



Invitation
The West Texas Dustup 2017

Hi folks!

Texas Tech Debate invites you and yours to the West Texas Dustup, a parliamentary debate tournament held on campus at Texas Tech University. The tournament will be held Friday, January 27th through Sunday, January 29th.

We are experimenting with a unique feature at the tournament this year, double elimination rounds. Our aim is to model many aspects of our tournament after the NPTE championship. Double elimination rounds give your top teams more rounds of high-level competition and your younger debaters room to experiment a bit. We hope the opportunity to try out a different setup sounds fun.

We are committed to putting on a first-class tournament. There will be delicious food, beautiful skies (fingers crossed), and top-class facilities for competition.

Get your crew ready for a dustup!

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Schedule

Friday, January 27th

12:30pm Registration

1:00 – 3:00 Round 1

3:00 – 5:00 Round 2

5:00 – 7:00 Round 3

7:00-7:45 Dinner (Provided)

7:45 – 9:45 Round 4

Saturday, January 28th

8:00 Light Refreshments

8:30 – 10:30 Round 5

10:30 – 12:30 Round 6

12:30-1:15 Lunch (Provided)

1:15 – 3:15 Elim 1

3:15- 5:15 Elim 2

5:15- 7:15 Elim 3

7:15 – 8:00 Dinner (Provided)

8:00 – 10:00 Elim 4

Sunday, January 29th

8:30 – 10:30 Elim 5

10:30 – 12:30 Elim 6

*Additional Elim rounds to immediately follow, if necessary. Lunch will be provided to all remaining competitors and judges.

Tournament Features

Lunch/Dinner provided Friday and Saturday. (Light refreshments on Saturday/Sunday morning)

Double-elimination out rounds. More rounds of competition at the highest levels.

No topic areas. We're *mostly* modeling the NPTE. One area we will be different is that there are no pre-released topic areas. Mile High wasn't long enough ago, amirite?

90 seconds of CX after each constructive speech. No flex time.

Fees

\$75 / Covered Team

\$175 / Uncovered Team

1 Judge = 2 teams covered

Entry Information

Registration available through ForensicsTournament.net

Deadline for Registration is Friday, January 20th at midnight

*No refunds for drops will be issued after Tuesday, January 24th.

Judging Policy

All judges are committed through the second elimination round and then one round after the elimination of your last team.

Judges should forfeit teams showing up to their rounds after prep time has expired.

Judges should constrain themselves from teams they are incapable of evaluating fairly/objectively.

Judges should show respect for student-competitors. Even when they do things that run counter to your vision of "good" debate. We want to cultivate an atmosphere of respect and learning. If you or your judges treat people in ways that run counter to that mission, we reserve the right to remove you from the tournament and charge you for uncovered teams. Surely this won't happen. We just ask you to be respectful and constructive.

Student-Run Programs

We want as many folks to attend our tournament as possible. If you operate a student-run program, or otherwise unable to attend our tournament due to financial constraints, please contact Adam at your earliest convenience to see if we can work something out.

Non-Parli (traditionally) Programs

We think parliamentary debate is awesome. If you run a program that has not traditionally participated in parliamentary debate, we'd love to give you a chance to see what it is all about. We are willing to offer discounts to programs that do not traditionally engage in national circuit parliamentary debate. Please contact Adam at your earliest convenience to discuss options.

Anti-Harassment Policy

If, at any point in time, behavior is reported that is antithetical to a positive learning environment for any other tournament participants, we will ask you to leave without discussion or delay. We do not have a prescribed process for adjudicating "punishment" for harassment during the tournament. If we hear that anyone has been harassed, offending parties will be asked to leave our campus immediately. We are happy to host our guests, but you do not have a *right* to compete at a tournament hosted on our campus.

We cannot know the history of every judge or competitor. If you believe that there is a person that will attend this tournament who we should not welcome onto our campus (or might interfere with your feeling safe attending the tournament) please contact Adam at your earliest convenience. Directors, please remember, you are *responsible* for the people that you bring to our campus.

Double-Elim Considerations

We are excited to try out a new format for out rounds at an invitational. One consideration you should make is that there is greater chance of schools being paired against each other in out rounds. This is because the first two debates are essentially repeated quarterfinals. We ask each school to make a determination of how they will handle this situation prior to the tournament. We will likely distribute a form for you to indicate your preferences when the strike sheet is released, the week or so before the tournament. This will help tab pair efficiently when we get there.