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# Seattle University MS Debate Tournament

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## Welcome Packet

Saturday January 20, 2024

Version 1.0

*Notice: All participants are subject to the participation waiver form posted on the tournament invitation page and must sign this waiver.*

# Welcome to the Seattle University January 20, 2024 MS Debate Tournament

Please share this document with your students, parents, and judges.

Click on these links to find information on that subject.

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## Questions? Please email Jim Hanson at [hansonj@seattleu.edu](mailto:hansonj@seattleu.edu)

### 1. QUESTIONS? SOMETHING I CAN HELP WITH?

Email me, Jim Hanson, at [hansonj@seattleu.edu](mailto:hansonj@seattleu.edu) (my other email addresses work as well) or text me on my cell phone at 360-536-1983.

### 2. MUST DO'S FOR YAATLY

1. **Coaches need to get students invited to their Yaatly account and to accept the tournament invitation from Jim Hanson including doing a test run well before the tournament starts.**
2. **You must use a Windows, Mac, or Chromebook computer.** Smart phones/tablets such as an Ipad do NOT work.
3. **You must use Google Chrome or Edge browser.** Firefox is iffy. Safar and Internet Explorer and others do NOT work.
4. **You must use wifi or be plugged in with ethernet.** PLEASE SIT CLOSE—within 25 feet—TO YOUR WIFI ROUTER/CABLE MODEM. Your internet speed needs to be AT LEAST 10 mb download, 5 mb upload—test it at: <https://www.google.com/search?q=internet+speed+test>
5. **Your computer should be fully charged or, preferably, plugged in.** The event is long; your battery may not last as long as the event.
6. **We strongly recommend you don't use a separate microphone;** use the one built into your laptop. Yes, you can use headphones/earbuds.
7. **You should have only one computer connected to Yaatly per room.** Additional computers in the same room running Yaatly create nasty feedback loops that will hurt your ears.
8. **Be ready to provide your cell phone number as a backup.** Have the person with problems call, then put them on speakerphone, and they'll be heard over Yaatly so that they can debate or judge in the event you can't get connected to Yaatly.

### 3. POSTINGS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, JUDGE TRAINING, AWARDS

See the upper left hand of your Yaatly screen.

Your School Prep Room will show there as well.

Postings are in the middle/right of the Yaatly screen.

Problems or issues—contact our Tournament Managers in Yaatly in the auditorium (or possibly another room that will show on your Yaatly screen).

## 4. TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

9:00am, Judge Training, Debaters check in with Coaches

9:20 Round 1—Check-in

**Posting should appear on Yaatly at 9:10am**

**GO TO YOUR YAATLY DEBATE ROOM AND CHECK IN WITH JUDGE**

**JUDGES REPORT NO-SHOW TEAMS AT 9:20AM BY EMAILING TAB**

**DEBATERS REPORT NO-SHOW JUDGES AT 9:20AM BY EMAILING TAB**

**At 9:20am, go back to the main Yaatly room.**

9:30 Round 1—Postings and Announcements

**TEAMS WITH "BYES" or missing opponents, BE on standby as we'll try to get you a team to debate.**

**Be in the Yaatly Auditorium, Prepared Topic announced.**

**20 minutes Prep, 1<sup>st</sup> Prop should speak at 9:55am.**

**Judges submit winner and points by 1:00pm.**

11:40 Round 2 Postings and Announcements

**Be in the Yaatly Auditorium, Prepared Topic announced.**

**MISSING JUDGE? ALWAYS REPORT THAT TO TAB WHEN 7 MINUTES LATE.**

**20 minutes Prep, 1<sup>st</sup> Prop should speak at 12:05pm**

**Judges submit winner and points by 1:00pm.**

### Lunch break after Round 2

1:50pm Round 3—Impromptu Topic Announced

**Be in the Yaatly Auditorium, Impromptu Topic announced.**

**30 minutes Prep, 1<sup>st</sup> Prop should speak at 2:25pm**

**Judges submit winner and points by 3:10pm.**

3:50 Round 4—Impromptu Topic Announced

**Be in the Yaatly Auditorium, Impromptu Topic announced.**

**30 minutes Prep, 1<sup>st</sup> Prop should speak at 4:25pm**

**Judges submit winner by 5:10pm.**

5:40 Awards

**Expected completion 6:00pm**

## 5. MS 3 ON 3 TOPICS, TIMES, RULES

### A. Topics

Round 1 Topic: The United States federal government ought to guarantee the right to housing.

Round 2 Topic (you take the other side): The United States federal government ought to guarantee the right to housing.

Round 3 Topic: Impromptu topic #1

Round 4 Topic: Impromptu topic #2

### B. Debating Times

Topic announce, Go to your debate room for your 20 minutes prep. If it is an impromptu topic, prepare in your school room for 15 minutes, then go to your debate room for the remaining 15 minutes.

- Prop 1st speaker: 5 minutes
- Opp 1st speaker: 5 minutes
- Prop 2nd speaker: 5 minutes
- Opp 2nd speaker: 5 minutes
- Opp 3rd speaker: 5 minutes
- Prop 3rd speaker: 5 minutes

POIs during the middle 3 minutes of each speech subject to POI rules.

### C. Debating Rules

**Reminder: Treat your Partners, Opponents, Judge and Audience Positively and Inclusively!**

**Debaters must be 10-14 years of age or receive league president permission to debate in this tournament.**

*Notice: We are likely to require the use of tournament provided flow paper.*

#### Prep Time Rules

- You CAN view materials you researched/prepared before prep time started EXCEPT you cannot do this if it is an impromptu topic.  
You CAN talk with your debate partners  
You CAN hand write notes/flow arguments for your speeches.
- You CANNOT research online during prep time.  
You CANNOT get debating help from coach(es) or parent(s) during prep time.
- NOTE YOU CANNOT USE typed items during the debate except for ADA reasons.

#### During the Debate

- You CAN use HAND WRITTEN notes prepared during Prep Time.  
You CAN pass notes with your debate partners.  
You CAN quietly speak with your debate partners who are not speaking.
- You CANNOT view nor use materials during the debate that were prepared before prep time.  
You CANNOT use materials on your computer/tablet/phone during the debate except for ADA reasons. Use handwritten notes ONLY (except for ADA reasons).  
**You CANNOT use an electronic flowsheet when we are online (eg flowing on Google Spreadsheet) except for ADA reasons**  
You CANNOT research during the debate.  
You CANNOT get help from coach(es) or parent(s) during the debate.  
You CANNOT speak to teammates who are speaking.
- No heckling.
- POIs (questions/short arguments) allowed in ALL speeches for the middle 3 minutes of the speeches.
- Each speaker must take two POIs except they do not take POIs requested less than 30 seconds after taking a POI.
- When there is an impromptu topic for a debate, logic and reasons should be given just as much weight as a debater citing a study/statistic/fact.

## 6. PARENTS

We welcome parents supporting their children's growth as speakers! We ask that you abide by our tournament rules:

- You may watch your child debate in their debating/speaking room.
- No video recording, no photographs, no screen shots during debate or speech rounds.
- Please, no talking with students from other schools.
- Spectators should remain neutral and quiet during the round. You may applaud for all competitors after the final speech.
- We encourage you to be supportive of your debater/speaker.
- Complaint about a judge? Two things: 1) Remember not everyone agrees even if you feel really strongly your child should have won. 2) If a judge violated a rule and especially if they did not treat students with courtesy and respect—please report it to your coach who can bring the issue to the attention of the tournament directors.
- **PLEASE DO NOT TAKE FOOD UNLESS YOU KNOW YOUR COACH HAS PAID FOR FOOD.**

## 7. JUDGES

Thank you for serving as a judge. You are helping students grow and become better communicators.

- **ALL Judges carefully read and follow the judging instructions given to you.**

**Debate Ballots are sent via email. Judges do the following at the end of a round:**

1. ASAP, **EMAIL REPLY** your ballot with the winner and speaker points for the debate.
2. Give constructive feedback to debaters orally (you don't do this for speaking events).
3. **After oral feedback, submit Reason for Decision and Comments Form:** with 1) Arguments that persuaded you to vote for the team you did; 2) at least 1 good thing each debater did; 3) at least 1 thing each debater needs to improve on.

- **ALL Judges carefully read and follow the judging instructions given to you.**

**Speech Ballots are sent via email. Judges do the following at the end of a round:**

1. ASAP, **EMAIL REPLY** your ballot with the rankings and speaker points.
2. **Give Feedback for each and every speaker you judged using the Online Form Link provided.**

## 8. COACHES

We want to make sure you and your team know what is going on—topics, pairings, etc.

- All announcements and postings will happen over yaatly.
- We will also do announcements over yaatly.
- Issues/concerns during the tournament—please contact Corey or Arren in Pigott 204.
- Have a judge no show before the tournament starts? Notify Jim Hanson (hansonj@seattleu.edu) as soon as possible and provide a replacement judge.

## **9. SOMEONE TREAT YOU POORLY? AN ISSUE? A PROBLEM?**

Please contact your coach and coaches should contact Jim Hanson, Tournament Director. We want to help work out problems and make the tournament a positive, inclusive experience for you.

***At all times, participants are expected to treat everyone at the tournament with respect, kindness, and professionalism.***

From me and all of the Seattle Debate Union—welcome to the tournament! : )

Jim Hanson, Director of Forensics (Speech and Debate) and the SU team!

The Seattle Debate Union

Communication Department, Seattle University

[hansonj@seattleu.edu](mailto:hansonj@seattleu.edu) (email is best; my other email addresses work as well)

360-536-1983 text; call only if very urgent