BLCC 2017 Invitation

Dear Colleagues,

We are excited to be hosting the Biggest Little City Classic on Oct 20-22, 2017 in Reno, NV. The University of Nevada, Reno has been rated one of the top campuses in the nation. The city of Reno offers all kinds of exciting activities for members of your team of all ages. Excellent dining options and affordable accommodations await you. The weather in Mid-October is usually quite nice.

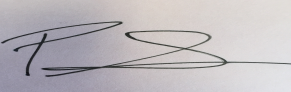
We are offering 4 preliminary rounds of LD, 2 preliminary rounds of IEs, and 5 preliminary rounds of NPDA. We will recognize sweepstakes for IEs, Debate, Overall 2-year, 4-year, and Top Novice.

In an attempt to improve the experience of attendees, we are experimenting a bit with IE patterns by swapping the patterns of Impromptu and ADS and conflicting Pattern B and LD. We have designed a schedule that should allow folks flexibility with travel depending on which events they are competing in. We also have made it our goal to be done at a reasonable time each day so that teams can enjoy meals together and relax.

Parli begins at 1 pm on Friday and is over by Saturday night.   
LD begins Saturday at 3 pm and finishes Sunday  
IEs begin Sunday at 8:30 am and finish Sunday evening.

Student run and underfunded programs should speak to us about working with you on your fees. We look forward to seeing you all in Reno. If you have any questions, please reach out to us.

Sincerely,



Phil Sharp  
Director of Forensics  
University of Nevada, Reno  
[psharp@unr.edu](mailto:psharp@unr.edu)(360) 747-2944

**Hotel Information**

We have secured a block at The Nugget in Sparks is located about 4 miles from campus.

Rate:   
Renovated West Tower: $79 Friday and Saturday/$49 for Thursday and Sunday nights (plus 13.5% taxes and $12.50 resort fee)  
Deluxe East Tower: $69/$45 (plus taxes and fee)

The deadline for reservations in the block is October 7.

Phone: 1-800-648-1177   
The group code is GUNRD17.   
[Online Room Booking](https://reservations.travelclick.com/96145?groupID=2038621&hotelID=96145%23/guestsandrooms#/guestsandrooms)

You may shop around but this might be the best you find at a decent property. This hotel/convention center offers easy room access from the lobby and parking garage without going onto the casino floor.

**Directions**

To CAMPUS from I-80   
Take the Virginia St exit. Head up the hill. The University is on the right about ½ mile up Virginia St. You can’t miss it.

**Parking on Campus**

On Friday, you will need to pay for parking on the first floor of the Brian Whalen Parking Garage or the top floor of the West Stadium Garage. Parking can be purchased at the parking office (16th&Virginia St) or from the pay machines. TICKETS WILL BE STRICTLY ENFORCED IN ALL LOTS until 5pm. There is an evening football game so the parking will get interesting later in the day.

Park in the Brian Whalen Garage on Saturday and Sunday. Parking is free on the weekends.

NOTE: THE LOT BEHIND MACK SOCIAL SCIENCES IS NO LONGER A THING. IF YOU NEED ADA ACCESS TO CAMPUS, PLEASE EMAIL ME.

**Entry Procedure**

You will find the tournament on Tabroom.com. Entry deadline is Wed, October 18th at 8:00pm. <http://blcc.tabroom.com>

Please provide an email and judge philosophy for each debate judge. Feel free to discuss you pedagogy/rubric for evaluating IEs also.

**Fees**

Each debate team entry is $70, each LD entry is $40, each individual events slot is $10, and Duo is $15. There will be a $40 school fee.

Due to the cost of hired judges, we have the following fees for uncovered teams. We would much rather have you bring your own judges! Each uncovered parli debate team will be $100. Each uncovered LD person will be $50. Each uncovered IE slot will be $15. Each parli judge will cover 2 teams. Each LD judge will cover 2 LD’ers. Each IE critic will cover six slots per pattern. Judges covering LD can not cover Pattern B IEs (unless they split 1 LD/3 IE). If you know anyone who would like to be hired, have them contact us.

Please make checks out to “Phil Sharp, C/O UNR Debate”. Fees will be set at 8:00pm on Wednesday, October 18th and schools should expect to pay the set fee amount at registration regardless of subsequent drops. The online entry system will be turned off at that time.

**Events**

Debate Divisions:

We will offer three divisions (novice/junior/open). We will collapse junior into open if there are less than 14 teams in either division or if open does not have adequate numbers/school diversity for pairing easily. In the event of a collapsed division, we will still break out non-advancing junior teams as appropriate. We make every attempt to keep a Novice division.

To be classified as a novice:   
a. The student should have no high school debate experience.   
b. The student should be in the first two semesters of collegiate debate.   
c. Once the student has advanced to elimination rounds 2 times in that form of debate, the student should be advanced to the junior or open division.   
To be classified as junior varsity:   
a. The student should be in the first four semesters of intercollegiate debate.   
b. The student should not have advanced to elimination rounds 3 times in junior or open division. c. The student should not have advanced to elimination rounds in a debate event at ANY national competition (NFA, NPDA, PKD, PhiRhoPi…).

NFA Lincoln-Douglas Debate  
We will offer 4 prelims and the appropriate number of elim debates in Novice and Open Divisions. We plan to single-flight the rounds, so one judge will cover 2 competitors. We will use the 2017-18 NFA LD topic and all NFA-LD rules. Time limits will be 1AC 6, cx 3, 1NC 7, cx 3, 1AR 6, 1NR 6, 2AR 3. 4minutes prep time per person. If you need any details about how this event will be tabbed, please address them before the tournament begins. The first two rounds will be preset and then round 3 &4 will be power matched. Teams will advance to elimination rounds based on the following criteria: win/loss, total speaker points, adjusted speaker points, judge variance, opp record. Brackets will be not be broken.

Team Parliamentary Debate – NPDA:

There will be five preliminary rounds, followed by the appropriate number of elimination rounds. All winning records will advance up to 32 teams. Teams will use the 7-8-8-8-4-5 format, with 25 minutes of prep and walking time, beginning at the end of the topic announcement. The first two rounds will be preset and then round 3-5 will be power matched. Teams will advance to elimination rounds based on the following criteria: win/loss, adjusted speaker points, total speaker points, judge variance, double-adjusted speaker points. Brackets will be broken.

We will be using “flex-time” at this tournament. Flex time is a proposed addition of prep and cross-examination time of two minutes after the PMC and LOC, and one minute after the MGC and the LOR. Students may use this time for questioning their opponent, strategizing, communicating with their partner, drinking water, getting set up for their speech; but they may not use it as speech time.

One critic covers two debate teams. All judges are committed through second elimination round, even if their teams are eliminated. All resolutions will be announced to the group in SLH. You are allowed to consult materials and coaches during the 25-minute preparation period. Judges are allowed, but not required, to disclose their decisions but are limited to no more than 5-minute discussions with debaters after each round after they have sent their electronic ballot. Hybrid teams and three-person teams will be allowed to clear. Maverick debating will not be allowed. A “warm room” listing of team records will be posted following round 2. Nevada students may compete and will be eligible for elimination debates and awards. All judges must provide an email address and have a device from which they can send their ballot upon completion of the round.

Individual Events:   
IE’s will be run on Sunday only. There will be two preliminary rounds followed by finals (if an event warrants semifinals, we will attempt to offer it during the first final pattern). We will offer two divisions (novice/open) in each event, but reserve the right to collapse divisions if necessary. For novice division, contestants must be in their first year of competition in event area in either high school or college. Students may be novice for new event areas, even if they are open in others (example: a student did interp in high school but no limited prep. They can go novice in the limited prep, but the must go open in the interp). We will have all 11 AFA events and AFA rules will govern each event. Pattern groups will be as follows:

A: Extemp, Impromptu, Prose, Poetry, Informative  
B:, Persuasion, ADS, CA, Drama, POI, and Duo

Individuals in LD may not enter events in Pattern B. Competitors may enter a maximum of 3 events in each pattern, but be warned: the tournament will make NO special accommodations for students who are in multiple events and are late to a round. If you miss the judge because you are multiple entered you will NOT be able to make up the speech. Competitors may not use selections used in competition prior to September 1, 2017 (the only exception is rookies who competed at the NCFA Spring Fling last spring.) One critic covers six IE slots per pattern.

**Sweepstakes Awards**

Sweepstakes trophies will be awarded to (1) the top two debate schools; (2) the top two IE schools; (3) the top two community colleges overall and (4) to the top two universities overall; and (5) the top Novice competitor.

The following formula will be used for Team sweepstakes calculation:   
IE: (top 3 competitors per school per event)   
1st = 5 pts 2nd = 4 pts 3rd = 3 pts finalist = 2 pts semi’s = 1 pt   
Debate: (top 4 teams in each division per school)   
3 points for each prelim win plus 2 points for each team that clears.

**Schedule**

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| **Friday** **12:30 pm Reg- RSJ 100** **1 pm Reg CLOSED** **1 pm Prep Rooms Open** **1:15 pm Briefing SLH 2 \*\*\*One rep from each school required** **1:30 pm Parli Rd 1 Topic 1:55 pm Parli Rd 1** **3:00 pm Parli Rd 2 Topic**  **3:25 pm Parli Rd 2** **4:35 pm Parli Rd 3 Topic**  **5:00 pm Parli Rd 3** **6:15 pm Parli Rd 4 Topic 6: 40 pm Parli Rd 4**  **Registration is for payment of fees only. Drops should be made on Tabroom.com up until 1 pm. We will pair and release the first debate at 1:05 pm.   If you will arrive after 1:00 pm, send a text to (360) 747-2944 with the following info:  School Name, drops not made online, confirmation of when you will arrive.** | **Saturday** **8:30 am Parli Rd 5 Topic 8:55 am Parli Rd 5** **10:10 am Parli E1 Topic**  **10:35 pm Parli E1**  **11:50 am Parli E2 Topic 12: 15 pm Parli E2**  **1 pm Lunch (on us)**  **1:20 pm Awards SLH 2** **1:45 pm Parli E3 Topic 2: 10 pm Parli E3**  **2:45 pm LD Reg Closed on Tabroom** **3:00 pm LD Rd1**  **4:00 pm LD Rd2**  **5:00 pm Parli E4 Topic 5:25 pm Parli E4**  **6:30 pm LD Rd 3**  **7:30 pm Parli E5 Topic\*\* 7:55 pm Parli E5\***  **6-7 IE Only Reg 8 pm IE Drops closed on tabroom.com** |
| **Sunday**  **8:30 am IE Late Reg Closed**  **8:30 am IE A Rd 1/Extemp Draw**  **10 am IE B Rd 1/LD Rd 4** **11:15 am IE A Rd 2/Extemp Draw** **12:45 am IE B Rd 2/LD Elim 1** **2 pm- 2:30 pm Lunch (on us)**  **2:30 pm IE A Finals/Extemp Draw**  **3:30 pm IE B Finals /LD Elim 3** **5:00 pm IE/LD Awards**  **5:30 pm LD Elim 4\*** | |

**\*(if needed)**   
**\*\*Parli Elim 5 will be moved up to 6:30/6:55pm if none of the participants are in LD.**