East Coast

Early Bird Debate Tournament

September 26, 2020

Nassau Community College

Dear Colleagues:

You and your squad are cordially invited to the 3rd annual East Coast Early Bird Debate Tournament, to take place online via Speechwire and the Yaatly platforms! As we all navigate through this unprecedented time, we’ve conceived this tournament to be a fun yet competitive one, where students can get in some early debate rounds in a relaxed and educational atmosphere.

We will offer: Individual IPDA, with novice and open divisions! Our schedule will be slightly modified to accommodate schools in various time zones. What follows is all the information you should need. All significant changes are in RED, but feel free to email me directly if you have additional questions. We look forward to virtually hosting you!

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Formats

We will offer novice and open divisions of: Individual IPDA. We will use the standard 5-2-6-2-3-5-3 time constraints.

Divisions

We plan on offering novice and open divisions. However, the tournament reserves to the right to collapse divisions if entries warrant.

Awards

Awards will be given to all elimination round participants, as well as the top 5 speakers in each division. We will also award team sweepstakes.

Sweepstakes will be awarded as follows:

Each prelim win – 2 points

Advance to Quarters – 3 points

Advance to Semifinals – 4 points

2nd place – 5 points

1st place – 6 points

A school’s top 3 debaters in each division will count toward sweepstakes.

Nassau Community College students may compete and will be eligible to advance and receive speaker awards. However, Nassau Community College will not be eligible for any school sweepstakes awards.

Definition of Novices

For our purposes, a novice shall be defined as a student who has NO prior debate experience **INCLUDING** high school. Please enter your students accordingly.

Warm Rooms

We will not have official warm rooms. The Yaatly website has an “auditorium” and “team room” feature for competitors, coaches and judges to communicate with each other. Judges should not feel compelled or pressured to engage students. In turn, students should not engage or pressure judges for commentary after rounds. We do ask that all judges turn in ballots before they give any oral critiques.

Disclosure

Judges should NOT disclose any decisions in rounds.

Judging

For this year, schools MUST cover their entries. 1 judge is required for every 2 entries! Nassau Community College will make every attempt to hire qualified judges for the tournament. As a reminder, IPDA encourages the use of “lay” judges. If you know of any former debaters in the NYC/Long Island area, please let us know, as we’d love to hire them!

Lateness and Forfeit Procedure

Topic strike will be done in the round verbally! Students will see the 5 resolutions in the posting center and strike accordingly at the designated time. Students MUST arrive at to their competition room at least 5 minutes prior to draw. Any student who is more than 5 minutes late will forfeit their right to strike; and the opposing debater will be allowed to select the resolution for the round. The late debater must prep on that resolution in whatever remaining prep time exists. In addition, judges will be informed of when debates are supposed to begin. Students who are more than 5 minutes late to the actual round will be forfeited; and the opposing team will be awarded a win with their speaker points averaged.

Entry Rules

1. Each school is limited to 8 entries total.

2. All entries will be due by Wednesday, September 23rd at 12pm EST via Speechwire.

3. All competitors must be undergraduate students enrolled at their respective colleges/universities.

4. It is up to coaches to enter students in their proper division (novice/open). Please see the “definition of novices” section in this invite.

Online Platforms (VERY IMPORTANT!!!)

Using Yaatly –

1. Navigate your browser (use ONLY Google Chrome) to app.yaatly.com. You will be sent an event invitation URL to this end as well.

2. Set up your team’s organization. This is typically done by the DOF/Head Coach.

3. Add members (coaches, students) to your Organization by using the "Invite Members" button.  Accepting the emailed invitation will automatically make those coaches & students members of your organization.

4. When you accept tournament invitations (emailed by those tournaments' organizers) or when you create your own event, those events will appear on your organization's home page under "Events”.

Using Speechwire For Judging: (An account will be set up by the tournament director) –

1. Go to [live.speechwire.com](http://live.speechwire.com/)

2. Log in with your email and password

3. See your e-ballots on that page once they are released

4. Click an e-ballot and click start when the round has begun

Ethical Standards

The East Coast Early Bird Debate Tournament will adhere to the ethical standards prescribed by the IPDA Constitution and/or by-laws. It is strongly suggested that each participant familiarize themselves with these principles. **Coaching will be allowed during prep in IPDA!**

Pairings

NEW!! Rounds 1 -2 will be randomly paired. Rounds 3 -4 will be power matched (high/high, high/low). We will NOT break brackets in elimination rounds.

IPDA (International Public Debate Association)

We will be offering Individual IPDA debate in both a novice and open division. The negative and affirmative debaters will alternatively strike two topics each and the remaining resolution shall be the resolution for the round. The 30-minute prep period begins at the first strike. Time constraints are: 5-2-6-2-3-5-3

Fees (1 judge covers 2 debaters/teams)

School Fee: $25

\_\_\_\_\_\_ # of IPDA Debaters X $25 = \_\_\_\_\_\_

UNCOVERED ENTRIES NOT ALLOWED UNLESS THERE ARE EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES!!! PLEASE CONTACT THE TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR IF YOU’RE HAVING TROUBLE SECURING JUDGES.

TOTAL FEES = \_\_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: Faculty/Student Association of NCC

\*\*Please put: “Debate Society” in the memo section

Invoices will be sent at the conclusion of the tournament and are due back to NCC no later than 3 weeks after the tournament. Please mail your check to:

Faculty/Student Association of NCC

1 Education Drive – CCB 200

Nassau Community College

Garden City, NY 11530

Schedule (ALL TIMES EASTERN STANDARD TIME)

Friday, Sept. 25

8:00pm – 8:30pm Via Zoom Link (To Be Sent Later)

Saturday, Sept. 26

11:00am – 12:05pm Round 1

12:10pm – 1:15pm Round 2

1:25pm – 2:30pm Round 3

2:30pm – 3:00pm Lunch Break

3:00pm – 4:05pm Round 4

4:15pm – 5:15pm Quarterfinals

5:15pm – 6:15pm Semifinals

6:15pm – 7:15pm Finals

7:30pm Awards