



Dear Coach,

As schools moved online in the spring semester, many debate clubs across the world were faced with a challenge. Debate tournaments were no longer able to take place because we had to flatten the curve and maintain everyone's health.

However, the international debating community has demonstrated tremendous creativity and resolve in these past months. Online debate competitions have been organized all over the world to allow debaters to continue the activity they love. These online tournaments have brought the global community closer together and allowed debating activities to continue through the summer.

The McGill Debating Union has a group of extremely talented debaters who have achieved great success in both online and offline tournaments. We want to pass this knowledge on and help students develop their debating skills, as well as enable them to access this exciting new world of online debates.

For this reason, the McGill Debating Union would like to invite you to the first “**McGill Discord Summer Development Cup**”. The MDSD Cup will consist of a **series of online workshops and then an accompanying tournament** via Discord. Both the workshops and tournament will be optional, allowing debaters to attend either just the workshops, the tournament or both, to best suit their development needs. Through this opportunity, we hope to provide a supportive learning environment for your students and offer them with high quality seminars and feedback, provided by extremely qualified judges.

**Date:** Saturday August 22 and Sunday August 23, 2020

**Location:** Discord (a server link and user package, detailing how to sign in and use the Discord server, will be sent out at a later date)

**Registration fee:** \$25/speaker for the tournament, \$20/speaker for the workshops, or \$35/speaker for both the tournament and the workshop

**Registration Deadline:** August 7th, 2020

**Payment Deadline:** August 10th, 2020

**Team Cap:** 24 teams, open to expansion depending on interest and judging capacity.

**Format:**

Our seminars will be held on Saturday along three one-hour-long slots. We intend on having seminars running alongside each other for both novice and experienced debaters. The following tournament will consist of four rounds of British Parliamentary impromptu debate, two rounds on Saturday and two rounds on Sunday, breaking to semi-finals, junior finals, and finals. This tournament will not include a prepared round.

**Registration:**

Registration will be conducted on a first-come, first-served basis. The deadline to register is August 7th, 2020. If you want to reserve spots at this tournament, please email us with your institution's name and the number of teams that you would like to reserve. We will be accepting teams on a rolling basis and will maintain a waitlist after we hit the team cap. Teams on the waitlist will be able to attend the tournament if our team cap is not met or if it is expanded by August 7th, 2020.

Please inform us of the number of teams you would like to send by the **registration deadline (August 7th, 2020)**. We will try to accommodate as many teams as possible. Following this intimation, we request that you send names of the debaters attending the tournament by Wednesday, **August 12th, 2020**.

This information is to be sent to [mcgilldebating.highschool@gmail.com](mailto:mcgilldebating.highschool@gmail.com).

**The deadline to pay full registration is August 10th, 2020 at 11:59PM.** As this is a much smaller tournament, we will not be asking for deposits ahead of time to maintain spots. Payments can be made via Paypal at [mcgill.debating@gmail.com](mailto:mcgill.debating@gmail.com). Please note we will not be accepting Interac e-transfer payments or any other online payment method. We ask for your cooperation in only registering as many teams as you intend to send.

Please let us know as quickly as possible if your institution would be interested in this opportunity. Please find attached our introductory tournament package for the schedule. We look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

Beattie Bernfield and Callum Stirton

Tournament Co-Directors



## McGill High School Tournament 2019 Schedule:

### FRIDAY

Registration: 2:00 – 4:00

Beginners Seminar: 4:00 – 5:00

Dinner: 5:00 – 5:30

Briefing: 5:30 – 6:00

Pairings: 6:00 – 6:15

Round 1: 6:15 – 7:45

Pairings: 7:45 – 8:00

Round 2: 8:00 – 9:30

### SATURDAY

Breakfast/Check-in: 7:45 – 8:15

Pairings: 8:15 – 8:30

Round 3: 8:30 – 10:00

Pairings: 10:15 – 10:30

Round 4: 10:30 – 11:45

Lunch/Seminar: 11:45 – 12:45

Pairings: 12:45 - 1:00

Round 5: 1:00 - 2:15

Pairings: 2:15 – 2:30

Hidden quarters: 2:30 – 3:45

Break announcement: 3:45 – 4:00

Semi-finals/ Junior finals: 4:00– 5:15

Snacks: 5:15 – 5:30

Finals announcement: 5:30 – 5:45

Finals: 5:45 – 7:00

Awards: 7:00 – 7:30