The Fourth Annual Western Championship



For Novice & Second Year Debaters

March 11-12, 2017

 Coaches and Debaters:

The Bay Area Urban Debate League is excited to invite you to The Third Annual Western Championship For Novice & Second Year Debaters. The tournament will be held at [San Francisco State University](http://www.sfsu.edu/) in San Francisco. This year we will offer competition in Student Congress, Policy, Lincoln Douglas, and Public Forum Debate. There will be divisions in each event for Novice and Second Year competitors.

Our goal is to provide an opportunity for first and second year debaters to experience a spring championship tournament in an atmosphere that promotes learning and prepares the debaters for more advanced competition. The tournament will also support the Bay Area Urban Debate League, a non-profit organization that provides debate opportunities for hundreds of low-income public school students in the San Francisco Bay Area. By attending the Western Championship you will provide your students with an excellent competitive and educational experience, while also bringing debate opportunities to students who would not otherwise have them. For more information about the BAUDL, please see our website at [www.baudl.org](http://www.baudl.org/).

We look forward to seeing you in San Francisco this spring.

Toni Nielson Darin Snyder  
Executive Director Board Chair  
BAUDL BAUDL

**Schedule**

**Friday, March 10**

Evening -- Registration (details TBA)

**Saturday, March 11**

8:30 AM – Rd. 1

10:30 AM – Rd. 2

LUNCH BREAK

1:30 PM – Rd. 3

4:00 PM – Rd. 4

**Sunday, March 12**

8:00 AM – Rd. 5

11:00 AM – Elim Round One\*

LUNCH BREAK

1:30 PM AWARDS

2:00 PM – Elim Round Two\*

5:00 PM -- Elim Round Three\*

7:30 PM -- Elim Round Four\* (if required)

\*We will break only teams/debaters with winning records. Elimination rounds will be expedited if possible. This is especially true for LD, which may be single flighted in elimination rounds.

**Entry Limits**

Schools are limited to no more than 5 entries in each of the divisions. We will accept no more than 68 entries in each division. Entries will be wait listed when an event reaches 68 and/or when we have exhausted our available rooms. It is possible that not all events will reach the 68 entry maximum. After an event is closed, we will admit debaters from the waiting list as drops are made. Out of consideration for other teams, please make any drops as soon as you know about them, rather than waiting until the drop deadline.

**Topics**

**Policy** debate will use the NSDA 2016/17 topic.

**Lincoln Douglas** debate will use the NSDA January/February 2017 topic.

**Public Forum** debate will use the NSDA March topic, to be announced on February 1, 2017.

**Divisions**

**Novice** division is limited to debaters in their first year of competition. Debaters with significant middle school experience in Policy or Lincoln Douglas should be entered in the **Second Year** division. Significant middle school experience is defined as having competed in four or more tournaments during middle school, or having competed for more than one school year during middle school. If you are unclear about the appropriate placement of your debater(s), please consult the tournament director (lexy@college-prep.org).

**Awards**

Debaters must achieve a winning record to advance to elimination rounds. Suitable awards will be provided to all elimination round participants and top speakers in each event. Debaters with winning records who do not advance will also receive awards. There will also be awards for the best student and adult judges.

**Scholarships**

There will be scholarships to summer debate camps for many of the champions. Details TBA.

**Hospitality**

The tournament will provide lunch for all judges, coaches, and competitors free of charge for both days of competition. There will also be dinner for late elimination round participants on Sunday.

**Hotel**

To be announced soon.

**Judging Quota**

You must provide one qualified judge for every **two** Policy teams or fraction thereof.

You must provide one qualified judge for every **three** LD entries or fraction thereof.

You must provide one qualified judge for every **three** PF entries or fraction thereof.

**Judging Qualifications**

In keeping with the educational purpose of this event, schools are expected to provide qualified judges to cover their entries. The measure of a qualified judge is that individual’s ability to provide the debaters with a positive educational experience. Judges are expected to be able to explain their decisions to the debaters (in writing on the ballot or as an oral critique).

Judges should have experience as a coach and/or competitor in order to be able to provide valuable comments to the debaters. Very experienced varsity high school debaters in their junior or senior year are ideal judges. All judges are expected to comport themselves so as to provide a positive and educational experience for the debaters.

If you cannot provide qualified judges to cover your entry, you may hire judges from the tournament. This will provide the best learning experience for the participants.

Failing to meet this standard will result in removal of judges from the judging pool. You will then need to choose between dropping entries or hiring judges from the tournament. If the tournament has no additional hired judges available, you will need to drop your uncovered entries.

The tournament will give awards to the best student judge.

**Fees**

Policy team                           $100

Pubic Forum team                $100

Lincoln Douglas debater      $50

Judge fee for uncovered Policy team        $125

Judge fee for uncovered LD debater         $75

Judge fee for uncovered PF team              $75

**Registration fees must be paid in advance. Please read below for instructions.**

**Deadlines**

**Drop Deadline #1** – Debaters may be dropped without penalty until the afternoon of Friday, *February 24.*

**Drop Deadline #2** – Debaters may be dropped for 50% of the entry fee until Friday afternoon, *March 3*. Drops after this time will incur full fees.

**Registration Fees Due** – Postmarked by Friday, *February 24*.

Registration checks should be made out to the Bay Area Urban Debate League and mailed to:

Bay Area Urban Debate League

c/o Lexy Green

6100 Broadway

Oakland, CA 94618