

Dear Debaters, Coaches and Judges,

The Thornhill Secondary School Debate Society is thrilled to welcome you to the 15th Annual Thornhill Debate Tournament! The tournament will take place at **Thornhill Secondary School** (167 Dudley Ave., L3T 2E5) on **Friday, March 22nd** and **Saturday, March 23rd, 2019**.

We believe that this tournament will prove a valuable experience for debaters of all levels looking to perfect their debating skills and form long-lasting connections with fellow debaters; and we hope that you will join us for this exciting event.

Included in this document, please find important details regarding the format and schedule of the tournament and other noteworthy information. The registration form can be found here:

<https://goo.gl/forms/bROHvtHIMfj7ysZt2>

We encourage you to fill out the registration details as soon as possible to reserve your school space at our tournament.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact us at **thornhilldebate@gmail.com**.

Sincerely,
Sophia Khiavi and Lilly Yukhtman
Tournament Directors
Heather Patterson and Jatin Patel
Staff Advisors

Format:

Each team is guaranteed five rounds of debate (two on Friday and three on Saturday, including a hidden quarter-final), with additional semi-final and final rounds on Saturday, based on team performance in the preliminary rounds.

All rounds will be debated in Canadian Parliamentary Style. **There will not be a prepared resolution this year.** Teams will receive the resolution and their position (Government or Opposition) 15 minutes prior to the beginning of rounds in order to prepare their arguments.

Food:

The Thornhill Debate Society is pleased to announce that we will provide all attendees of our tournament with three meals: dinner (on Friday), and breakfast and lunch (on Saturday). Though beverages will also be available throughout the tournament, we encourage all participants to bring their own reusable water bottles and make use of Thornhill's numerous water fountains. Any dietary restrictions or allergies should be noted on the registration form (see Google Form)

Registration:

The registration fee is \$100 per team (**\$50 per debater**). This includes five guaranteed rounds of debate, as well as three meals and beverages. **Registration will begin now, and registration information and payment must be sent to the tournament directors no later than Friday, March 8th, 2019. Team slots must be reserved by February 22nd, 2019.**

Please note that as per Thornhill Secondary School policy, schools must have staff supervision to be able to attend this tournament. Any schools without supervision will not be allowed to participate.

Cheques must be made out to **Thornhill Secondary School**, and may be sent through regular or courier mail **before the registration deadline** to:

Thornhill Secondary School Debating Union
c/o Heather Patterson
167 Dudley Ave.
Thornhill, Ontario
L3T 2E5
905-889-5453

THORNHILL SECONDARY SCHOOL 15th ANNUAL DEBATE TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

Friday, March 22nd, 2019	
3:30-4:45 pm	Registration for debaters and judges
4:45-5:15 pm	Briefings for judges and debaters Round One and Two Pairings
5:15-5:30 pm	Resolution/pairings for Round One
5:30-6:30 pm	Round One
6:30 pm-7:45 pm	Dinner
7:45-8:00 pm	Resolution/pairings for Round One
8:00-9:00 pm	Round Two

Saturday, March 23rd, 2019	
8:00-9:00 am	Breakfast
9:00-9:30 am	Briefing for judges and debaters Resolution/pairings for Round Three
9:30-9:45 am	Preparation time for Round Three
9:45-10:45 am	Round Three
10:45-11:00 am	Resolution/pairings for Round Four
11:00-11:15 am	Preparation time for Round Four
11:15 am-12:15 pm	Round Four
12:15-1:15 pm	Lunch
1:15-1:30 pm	Resolution/pairings for Round Five
1:30-1:45 pm	Preparation time for Round Five
1:45-2:45 pm	Round Five (Hidden Quarters)
2:45-3:00 pm	Break for debaters and judges Announcement of semi-final pairs
3:00-3:15 pm	Preparation time for Semi-Finals
3:15-4:15 pm	Semi-Finals
4:15-4:30 pm	Announcement of the finals pair
4:30-4:45 pm	Preparation time for the Finals
4:30-5:45 pm	Finals
5:45-6:15 pm	Awards Ceremony
NB: All resolutions on both Friday and Saturday will be impromptu with a new motion every round.	

There is a limit of **ten teams per school**. However, if your school wishes to bring more teams, please contact the tournament directors and your requests will be accommodated to the best of our ability. Each school must bring **at least one judge for every two teams**. Judges may be teachers, administrators, parents, debate coaches or experienced/graduated debaters. Our aim is to provide panel judging in as many rounds as possible, but that can only be done with judging contributions from your respective debating communities. It is preferable that parents of debaters who do not have prior judging experience act solely as spectators, not as adjudicators, in order to avoid bias. We ask that you please rank your judges from 1-5 in the appropriate box in the table below (5 being an incredibly experienced judge; 1 being a relatively inexperienced judge) to help us with the organization of rounds.