

# US UNIVERSITIES NATIONAL DEBATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

## INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT IN THE BRITISH PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE FORMAT

**FRIDAY – SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9-11, 2015**

Dear Colleagues:

On behalf of Claremont McKenna College and the Claremont Colleges Debate Union, you are cordially invited to attend the **US Universities National Debate Championships**, featuring competition in the British parliamentary format. **The tournament is open to US and international colleges and universities.** The event provides an opportunity to participate in outstanding competition in the BP format.

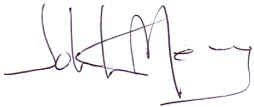
The tournament features 8 preliminary debates and two elimination debates. Like other intercollegiate events sponsored by the Claremont Colleges Debate Union, the tournament will offer genuinely challenging competition, talented judging, beautiful site and facilities, the finest tournament amenities (yes, the aromatherapy buffet will be available), and a relaxed schedule and atmosphere.

The tournament will collect debate demographic information with registration and, based on debate results, recognize an overall champion, a novice intercollegiate champion (first year of college debating, regardless of previous experience), a new intercollegiate champion (first year of debating, no prior competitive speech/debate experience), a community college champion, an undergraduate champion, and a graduate/professional school champion.

**Registration for the tournament begins on Tuesday, September 8, 2015, 12:00 PM (PST).** Please read the Team Entries section of this invitation to ensure that you register properly. Places will be allocated in order of registration date and time. Please consider registering early.

If you have any questions or require supplemental information, please do not hesitate to contact me. I look forward to seeing you this fall for an event that will be extraordinarily challenging and fun.

Sincerely yours,



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# UR–TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

## Additional details

**LOTS!** of outstanding debating (8 preliminary debates – debate early and often this fall) and überjudging (all judges qualified as ultra, quantum, 3.0), extraordinary hospitality, aromatherapy, great food, fantastic traditional awards and periodically distributed gifts, relaxing atmosphere, transparency (tab operates in the general meeting area, oral adjudication in all debates), challenging topics to prepare attendees for subsequent tournament competition, and **MORE!**...It's fun, it's furious, and it's ON TIME!

## 1. Team Entries

### Registration dates and deadlines

Entries open on September 8, 2015, 12:00 PM (PST). The final deadline for entries is Monday, October 5, 2015, 6:00 PM (PST). You should register early. All fees will be assessed at the October 5 deadline.

### Registration Debate Demographic information

To be eligible for category awards, the entry should note the following eligible award categories (must apply to BOTH students on a team):

Community College Team

Undergraduate Team

Graduate/Professional School (e.g., law, medicine, business) Team

Novice Debate Team (any previous experience, first year of BP debating)

New Debate Team (no prior speech/debate experience in high school/college)

For example, an institution's team registration might be:

Kafkaesque College

Marki Doe and Jasper Johnny – Undergraduate, New

Casper Ghost and Shonda Pierce – Undergraduate

Freedom Forever and Michaela Michaels – Undergraduate, Novice

### Email your registration

Entries are accepted exclusively by email. Send entries to [john.meany@cmc.edu](mailto:john.meany@cmc.edu). Please note "USU Registration" in the subject line. You will receive an email confirmation within 60 hours. Please confirm all entries by email or telephone if you do not receive entry verification.

### Eligibility to register

Participants must attend an accredited degree-granting post-secondary institution. If an individual attends more than one institution, he or she must register as a participant for the institution granting the higher degree. Hybrid teams are not eligible to participate.

## 2. Judging

### Number to register

N-1 applies.

## **Eligibility to judge**

Judges must attend the briefing session. Those institutions without sufficient or qualified judges must pay the hired adjudicator fee to participate in the competition.

The briefing session will not offer primary debate instruction. The tournament does not engage in prior restraint regarding argumentative choices of debaters. It is anticipated that teams attending the event have received format and debate instruction from coaches and peers, as appropriate. In addition, it is expected that the participating adults are capable of making responsible choices about the arguments they choose to advance in debates.

In registration, please note if judges are eligible to chair.

IMPORTANT – Participating schools must note any judging conflicts when submitting registration materials. Judges with conflicts announced at the tournament will not be considered as qualifying for the pool. Please ask your judges for information regarding any and all conflicts to avoid this problem. [Conflicts include any previous coaching, debating, financial, or personal association with another institution or its staff or contestants that may create a bias or the appearance of a bias]. The tournament director reserves the right to deny participation to any judge. Teams are not considered to have an entered judge without tournament approval for the listed judge.

## Registering judges

Please use this model in your email to register judges

Kafkaesque College

Markie Poe, chair

Kasper Goste, chair

Freedom Most of the Time, wing

## **3. Debate Rules and Awards**

### **Format**

Barring an unusual event, the tournament will follow WUDC guidelines (<http://www.debating.net/wudc/articles&docs/rules.php>), with the following noted exceptions: the tournament has oral disclosure and feedback in **all** debates; position equalization as appropriate for preliminary debates; elimination round draw/position is based on seeding of the preliminary debates. Any additional modification is made to ensure that tournament awards are merit-based (as opposed to chance).

### **Awards**

At a minimum, elimination round teams will receive awards. The tournament also honors teams that have outstanding performances but fall short of qualifying for elimination round debates. Category champions will receive awards and additional category teams will receive official recognition. There are additional, special awards at the tournament (e.g., as in the past, these are non-competitive awards, including drawings for door prizes throughout the event).

## **4. Day of Tournament registration**

Financial and Attendance Registration will take place in Bauer Forum, Claremont McKenna College. Registration is 12:30 – 1:00 PM. Registration will close prior to the adjudicator briefing. Directions to registration are included. All outstanding fees must be paid at this time.

## **5. Travel**

**Air Travel Information:** If you are arriving by air, you should make arrangements to arrive at **LA/Ontario Airport** if possible (formerly named “Ontario Airport” but to add to confusion for travelers, the Los Angeles Airport Authority has added “Los Angeles” to all regional airports under its control – LA/Ontario Airport is NOT LAX!)...The airport, in the City of Ontario, is only 10-15 minutes from the City of Claremont. Taxi and shuttle transportation is approximately \$25-30 to Claremont. Driving Directions: To

reach Claremont McKenna College: Take the San Bernardino Freeway (I-10) to Indian Hill Boulevard (Exit 47). Drive north on Indian Hill Boulevard for approximately 1 mile to the Arrow Highway. Proceed right to Claremont Boulevard (second light). Left on Claremont Boulevard for 3/4 mile to the college entrance at 9th Street. Please park in the first parking lot on the left – the lot closest to the campus entrance. The gate will be raised and you may park in any legal spot (fine to park in college spaces before 5:00 PM except for designated carpool spots; may not park in ‘illegal’ spaces, i.e., disabled without appropriate placard, fire lane, loading zone, etc.) Bauer Center is directly west of this parking lot (the same direction that you drove into the campus). Bauer Forum is located on the main floor of the circular, southern section of Bauer Center. There is an entrance from the parking lot and another on the north (side of the building (the side facing the mountains, the right side approaching the building from the parking lot)). Do not park in the lot designated “Faculty/Staff Parking” immediately adjacent to the Bauer Center. Your vehicle will be towed from this lot.

**Accommodation Information:** No official tournament hotel. There are excellent hotels and values at LA/Ontario Airport, noted on myriad websites. These hotels are approximately 10-15 minutes from the campus by freeway. For those interested in options in Claremont: The Doubletree is located at 555 W. Foothill Boulevard at Indian Hill Boulevard, (909) 624-2411; Claremont Lodge, 736 S. Indian Hill Boulevard, Claremont, (909) 626-5654; The Hotel Claremont (formerly the Ramada Inn, approximately \$65-85 per single/double), 840 S. Indian Hill Boulevard, Claremont, (909) 621-4831. With the exception of the Doubletree Hotel, these hotels are at the intersection of I-10 and Indian Hill Boulevard. The Hotel Claremont is south of the freeway; the other hotels are located north of the freeway. There are restaurants clustered near these hotels. These are located about 3 miles from the campus.

Contact John Meany with requests for limited crash accommodations, exclusively available for international teams.

## 6. Fees

\$125 per team and \$60 per judge, coach, and observer. The hired judging fee is \$150 per judge. There is an additional \$150 fee for any team leaving the tournament prior to the completion of preliminary debates. All checks are payable to Claremont McKenna College. All fees are due no later than event financial registration.

The tournament will provide Friday’s reception, Saturday and Sunday breakfasts, and Saturday’s lunch and dinner. As always, meals will include a range of foods for all diets. All participants are welcome to sample the variety of foods but please assist in minimizing food waste by consuming all of small plate portions and then returning for more...

## 7. Tournament Schedule

### Friday, October 9

12:30-1:00 PM	Financial Registration, Pickford Auditorium, Claremont McKenna College
1:00-1:30 PM	Judge Briefing; Announcements/Motions in Bauer Forum Motions Announced at the Time the Round is Scheduled (e.g., Motion for R1 at 1:30 PM)
1:30 -3:30 PM	Round 1
3:45-5:45 PM	Round 2
5:30-6:00 PM	Reception
6:00-8:00 PM	Round 3

### Saturday, October 10

8:00 AM	Continental Breakfast
8:30 AM	Round 4
10:45 AM	Round 5
12:45 PM	Lunch
1:45 PM	Round 6
4:00 PM	Round 7

6:00 PM Dinner  
7:00 PM Round 8 (Elimination round break; Select awards; Announcements immediately following)

**Sunday, October 11**

9:00 AM Continental Breakfast  
9:30 AM Elimination Debate 1  
12:00 PM Elimination Debate 2

**TO ENTER**

Email [john.meany@cmc.edu](mailto:john.meany@cmc.edu) with school name, student director/coach name or other contact information, team entries and judge names, with full names of each participant.

Include debate team demographic information.

Note judges eligible to chair.

List any judge conflicts.

Include the names of all additional attendees—coaches, judges, students, and observers.

Please note in your registration document if you need to hire judges to cover the team entry.

Please use the subject line “USU Registration.”

Send by listed deadline.