

Intercollegiate Debate

225 Funkhouser Bldg.

Lexington, KY 40506-0054

859-257-6523

859-323-1995 *(fax)*

www.uky.edu

November 7, 2016

Greetings Coaches,

We cordially invite all qualified teams and schools to join us in Lexington, Kentucky for the **2017 High School Tournament of Champions**, the **46th annual**, Saturday-Monday, **April 29th-May 1st**, 2017. Please find attached the invitation for this year’s TOC. **New for 2017 is the Silver Public Forum Division (http://www.uktoc.com/silver-pf.html)**. Additionally the first annual **Middle School Tournament of Champions** will be hosted **May 13-15th.**

We are happy to continue to be able to many amenities including **lunch for the students**, snacks and bottled water for all guests during the day, and **participant awards** for all debaters. We will again be awarding the **TOC Team Excellence Award** sponsored by the National Speech & Debate Association. TOC applications are due **Friday, March 10th at 5pm EST**. Please note the application process for fully qualified teams has been updated. Also note the **two recent changes to the application process**- the addition of a required Principal Signature letter to verify eligibility and a re-vamped online At-Large Application form. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Linda ([linda.barker@uky.edu](mailto:linda.barker@uky.edu)). We hope to see you in Lexington!

Sincerely,

David Arnett

TOC Tournament Director



**Tournament of Champions**

**2017**

**Invitation**

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# Mission Statement

Now in its 46th year, the Tournament of Champions serves as the forum of competition for the nation's very best speech and debate participants. A public service of the University of Kentucky Intercollegiate Debate Program, the TOC strives to offer the national high school debate community the highest quality judging, impartial tournament officials, and a friendly, congenial atmosphere. The TOC is committed to growing its outreach initiatives, including financial aid for debate programs facing economic hardships. David Arnett, Director of Debate at UK and Dr. J.W. Patterson, TOC Tournament Founder, welcome all championship competitors who qualify to compete in the National Tournament of Champions--America’s foremost debate competition.

# Important Dates

**TOC fully-qualified entries due: Friday, March 10th, 2017**

**TOC At-Large applications due: Friday, March 10th, 2017**

**At-Large recipients announced: Friday, March 31st, 2017**

**All Entry fees due by mail or credit card: Wednesday, April 5th, 2017**

**Drop deadline for refund: Wednesday, April 5th, 2017**

All deadlines fall at **5pm EST** on the above dates.

\*The $50 nonrefundable At-large application fee is **due with the application**

**If you are a tournament director and you would like to apply for your tournament to be considered a TOC qualifying tournament, applications due: Friday, March 1st**

**Application instructions are available online here:**

<http://www.uktoc.com/bid-tournament-application.html>

Topics and Formats

**Debate Topics:**

**Lincoln-Douglas** debaters shall debate the January-February 2017 National Speech & Debate Association LD topic and **Public Forum** debaters will debate the April topic for PFD to be announced at the beginning of March. **Policy** debate teams shall debate the 2016-17 National high school topic.

**Congressional Debate** legislation will be released several weeks before the tournament and will be announced by the tab director.

**Debate Formats:**

**Policy** Debate uses the cross-examination format 8-3-5 which consists of eight-minute constructives, three-minute cross-examination periods, five-minute rebuttals, and ten minutes of preparation for each team.

The **Lincoln-Douglas** Debate format is 6-3-7-3-4-6-3 with five minutes of preparation time for each debater.

**Public Forum** and **Congressional Debate** will use the National Speech & Debate Association format for speech and preparation times. Public Forum will use the National Speech & Debate Association rules for the coin toss.

**Speech Events** will follow NSDA rules except for OI, which will follow NCFL rules.

# Speech Events

We are also again pleased to host competition in the national speech events

Participants may enter in up to three speech events. A participant may not enter more than two events in a single flight of events.

Please contact Chris McDonald, TOC Assistant Director for Speech, with any questions: [Chris.McDonald@district196.org  
​](mailto:Chris.McDonald@district196.org)

# Entry Instructions

IMPORTANT CHANGE 2017: It is no longer necessary to submit a paper entry form with the exception of the Principal letter (which can be sent via email). For fully qualified teams, all that is required is entering on tabroom.com. Once we verify the qualification, receive entry fees and the signed Principal letter we will remove entries from the waitlist. At-large applications are now available online at http://www.uktoc.com/at-large-application.html.

There are **TWO required steps** for entry to the TOC (further details below):

1. **Online registration** on the tabulation website at www.tabroom.com
2. **Mail entry fees or pay online by credit card AND certification of Principal’s permission to compete\***

Team/debater, judge, and preference sheet entry will all be done through the Tabroom registration website, in addition to submission of the electronic application packet. Both fully-qualified Entries and At-Large applications are due online by March 10th, 2017.

**\*we require signed permission by each school’s principal. See the next page for further instructions**

**\*\*PLEASE NOTE:** **All entries will be automatically placed on the waiting list** **until we have received all documentation and fees,** **and have verified the qualification status of your entry.\*\***

All you need to mail is your payment if not paying by credit card, and the certification of your school’s Principal’s permission to compete. You may also scan and email Principal’s permission to [linda.barker@uky.edu](mailto:linda.barker@uky.edu) and lincolngarrett49@gmail.com

Any **changes to your school’s judging** should be made through the Tabrooom.com entry website up until the point where the Tournament Director or the Tab Staff close the website to changes.

\**Please* ***do not submit your full entry fees*** *until you have been notified of your At-Large bid status.*

# Principal Permission to Compete

Each school must submit a signed letter by the school’s Principal on official letterhead indicating that all of the applying students are enrolled at the school, and that they have the school’s permission to compete at the Tournament of Champions representing their school name.

You may submit one letter for your entire squad as long as the letter contains all of the applying students’ names.

This letter should be signed by the Principal and submitted by mailed to UK Debate. (You may also scan and email to Linda.Barker@uky.edu)

Our mailing address is:

Tournament of Champions

c/o Linda Barker

225 Funkhouser Building

Lexington, KY 40506-0054

**Sample Language for the Letter:**

The following students are enrolled at \_\_\_\_ (insert high school name) \_\_\_\_ and have permission to compete at the 2015 Tournament of Champions National High School Debate Tournament, in Lexington, KY, representing the school:

<list all students applying>

Signed,

<Insert Principal signature>

# Eligibility for the Tournament

In **all debate events**, debaters must have **two or more “bid legs**” to be fully qualified for the TOC. A “bid leg” is earned when an LD debater, Policy Debate team, Congressional debater, or Public Forum team reaches or surpasses the designated elimination round at a TOC-approved bid tournament. Additionally, participation in elimination rounds of the previous TOC tournament guarantees admission (teams must be intact for Policy and Public Forum debate). In the **Speech division**, competitors will be considered fully qualified with **one bid**.

If a debater or team has only one bid leg, they may apply for an At-large spot to compete at the tournament. In the Speech divisions, a competitor may apply for an At-large spot with a “record of distinction” at bid tournaments. At-large spots will be awarded on a merit basis, until we have reached the entry capacity for each division. The number of at-large spots is determined by the number of fully qualified entries and by the space available on campus. While we strive to accept a handful of at-large entries in each event, please understand that given the natural variation in the number of fully-qualified entries each year, we cannot guarantee that any specific number of slots will be available.

In both Policy debate and Public Forum debate, all qualifying legs must be earned by intact teams. This means that the two students must have been debating together when they earned their qualifying legs, both for purposes of their fully-qualified team application and for purposes of applying for an at-large bid.

**All students competing at the TOC must be representing their enrolled high school. No independent entries are allowed.** Students may earn qualifying legs to the TOC as independents ONLY if their competition as independents is acceptable to both their school’s coach and its principal. A letter from the principal confirming this arrangement will be required before such tournaments can count as TOC qualifying legs. In Policy and Public Forum debate, both team members must be from the same degree granting institution; no hybrid entries are allowed.

The **coach or accompanying adult must electronically sign the school application form, certifying that each debater and/or team is eligible to compete** at the school they are representing at the TOC and that all information submitted on the application form is **true and valid**.

# Entry fees and Payment Instructions

Entry fees must be paid in full by **Wednesday, April 5th, 2017.**

**1. Paying by Credit Card**-- We prefer payment by credit card, if available to your school. To pay your entry fees by credit card, please use this link <http://ci.uky.edu/UKDebate/onlinecreditcards>. **Please contact Linda Barker (Linda.Barker@uky.edu) with any questions regarding how much you owe.**

**2. Paying by Check**-- Please make checks payable to “**UK Debate Tournaments**”. Unfortunately, **we cannot accept cash**. Mail checks to:

Tournament of Champions

c/o Linda Barker

225 Funkhouser Bldg.

Lexington, KY 40506-0054

School/Administrative fee: $75- 1 per school

Per Policy entry: $165

Per Lincoln-Douglas entry: $140

Per Congress entry: $140

Per Public Forum entry: $165

Per Speech entry: $100

Per Duo Entry $140

Per Double Entry $50

Per Triple Entry $30

At-Large Application fee: $50\*

Additional lunches per person not identified on tabroom: $18\*\*

TOC T-shirts $15\*\*\*

Each **entry fee includes two lunches** for all debaters on Saturday and Sunday, **free bottled water and snacks** throughout the tournament, and free, open **admission to the Awards Ceremony of Champions** on Sunday night (Speech) and Monday morning (Debate).

\**the At-large application fee is applied to your entry fees if your application is accepted (for example, if you are applying for an at-large in Congress, you will pay $50 due with the at-large application, and if its accepted, your remaining entry fees would be $90)*

*\*\*See meal information section for more information*

\*\*\*T shirts can be pre-ordered by contacting Lincoln Garrett at [lincolngarrett49@gmail.com](mailto:lincolngarrett49@gmail.com). Please include total number and the sizes desired. The total will be added to your invoice on tabroom.

While we can theoretically accept money orders, we highly discourage you sending them through the mail in case they get lost. **We cannot be responsible for any money orders lost in the mail.**

# Registration on Friday of the Tournament

All schools must register for the tournament on **Friday, April 28th, 2017**, between **6:30 and 9:00pm EST**. Registration will be at the Campbell House, exact meeting room location TBA. If you cannot make it to Registration by 9:00pm, **it is imperative to you call or text Lincoln Garrett at 719-565-9528 (or email lincolngarrett49@gmail.com) to confirm that all members of your party are en route to the tournament**. Please keep us posted regarding any travel delays that you encounter.

All entry fees are due before the tournament begins or your entries will not be allowed to compete.

# At-Large Application Instructions

At-Large Applications have their own online entry form, which can be found here http://www.uktoc.com/at-large-application.html. The **administrative fee** due with every at-large application is **$50 nonrefundable**, which is applied towards your entry fees if your at-large application is accepted. **Application and fees must be received by March 10th 2017**

**For Policy**, **Lincoln-Douglas, Public Forum, and Congress** **1 TOC bid is required to apply for an at-large bid.** Please be aware that any letters accompanying At-Large applications may be shared with the Advisory Committee of the respective event, since it is the Advisory Committee members who evaluate and rank the at-large applicants.

Please **list all tournaments attended** by your at-large entry on the entry sheet. Failure to include all tournaments may result in your application being disqualified.

Coaches are encouraged to submit a **ONE PAGE additional letter of support** with the at-large application to detail any extenuating circumstances that you may want to share with the committee for their evaluation of your application.

**\*\*Please do not include any payment of the remaining entry fees with your initial at-large application.** **Submit the at-large application fee only.** You may submit the remaining payment after you have been notified of your applications acceptance. Refunds will not be given in the event this guideline is not followed.

# Judging Information- General

**General information:**

Each entry must be covered by one or more qualified judges. **All judges are obligated through the Octafinal round** on Monday in Public Forum, LD, and Policy **and the finals in Congressional Debate**, and also one round past the school’s elimination in elimination rounds. So, for example, if your school’s last LD student is eliminated in quarterfinals, your LD judges must be available to judge the LD semifinal round. We are always very short on judging towards the end of the tournament, so we greatly appreciate any volunteers willing to stick around for the late elimination rounds. The tournament will assess a $300 dollar penalty for judges who miss a round.

**Qualification of judges:**

Unless the judge is the Director of Debate or an Assistant Debate Coach officially employed by that school, the Tournament Director and/or Tab Room Staff have the right to refuse any judge who is not qualified in the event that they are entered. **First year out judges** must be entered in the judging pool for a minimum of two rounds, but they will not count toward covering a school’s judging commitment. For LD and Congressional debate**,** any judge who has judged at a tournament this season in the event they wish to enter the pool at the TOC will be considered a qualified judge. Any judge who has not met this qualification may ask for an exception on a case by case basis. Such exceptions would be granted only to people who have significant prior experience with the event. In all other cases judges who wanted to be added to the pool, will be added as “free strikes”.

**\*\*\*New for Policy debate.** Two changes for the policy judge pool. First, all judges are obligated for 3 rounds. Second, in order to count towards a commitment, a judge must have judged 4 rounds in the regular season at a varsity tournament. Exceptions will be made for judges who have made a good faith effort to judge 4 debates e.g. putting themselves in for a full commitment at a tournament.

We may have a short list of judges who have contacted us saying they are interested in judging that we can recommend to you, but you will have to make all arrangements for their payment and any other logistics surrounding getting them to the tournament yourself.

**Judge Philosophies:**

For **Policy and Lincoln-Douglas**, **all judges must submit a judging philosophy** at: <http://judgephilosophies.wikispaces.com/>. No Policy or LD entry will be considered complete until all affiliated judges have submitted a judge philosophy. For examples, please peruse the judge philosophy website.

**Judge Preclusions:**

Please indicate on the tournament entry website **all preclusions for all judges**. Judges should preclude themselves from any debater who they have previously coached, had a close, personal relationship with, or for any other reason the judge believes they cannot be objective towards them if assigned. This includes any judge who has done any paid or volunteer coaching, even if conducted digitally or otherwise-remotely. Any college debater or coach should preclude herself or himself from any debater whom they have seriously recruited to attend their school. Judges should preclude themselves from judging their alma matter.

**Disclosure of decisions and oral critique policy:**

The Tournament of Champions serves as both a competitive and educational forum for the nation’s best debaters, coaches, and judges. As such, the Tournament encourages judge-debater interaction by making decision disclosures and giving oral critiques in all four debate divisions. Please submit your ballot to the ballot table before giving any post-round feedback.

**Judging in event pools other than your debate entry:**

Judges may **only cover their school’s obligation in the judge pool of another event** with prior permission of the Tournament Director.

# Judging Obligations

**For Policy debate:** You must provide **4 rounds** per entry. Two entries requires 8 rounds, three entries requires 12 rounds, ect.

**For Lincoln-Douglas:**

For 1 LD entry, the school is obligated for 4 double flighted rounds.

For 2 LD entries, the school is obligated for 8 double flighted rounds.

For 3 LD entries, the school is obligated for 12 double flighted rounds.

For 4 LD entries, the school is obligated for 16 double flighted rounds.

For 5 LD entries, the school is obligated for 20 double flighted rounds, ect.

**For Public Forum**:

For 1 PF entry, the school is obligated for 4 double flighted rounds.

For 2 PF entries, the school is obligated for 7 double flighted rounds.

For 3 PF entries, the school is obligated for 11 double flighted rounds

For 4 PF entries, the school is obligated for 14 double flighted rounds, ect.

**For Congressional Debate:** 1 qualified judge per school is required.

**For the Speech:** 1 qualified judge per 4 entries or fraction thereof.

# The “Entourage” Rule

For **Policy** anyone attending the tournament that contributes to the competitive debate effort for a school **must be entered into the judge pool** for a minimum of three rounds. For **and Lincoln-Douglas** anyone attending the tournament that contributes to the competitive debate effort for a school **must be entered into the judge pool** for a minimum of two rounds, This includes any volunteers contributing debate work. Parents (who are not also coaches) and chaperones do not need to be in the pool. **Any school found violating this rule is subject to removal from the tournament**.

# \*\*\*2017 Hotel Information

**We strongly encourage everyone to make hotel reservations as soon as possible**. It is a very competitive weekend in Lexington and rooms will become increasingly scarce. We will continue to add overflow rooms and put the information here as we do.

**Registration,** the **Awards** Ceremony and Monday **elimination debates** will be held at the **Campbell House and the adjacent Inn on Broadway.**

#### We have significantly increased the number of hotel rooms available for the 2017 TOC. Due to the high demand on the TOC weekend, we encourage teams to reserve rooms early.

#### Campbell House

Booking Link: https://secure3.hilton.com/en\_US/qq/reservation/book.htm?execution=e1s1

Hotel: The Campbell House Lexington, Curio Collection by Hilton

Group Name: UK Debate TOC

Group Code: TOC17

#### Inn on Broadway (next to Campbell House)

UK Debate Tournament of Champions with group block code UKTOC

<http://www.innonbroadwaylex.com/index.php>

859.519.2060

#### Clarion

Clarion Hotel Convention Center North

Group Name: UK Deabte

1950 Newtown Pike

Lexington, KY  40511

[(859) 825-5005](tel:%28859%29%20825-5005)

#### Four Points by Sheraton

<https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/events/start.action?id=1609069589&key=5740BFA>

#### Sleep Inn, Lexington

Group Name: UK Debate

(859) 543-8400

#### Comfort Inn & Suites, Lexington

Group Name: UK Debate

(859) 293-6113

#### Country Inn & Suites

Group Name: UK Debate

(859) 299-8844

#### Candlewood Suites, Lexington

Group Name: UK Debate

(859) 967-1940

#### University Inn

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

Group Code: Debate

1229 S. Limestone

Lexington, KY 40503

Phone: 859-278-6625

#### Hampton Inn Medical Center/University of Kentucky

<http://group.hamptoninn.com/UK-Debate-Tournament>

#### Holiday Inn Express & Suites, Richmond

Group Name: UK Debate

(859) 624-4055

#### Holiday Inn Express, Georgetown

Group Name: UK Debate

(502) 570-0220

#### Springhill Suites on South Broadway

<http://www.marriott.com/meeting-event-hotels/group-corporate-travel/groupCorp.mi?resLinkData=Tournament%20of%20Champions%5Elexsh%60toutoua%7Ctoutoub%60189.00%60USD%60false%606%604/27/17%605/1/17%603/27/17&app=resvlink&stop_mobi=yes>

#### Residence Inn North

<http://cwp.marriott.com/lexnn/ukdebates2017>

\*\*\*Please note, at this time Marriott Custom Web Pages are not supported on the web browser, "Google Chrome"\*\*\*

#### Home 2Suites by Hilton

<http://home2suites.hilton.com/en/ht/groups/personalized/L/LEXMEHT-UKD-20170428/index.jhtml>

#### Hilton Suites Lexington

<http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/L/LEXHSHS-UDT-20170427/index.jhtml>

#### Holiday Inn Express Lexington Downtown at the Unviersity

1000 Export Street

Lexington, Ky 40504

[859-389-6800](tel:(859)%20389-6800)

group code UKD

# Meal Information

We will again be offering **lunch on both Saturday and Sunday** **for all debaters**. *A fee of $18 per person will be added for each additional person in your group as identified in tabroom. This will cover lunches on both days as well as snacks during the day. If there is an observer not listed in tabroom they may be added as well for $18. If you would like to opt out of lunches for non-debaters contact Lincoln Garrett at* [*lincolngarrett49@gmail.com*](mailto:lincolngarrett49@gmail.com) *and the fees for non-debaters will be removed.*

Please let us know on your entry forms if you have any **vegetarians or vegans** in your group so that we order the appropriate amount of veggie-friendly food. Please also note any other special **dietary restrictions such as food allergies** so we can make sure that everyone is accommodated.

We will again be offering **free bottles of water and snacks** for all guests to be located somewhere close to the ballot table in each building. And, we will also continue offering a **judge lounge with breakfast** in the morning and coffee and other snacks all day.

# The Awards Ceremony

This year we will host two awards ceremonies. Speech awards will be held Sunday night. Debate awards will be held Monday morning.

They will be held in the **Ballroom first floor of the Campbell House.**

We welcome all members of your party to attend awards.

# The Julia Burke Award

**The Julia Burke Flame for Character and Excellence in National High School Policy Debate**

A national high school annual debate award has been established, and was presented for the first time at the national Tournament of Champions, held at the University of Kentucky on May 6-8, 2000. The purpose of this award is to recognize a high school policy debater who achieves competitive excellence in high school policy debate on the national circuit, and who demonstrates goodness of heart despite the pressures of competition at the highest level. The award includes a perpetual and an individual trophy, a $2,000 college scholarship, and a $2,000 contribution to the charity designated by the recipient.

To submit a nomination for the Award (due by April 1), please visit the Burke Award website: <http://www.juliaburkefoundation.com/toc_nomination_active.php>

# The William B. Tate TOC Team Excellence Award

We are excited to award the Third Annual William B. Tate Tournament of Champions Team Excellence Award (TEA), a sweepstakes award for the TOC sponsored by the National Speech & Debate Association (formerly the National Forensic League).

A school’s best-performing entry in each division (CX, LD, PF, and Congress) shall count toward that school’s Team Excellence Award (TEA) calculation. TEA points shall be determined by each entry’s seed rank at the end of preliminary rounds, based on the seed rank as determined within each division. Only schools and entries that are current, paid members of the NSDA are eligible for this honor, as well as the runner-up and third place awards.

**TEA Calculation**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Seed Rank** | **TEA Pts** | **# Seeds in Bracket** | **See Note 🡪** | *} Note: Inverse increase in points, proportionate to number of seeds in each bracket.* |
| 1 | 20 | 1 | +4 pts. |
| 2, 3, 4 | 16 | 3 | +3 pts. |
| 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 | 13 | 5 | +3 pts. |
| 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 | 10 | 7 | +2 pts. |
| 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 | 8 | 8 | +2 pts. |
| 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34 | 6 | 10 | +2 pts. |
| 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46 | 4 | 12 | +1 pts. |
| 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58 | 3 | 12 | +1 pts. |
| 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70 | 2 | 12 | +1 pts. |
| 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80… 88 | 1 | 12+ |  |

**The TEA award shall be calculated with the following priorities:**

a). Sum total TEA points (higher value prevails)

b). Number of events in which school has entries (higher value prevails)

c). Sum of seed ranks in each division (lower value prevails)

d). Sum of reciprocal fractions of seed ranks in each division (higher value prevails)

e). Highest number of lowest seed ranks (1st seeds, 2nd seeds, 3rd seeds, etc.)

f). Include the school’s second entry from each division in the sum total, and repeat steps a-d

For **Congressional Debate**, seed rank shall be determined by grouping each chamber’s prelim ranks (all firsts, all seconds, all thirds, etc.), and calculating ranking within the group through the following priorities:

a). Cumulative rank total (lower value prevails)

b). Sum of rank reciprocal fractions (higher value prevails)

c). Cumulative rank, adjusted by dropping high/low ranks (lower value prevails)

d). Sum of rank reciprocal fractions, after dropping high/low ranks (higher value prevails)

e). Number of ranks vs. nonranks (9s)

f). Number of 1sts, 2nds, etc.

*Congressional Debate Example (using 2011 results):*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Student** | **Chamber** | **Cume Rank** | **Reciprocal** | **Adj. H/L** | **H/L Recip** | **Prelim Rank** | **Seed Rank** |
| Rodriguez | 2 | **29** | 5.708 | 20 | 4.583 | 1 | 1 |
| Schaeffer | 4 | **29** | 4.667 | 22 | 3.5 | 1 | 2 |
| Neubauer | 1 | **38** | 4.889 | 28 | 3.778 | 1 | 3 |
| Slaughter | 3 | **46** | 4.5 | 36 | 3.389 | 1 | 4 |
| Bakke | 3 | **38** | 4.769 | 28 | 3.658 | 2 | 5 |
| Bernstein | 1 | **45** | 4.047 | 35 | 2.936 | 2 | 6 |
| Laporte | 4 | **52** | 2.841 | 41 | 2.23 | 2 | 7 |
| Sella | 2 | **53** | 2.954 | 43 | 1.843 | 2 | 8 |

# Coach/Supervising Adult Responsibilities

**Availability for consultation with Tournament Officials:**

Coaches and chaperones should be on-site and available for consultation with the Tournament Director and/or Tab Room Officials who will seek out the coach for decisions regarding their debaters. If a reasonable attempt has been made to locate the coach without success, Tournament officials reserve the right to make decisions on behalf of the coach.

**Medical emergencies:**

The Tournament expects the coach or supervising adult of each debater to be available at the tournament site and have proper school and parental authorization to arrange for medical transportation, care, and payment in the event of an emergency. Since many debaters are minors, the coach should have proper medical releases and parental authorizations for each debater should they be required by a physician, hospital, law enforcement agency, and/or assistance provider.

**Debaters without their school coach:**

The Tournament will accept debaters without a debate coach, provided an accompanying adult is responsible for them. The adult can be a parent, a teacher, or a coach from another school. The name of the accompanying adult must be listed on the entry form. The supervising adult must also have proper medical releases and parental authorizations for each debater as outlined in the previous paragraph. We must also have a written statement from the coach and the parents **approving that person as a chaperone.** **Students must still be competing as their own high school. Independent entries are not accepted.**

# Permissions, verification, and conduct policy

All debaters and guests attend the TOC at the invitation of the University of Kentucky and must abide by all rules established by this invitation, the TOC Tournament Procedures document, and any rules set by the University of Kentucky for guests on campus.

By submitting entry application information to the Tournament, both coaches and debaters certify that their applications are complete and reflect fully correct information. **Submission of an entry form or at-large bid application grants permission for the information contained in the entry/application form to be distributed to TOC Advisory Committee members, TOC Tournament Officials, TOC tab room officials, and the University of Kentucky Debate staff.** Permission is also granted for Tournament Officials (as just listed) to verify any information included on the application.

# Education and Openness policy

While the TOC is a competitive event, we strongly believe that it is an educational endeavor. All debates at the TOC are considered open to the public, and any person including coaches, debaters, parents, school officials, and members of the general public are allowed to observe and take notes in TOC debate rounds. Any sources read as evidence in round should be available to other competitors should they make a request for the citation after the evidence has been read.

# Contact information

**Tournament of Champions website**: <http://ci.uky.edu/toc>

Please direct any **administrative questions** to:

Linda Barker, TOC Administrative Assistant

[linda.barker@uky.edu](mailto:linda.barker@uky.edu)

859-257-6523 (office, 8am-5pm EST)

859-323-1995 (fax)

OR

**Lincoln Garrett**, UK Head Debate Coach

lincolngarrett49@gmail.com

719-565-9528

**Mailing address:**

Tournament of Champions

c/o Linda Barker

225 Funkhouser Building

Lexington, KY 40506-0054

Please direct any **questions regarding TOC procedures** (or for interpretation or clarification of any language in the invitation) should be directed to:

Lincoln Garrett at [lincoln.garrett@uky.edu](mailto:lincoln.garrett@uky.edu)

Please direct any questions about **speech events** to:

Robert Sheard, Assistant Tournament Director for Speech at robertsheard@mac.com

For **assistance during the tournament**, you may contact Lincoln or Robert (info above) or additionally:

**Lincoln Garrett**, UK Head Debate Coach

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