



McMaster Debating Society  
1280 Main St W,  
Hamilton, ON L8S 4L8

Dear Coaches, Debaters and Judges,

On behalf of the McMaster Debating Society, we are pleased to invite you to the annual McMaster High Schools BP Debate Tournament, taking place on **Saturday, May 15 and Sunday May 16.**

Like our tournament held in early 2020 (which we are thankful to many of you for attending!), McMaster High Schools is slated to be one of Canada's largest high school debate tournaments. We encourage students of all experience levels to participate. Given the current circumstances, the tournament will be held online via Discord. Aside from the public health reasons for moving online, hosting in a remote format allows us to offer you greater quality judging while inviting students from across Canada and the world to access this tournament.

McMaster High Schools will consist of five (5) preliminary rounds breaking to quarterfinals, all in British Parliamentary (BP) style. We are proud to announce that the adjudication core for this tournament consists of Angad Singh and Meehakk Mulani as Chief Adjudicators.

Registration for the tournament will open on Thursday, March 25 at 12:01 PM EST. Registration fees will be \$40 per team. We are excited to announce that the McMaster High Schools 2021 will be the first tournament in the world to award the tournaments champions with a one of kind, non-fungible token. A unique piece of art, backed by the blockchain, the NFT will serve as the tournament trophy and allow the champions to possess a piece of debate history.

If you have any questions concerning the tournament, feel free to contact us at [mcmasterhighschools2021@gmail.com](mailto:mcmasterhighschools2021@gmail.com). We look forward to welcoming you to McMaster this upcoming May!

Kind regards,

Riaz Mahmud and Amr Saleh  
**Tournament Directors, McMaster High Schools 2021**

## REGISTRATION

Registration for this tournament opens at **12:01 PM** on **Thursday, March 25**. Institutions may reserve team spots using this form: <https://forms.gle/HkFAFMy2TDHnCHDF7> . Spots will be given on a first-come, first-serve basis. As such, we urge institutions to reserve spots as soon as possible to hold their place in the tournament. In the interest of fairness, form submissions that are completed prior to the registration window opening will be disregarded.

There will be a soft team cap of eight (8) teams per institution. Additional teams may be requested by institutions at the time of registration and will be confirmed after the final registration deadline. There will be a total team cap of 148 teams for this tournament – the organizational committee reserves the right to change the team cap under extenuating circumstances.

After reserving spots, institutions will be emailed with further details regarding submitting payment and participant information. Please note that full payment and debater details must be submitted by **Friday, April 23**. Exceptions may be made however this must be discussed with the tournament directors beforehand.

In the interest of accountability and transparency, we will be keeping a public registry of registration statuses which can be viewed at the following link: <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1RsN2-8Tsc8WI-ixbOCxB25JFTNVZckv41NSL89vHszQ/edit?usp=sharing>

## EQUITY

The McMaster Debating Society is committed to promoting a safe, fun, and comfortable environment for all competitors. Equity is an important part of that commitment. Debaters who feel they have been personally attacked by another competitor due to their race, ethnicity, religion, color, gender, sexual orientation, disability, or other factors of their personal identity, are encouraged to seek redress. A full equity briefing outlining tournament equity protocol will be given during the debater and judges briefings.

## FINANCIAL ACCESSIBILITY

The team at McMaster wishes to ensure that financial barriers do not prevent high school students from attending our tournament. Students who face such financial obstacles to attending tournaments are encouraged to fill out our financial aid form or email Riaz Mahmud (tournament director) at [mahmum5@mcmaster.ca](mailto:mahmum5@mcmaster.ca). Please understand that there are many individuals who need this aid to access this tournament, and in order to keep the aid accessible and available for those genuinely in need both for this and future McMaster tournaments to come, we kindly ask those who do have the financial privileges to leave the opportunities for others in need.

That said, if you do feel as though your financial conditions are suitable for this application, we strongly encourage you to utilize this aid as we are dedicated to make the tournament as accessible and enjoyable as possible for everyone.

Financial aid form: <https://forms.gle/cyXgBYXhAQwg948u8>

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional details along with a full tournament package will be released closer to the tournament. If you have any questions, please send us an email at [macdebateclub@gmail.com](mailto:macdebateclub@gmail.com)

## PRELIMINARY TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

<b>Saturday, March 6th</b>	
<b>9:20 AM</b>	Check-ins
<b>9:45 AM</b>	Briefings
<b>10:15 AM</b>	Round 1
<b>12:00 PM</b>	Round 2
<b>1:50 PM</b>	Lunch!
<b>2:20 PM</b>	Round 3
<b>5:00 PM</b>	Round 4

<b>Sunday, March 7th</b>	
<b>9:30 AM</b>	Check-ins
<b>9:50 AM</b>	Round 5
<b>11:45AM</b>	Break Announcements
<b>12:15 PM</b>	Quarters/Novice Semi-final
<b>2:00 PM</b>	Semifinals/Novice Final
<b>3:50 PM</b>	Finals
<b>6:00 PM</b>	Awards