



Granite City Cozy Classic Debate Tournament

3101 Madison Avenue
Granite City, IL 62040



Dear Coaches:

The 13th annual GC Cozy Classic debate tournament is coming up on January 13th! I am really looking forward to seeing all of you “down south!” ☺

The tournament is traditionally smaller than tournaments in the north, as teams in the south are traditionally smaller, but we are hoping to grow our number of participating schools this year.

Because of the smaller size of teams in the south and the desire to have a well-balanced tournament, and in order to help teams coming from the north keep costs lower, we have structured the tournament so that each school should bring a **contingent** of their **best debaters in each division**, with **twelve or less entries per team** (no more than four entries in a division/category).

For example: a team could bring two representatives from each of their divisions/categories (Novice LD, Novice PF, JV LD, JV PF, Varsity LD, Varsity PF), to reach their twelve entry max, or they could bring four in one division, three in another, one in another, and four in another. It doesn't matter what the combination.

Division Categories:

Novice: First year of debate (any type)

JV: Second year of debate experience (coaches can move students up from novice to a higher level of competition at any time)

Varsity: Two or more years of debate experience (coaches can move students up from novice or JV to higher level of competition at any time)

Depending on entry numbers for the tournament, we may have to consolidate divisions into an open format.

Format: Depending on numbers, we will either preschedule all rounds, round robin the division, or power-match the final two rounds. Our goal is to have **five rounds** of debate, granting awards to the top debaters and speakers in each division.

Topics: We will be using the NSDA **January topic** for PF and the NSDA January/February topic for LD:

PF: *Resolved: Spain should grant Catalonia its independence.*

LD: *Resolved: Resolved: Plea bargaining ought to be abolished in the United States criminal justice system.*

Registration: Registration for the tournament will be on Tabroom.com. If you cannot get to the online entry before you leave for Christmas break, I would really appreciate an **email if you are planning on attending with preliminary numbers for each event.** The preliminary numbers will give me a good idea of how best to structure the tournament.

The online preliminary entry should be completed by Friday, January 5th.

Final entry is due and entry fees will be **frozen on Wednesday, January, 10th at 5:00pm.**

Judges: One full judge is required for every two entries (or part of an entry). For example, if you have 5 entries in PF and 4 entries in LD, you will need 5 judges.

Granite City High School will not have any judges for hire, but if you are desperate need, let me know and I will try to help find you someone. All judges are expected to be available for all five rounds. Your school will have to drop entries if you do not meet your judging obligations.

I am asking you to include all the events that your judges are qualified to judge, not just the assignment they are filling. We may be swapping judges between events to reduce round conflicts. Make sure your judges are trained in the area of debate for which you have them listed.

Fees: \$25 for every LD entry and \$25 for every PF entry.

Food: Judges and teams need to stay on campus to each lunch. Each school should order large cheese, pepperoni, and/or sausage pizzas before the tournament, from me, for their team by Wednesday, January 10th. A large pizza is the size of a standard Dominoes large, feeding, on average, 2-3 students (depending upon how much of an appetite those students have). Cheese pizzas are \$10 and pepperoni or sausage pizzas are \$12. At registration, you will pay for the pizzas that you have pre-ordered (in cash). I will have the pizza delivered to the school at lunch time and then teams will pick up their pizzas from the concessions table. The concessions stand will also be selling water, snacks, and breakfast items.

Lunch will be provided for the judges in the judge's lounge. Please email me if you have special dietary restrictions for your judges and I will try to be mindful of those restrictions when ordering the food.

Location: The address for the school is 3101 Madison Avenue, but that is not the side of the school which you will be entering. Busses should park in the back parking lot, off of Fehling Road. Students should enter the building at Exit 1. From the Fehling road main parking lot, if you are looking at the school, Exit 1 is on the right.

Here is the preliminary schedule for the day:

7:30-8:00 Registration

8:00 Tournament Announcements

8:30 Round One

9:30 Round Two

11:00 Round Three

12:00 Lunch

1:00 Round Four

2:15 Round Five

4:00 Awards in the Atrium

If you have any questions, email me at amy.mcquiggan@gcsd9.net or text me at 618-550-5298. If you have any **changes to your registration after 3:00pm on January 12th**, text me as soon as possible to let me know.

I hope to see you January!

Amy McQuiggan