YODL #3
January 27 & 28, 2023

Your squad is cordially invited to the third Yaatly Online Debating League tournament of the 2022-2023 academic year. At this event, we'll continue our experiments to explore best practice in BP debating. You may read more about the YODL in our bylaws.

Highlights

YODL tournaments incorporate a number of approaches that are significantly different from traditional BP practice. In brief, the major differences are:

- Each debate decides topic via a topic striking process
- Points of privilege allowed during the round to address equity concerns in-round
- Escalated equity issues handled by the tournament host or designee with the option of involving the host institution's equity and compliance office.
- Open deliberation following the debate, to be observed by the debaters

We expect that every participant--debaters, judges and observers--will read, understand and abide by the policies governing participation in YODL events.

Schedule (times in Pacific Time)

Friday, 1/27
3:00 - Participant check-in begins
3:15 - Welcome & announcements in Yaatly auditorium
3:20 - Participant drop deadline
3:30 - Rd 1
5:30 - Rd 2
7:30 - Coaches' meeting: discussion of conference structure & schedule

Saturday, 1/28
9:30 - Participant check-in begins
9:50 - Participant drop deadline
10:00 - Rd 3
12:00 - Lunch
1:00 - Rd 4
3:00 - Elim #1 (as needed)
5:00 - Elim #2 (as needed)

Platform

We'll use Yaatly for this online event. You'll need to create an account for your squad (including debaters and judges) if you haven't already done so. You may read about creating a squad account and adding your debaters & judges to that account here.

Use this link to RSVP on Yaatly for your squad

Registration

Entries are due by **midnight, Tuesday, January 24**. Please register via this link..

Each school is entitled to register as many teams as you'd like, **provided you cover your entry with a sufficient number of full-time judges.** 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.

NB: We do NOT allow uncovered teams to participate in YODL tournaments You MUST cover your entry or be willing to drop uncovered teams.

Fees

We run YODL as a service to our community. However, we do incur charges for our use of the digital resources required to run the Yaatly platform. We are, therefore, providing you the opportunity to donate in support of this event. We suggest a donation of $30 for each team you register, but will never exclude students from debating should you choose not to make a donation. [You may donate via this link](#).

Motions

Motions for each debate will be selected by the competing teams using a topic striking system. Please read through [this document](#) and share it with your teams so that they understand how the process will work.

Critical to this approach is the suggestion of topics by those schools attending. **Consequently, I'm asking that each registered school submit a single topic in each of the following categories by midnight on Wednesday, January 25.**

1. Privacy: Topics related to the conception and protection of individual privacy.
2. Transportation: Motions about automobile regulations, public transportation infrastructure, car norms in the US, autonomous vehicles
3. China/US Technology Relations: Topics concerning cooperation between the US & Chinese on technology, banning Tik Tok, intellectual property
4. Class: Controversies surrounding class warfare, economic equity, income inequality, capitalism.
5. Mechanisms of Political Change: Debates about working from inside the system; violence vs peace; negation vs affirmation (#defundthepolice vs #fundsocialservices).
6. Influencers on Social Media: Motions about banning advertised/sponsorships/sponsored content, govs should actively disincentivize or prevent people from becoming influencers, hard age restrictions on content creators that advertise products.

Programs are encouraged to involve debaters in generating suggested topics.

Judges

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.

1. 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 counseling the speaker on more appropriate behavior, counseling the debater raising the point that their point is not valid or by deferring decision by taking the point "under advisement."

2. 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.