

*** Welcome Back ***

You are cordially invited to the Georgetown Day School on 23-25 September (Friday-Sunday) for a weekend of intense competition and Hopper hospitality.

We will offer one division of Varsity policy debate, featuring 7 prelims and Octa-finals on the 2016-17 NSDA (formerly NFL) policy debate resolution. The format will be 8-3-5 with ten minutes of preparation time. We will not break brackets in the elims.

We are delighted to again be able to offer homestay/housing to debaters who travel to us from out of the area. This year, we will do housing sign-up through the Tabroom.com page where all other entry matters are handled.

We are proud that our tournament functions as a Semifinals TOC bid in policy debate and a points qualifier for the NDCA National Championship tournament.

All inquiries about the tournament should be directed to:
GDStournament@gmail.com or you can contact me via phone (text is better than a call) at 205-266-0523.

Looking forward to seeing you all,
jon

jon f. sharp
Director of Debate
Georgetown Day School
4200 Davenport St NW
Washington, DC 20016
202-274-3296 [office]
205-266-0523 [cell/text] - Text is the best way to contact me.
GDStournament@gmail.com

*** Fees and Logistics ***

Registration will take place on Tabroom.com

Each school may enter up to three (3) teams. If there is additional space, we will be happy to accommodate requests for additional teams. On 9 September, we will start authorizing 4th teams, based on tournament space, in the order in which they were entered.

Team Fee: \$125
Judge Fee: \$200 per uncovered team*

* Each team requires 4 rounds of qualified judging; a single judge may cover two teams. All tournament judges are expected to have philosophies posted online and any conflicts entered on the Tabroom.com site. The tournament will be providing some supplemental judging, but we strongly prefer that you avoid hiring judges through us, if at all possible. If you need to hire a judge, please write me at GDStournament@gmail.com to be put in contact with a judge in the area who wishes to be hired. If this is not possible, for whatever reason, reach out to me and we can work something out.

Fees will be set on 16 September. Any drops after that date will forfeit the entry fee for that/those entry/entries, and an additional \$25 per dropped team.

Please note that the entry fee will also cover dinner on Friday as well as dinner on Saturday.

We will offer one division of Varsity policy debate, featuring 7 prelims and Octa-finals on the 2015-16 NSDA policy debate resolution. Two prelims will be preset and the remaining 5 will be paired based on SOP (strength of opponent). The format will be 8-3-5 with ten minutes of preparation time. We will not break brackets in the elims.

Points will be on a scale of 30 with tenth of a point increments. Please do not award ties.

There will be one and only one winning team and one and only one losing team in each debate.

Despite my better judgment, we will employ "mutual preference" judging (MPJ) for judge assignment.

We will provide awards for all teams advancing to the elimination debates and for the top 15 speakers.

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Chaperonage: Our expectation is that each school have at least one adult (non-high school student) present for oversight and as a contact in case of emergency. Please include this information in your Tabroom.com entry.

Important Dates

Release 4th Teams: 9 September

Housing Details Due: 12 September

Fees Set: 16 September

Registration Closes: 22 September
Finalize Judging: 16 September
Prefs Due: 5pm, 22 September
Arrival Check-In: Noon, 23 September

*** Travel & Lodging ***

Tournament Hotel and Tournament Housing

There is not an official tournament hotel for this event. Based on the experience of previous years, we anticipate that the bulk of the tournament will either take advantage of tournament housing (see below) or elect to stay in a hotel brand with which they have an ongoing relationship. If you do not fall into one of these categories and would like assistance in locating an appropriate hotel, please do not hesitate to contact us at GDStournament@gmail.com

HOUSING: We are delighted to offer a robust housing program for those competitors coming in from outside the Washington metro area. Housing will be offered for Friday and Saturday nights, with some limited availability on Thursday or Sunday night. All housing requests should be managed through the Tabroom.com site; when your entry is confirmed, you will receive housing forms for each debater on your squad. Please contact us with all housing requests by Monday, 12 September, to ensure that we can place everyone.

Transportation

If you are flying into the area, we strongly suggest that you avoid renting a vehicle. If you are being housed by the tournament, transportation between the school and the homestay locations will be managed on this end as well. All of the airports and major transportation systems in the region are connected to the Metro system in one way or another:

DCA (Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport) has its own Metro station.

Dulles (Dulles International Airport): From Dulles, one can reach the Metro rail system via the Metrobus (to the Rosslyn Station) or Washington Flyer Bus (to the Silver Line).

BWI (Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport) is farther away, but often cheaper. From BWI, one can take the MARC commuter train to Union Station and access the Red Line directly.

Amtrak will take you to Union Station, which is also a transit point for the Red Line.

Additional information on accessing the Metro from our major airports can be found here: http://www.wmata.com/getting_around/new_metro/

If you plan on arriving by bus, or have any additional questions about transportation (either to/from DC or within the district), please do not hesitate to email us at **GDStournament@gmail.com** for further consultation.

*** Tentative Tournament Schedule 2016 ***

Please Note: All debates (including elims) will take place at GDS.

Friday, 23 September 2016

Noon	In Town Arrival Check-In Deadline
1PM	Pairings (Online and On Paper)
1:30PM	Round 1
4PM	Round 2
6PM	Dinner (Provided by Tournament)
7PM	Round 3
9:45PM	Housing Pick-Up (Forum)

Saturday, 24 September 2016

8AM	Pairings and Continental Breakfast
8:30AM	Round 4
11: 30AM	Lunch (On Your Own)
1PM	Round 5
3:45PM	Round 6
6PM	Dinner (Provided by Tournament)
7PM	Round 7
9:45PM	Housing Pick-Up (Forum)

Sunday, 25 September 2016

8AM	Continental Breakfast
8:30AM	Octafinals
11:15AM	Quarterfinals
2PM	Semifinals
4:45PM	Finals