



2022 Western States Debating Championship

You are cordially invited to attend a Worlds-format debating tournament hosted by Regis University and the University of Denver on the weekend of March 26-27th, 2022.

Hosted By: Regis University and The University of Denver Debating Union

Conveners: Rob Margesson (rmargess@regis.edu) & Cody Walizer (cody.walizer@du.edu)

Tournament Location: Sturm Hall, University of Denver

CA Team: Nicholas Aranda (Kansas State), Darrin Hicks (DU), Sage Margesson (Regis)

We are pleased to offer six guaranteed rounds of WUDC competition, followed by a break to Quarterfinals (entry permitting).

Tournament Schedule

All times are Mountain Standard Time (MST)

Saturday, March 26

7:00 AM	Check In & Briefings
8:00 AM	Round 1
10:00 AM	Round 2
12:00 PM	Lunch
1:30 PM	Round 3
3:30 PM	Round 4
5:30 PM	Round 5

Sunday, March 27

8:00 AM	Check In
9:00 AM	Round 6
	Break Announcement
11:00 AM	*Open Quarterfinal
1:00 PM	Lunch
2:30 PM	*Open Semifinal
4:30 PM	Open Final

*A Novice Semifinal and Final will occur during these rounds respectively if the draw allows.

Guidelines

General announcements and tournament information can be found on the organizing forum administered by Rob Margesson [here](#). The following sections detail some of the basic procedural policies for this tournament.

COVID-19 Policies

The University of Denver follows a strict protocol for visitors, which can be found [here](#). These policies are long and detailed, be sure to review them thoroughly. When determining the requirements that this policy will have for you, consider yourself a “single building visitor.” The main requirements for such visitors are as follows:

- Completion of the [visitor screening survey](#) twice, **once for each day** you visit DU’s campus. This survey will ask you to disclose your vaccination status.
- Currently, DU is operating within [Alert Level Green](#). This includes masking requirements. Rooms will be set up to allow for speakers to remove their mask (only allowed at a distance of 12 feet or more) to the best of our ability.
- You may be denied access to the building if these requirements are not met, or if additional restrictions are imposed.

Entries:

Initial Entries will be capped at 80 teams in order to adhere to COVID-19 policies. This is subject to change. Registration links will be released via the organizing forum linked at the top of the Guidelines section.

Each school is entitled to initially register a maximum of four teams. All other team entries will be waitlisted until registration is complete. Judge requirements are determined using the N-1 formula, where N = the number of teams you're entering. In other words, if you intend to enter 3 teams, they'll need to be covered by 2 full-time judges. Uncovered teams will be dropped.

There will be no registration fee for this tournament. As such, meals are not provided. There are several restaurants within walking distance of the tournament and a sufficient amount of time is provided for teams to go off campus to eat and return.

Judging:

As noted under Registration, you must register judges sufficient to cover your team entries using the N-1 formula. You should indicate whether each judge is qualified to Chair a deliberation panel upon registration. Generally, experienced, mature and confident judges should be designated as a Chair as they will have additional responsibilities in this tournament.

Chairs will serve two very important roles in this tournament that differ substantially from judges’ typical responsibilities.

- Chairs are expected to manage Points of Privilege offered by the debaters. Points of Privilege are intended to allow debaters to address potentially-offensive behavior by others in the round. If a debater requests a Point of Privilege, the Chair should stop the speaker’s time,

allow the debater raising the point to state their concern and then respond either by counselling the speaker on more appropriate behavior, counselling the debater raising the point that their point is not valid or by deferring decision by taking the point “under advisement.”

- Chairs are expected to lead deliberation about the ranking of teams that will be observed by the teams competing. As such, Chairs should feel confident managing the deliberation so that all teams are given due consideration in the decision and that all members of the panel are given ample opportunity to weigh in on their decision. Debaters must listen silently to the deliberation and may be excused at the discretion of the Chair if they refuse to do so. Following the deliberation and ranking, the Chair may offer a brief summary adjudication to the debaters but is not required to do so.

Other relevant policies, such as topic selection, will be determined by the CA team.

Equity:

This event embraces an approach to equity predicated on two assumptions:

- Actions or utterances which may cause offense are often the product of ignorance or error rather than malice, and
- Equity issues are opportunities to improve awareness and competence when interacting with others.

As such, our protocol for equity concerns will encourage direct and immediate addressing of equity issues with an eye toward improving the perspective and comprehension of all involved.

- Debaters may raise a Point of Privilege in-round to address equity issues occurring in the moment. The Chair should immediately stop time, address the concern (typically by counseling the debaters to refrain from potentially-offensive behavior) and then resume time. Judges are empowered to consider equity issues and/or abuse of Points of Privilege when assigning rankings and points.
- Should any participant(s) believe the equity issue is not sufficiently addressed via a Point of Privilege or should an equity issue occur outside a debate round, the participant(s) may address the issue with the tournament host or their designee. The coach of the programs involved must be invited to participate in this discussion. The host or designee should assume an ombuds perspective, with a charge of resolving the equity issue which may involve facilitating discussion between those involved to address the issue. No participant unwilling to participate in such a discussion may be required to do so.
- Should the issue remain unresolved or if it is of sufficient magnitude to exceed management by tournament staff, the host or involved parties may seek the involvement of the host institution’s Title IX/Diversity/Equity/Compliance office.

Hotel and Travel:

The tournament hotel is the **Fairfield Inn and Suites by Marriott Cherry Creek** located at 1680 S Colorado Blvd, Denver, CO 80222. To take the light rail to the hotel you can take the E-line Denver Light Rail train to the Colorado station. The hotel is .5 miles from the Colorado station. The same E-line train takes you to the University station attached to the University of Denver. The room rate is \$110.00 per night and reservations can be made at the following link:

<https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1646093838774&key=GRP&app=resvlink>

If you wish to avoid the cost of renting a car for the tournament weekend you can navigate easily on light rail or via ride share. To get from the airport to the tournament hotel you take the Denver Light Rail A-line to Union station and transfer to the E-line. The light rail ride to campus is less than 5 minutes and a ride share to campus should also be around 5 minutes.