

2020 Jr. High National Debating Championships
Halifax Grammar School
May 28-31, 2020

Dear Provincial / Territorial Coordinator:

We are pleased to invite you to enter the 2020 Canadian Jr High School Debating Championships. Due to the current crisis, the tournament will take place online.

Eligibility:

Each Province or Territory is invited to enter up to six, two-person teams. Provinces/Territories may use any method they like to select their teams. Debaters on a team do not have to be from the same school. Each Province or Territory must provide qualified judges on the following scale:

- 1 or 2 teams – one judge;
- 3 or 4 teams – two judges;
- 5 or 6 teams – three judges.

Format:

All debates will use the “Canadian National Debating Format”. A style guide is attached.

All teams will debate both sides of a prepared motion. All teams will also debate four impromptu rounds. The quarters, semis and finals will be impromptu.

Each regular round debate will be judged by a single “qualified” judge. A qualified judge is a coach, an experienced university debater, an elite senior high school debater or someone who has judged at multiple tournaments.

The tournament will use Zoom and Google Hangouts. Coaches, debaters, and judges will be given a link/password

for the Virtual Tournament General Assembly (“GA”). For safety, we will ask each person to rename themselves following a standardized naming protocol and we will confirm every entrant. Briefings, Announcements, and Awards will take place in the GA. After briefings, we will post the Draw on a Google Doc that all participants will have access to. We will then place everyone in their Zoom Debate Rooms. No one will start their rounds until an announcement is sent to all rooms to begin. Judges will submit their ballots, give feedback, and return to the GA once finished.

For impromptu rounds, students will have access to a Google Hangout Prep Room. These links will be made available to the teams and can be monitored by tournament staff. Once the motion is dropped in the GA, students will have 5 minutes to get to their Google Hangout Prep Rooms and step away from their device. They should be in camera view using paper and pen. Once time elapses, they will close their Google Hangout Room and they will use Zoom to debate. Once the debate begins, they may communicate to their partner on a chat app (private chat in Zoom, whatsapp, messenger, etc.).

It is required that students have access to a camera and microphone. Please note laptops, phones or tablets may all be used, although a laptop is probably the best option.

Debaters must sign a code of conduct stating they will not use internet or pre written cases for impromptu rounds. They will not access coaches or anyone other than their partner during impromptu prep. Debaters cannot be in the same physical space during impromptu prep, they must be connecting virtually, even if circumstances allow them to be together. This ensures fairness for all competitors.

During a debate, if a student loses connection, they will have 5 minutes to re-enter the debate. If a judge misses something in the speech due to connection issues they may ask the debater to repeat that section at the end of their speech.

Students should be on mute when not debating. If they want to ask a POI, they should unmute and say point or POI. Students should not be distracting.

Even though this is a virtual tournament, there will be physical awards. They will be mailed to the winners after the tournament.

Prepared Motion:

This House, as Canada, would substantially increase its military and civilian presence in the Arctic.

Info-slide: “increase its military and civilian presence” refers to a wide array of policies including but not limited to attempts at complete control over the Northwest Passage, setting up military bases to protect claimed land in the Arctic, and building settlements on claimed territory to exploit Arctic resources.

Cost:

\$30.00 per debater. Please E-transfer to judahj@halifax.ca

Registration:

Below are links for Debater, Judge and Provincial/Territorial Registration. Please complete these forms and submit the registration fee by the May 18, 2020, registration deadline.

Debater Registration

<https://forms.gle/z8WsTxrsEsHfbAp5A>

Province/Territory Registration

<https://forms.gle/eDEktCifV85AG2u16>

Judge Registration

<https://forms.gle/S2FZmG65R591Ctib9>

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

It has been our experience that Jr. High Nationals is always a fun event and that Jr. High Debaters are a wonderful group of people. We look forward to hosting the event in a new way.

Yours truly,

Joshua Judah, Q.C.

Matthew Farrell

Co-Chair

Chair

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Frankie Cena

Co-

Co-Chair

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Schedule:

Thursday, May 28, 2020

3pm BC, 4pm AB/SK, 5pm MB, 6pm ON/QC, 7pm NB/PEI/NS,
7:30pm NL

Technical check-in

4pm BC, 5pm AB/SK, 6pm MB, 7pm ON/QC, 8pm NB/PEI/NS,
8:30pm NL

Workshops

Friday, May 29, 2020

9am BC, 10am AB/SK, 11am MB, 12pm ON/QC, 1pm NB/PEI/NS, 1:30pm NL

Registration and Opening

9:30am BC, 10:30am AB/SK, 11:30am MB, 12:30pm ON/QC, 1:30pm NB/PEI/NS, 2pm NL

Debater and Judge's Briefing

10:30am BC, 11:30am AB/SK, 12:30pm MB, 1:30pm ON/QC, 2:30pm NB/PEI/NS, 3pm NL

Round One (prepared)

12:15pm BC, 1:15pm AB/SK, 2:15pm MB, 3:15pm ON/QC, 4:15pm NB/PEI/NS, 4:45pm NL

Round Two (prepared)

2:30pm BC, 3:30pm AB/SK, 4:30pm MB, 5:30pm ON/QC, 6:30pm NB/PEI/NS, 7pm NL

Round Three (impromptu)

Saturday, May 30, 2020

8:30am BC, 9:30am AB/SK, 10:30am MB, 11:30am ON/QC, 12:30pm NB/PEI/NS, 1pm NL

Roll Call

8:45am BC, 9:45am AB/SK, 10:45am MB, 11:45am ON/QC, 12:45pm NB/PEI/NS, 1:15pm NL

Round four (impromptu)

10:45am BC, 11:45am AB/SK, 12:45pm MB, 1:45pm ON/QC,
2:45pm NB/PEI/NS, 3:15pm NL
Round five (impromptu)

12:45pm BC, 1:45pm AB/SK, 2:45pm MB, 3:45pm ON/QC,
4:45pm NB/PEI/NS, 5:15pm NL
Round six (impromptu)

3pm BC, 4pm AB/SK, 5pm MB, 6pm ON/QC, 7pm NB/PEI/NS,
7:30pm NL
Social Event/Break Announcement

Sunday, May 31, 2020

9am BC, 10am AB/SK, 11am MB, 12pm ON/QC, 1pm NB/PEI/
NS, 1:30pm NL
Roll Call

9:15am BC, 10:15am AB/SK, 11:15am MB, 12:15pm ON/QC,
1:15pm NB/PEI/NS, 1:45pm NL
Quarter Finals

11:30am BC, 12:30pm AB/SK, 1:30pm MB, 2:30pm ON/QC,
3:30pm NB/PEI/NS, 4pm NL
Semi Finals

2pm BC, 3pm AB/SK, 4pm MB, 5pm ON/QC, 6pm NB/PEI/NS,
6:30pm NL
Final and Awards