Penn for Youth Debate

41st Annual Liberty Bell Classic

Dear Coaches and Contestants,

Penn for Youth Debate invites you to attend the 2016 Liberty Bell Classic **–** the 41st annual LBC! This year’s tournament will be held **February 13th – February 14th, 2016.** Per usual, we aim to offer a uniquely on-time, affordable, and quality speech and debate competition. The LBC is a great opportunity to visit the beautiful city of Philadelphia and to learn more about the University of Pennsylvania – America’s very first university. **All proceeds remain within the debate community and are used to promote urban high school debate programs in Philadelphia.**

**Penn for Youth Debate**

Penn for Youth Debate is a student organization at the University of Pennsylvania dedicated to promoting youth debate education in Philadelphia through the After School Activities Partnership.

Comprised of high school forensics alumni and those dedicated to high school forensics, PFYD is an incredible group of students wishing to give back to the forensics community.

PFYD’s activities include providing volunteer debate coaches to Philadelphia public schools, hosting debate competitions, and providing debate training programs in Philadelphia. More information is available at pfyd.org.

**2016 LBC STAFF**

Jason Tian

Tournament Director

(660) 422-2272

Nikhil Nag

*President, PFYD*

Davis Berlind & Evan Cernea

*Co-Vice Presidents, PFYD*

Edward Jing & Alice Yu

*Jr. Tournament Directors*

The LBC offers the following categories of competition: Lincoln-Douglas Debate (Varsity and Novice), Parliamentary Debate, Policy Debate, Public Forum Debate, Congressional Debate, Oratory, Oral Interpretation, Dramatic Performance, Extemporaneous, Duo Interpretation, and Declamation. There will be four preliminary rounds in individual Speech events, three preliminary sessions in Congress, five preliminary rounds in Parliamentary and Policy Debate, and six preliminary rounds in Public Forum and Lincoln-Douglas. Like last year, **Public Forum quarterfinalists, Lincoln-Douglas finalists, and the top six competitors in Congressional Debate** will receive bids to the Tournament of Champions. Also, all **finalists in Extemp, Oratory, Dramatic Performance, and Duo Interp** and **all semifinalists in Oral Interpretation** will receive invitations to compete in their respective TOC round robins.

Jim Menick of Hendrick Hudson High School will direct tab this year after many years of directing the LBC’s debate events. He will be joined again by: Alex Sencer, who will direct IE, Sheryl Kaczmarek, who will direct debate events, and Everett Rutan, as well as other tab staff TBD. Our tab directors run many other invitationals in the Northeast and are experienced in managing a predictable, familiar, and high-quality tournament.

This year, we will continue our popular cheesesteak lunch, will continue to expand the tournament into more buildings on campus, and are committed to providing a high quality judging pool. Please continue reading for more information, and review our website for the latest updates: [penn.tabroom.com](https://www.tabroom.com/index/tourn/index.mhtml?tourn_id=3853). If you have any questions, please email us at libertybellclassic2016@gmail.com.

Best of luck and we look forward to seeing you in Philly!

Sincerely,

Nikhil Nag, Jason Tian, Edward Jing, Alice Yu and the PFYD Executive Board

**2016 Liberty Bell Classic**

This year’s competition will feature the events described below. Debate and Congress competitors may not double enter, but Speech competitors may enter in up to three different events. Students may not use the same interpretive piece/source material in more than one event. Cross-entered students will be responsible for making all their rounds on time. Lincoln-Douglas typically breaks to Octafinals and Public Forum to Double Octafinals, depending on field sizes. The field will be tentatively capped at 100 for both Public Forum and Lincoln-Douglas; as such, Tabroom will only let you enter in a certain number of teams per school. We will try to accommodate entries on top of this cap as room availability permits. The finals in some divisions may occur during or after the awards ceremony; if competitors are unable to stay late enough, we will award co-championships. Pairings will be posted online at penn.tabroom.com and throughout Houston Hall as they become available. Debate results will be posted during the tournament on a round-by-round basis.

**Varsity and Novice Lincoln-Douglas Debate**

The resolution used will be the **January-February** **National Speech and Debate Association** topic. Debaters will have **four** minutes of prep time. LD will feature six preliminary rounds. The Varsity LD division has a finals bid to the 2016 TOC. Novice LD is only for students in their first year of high school forensics.

**Public Forum Debate**

There will be a single, open division of Public Forum Debate. The topic will be the **February** **National Speech and Debate Association** topic. Debaters will have **four** minutes of prep time. PF will feature six preliminary rounds. The PF division has a quarterfinals bid to the 2016 TOC.

**Policy Debate**

There will be a single, open division of Policy Debate. Teams will have **ten** minutes of prep time. Policy will feature five preliminary rounds.

**Congressional Debate**

There will be a single, open division of Congressional Debate. Chambers are typically comprised of no more than 25 members. Legislation must be emailed to libertybellclassic2016@gmail.com by **7 PM on February 3rd, 2016** with the subject line *“Congressional Debate Legislation.”* Legislation must include the name of the school and the author. Each student may submit only one bill. Legislation from authors not registered for the tournament, or legislation that has not been received by the deadline, cannot be included. We will publish the legislation by February 5th, 2016. Congress will feature three preliminary sessions, and **the top six debaters in the final round will each receive a bid to the 2016 TOC**.

**Speech Events**

IE events will follow the **National Catholic Forensic League** rules and guidelines with a few exceptions. We will use NCFL requirements for published material in IEs. The grace period will be 30 seconds for all speech events. Any IE participant who exceeds the grace period may not receive a rank of 1 in the round; any further penalty will be at the discretion of the judge. A participant may only be penalized for a time violation if the judge has used a precise timing device and notes the penalty on the ballot. IE students competing in the wrong competition room will receive the last place rank in the round they competed in. The other students in the room will have their scores adjusted upwards to correct for the student who went into the wrong room. Speech tabbing will be cumulative throughout the tournament, dropping the lowest prelim score after the first break round. The Extemp final round will feature cross-examination in accordance with **National Speech and Debate Association** rules. Extemp topic areas will be released on our website by **February 1st**. Extempers are responsible for the accuracy of their citations, and must be prepared to present the sources they used to their judges or the tournament.

**Parliamentary Debate**

There will be a single, open division of Parliamentary Debate. We will follow the standard 7-8-8-8-4-5 format. You can find a full style guide and judging instructions at tinyurl.com/LBCParli2014. There will be five preliminary rounds with breaks determined based on field size.

***All rules are subject to change. The tournament will notify you of any changes during registration.***

**The University of Pennsylvania Dedicated Service to Forensics Award** will be awarded to prominent individuals who have dedicated themselves to the forensics community. This award may be given to active or retired coaches, parents who have judged at tournaments long after their children graduated, or philanthropists who have generously given back to the forensics community. There are many individuals in our community who have given so much to transform students’ lives. Penn for Youth Debate will recognize individuals every year with this award. To nominate an individual for this award, please email libertybellclassic2016@gmail.com with the subject “Dedicated Service to Forensics Award” and include the nominee’s:

1. Name
2. Email address
3. Phone number
4. An explanation of their dedication to forensics and why they deserve the award

**CHEESESTEAKS!**

We love Philadelphia. And we love Philly food. But tournaments are busy times, and chances are you won’t necessarily have time to go get a cheesesteak of your own. So, we will take your orders for cheesesteaks through registration **until the Sunday, February 7th, before the tournament**, and we’ll head down to one of Philadelphia’s finest cheesesteak outlets and deliver them to you at lunchtime on **Saturday**.

**Judging Requirements**

Teams should bring one *qualified* judge for every 3 LDers or PF/Parli teams, every 2 Policy teams, and every 5 Speech entries, rounded up in the case of fractional obligations. Teams with Congress entries must bring 1 Congress judge. You may not cover VLD entries with Novice-only judges. Congress judges may be swapped into another judging pool: please indicate which other event a Congress judge would like to judge if we cannot use him/her for Congress. Likewise, Speech judges may also be asked to judge Congress. **Judges in all events are obligated to stay and judge one round past any round in which their students are actively competing.** We will assume judges are staying past their obligation unless we hear otherwise: let us know if you are leaving.

Keep in mind that a “qualified judge” must understand the activity, speak English, and be either experienced sitting in rounds with a ballot/flow pad or have been carefully trained by the team he/she is accompanying. A qualified judge knows how to fill out a ballot and assign ranks, wins/losses, and speaker points.

Because of the logistical challenges involved, **judges dropped after registration is frozen on February 5th, 2016 at 11:59 PM – even if you drop students to compensate – will incur a fee ($50).**

We will also be asking for judge’s cell phone numbers on registration. Please collect as many as you can from your judges and enter these numbers as you enter judges into Tabroom. Schools whose judges fail to appear for an assigned round will be fined $25 for a prelim round or $50 for an elimination round***.*** Fines may be excused if the individual judges rounds beyond their assignment. We would much prefer to have judges ready and present in every round than to receive your fines. Schools with unpaid fines will not be given ballots or awards, and will be prevented from registering at other tournaments until those fines are paid.

**Mutual Judge Preferences (Varsity LD)**

The LBC offers **mutually preferred judging in Varsity LD**. A complete judge list will be posted as soon as possible after the closing of registration. All debaters in Varsity LD may then rank each judge according to the scale provided, with 1 being the highest rating and with a limited number of judges being rated a 2 or below. We will attempt to keep all judge assignments as mutually preferred as possible; however, since debaters with more than two losses will not break, judge preferences may have to give way somewhat in those brackets. Any LDer who has made strikes but whose own judges fail to show up at the tournament **will forfeit their preferences, including strikes**. We also ask that you email us separately at libertybellclassic2016@gmail.com with conflicts (former affiliation with the team, other special relationships, etc.).

Furthermore, the judges you bring need to be the judges you registered online **by the registration deadline**. As VLD judges have been rated by competitors, it is not an easy task to replace judges on short notice. As a result, schools that change their judges after online MJP ratings have begun will lose all of their ratings and strikes.

**Hired Judges**

We’re committed to hiring a quality judging pool across divisions. To aid us in that effort, the registration system will ask you to explicitly request judge hires. Please request early and we will do our best to meet your needs as best we can. We will hire only highly qualified and available judges. This means that there will be a limited number of judge hires available, so please request early.

Once we have filled slots for our hired judges in an event, we will send you an email to notify you that your hire requests have not been approved since our judges have been maxed out. Instead, your request will be put on the waitlist to be approved later in the case that we are able to hire additional judges. Every entry must be covered by a judge, either brought by your team or through an *approved* hire request. Do not assume we will hire your judges just because you have not entered your own or because you’ve requested hires. If the registration system says you are missing a judge by the deadline for entering judges, you will be forced to drop entries.

**Paradigms**

We encourage judges to publish paradigms on [judgephilosophies.wikispaces.com](http://www.judgephilosophies.wikispaces.com). Having a published paradigm is especially important since LDers are competing for a finals bid to the TOC. Judges should also be willing to indicate to competitors before a round a general sense of their vision of LD (if any) and/or a sense of their experience to aid competitors in choosing how best to make their arguments. If you’re considering not writing a paradigm, please note that judges who do will likely be rated higher and see better rounds than those who don’t.

**Disclosure Policy**

All rounds are open to both competitors and spectators. Post-round oral critiques and disclosures are encouraged in LD, Parliamentary, Policy, and PF. Judges who wish to give post-round comments must first fill out their decision and speaker points on the ballot and hand it to a tournament ballot runner in the hall, if available. To keep the tournament running on time, **please make sure your results are in before giving an oral critique**.

**Ballots and Awards**

Awards will be given to all competitors reaching eliminations. Please pick them up during the awards ceremony, or arrange to have someone else do so on your behalf. **We do not mail awards**. We also do not release ballots early to teams who cleared entries into elim rounds. Non-clearing teams can pick up ballots, but they won’t be ready and sorted until Sunday morning after the first elim round. If you anticipate leaving early, bring a self-addressed, stamped envelope of sufficient size and postage to mail your ballots, label it with your school name, and deliver it to tab. We will put your ballots into the envelope and send it after the tournament.

**Registration**

All registration will be conducted online at [penn.tabroom.com](http://penn.tabroom.com). We cannot accept email or phone registrations, but are happy to help you navigate the registration website. If there are any questions concerning registration, please contact libertybellclassic2016@gmail.com. The IE speaker codes given to you on the online registration system will be those used in competition unless you are notified otherwise. Field reports in the debate events will also be posted in advance of the tournament.

**Public Forum Round Robin**

The Fourth Annual Philadelphia Round Robin in Public Forum Debate will be **Friday, February 12th**. We are very excited to host some of the nation’s best Public Forum teams on Penn’s campus the day before the LBC. Debaters will compete throughout the day in front of top-notch judging brought in from throughout the region, concluding with a demonstration round open to all LBC competitors. We encourage all interested teams to fill out an application, which can be found on the Tabroom site for the Liberty Bell Classic, and return the form no later than **January 3rd, 2016**. Please see the application for more information, and contact Rebecca Gelfer at rgelfer@sas.upenn.edu with any questions. We look forward to seeing you in February!**Tournament Hotels**

PFYD has partnered with four hotels for the 2016 Liberty Bell Classic in order to provide you with flexibility and convenience. Rooms will fill quickly so if you have a preference in hotels, please book as soon as possible.

**The Inn at Penn**

(215) 222-0200

[www.theinnatpenn.com](http://www.theinnatpenn.com)

3600 Sansom St, Philadelphia, PA 19104

*The Inn at Penn is located right on the edge of Penn’s campus. As the premier hotel option for many of Penn’s events, it provides great service within a 5 minute walk of all competition rooms and the tab room. For those of you looking for the most conveniently located hotel, the Inn at Penn is a great option!* Double rooms are $159 per night. PFYD has reserved 30 rooms for the nights of Friday, February 12th and Saturday, February 13th. These rooms will be reserved for LBC participants until **January 13th, 2015.** Please book your rooms [here](http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/P/PHLIDHH-PYDB-20160212/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG).

**Sonesta Hotel Philadelphia**

(215) 561-7500

[www.sonesta.com](http://www.sonesta.com)

1800 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103

*The Sonesta Hotel Philadelphia is located in the heart of Center City Philadelphia. For those of you looking for a hotel near the best that Philadelphia has to offer while maintaining convenient transportation to Penn’s campus, the Sonesta is a great option!* Double rooms are $135 per night. PFYD has reserved 50 rooms for the nights of Friday, February 12th and Saturday, February 13th. Rooms are also available for booking in the three days pre- and post-tournament. These rooms will be reserved for LBC participants until **January 13th, 2015**. Parking is available at the hotel for a fee of $20 per day (50% off their standard parking rates) with unlimited in and out privileges. Additionally the Sonesta will provide one Round Trip SEPTA token per person per day for up to two people in a room. Please book your rooms [here](https://gc.synxis.com/rez.aspx?Hotel=56921&Chain=5157&arrive=2/9/2016&depart=2/17/2016&adult=2&child=0&group=0212LBCD).

**University City Sheraton**

(215) 387-8000

www.philadelphiasheraton.com

3549 Chestnut St. Philadelphia, PA 19104

*The University City Sheraton is within walking distance (10 minutes or less) from all competition rooms and the tab room. With an affordable rate and a convenient location, the Sheraton is a great option!* Double rooms are $139 per night. PFYD has reserved 50 rooms blocked off for the nights of Thursday, February 11th through Sunday, February 14th. These rooms will be reserved for LBC participants until **January 22, 2015**. There is parking available at the hotel for a fee of $20 per day, including in and out privileges. We have limited availabilities remaining at the $139/night rate for Friday and Saturday. The link to reserve these rooms, as well as rooms on Thursday and Sunday, as is here: <https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/Libertybell2016>. We also have an additional block of 20 rooms for the nights of Friday and Saturday at a slightly higher rate of $155/night. The link for these is here: <https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/libertybell2016additionalblock>.

**Homewood Suites University City**

(215) 382-1111

[www.homewoodunivcity.com](http://www.homewoodunivcity.com)

4109 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104

*The Homewood Suites University City is located within walking distance (20 minutes or less) from competition rooms and the tab room. For those of you looking for the privacy of a single, king-suite room in a convenient location to Penn’s campus, the Homewood Suites are a great option!* Single-bed rooms are $149 per night. PFYD has reserved 65 rooms, blocked off for the nights of Friday, Feburary 12th and Saturday February 13th. Rooms are also available in limited quantities for the Thursday evening, February 11th, before the tournament. These rooms will be reserved for LBC participants until **January 21st, 2015**. Parking is available at the hotel for a fee of $20 per day with unlimited in and out privileges. Please book your rooms online [here](http://homewoodsuites.hilton.com/en/hw/groups/personalized/P/PHLUPHW-LBC-20160211/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG" \t "_blank).

**Parking**

If you are staying at on of our near-campus hotel partners, we encourage you to use their parking facilities. As with any urban campus, parking is particularly difficult around Penn. If you choose to stay at the Sonesta or another hotel option we suggest that you visit this link (<http://cms.business-services.upenn.edu/parking/where-to-park/visitors-and-vendors.html>) to find a location to park on campus for a fee. Unmetered parking is available between 40th and 44th and it is best to remain between Spruce and Walnut. If staying in Center City, Philadelphia’s public transportation system, SEPTA is an easy option for travel to and from campus.

**Getting to Campus**

**Plane:** The closest airport to the University of Pennsylvania is Philadelphia International Airport, which is serviced by almost all of the major airlines and is a hub for US Airways.

*Note that United Airlines offers service into Philadelphia’s 30th Street Train Station – whereby you fly into Newark on United (many non-stops into Newark) and are then given a ticket to hop onto the Amtrak train (right at Newark Airport) to Philadelphia. This leaves you just a few blocks from campus and reduces cab fares or the need for a rental car, ultimately saving time. Further, these fares are often much cheaper than fares to Philadelphia’s main airport. To search for airfares to the train station, the “airport code” is ZFV on United’s website.*

**Train:** The University of Pennsylvania is located just blocks away from 30th Street Station, which is serviced by Amtrak and numerous local train lines that connect Philly with Delaware, New Jersey, and the rest of Pennsylvania. If you’re coming from New York City, Amtrak is not your only option. You can also take a New Jersey transit train from Penn Station-New York to Trenton Transit Center and then catch a SEPTA train in Trenton to 30th Street Station.

**Fees**

**Lincoln-Douglas Debate Public Forum**

Each Novice LD debater $45 Each PF team $80

Each Varsity LD debater $60 1 team’s worth of hired judging $75

1 debater’s worth of hired judging $75

**Individual Events Congressional Debate**

Each Individual Event entry $20 Each Congress entry $35

Each Duo entry $30 1 entry’s worth of judging $30

1 entry’s worth of hired judging $30 *(max of $120 per school for Congress judges)*

**Parliamentary Debate Policy Debate**

Each Parli team $55 Each Policy team $55

1 team’s worth of hired judging $75 1 team’s worth of hired judging $95

Event fees for this year’s LBC have been slightly increased in order to keep up with rising costs so that we can continue to offer the highest quality tournament possible. We will be able to provide our judges and coaches with topnotch food. We will continue to run all of our events on Penn’s campus, providing a true Ivy League debate experience. Finally, our increased fees will allow Penn for Youth Debate to continue its mission of giving back to the community through debate by allowing us to reach more students throughout Philadelphia.

**We charge for hired judges by the student, not by the whole judge.** So if you have 7 IE students entered, and only 1 judge covering 5 of those students, you owe two hired judging fees. This system is fairer because it does not require you to hire a whole judge just to cover a fractional obligation. For example, if you have six entries and would like to hire out your entire obligation, you must request to cover six entries in Tabroom, even though, if you brought your own real-life human judges, you would only need two. Please check Tabroom to make sure your obligation is filled (the “judging” tab will be red if it’s not), so you don’t show up at registration having made this mistake. We don’t want to fine you, but we need enough people to judge.

**Safety:**

The tab room phone number is **(767) 2-DECIDE**. Yes, this is the same number as at the Yale, Princeton and Columbia tournaments. Please make sure all of your students and judges are aware of this number, so they can contact Tab in case of a problem. This number is for on-site issues only, and will not be answered except during the tournament. If there is an emergency and you cannot get through to this number while you are at Penn for the Liberty Bell Classic, call (660) 422-2272.

The policy of the Liberty Bell Classic concerning consumption of alcoholic beverages by minors, illegal use of controlled substances, vandalism, and destructive, and other illegal or disorderly behavior shall be: (1) to disqualify involved contestants from further competition, (2) to communicate the offending incident to the contestants on-site guardians and/or parents, (3) to insist on the contestant’s immediate transportation home (4) to require financial reimbursement for all damages or liabilities caused directly or indirectly by the incident, (5) to notify the legal authorities. The precise remedy or remedies selected shall remain with the discretion of the Liberty Bell Classic. The Liberty Bell Classic, its directors, staff and anyone associated with it are not legally responsible and may not be held liable for the actions of any student, coach or judge involved in the tournament.

**Adult Supervision & Independent Entries**

Independent entries are more than welcome to apply to the Liberty Bell Classic and will be accommodated on a case-by-case basis. All independent entries must be accompanied by an adult supervisor and fulfill whatever judging quota is required for the event the entry will be competing in. Each independent entry is separate from the other and will be listed as “Independent” on the ballots and postings. Independent entries will be included in the general pool of debaters. Prior to being accepted to the tournament, an independent entry must furnish a signed waiver (by a school administrator) -- which will be available closer to the registration date -- expressing consent for the student(s) to attend the tournament. Note that this does not guarantee a place in the tournament. If a pair of students attends different schools, two different school waivers will be needed. If you are interested in coming to the LBC as an independent entry, email a message of interest to libertybellclassic2016@gmail.com BEFORE applying on Tabroom. You will not be accepted if you do not reach out via email first.

**Registration Procedures and Deadlines**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **October 31, 2015** | * **Online registration begins** at [penn.tabroom.com](http://penn.tabroom.com).
 |
| **Wednesday, February 3****7PM** | * **Congress legislation due.** Bills without authors and schools will be returned for revision.
 |
| **Friday, February 5** | * **Congress legislation released on website.**
 |
| **Sunday, February 7****11:59 PM** | * **New entries due** **in all events** (or as events hit their caps).
* **Registration fees and judge burdens are frozen.** At this point, rooms are paid for, trophies bought, food ordered, and judges hired.That means you owe us the money and the judges, whether or not you come. If you do not meet your judge obligation or drop a judge after this deadline, you will be charged for a hired judge **and** a $100 fine.
* **VLD judge names and paradigms due.** Schools not entering judge names and paradigms by this deadline may not enter strikes or preference rankings.
* **Deadline to order cheesesteaks online.**
 |
| **Tuesday, February 9****8 PM** | * **Congress** [dockets and chambers released on the website.](http://www.tabroom.com/)
 |
| **Wednesday, February 10****7 PM** | * **IE, PF, NLD, Parli, Policy, and CON** **Judge names & information due**. We will likely run out of hired judges long before this; be sure to request hired judges early.
* **Drops can no longer be made online.** They must be emailed to libertybellclassic2016@gmail.com.
* **$10 nuisance fines** in addition to registration fees for each drop made after this time.
 |
| **Friday, February 12 Between 6 – 9 PM** | * **Mandatory registration by phone or in-person**. After 6 PM, please do not email drops, but call them in. **Please do not come to registration early**. You can check in during this window and pay on Friday night at Houston Hall at 3417 Spruce Street. You may also call or text the tab line (767) 2-DECIDE. Should this number not work for you, please call (660) 422-2272. Teams who register via phone must arrive by 7:45 AM on Saturday morning to pay their tournament fees.
 |

Some schools in the past have not reported all their drops to the tournament; this harms our ability to panel fair rounds for good competition. **Schools with *unreported* drops will be assessed a fee of $50 per drop.** Please notify tab of all your drops and changes. The tournament will run Saturday and Sunday only. Awards will be over by 6:00 PM on Sunday, February 14th.

**Tentative Schedule**

*This schedule is subject to change. Depending on field sizes and room availability, late elim rounds may run during/after awards. The elim round times listed are our best guesses – we will accelerate all elims after the first Sunday round as much as possible. If our LD pool increases in size, we will run doubles or partial doubles and the Sunday schedule will mirror that of PF. Check* [*penn.tabroom.com*](http://www.penn.tabroom.com) *for an updated schedule in the weeks leading up to the tournament. Any scheduling updates related to severe weather conditions will be posted on Tabroom and emailed to all tournament subscribers.*

**Registration: Friday, February 12th**

6:00 PM – 9:00 PM: Registration at Houston Hall, 3417 Spruce Street. We will also accept phone registration, and you will need to pay between 7:15 AM – 7:45 AM on Saturday morning at the table on the second floor of Houston Hall. Your students cannot compete if you don’t pay.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Lincoln-Douglas** | **Public Forum** | **Speech** |  |
| Saturday |  | Saturday |  | \*prelim rounds will be posted online |
| 8:00 | Round 1 | 8:00 | Round 1 | Saturday |  |
| 10:00 | Round 2 | 10:00 | Round 2 | 8:30 | Extemp Draw |
| 12:30 | Round 3 | 12:30 | Round 3 | 9:00 | Round 1 |
| 3:00 | Round 4 | 3:00 | Round 4 | 10:30 | Round 2 |
| 5:30 | Round 5 | 5:30 | Round 5 | 1:00 | Round 3 |
|  |  |  |  | 2:30 | Round 4 |
| Sunday |  | Sunday |  | 4:30 | Quarters |
| 8:00 | Round 6 | 8:00 | Round 6 |  |  |
| 10:30 | Octofinals | 10:30 | Doubles | Sunday |  |
| 12:30 | Quarters | 12:30 | Octofinals | 10:30 | Semifinals |
| 2:00 | Semifinals | 2:00 | Quarters | 12:00 | Finals |
| 3:15 | Finals | 3:15 | Semifinals |  |  |
|  |  | 4:30 | Finals | **Parliamentary Debate** |
| **Policy Debate** |  |  | Saturday |  |
| Saturday |  | **Congressional Debate** | 9:00 | Round 1 |
| 8:30 | Round 1 | Saturday |  | 11:00 | Round 2 |
| 10:30 | Round 2 | 8:00 | Session 1 | 1:00 | Round 3 |
| 1:30 | Round 3 | 1:00 | Session 2 | 3:00 | Round 4 |
| 3:00 | Round 4 | 5:00 | Session 3 | 5:00 | Round 5 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sunday |  | Sunday |  | Sunday |  |
| 8:00 | Round 5 | 10:00 | Finals | 9:00 | Quarters |
| 10:30 | Semifinals |  |  | 11:00 | Semifinals |
| 1:00 | Finals |  |  | 1:00 | Finals |



**ABOUT PENN FOR YOUTH DEBATE**

The University of Pennsylvania Liberty Bell Classic is organized and managed by Penn for Youth Debate.

**What is Penn for Youth Debate?**

Penn for Youth Debate is a student organization at Penn dedicated to promoting debate in the greater Philadelphia region and encouraging former forensics competitors to give back to the activity that gave us so much. Forensics is one of the most meaningful activities that students can participate in during high school. It teaches critical thinking, persuasive speaking, along with research, reading, and writing skills. There are many Penn students who have benefited from their involvement in forensics and wish to give that same opportunity to others; yet, there are many high schools that lack forensics teams or have limited resources available to dedicate to forensics activities. Through a newfound partnership with the After School Activities Partnership (ASAP), Penn for Youth Debate brings former forensics competitors together to provide opportunities to teach debate and help debate programs become immersed in the world of debate, providing an outlet for former forensics students to give back, while assisting new students enter the world of forensics.

**What does Penn for Youth Debate do?**

Penn for Youth Debate has several activities. *Our main project is to provide volunteer debate coaches* to work in ASAP-affiliated schools to help start debate teams. Penn for Youth Debate members have worked in over 20 different Philadelphia public and charter schools, introducing debate to students who would otherwise never have the opportunity to participate in this incredible activity. *Finally, Penn for Youth Debate hosts debate competitions*. Beyond the LBC, Penn for Youth Debate hosts a *Voices of Philadelphia* Tournament for students from the Philadelphia area to compete and win scholarships.

**Why does this matter?**

*First, because Penn for Youth Debate is run by former forensics students and those dedicated to forensics education through Philadelphia’s premier after school non-profit, it is a guarantee to you that our tournament will be managed by qualified individuals*. You will see many high school forensics alumni assisting the tournament in judging rounds, collecting ballots and telling participants about the University of Pennsylvania as a school. This bond between those running the LBC and the high school forensics community showed itself in last year’s tournament through the number of participants, and will be even more apparent this year as the 2015 tournament directors and all others assisting in the tournament are very excited to run another weekend of forensic competition. *Second, all proceeds from the LBC go directly to Penn for Youth Debate and its volunteer activities*. While running the LBC is an end in itself for Penn for Youth Debate, any profits made from the tournament will assist the organization in providing debate education to students in the Philadelphia area.

**2015 LBC Tournament Staff**

**President**: **Nikhil Nag** is a senior studying Finance and Marketing at the Wharton School and Economics in the College of Arts and Sciences. He debated for four years at Mountain View High School, where he served as the Lincoln-Douglas debate team’s captain for the latter two years of his career. Nikhil competed in elimination rounds twice at the Tournament of Champions in Lincoln-Douglas debate (reaching quarterfinals during his senior year) and won numerous national tournaments. He also has experience as an instructor at the National Symposium for Debate. Through PFYD, Nikhil has enjoyed the opportunity to help Philadelphia high school students develop their critical thinking and argumentative skills through debate. He is thrilled to continue assisting PFYD as this year’s President.

**Co-Vice President: Davis Berlind** is a senior in the College of Arts and Sciences. He is majoring in Philosophy, Politics and Economics and minoring in Consumer Psychology, German, and Economics. Davis Debated for three years in high school for his school’s Policy Debate team in Denver, Colorado. Coming from a large, urban public school, he saw first hand how beneficial a strong debate program can be for struggling students. Also responsible for coaching his team’s novices in high school, Davis has chosen to continue coaching and giving back to the debate community through his involvement with PFYD.

**Co-Vice President: Evan Cernea** is a junior in the College of Arts and Sciences studying Urban Studies and History. He debated for four years for Walt Whitman High School in Bethesda, MD in Public Forum and was elected President his senior year. Evan qualified for and competed at the Tournament of Champions two years in a row. Evan has volunteered as a coach for Penn for Youth Debate and has found the experience of giving back to the community very fulfilling. Evan also acts as the communications director for the Student Activities Council and an associate copy editor for The Daily Pennsylvanian.

**Tournament Director: Jason Tian** is a junior in the College of Arts and Science majoring in Economic History with minors in Design and Economics. He competed in Lincoln-Douglas Debate and International Extemporaneous speaking at Warrensburg High School in Warrensburg, Missouri on both the local and national circuits, twice qualifying for the NFL National tournament in the latter. He is looking forward to fostering the development of logical reasoning and public speaking skills, as well as a love for debate, through PFYD.

**Co-Jr. Tournament Director: Edward Jing** is a sophomore studying Economics at the Wharton School and Biology at the College of Arts and Sciences. He debated for four years at Unionville High School, where he served as captain during his junior and senior years. He qualified for CFL Nationals two times and PHSSL states three times. Ed joined PFYD to continue his involvement in the forensics community and greatly enjoys coaching and mentoring students in the School District of Philadelphia.

**Co-Jr. Tournament Director: Alice Yu** is a sophomore in the College of Arts and Sciences and is planning on majoring in Biology. She competed nationally in policy debate for four years in high school for the University of Chicago Laboratory High School, and earned a bid to the Tournament of Champions. In her junior year, she was ranked as one of the top 40 partnerships in the country and, in her senior year, she served as a captain for her team. She enjoys PFYD because it gives her the opportunity to coach the next generation of debaters, and to foster their confidence in their public speaking and critical thinking skills.

**Liberty Bell Classic: Public Forum Round Robin Application**

Deadline: January 4rd, 2016 Return by email to rgelfer@sas.upenn.edu

School \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Coach \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Coach Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Coach’s Email \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Judge for Round Robin\*\* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Speaker 1 Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Graduation Year \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Speaker 2 Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Graduation Year \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Competitive Record**

Please include the top five performances as a team

**Speaker 1 Individual Record**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Tournament | Date (M/Y) | Field (#) | Win – Loss | Break Round/Place |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

Only include significant performance *outside* of team

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Tournament | Date (M/Y) | Field (#) | Win – Loss | Break Round/Place |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Speaker 2 Individual Record**

Only include significant performance *outside* of team

**Other Information:**

Include any successes that are not included in the tables above:

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Tournament | Date (M/Y) | Field (#) | Win – Loss | Break Round/Place |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |

***By filling this application, the team is agreeing, if invited, to attend the Liberty Bell Classic Round Robin on February 12th, 2016 and the Liberty Bell Classic on February 13-14, 2016. If this is not possible, the team may be subject to a drop fee. Any questions about the application process should be directed to Rebecca Gelfer (rgelfer@sas.upenn.edu).***

\*A limited number of hired judges are available. If one is absolutely needed, email Rebecca.