# ADA Nationals at UTD

January 24, 2018

University of Texas-Dallas and the American Debate Association cordially invite you to attend the 2018 American Debate Association national tournament to be held at UTD during March 10-12, 2018.

The topic for the debates will be, “Resolved: The United States Federal Government should establish national health insurance in the United States.”

The Tournament will hold 6 preliminary rounds with competition in all three divisions of debate: varsity, junior varsity, and novice. Half of all teams in each division will qualify for the elimination rounds.

Some unique features of ADA nationals include the Front Royal Cup, awarded to a team in each division with the best performance across ADA tournaments during the regular season, and the presentation of the Julia Burke Award to a student. To learn more about the Julia Burke Award and how to nominate your student, go to their website at this link, [The Julia Burke Award for Character and Excellence in American Debate Association Policy Debate](http://juliaburkefoundation.com/ada-award.php).

Finally, we promise exceptional hospitality and an efficiently run tournament by an independent tabulation director, Chris Palmer.

We look forward to seeing you in March!

Adrienne Brovero Scott Herndon

ADA President Tournament Host, University of Texas-Dallas

### Entries & Fees

#### Entry Information

All tournament entries should be made using Tabroom.com. Each school must provide 3 rounds of judging for each team entered.

#### Dues and Tournament Fees

All schools competing at ADA Nationals must have paid their ADA dues for the 2017-2018 academic year prior to the tournament. You may pay your dues during registration. The dues are $75. They can be at ADA Nationals via cash or check (please make the check payable to the American Debate Association), or they can be paid online at: <https://americandebateassociation.com/2017/05/17/pay-ada-membership-dues/>.

Tournament Fees for ADA Nationals are $65 per participant (student, judge, observers). These can be paid at the tournament via cash or check (please make the check payable to the American Debate Association), or online via Paypal (info coming soon).

### ADA Tournament Rules

ADA Nationals operates according to the ADA Standing Rules. A copy of the ADA rules can be found at this link: <https://americandebateassociation.com/standing-rules/>

You should be aware of some rules that particularly apply to ADA Nationals governing forfeits, hybrid teams, and eligibility:

#### Forfeit Policy for ADA Nationals

ADA Nationals. For the purposes of the ADA National tournament only, a debate team is defined as the two-person team that begins the first rounds of the tournament and who debate together throughout the course of the tournament. If one of the debaters of a team cannot debate in any given round, that round will be forfeited. Teams that forfeit rounds will be given average speaker points, but are ineligible to clear to elimination rounds if speaker points are the determining factor for their clearing. Debaters who forfeit rounds are ineligible for speaker awards.

#### Hybrid Policy for ADA Nationals

Hybrid teams composed of debaters from different schools may debate together at the ADA National Tournament, but they may not clear to elimination rounds, unless they have at least three ADA tournaments together as a team prior to ADA Nationals. Such teams need to provide notice to the President upon entry and identify the tournaments at which they have previously debated together.

If you believe your hybrid is eligible for elimination rounds please contact Adrienne Brovero with information about your team’s eligibility by March 2.

#### Debater Eligibility

DEBATER ELIGIBILITY -- To participate in the ADA National Championship Tournament a debater must be an undergraduate student who is regularly enrolled and in good standing at the institution for which s/he is competing at the tournament. Each student participant’s school needs to be have an institutional membership in the ADA at the start of ADA Nationals. Any student in compliance with the AFA standards is eligible for competition for the ADA National Tournament. Students may attend a maximum of four ADA Nationals. A student who has debated at any intercollegiate debate tournament in more than ten semesters is ineligible to attend ADA Nationals.

### Judging

#### Obligations

Schools must provide 3 rounds of judging for each entry. All judges are obligated through the first elimination round on Monday, or one round past the round in which the school is eliminated.

#### Eligibility

To be eligible to judge in an ADA tournament a person must either:

a) have attained a baccalaureate degree, or

b) have no remaining intercollegiate debate eligibility, or

c) have waived any remaining intercollegiate debate eligibility. If a judge competed in the same academic year they are judging, they may only judge in divisions of lesser debate experience than those they competed in during that year.

Tournament Directors may make individual exceptions to this rule in the case of persons who are enrolled in their last two semesters of undergraduate study and who are no longer competing in intercollegiate debate. Undergraduate students are eligible to judge for a maximum of two semesters. Any person who judges at an ADA tournament forfeits the right to compete in any ADA tournament thereafter. Exceptions to this rule based on emergencies or tournaments of special character may be made by the director, in consultation with available members of the ADA Executive Committee, in such circumstances to enable the tournament to continue.

#### Judge Philosophies

Judge philosophies for each of a school’s judges must be published on Tabroom.com.

Judge philosophies are required for the ADA National Tournament and must be published prior to the opening of the judge ranking system. At the discretion of the executive committee, judges who fail to comply at the ADA National Tournament will be subject to the following:

1. The judge may be dropped from the tournament and/or

2. Other judges from the school they represent may have their commitment increased and/or

3. The schools they represent may be fined $50 plus $30 per committed round and/or

4. Teams from the school they represent may lose the right to have their rankings considered when placing judges.

### Hotel Information

#### Wyndham Park Central

7800 Alpha Road Dallas, Texas 75240

Phone: 1-972-590-8324

#### Rates & Room Info

All the rooms are suites. There is a bedroom and a couch with a pullout in every room. A double room can hold 3-4 debaters easily and comfortably.

King/Double Room (Single or Double Occupancy) 82.00

Triple Occupancy: 89.50

Quad Occupancy: 97

Complimentary breakfast buffet is included in the room rate, opening at 6 a.m.

#### Block Info

Block name: UTD Debate National Tournament

Reservation Cutoff is February 9. Please make reservations as soon as possible.

### ADA Awards

#### Submission Information

Letters of nomination should identify the nominee and why the nominee is deserving of the award. Letters should not exceed one page. Please submit your nomination letter to the ADA Awards Chair, Dave Arnett, via email (davidbrianarnett@gmail.com). The deadline for nominations is 5 pm EST, Friday, March 2.

The American Debate Association Executive Committee is seeking letters of nomination for the following awards:

#### Founders Award for Service

Awarded to an ADA director, coach, or graduate assistant who has done significant service for the ADA community.

Past recipients:

2015 John Katsulas, Boston College

2016 Patrick Waldinger, University of Miami

2017 Warren Decker, George Mason University

#### Excellence in Coaching Award

Awarded to an ADA director, coach, or graduate assistant who has achieved excellence in coaching throughout the course of their career.

Past recipients:

2015 David Arnett, University of Kentucky

2016 Danielle O’Gorman, United States Naval Academy

2017 Ken Strange, Wake Forest University

#### The Distinguished Alumni Award

Awarded to an alumna/us of an ADA school to recognize outstanding contributions to society by a former ADA debater.

Past recipients:

2015 Daveed Gartenstein-Ross

2016 Timothy O’Donnell

2017 Matthew Sullivan

### Tentative Schedule

#### Friday, March 9

5 pm – Prefs due

7 pm – Registration confirmation due

TBA – Coaches Reception

#### Saturday, March 10

#### NOTE: Schedule will run \*ahead\* if pairings can be produced sooner

7 am – Round 1 & 2 pairings released

8 am – Rd 1 start time (10:30 am decision time)

11 am – Rd 2 start time (1:30 pm decision time)

Lunch will start during round 2

2 pm – Round 3 pairing released

2:30 pm – Round 3 start time (5 pm decision time)

5:30 pm – Round 4 pairing

6 pm – Round 4 start time (8:30 pm decision time)

#### Sunday, March 11

#### NOTES:

#### Remember – Daylight Saving Time – clocks move forward an hour.

#### Schedule will run \*ahead\* if pairings can be produced sooner

8 am – Round 5 pairing released

8:30 am – Rd 5 start time (11 am decision time)

11:30 am – Rd 6 pairing released

12 pm – Round 6 start time (2:30 pm decision time)

Lunch will start during round 6

3 pm – First Elim pairing, bracket released

3:30 pm – First Elim start time (6:15 pm decision time)

6:30 pm – Reception and awards, second elim pairing with rooms released at end of awards.

#### Monday, March 12

7 am – Second elim pairing with panels released

7:15 am – Coin flip/side assignment must be completed

8 am – Second Elim start time (10:45 am decision time)

Elims will continue with pairings 15 minutes after last decision in each elim, 30 minutes prep, and 2:45 decision times.