

Tournament Selection Policy

The selection process to determine any given external tournament delegation (with the exception of World's, the process for which is outlined in the World's Selection Policy) will be overseen as follows by a three-person Tournament Selection Committee (TSC). The TSC will be composed of three members: two Members-at-Large elected at the relevant year's Returning Members' Meeting, and the current President. A member of the club's executive may only run for one of these elected positions in the event that no other candidates put forth their names. Only those who were members of the club during the previous academic year may vote or run in the TSC election.

The TSC will meet before every external tournament to determine which applicants will be attending. Each applicant will be assigned a score calculated by totaling that applicant's debate-off score, past results, and club commitment. The applicants will be ranked based on these scores and will be offered the choice of a debating or a judging spot in the order of their ranking, until no more spots remain. Applicants should indicate in their application whether or not they would accept a judging position. In the event that this is not indicated it will be assumed that they would accept a judging position. While an applicant may request to see their debate-off score, these rankings will not be released to any applicant or third party. (RATIOS)

The TSC may, at the direction of the Executive, reserve one or more debating or judging spots to be filled by novice applicants. Novice protected spots may not be used more than three times in one academic year by any individual. In order to qualify as a novice applicant, the individual must meet the criteria outlined in the CUSID constitution.

All TSC decisions regarding eligibility will be made in accordance with the membership criteria upheld by the Queen's Debating Union, and if applicable, any other governing body administering the tournament in question (e.g. CUSID, APDA, individual Chief Adjudicators).

Debate-Offs

Each applicant must participate in a debate-off conducted in the style of the tournament they are applying for (British or Canadian Parliamentary). If this arrangement is not logistically possible, all reasonable measures must be taken to ensure that the adjudication for each set of debate-offs remains as consistent as possible.

The judges will score the round and assign one set of speaker scores which they will submit to the TSC immediately after the debate-off. In a Canadian Parliamentary debate-off, the judges are to assign speaker scores without regard for a win-loss. Debate-off scores may not be revealed to participants until the end of the selection process.

In the event that the number of interested applicants cannot be easily distributed into debate-off rooms without undue hardship or difficulty, the TSC may, at their discretion, offer the bidding individual(s) with the highest combined past results and club commitment

score the opportunity to substitute their most recent average speaker score in the style of the tournament they are applying to attend, in lieu of participating in a debate-off. Positions and partnerships will be drawn randomly in advance of the round, and cannot be changed once determined. In British Parliamentary debate-offs, partners may determine speaking order according to their preferences and if agreement between the two partners cannot be reached, then speaking order will be determined randomly by the Chair. In the event of a personal or medical emergency, an individual may request to substitute their most recent speaker score (the average of the scores received in all preliminary rounds at their most recent tournament) in lieu of participating in a debate-off. The TSC will evaluate these and other extenuating circumstances at their discretion, and should the applicant's justification be found insufficient, may award the applicant a score of sixty for the debate-off in question.

Club Commitment

For any external tournament (not including World's, see World's Selection Policy) the applicant must submit their club commitment demonstrating their dedication and commitment to the Union for the past twelve months leading up to the day of their submission. In the event that an individual is returning to the club after a lapse in their membership, their most recent year of membership will be the one assessed as long as that year of membership did not occur longer than four years prior to the date of assessment. When in doubt of what to include in their list of commitment, the applicant ought to err on the side of inclusion.

The TSC will assess club commitment for the applicant's past year holistically and allot the applicant a score ranging from zero to five, including half points. The TSC will input the club commitment scores into a club commitment formula as part of the tournament spreadsheet. The weighting of club commitment varies based on the tournament and will be released with the call for bids.

The TSC cannot give the applicant credit for club commitment not listed in their application; the list must be thorough and explicit. The applicant must also provide the year that the activity took place in in the application. In the event that club commitment is found to be falsified, in that the applicant includes activities in which they did not actually partake, the applicant will receive a club commitment score of zero for the tournament they are currently applying for.

A club commitment score of zero is reserved for individuals who have made seemingly no effort to be an active member of the QDU by showing up to meetings rarely if at all, and not taking advantage of any opportunities to take on responsibility within the club. Alternatively, this score may be used punitively if a member has been found to have falsified their reported club commitment, or on the recommendation of the Equity Officer in response to a severe violation of the club's Equity Policy. Club commitment will be assigned according to the scoring system outlined at the end of this policy.

Past Results

Each applicant is responsible for submitting their most recent eight past results, both Canadian and British Parliamentary, formatted as their speaker ranking as a fraction of the total number of participants. The TSC will fact-check these results in the event that there is reasonable suspicion regarding their accuracy. Each candidate is responsible for ensuring that the list they submit to the TSC is thorough and accurate. In the event that an individual is found to have falsified or omitted a past result, they will receive a zero in place of the score in question. Applicants who participated in octofinals will receive a bonus 0.25. Participation in quarter-finals will receive a 0.3 bonus. Participation in semi-finals will receive a 0.375 bonus. Participants who participated in finals will receive a 0.475 bonus. Applicants who won the tournament will receive a 0.6 bonus. Past results will not be considered when differentiating between candidates vying for a protected novice spot. Past results earned at designated pro-am tournaments (including, but not necessarily to will never be considered.

TSC will evaluate the past results of a debater according to a three-tiered system:

Tier 1: Uncompetitive Domestic Tournaments – weighting of 1

Tier 2: Competitive Domestic Tournaments – weighting of 1.25

Tier 3: Competitive International Tournaments – weighting of 1.5

All tournaments that the Union is scheduled to attend will be assigned a ranking by the executive at the beginning of the year according to their best anticipation of the degree of competitiveness of each tournament. These rankings may be changed after the tournament with a majority vote by the Executive.

Penalties

In the event that an applicant has been found to have falsified or omitted a score in their past results, they will receive a zero in place of the score in question.

In the event that an applicant has been found to have falsified their club commitment, they will receive a club commitment score of zero.

These penalties will only be applied to the bid that the applicant has been found to have falsified.

Assuming that TSC has fulfilled their commitment to release results by the Friday previous to the tournament, individuals have until Monday night to drop from their allocated spot. Barring a reasonable excuse, to be determined by TSC, the applicant may be financially liable for the debating or judging fee that they would have paid had they attended the tournament. Note that unless it was indicated in the original application that the individual would not accept a judging spot, dropping due to not wanting to judge is not a reasonable excuse. If TSC has not fulfilled their commitment to release results by the Friday previous to the tournament, the applicants may drop after Monday night.

Confidentiality

Neither the ranking of applicants nor club commitment scores will be released to anyone who is not a member of the TSC. Applicants' debate-off scores are available upon request following the completion of the selection process, and will only be released to third parties with the applicant's explicit permission.

Announcement of Results

The TSC will make a reasonable commitment to ensure that the results of any qualifier are released by the Friday night the week previous to the tournament in question, barring the occurrence of unforeseen circumstances delaying their calculation or circulation.

Club Commitment Scoring

The TSC will allocate club commitment scores according to the following point system. The TSC maintains the final discretion in awarding points for items that are not listed in this policy. Club commitment scores will be added to a maximum of 5 points. If a member has attended an event that occurred more than twelve months prior, but did not attend that event this year, or that event was not held, they will receive half of the point value listed here for that event. Members who attend events may not accumulate points from the same event the previous year, but will receive the full point allocation for their participation in that academic year. Full point allocations will be given to events that have occurred within 12 months. Members are expected to list the year that the event occurred in their application. It is understood that attendance, billeting and judging at internal tournaments are the baseline commitments that a member in the club should achieve. The scoring is as follows.

General Member Commitments

Attendance at weekly meetings – 1 point

In order to achieve this point members must attend a minimum of one meeting a week. The Sergeant at Arms will take attendance in order to enforce this. Missing one week of meetings per semester will not result in a loss of this point. In the event that a member misses a week of meetings, they may make up this point by holding a practice round, drill or office hours in the subsequent two weeks. The TSC maintains discretion as to whether or not the compensation for the missed meeting is adequate.

Billeting – 0.3 points per tournament

In order to achieve these points, members must billet during Chancellors, Queen's High Schools Debating Tournament or any additional non-internal, QDU-hosted tournaments that may be held by the QDU. Members will receive 0.3 points per tournament.

Judging – 0.3 points per tournament

In order to achieve these points, members must judge during Chancellors, Queen's High Schools Debating Tournament or any additional non-internal, QDU-hosted tournament. Members will receive 0.3 points per tournament. It is at the discretion of the TSC, upon

advisement by the adjudication core of the tournament as to whether or not a member has fulfilled their judging requirement for the weekend.

Tournament Club Commitments

The TSC reserves discretion to dock club commitment upon advisement by the tournament director of the tournaments in question.

Chief Adjudicators – 0.3 points per tournament

In order to achieve these points, a member must serve as a Chief Adjudicator for Chancellors, High Schools, or any additional non-internal, QDU-hosted tournament.

Foods Head – 0.3 points per tournament

In order to achieve these points, a member must serve as the head of the foods organizing committee for Chancellors, High Schools, or any additional non-internal, QDU-hosted tournament.

High Schools Logistics Head – 0.3 points

In order to achieve these points, a member must serve as the head of the logistics organizing committee for the QDU High School's Debating Tournament.

Chancellors Logistics Head – 0.25 points

In order to achieve these points, a member must serve as the head of the logistics organizing committee for Chancellors.

Deputy Chief Adjudicator/Assistant Tournament Director – 0.25 points per tournament

In order to achieve these points, a member must serve as a Deputy Chief Adjudicator or an Assistant Tournament Director for Chancellors, High Schools, or any additional non-internal, QDU-hosted tournament.

Socials Head – 0.2 points per tournament

In order to achieve these points, a member must serve as the head of the socials organizing committee for Chancellors, High Schools, or any additional non-internal, QDU-hosted tournament.

Assisting a committee – 0.15 points per tournament

In order to achieve these points, a member must be present and helpful to an organizing committee at Chancellors, High Schools, or any additional non-internal, QDU-hosted tournament. This point will be awarded at the discretion of the TSC, upon advisement with the OrgComm heads and tournament director of the tournament in question.

Internal Club Commitments

Participation in the weekly High School Outreach program - 0.4 points (the critic will receive 0.2 points)

In order to achieve these points, a member must regularly participate in the High School Outreach program. This point allocation may be altered by the TSC upon advisement by the critic.

Judging at an external high school tournament – 0.3 points per tournament

Giving a seminar – 0.2 points per seminar (to a maximum of 0.2 points for the critic)

In order to achieve these points, a member must assist the Critic in writing and presenting a seminar to the club. The Critic may receive a maximum of 0.2 points for their participation in seminars.

Providing a car – 0.2 points (to a maximum of 0.6 points)

In order to achieve these points, a member will provide their personal car so that members of the club may attend an external tournament.

Providing a house for a large social – 0.15 points (to a maximum of 0.15 for the socials director)

In order to achieve these points a member must provide their house for a large club social. This will be determined at the discretion of the TSC, and will include (but not be limited to) the Novice Training Day social, the Chancellors social, the Christmas social, the High Schools social, and Closing of the House.

Assisting at Novice Training Day – 0.15 points

Participation in a show debate or judging test – 0.1 points

In order to achieve these points, members must debate in a show debate or judging test. Writing a judging test will not be considered commitment for this point.

Driving a car – 0.1 points per tournament

In order to achieve these points, a member will drive a car that is not their own so that members of the club may attend an external tournament.

Filling out the Equity survey – 0.1 points

ICBC volunteer – 0.1 points

In order to achieve these points, a member must have volunteered on during the ICBC tournament. The ICBC show debate is not included in this point, but will be allocated the 0.1 points for show debate participation.

Chairing an awards committee – 0.1 points

In order to achieve these points, a member will have chaired an awards selection committee for the Debating Blue, Robert Sutherland, Thomas Holloway or Lorna Breckon Novice awards.

Assisting at Queen's in the Park, Sidewalk Sale or any additional fundraiser – 0.1 points per event

In order to achieve these points, a member must volunteer for a minimum of 2 hours at Queen's in the Park, the Sidewalk Sale, or an additional fundraising event, to be defined at the discretion of TSC.

Participating on an awards committee – 0.05 points

In order to achieve these points, a member will have participated on an awards selection committee for the Debating Blue, Robert Sutherland, Thomas Holloway or Lorna Breckon Novice awards.

Holding additional training – 0.05 points each time

In order to achieve these points, a member will hold additional training events, which include (but are not limited to) CP case construction, office hours or drills. The event must have had at least one participant.

Two class talks -0.05 points

In order to achieve these points, a member will participate in two class talks.

Executive Roles

Club commitment for executive roles may accumulate over the years, however the point allocation will be halved each year subsequent to the year that the position was held. The club commitment will begin to be applied at the beginning of the member's term in the given executive position. Executive and Equity club commitment is contingent on the member making a genuine effort to attend all club meetings, including executive meetings. TSC is not expected to attend all meetings. The fulfillment of this commitment will be determined at the discretion of the TSC. If the member has not fulfilled this commitment, the point allocation for their executive role will be halved. The club commitment allocations for executive roles are as follows.

President – 1 point

Critic – 0.8 points

Treasurer – 0.7 points

Secretary – 0.6 points

High Schools Tournament Director – 0.6 points

Chancellors Tournament Director – 0.5 points

Appointed Positions and Equity – 0.3 points

Novice Representative – 0.2 points

Tournament Selection Committee – 0.2 points