:

Affirmative Constructive	5 minutes
Cross Examination	2 minutes
Negative Constructive	6 minutes
Cross Examination	2 minutes
First Affirmative Rebuttal	3 minutes
First Negative Rebuttal	5 minutes
Second Affirmative Rebuttal	3 minutes

ADDITIONAL NOTES ON THE IPDA DEBATE FORMAT

- Competitors will receive their topics at their designated competition room 30 MINUTES BEFORE THE ACTUAL ROUND BEGINS. (Example: if the first round starts at 9:00AM, then competitors MUST be at their designated rooms **no later** than 8:30AM).
- Judges are expected to keep time during IPDA & NPDA preparation time. IPDA competitors will have exactly 30 minutes of preparation time following the first negative strike. NPDA competitors will have 15 minutes of prep time.
- IPDA strike sheets will contain a variety of topics ranging from domestic, economic, social, international events to NYC-themed issues.

NPDA DEBATE RULES

NPDA is the National Parliamentary Debate Association. Our tournament will follow the NPDA rules last updated on March 2018.

The NPDA Debate format are as follows:

- A. Topics will be announced in-round. A different resolution for each round will be presented to the debaters at a specified time prior to the beginning of each debate.
- B. **Debaters will not be allowed to consult any other person during prep time, including coaches.** Per NPDA rules, they will be allowed paper and/or electronic research material during their prep time, which may be paraphrased from notes during the round, but not read directly, as extemporaneous delivery is required.
- C. The topic of each round will be about current affairs or philosophy. The resolutions will be general enough that a well-educated college student can debate them. They may be phrased in literal or metaphorical language.
- D. Time limits:

Prime Minister Constructive	7 minutes
Opposition Flex Time	2 minutes
Opposition Leader Constructive	8 minutes
Government Flex Time	2 minutes
Member of Government Constructive	8 minutes
Opposition Flex Time	1 minute
Member of Opposition Constructive	8 minutes
Opposition Leader Rebuttal	4 minutes
Government Flex Time	1 minute
Prime Minister Rebuttal	5 minutes

NFA - LD DEBATE RULES

“NFA - LD” is Lincoln-Douglas Debate of the National Forensic Association. We will use the most recent rules and bylaws within the NFA Constitution.

The NFA-LD Debate format are as follows:

1. For an open division of NFA-LD Lincoln Douglas Debate, the rules are:
 - a. The 2020 – 2021 resolution shall be used.
 - b. All preliminary rounds will be randomly preset. Brackets will NOT be broken in elimination rounds.
 - c. Time limits: 6-3-7-3-6-6-3 with 4 minutes of flexible prep time.
 - d. All participants in NFA-LD are advised to visit the NFA website and familiarize themselves with the NFA-LD by-laws.

2. NO disclosure in debate rounds. Please turn in ballots before offering any oral critiques.

TOURNAMENT REGISTRATION

Registration for the tournament will commence on-line at Speechwire on Tuesday, July 16th and will continue until the deadline on **Tuesday, September 22nd, 2020 at 5PM EST**. As stated before, emailed entries will not be accepted. You will have an opportunity to confirm your entries **at check-in on Sunday morning at 8:00am EST AT OUR VIRTUAL TOURNAMENT REGISTRATION & TAB ROOM.**

TAB ROOM

The tournament tab room will at a specified conference chat room on Zoom. Any questions about schematics can be directed to the tab-room staff. However, judges may direct all complaints, grievances, and all serious matters to me. You will find me either at the tab room or at registration.

TOURNAMENT ENTRY FEES

IF YOU ARE MAKING A PAYMENT EITHER BY CREDIT/DEBIT CARD OR BY CHECK, YOU CAN SEND US PAYMENT VIA YOUR PAYPAL INVOICE. DETAILS WILL BE PROVIDED IN THE COMING DAYS NEAR TOURNAMENT DAY.

ALL FEES MUST BE PAID PRIOR TO OR AT REGISTRATION, UNLESS PRIOR ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE!

1. The following entry fees shall be assessed:
 - School fee \$20 per school
 - IPDA slot \$25 per debater
 - NFA-LD slot \$25 per debater
 - NPDA slot \$35 per team

2. Fees for uncovered debaters will be assessed as follows:
 - Every uncovered debater = \$40 per debater
3. Fees will initially be calculated on Tuesday, September 22nd at 5PM EST. Late adds/drops will be as follows:
 - Add/drops on Thursday, Sept 24th & Friday, Sept 25th \$20 per change, plus entry fee
 - **NO MORE ADDS ALLOWED ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH !!!!**
 - Drops on Saturday, Sept 26th: \$70 per drop, plus entry fee
 - **Drops at registration on Sunday, Sept 27th: \$100 per drop, plus original entry fee**
 - **ABSOLUTELY NO ADDS ALLOWED ON SUNDAY!!!**
4. Each judge covers 2 debaters. Therefore, teams with excess debaters will be charged “uncovered slots” for every debater that is not covered by a judge. So please make every effort to cover your entry. Schools are responsible for entering their judges as the right judge type when calculating fees.
5. Judges who fail to pick their ballots will render their students ineligible for elimination rounds.

JUDGES (PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!)

To encourage fairness to our competitors – and if you’re a coach – I ask that you bring as many of your judges as possible. **For our tournament, a judge who is available for all of the preliminary rounds and one elimination round will cover two IPDA debaters.** IPDA, NPDA and NFA-LD Debate encourages a broad range of lay judges which includes coaches, forensics alumni, students (ONLY IF THEY AREN’T COMPETITORS), fellow parents, educators, and members of the academic community.

Since the team has a very small budget, we are only able to hire judges on a **very limited basis**. Nevertheless, if you would like to hire a judge, please contact me at gcspeechteam@gmail.com as soon as possible. We are very fortunate to have a supportive and thriving pool of qualified hired judges within our Northeastern district and NYC metro area.