

Dear Provincial Organizers,

Here is the invitation for French Nationals 2020 Online. Please reply to this email indicating how many teams your province would like to send by **Friday May 8th**.

This event will be hosted on Zoom from Tuesday, June 2 to Wednesday, June 3.

The cost of the event is \$30 per debater.

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

All teams will debate both sides of a prepared motion. All teams will also debate 3 impromptu rounds. The 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. 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 be sent to Breakout Prep Rooms. These rooms can be monitored by tournament staff. Once the motion is dropped students must sit away from their device. They should be in camera view using paper and pen. Once time elapses, they will be moved to their debate rooms 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:

We will use the French Translation of the Senior Nationals Motion

Teams will register via a provided Google Form

Draft Schedule:

Tuesday, June 2, 2020

9am BC / 1:30pm NL
Registration/Technical Testing

10am BC / 2:30pm NL
Opening Ceremony/Briefings

11am BC / 3:30pm NL
Round 1 Prepared

12:30pm BC / 5:00pm NL
Round 2 Prepared

2:00pm BC / 6:30pm NL
Round 3 Impromptu

4:00pm BC / 8:30pm NL

Round 4 Impromptu

Wednesday, June 3, 2020

9am BC / 1:30pm NL
Registration and Opening

9:30am BC / 2:00pm NL
Round 5 Impromptu

11:30am BC / 4:00pm NL
Semis

1:30pm BC / 6:00pm NL
Finals

3:30pm BC / 8:00pm NL
Awards Ceremony