

**University of Waterloo
High Schools Debate Tournament
2019**



Invitation and Tournament Package

Dear Coaches, Students, and Colleagues,

The University of Waterloo Debate Society is pleased to extend to you an invitation to the University of Waterloo High Schools Debating Tournament, held May 17th to 18th, 2019.

Rounds

There will be five preliminary rounds (two on Friday, three on Saturday) in which all teams will participate. Preliminary rounds will be followed by a Semi Final, Junior Final, and Grand Final.

The tournament's first three rounds will have open adjudication, meaning debaters will be informed of the outcome of the debate and given constructive feedback from their judge. The remaining rounds will be closed adjudication.

Format

Debates will be held in British Parliamentary (BP) format with 5 minute speeches. All motions will be impromptu. The resolutions will be accessible to all high school debaters with a general knowledge of contentious issues. Squirrelling will not be permitted. A briefing on the format will be provided before the first round.

The Chief Adjudicator of the tournament is Ethan Curry from the University of Western Ontario Debate Society.

Junior Category

The tournament will be open to all students from grades 7-12. There will be a "junior" designation assigned to students from grades 7-9. The top four junior teams will compete in front of an audience in the Junior Final, held at the same time as the Semi Final. Both members of a team must have the "junior" designation to compete in the Junior Final. Awards will be given to the top junior teams and speakers, who are also eligible for overall tournament awards.

Food

Light dinner will be provided on Friday night, as well as lunch on Saturday. Hot drinks will be provided on Saturday morning. Any dietary concerns (including severe allergies, kosher, halal, vegan, etc.) should be indicated on the registration form so that we can properly accommodate your needs.

Accommodations

If your club needs help finding accommodations in Waterloo, please contact us at uwhighschools@gmail.com and we will gladly help you.

Registration/Deadlines

The cap for this tournament is 124 teams (248 participants), with a team cap of 10 teams per school. This will ensure that all rooms can receive high-quality judging from university-level debaters. Coaches will not be asked to judge. In order to streamline the registration process this year, registration will be completed through the following three steps.

1) Please reserve team spots using the attached form. We advise coaches to register their teams as quickly as possible to secure spots, as they will be allocated on a first-come, first-serve basis. There will be a waiting list for schools that are not allocated spots or want to send additional teams. The form will be closed for submissions at the end of **April 20th, 2019**.

2) Schools with confirmed spots will also receive detailed payment instructions by email on **April 21st, 2019**. The tournament cost is **\$150 per team**. Unless specified otherwise with the tournament directors, schools will be required to send a full payment encompassing all registered teams by the deadline of **May 1st, 2019**. Please complete this step promptly, as teams are not considered fully registered until a payment is received. For schools that receive spots from the waitlist, we will provide a later payment deadline in May, in advance of the tournament date. If your club requires accommodations with regards to payment deadlines, please contact us and we will make alternative arrangements. Please note that the cancellation deadline for any team is **May 1st, 2019**. Refunds will not be given past this date. We will charge a **\$15 cancellation fee** for every team.

Tournament Schedule

Out of respect for your fellow competitors, we ask that teams arrive on time. We reserve the right to drop teams that unnecessarily delay the tournament or fail to register on time. Registration will close sharp at 3:35 PM as we begin introductions and briefings.

Friday, May 10th, 2019

GA: RCH 101

1:00 – 3:30 PM Registration (Teams dropped at 3:35)

3:30 – 4:15 PM Introductions and Briefings

4:15 – 6:30 PM Round #1 (Open Adjudication)

6:30 – 7:30 PM Dinner

7:30 - 9:45 PM Round #2 (Open Adjudication)

Saturday, May 11th, 2019

GA: RCH 101

8:30 – 9:00 AM Registration (Teams dropped at 9:00)

9:00 – 11:15 AM Round #3 (Open Adjudication)

11:15 – 1:15 PM Round #4 (Closed Adjudication)

1:15 – 2:00 PM Lunch

2:00 – 4:00 PM Round #5 (Closed Adjudication)

4:00 – 5:30 PM Semi Finals and Junior Final

5:30 – 7:00 PM Grand Final

7:00 – 7:30 PM Awards Ceremony

Debaters are expected to remain in the designed GA rooms after their current round has finished– we will move forward with the tournament as soon as we are able to complete the next draw.

For all general inquiries, please contact us at uwhighschools@gmail.com.

We look forward to seeing you at the University of Waterloo,

M Towseef Hossain and Saquib Shahzad

Tournament Directors,

University of Waterloo High Schools Debate Tournament 2019