



QUEEN'S DEBATING UNION

NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DEBATING CHAMPIONSHIP

Dear members of the debate community,

We are excited to invite to the 2020 Queen's National High School Debating Championship. The Queen's Debating Union is the oldest debate club in Canada, having been established 176 years ago. This tournament is one of the premier debate competitions on the high school circuit, always featuring a high level of debate. Be sure to apply early, as this tournament fills up quickly!

Tournament Dates: Friday, January 10th to Sunday, January 12th, 2020

Location: Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario

Registration Fee: \$200 per team

Registration Dates: Opens November 1st, 2019, at 11:00 am and closes on December 1st, 2019, at 11:59 pm.

Tournament Information

This year's tournament will consist of six rounds of preliminary debate (two on Friday and four on Saturday) all in British Parliamentary style. A written guide to British Parliamentary debate will be provided to registrants via email.

The top 16 teams will break to quarterfinals on Sunday. Winners will then proceed to semifinals and the grand final. There will also be a junior final for all competitors in grade nine or below.

The first four rounds of debate will all have open adjudication, meaning that debaters will be told the outcome of the round and given constructive feedback from their judge(s). All motions will be straight motions. Squirrelling, or changing the motion is strictly prohibited.

Adjudication

The Chief Adjudicators of this tournament will be Grace Li and Brent Leung, who are both highly accomplished debaters and experienced judges.

Grace is the Queen's Debating Union's current Critic, where she acts as the Vice-President and is responsible for both training the QDU and for administering our High School Outreach program. Her debating accomplishments include being a 2018 US National Novice BP Championships quarterfinalist, 2019 North American Women's and Gender Minorities Debating Championships semifinalist, 2019 Léger Cup quarterfinalist and 2018 North American Women's and Gender Minorities Debating Championships quarterfinalist. Grace will also be an adjudicator at the 2020 World Universities Debating Championship in Thailand.

Brent is on the Queen's Debating Union Tournament Selection Committee, making him an accomplished adjudicator. As well, Brent was our 2018 Fundraising Director. His debating accomplishments include being a 2018 Father Roger Guindon Cup semifinalist, 2019 Lord Dorchester Cup quarterfinalist and 2019 McGill Winter Carnival semifinalist.

The adjudication pool at the tournament will consist of experienced university debaters.

Mentoring

Over the weekend, mentoring will be provided as a resource for the debaters. The experienced members of the Queen's Debating Union will be running sessions to answer questions regarding debate, university life and Queen's University in general. Information regarding seminar topics and specific mentors will be released closer to the tournament.

Awards

Awards will recognize the top ten overall speakers as well as the top three junior speakers. Awards will also be given to all quarterfinalists, semifinalists and finalists.

Accommodations

The QDU has group rates for the Delta Kingston Waterfront Hotel. The room rates are \$147.00 per night and apply to all the rooms we have on hold, with a variety of occupancy options. The Delta is willing to work with individual schools to

accommodate their specific needs. The hotel is approximately a 15-minute walk to Queen's University. They also offer many services such as free wireless Internet and an indoor pool. Moreover, the banquet on Saturday will also be held at the Delta, making it a convenient place to stay. There is no obligation to use this hotel deal. However, it is difficult to find affordable places to stay near campus in Kingston. As such, we would highly recommend taking advantage of this deal.

To access this deal, please call the hotel at **1 (800) 268-1133** or **(613) 549-8100** and mention that you are with the Queen's Debating Union. Rooms are limited and the deal ends on December 10th, 2019.

Registration

Registration, as in previous years, will be \$200 per team, which includes six rounds of debate, Friday dinner, Saturday breakfast, lunch and banquet, and Sunday breakfast and lunch. While we encourage everyone to attend the banquet, as it is an enjoyable social event for debaters as well a nice break from the tournament, you can opt-out. The banquet cost is \$25.00 per debater; if one debater opts out, registration is \$175.00 and if both debaters opt-out, registration is \$150.00. Coaches may also attend the banquet for an additional \$25.00.

A non-refundable deposit of \$120.00 (per team) is due by November 30th, 2019. The deposit is \$105.00 if one debater wants to opt-out of the banquet and \$90.00 if both choose to opt-out. You are welcome to pay in full immediately, but you also have the option to pay the remainder of the \$200.00 registration in person at the beginning of the tournament in January. Please indicate on your registration form, which you choose to do. Be sure to include the tournament registration forms in the envelope.

You can reserve spots by submitting the forms electronically to highschools@queensdebatingunion.org. Please note that teams are not registered until the deposit is received. Registration forms and deposits should be mailed to:

Emily Xu
David C. Smith House, Room 0438
222 Stuart Street
Kingston, ON

Payment Options

We will be accepting cash, cheques and e-transfers at this tournament. Please do not mail cheques or send e-transfers until your reserved spots have been successfully confirmed via email.

If you are opting to pay by cash or cheque, please mail the deposit along with a printed registration form to the address above. Cheques should be made out to **“Queen’s Debating Union”**.

If you are paying by e-transfer, an emailed registration form will be sufficient. E-transfers should be sent to **treasurer@queensdebatingunion.org**. Please include a note indicating your institution’s name.

Chaperone Policy

All teams must have a chaperone who will register and accompany them to the tournament in January. The chaperone must be 18 years or older by January 10th, 2019 and must also provide proof of age in the form of photo ID to register teams at the tournament. The chaperone can be a member of school staff, coach, parent or guardian that will assume responsibility for the students they are bringing for the duration of the tournament.

One chaperone can assume responsibility for as many teams as the set team cap (5 teams) and may only assume responsibility for teams from the same school. In accordance with the team cap there can only be one chaperone group per institution. If an institution is suspected of breaking the team cap by for example, registering more teams under a separate chaperone and institution name, all teams from the institution will be barred from attending the tournament either this year or for future years. During the tournament, the chaperone must be present with Photo ID in order to register their teams on the first day and to sign teams in at the start of each consecutive day.

Team Cap

The team cap for each school is 5 teams. However, after the registration deadline, additional spots will be allocated allowing schools to have more teams if there is space. Please indicate on your registration form if you are interested in receiving additional teams, and if so, how many.

Registration will open on **November 1st, 2019 at 11:00 am** and close on **December 1st, 2019 at 11:59 pm**. In the interests of equity, **emails received before 11:00 am will not be accepted and teams will instead be placed on the waitlist**. Team spots fill very quickly and are accepted on a rolling basis, so don't wait to register! As always, if there are any questions I can answer about the tournament or registration process, do not hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

Emily Xu

Tournament Director
Queen's National High School Debating Championship
highschools@queensdebatingunion.org

Tournament Registration Form

School / Institution name: _____

Number of Teams: _____

Name of Debaters (listed in teams):

Team: _____ Team: _____

Debater 1: _____ Debater 1: _____

Debater 2: _____ Debater 2: _____

Team: _____ Team: _____

Debater 1: _____ Debater 1: _____

Debater 2: _____ Debater 2: _____

Team: _____

Debater 1: _____

Debater 2: _____

Number of Individuals **NOT** attending the banquet: _____

Number of Potential Extra Teams: _____

Dietary Restrictions: _____

Amount of money attached: _____

Are you paying the entire fee now, or at the tournament? _____

Chaperone Form

Name: _____

Relation to Students: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

I, _____ (print name) assume responsibility for all students registered under _____ (institution name) for the duration of the Queen's National High Schools Debating Championships. I understand that I am solely responsible for all students under my care at all times, whether on or off Queen's University property. **I understand it is my job to sign students in at the beginning of the tournament as well as at the start of every consecutive tournament day and that I will only be able to do so with valid photo ID.**

By signing below, I acknowledge I am at least 18 years of age as of January 10th, 2019 and will provide photo ID proof of age to sign in students at the tournament.

I also acknowledge that it is my responsibility to make my students aware of tournament policies, rules and proper debate conduct prior to attending and will ensure that they abide by them during the tournament.

As the representative of my institution, I agree to abide by the 5-team cap, understanding that if my institution is suspected of breaking it, all teams from my institution will be barred from attending this year and/or for future years.

Signature: _____

Date: _____