

HART HOUSE

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

December 30th, 2015

Dear Coaches, Debaters and Colleagues,

The Hart House Debates Committee is delighted to extend you an invitation to the University of Toronto's annual Hart House High School Debate Tournament, scheduled for this February 19-20. The tournament's aim will be to create an enjoyable, educational and competitive event that will capture the experience and competitiveness of university-style debating.

Rounds: There will be six rounds (three on Friday, three on Saturday) in which all competitors will participate, with hidden quarterfinals in the sixth round for which all teams (including juniors) are eligible. These will be followed by a Semi Final and a Grand Final. Rounds 1 to 4 will have open adjudication, while Rounds 5 and 6 will have closed adjudication.

Format: The format of the tournament will be British Parliamentary (BP). All six rounds will be impromptu. The resolutions will be accessible to the average high school debater who has general knowledge of contentious issues; squirreling will not be permitted.

Junior High Students: The High School Tournament will be open to students from grade eight to graduating year (not including CEGEP). Within the tournament, there will be a "junior" (Grade eight and nine) designation; grade nine students are allowed to choose their own designation. Teams that are mixed (i.e. one partner in grade 11, the other in grade nine) cannot register as a junior team. When registering, kindly note which teams are designated as junior teams. There will be an "open" Junior Finals Round, giving the top four junior teams the chance to debate in front of an audience. Top junior teams and speakers will receive awards for excellence in their division and will also be eligible for overall tournament awards.

Judging: Our Adjudication Core is yet to be determined; more information will be released at a later date.

Accommodations: If your club needs help finding accommodation in Toronto, contact us at harthousehs2016@gmail.com and we will be happy to help you.

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Food: Light dinner will be provided on Friday night as well as lunch on Saturday. There will be no breakfast on Saturday. Any dietary concerns (inc. severe allergies, kosher, halal, vegan, etc.) should be indicated on the registration form so that we can properly accommodate your needs.

Registration: This year's tournament will be large, with an initial cap of 132 teams and a team cap of eight teams per school. The cap has been set to ensure that all rooms receive high quality judging; any increase will be due to high interest expressed by the coaches as well as an increase in the number of judges available to us. As per usual, coaches will not be asked to judge.

The registration deadline is January 20th, 2015. We advise coaches to register their teams as quickly as possible in order to secure a spot. As in past years, there will be a waiting list. The tournament cost has been set at \$130 per team, with a deposit of \$65 per team, in order to encourage greater participation and accessibility. If the deposit of \$65 per team is not received by January 20th, spaces for your teams will no longer be secure. Furthermore, the deposit is non-refundable after the registration deadline. If your club cannot meet the registration cost, please inform the tournament directors, as there are funds available to subsidize clubs with financial needs.

Hart House is willing to accept cheques or credit cards as forms of payment. Cheques should be made out to the "Hart House Debates Committee". If you choose to pay by credit card, please fax the following credit card information to us: credit card type (Visa/MC), name on credit card, credit card number, expiration date, a photocopy of the front and back of the card, and a signature of the person who owns the credit card.

Out of respect for your fellow competitors, we ask that teams arrive on time; if this is potentially problematic due to travel arrangements, please inform us as soon as possible so that we can try to adjust the schedule to accommodate you. We reserve the right to drop teams that unnecessarily delay the tournament. A finalized schedule will be released closer to the tournament date, but as a rough estimate, we would like to close registration and begin introductions and briefings on Friday at 3:00 PM.

Style Guide/More Information: The Hart House Debates Committee will release a preparation package in January. The package will contain a style guide with tips on note-taking, case-construction, refutation, role-fulfillment, and the finer points of debating, as well as a schedule, a map of the campus, directions and information about Hart House itself.

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For all general inquiries, call 647-961-1780 or fax 416-978-8387.

To register, email harthousehs2016@gmail.com.

We look forward to seeing you at Hart House,

Angela Hou, Mattea Roach, and Venus Wang

Directors, Hart House High School Tournament, 2016

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Tournament Schedule

Friday, February 19th, 2016

1:00-3:00 PM	Registration
3:00-4:00 PM	Introductions and Briefings
4:00-5:45 PM	Round #1
5:45-6:30 PM	Dinner
6:30-8:15 PM	Round #2
8:15-10:00 PM	Round #3

Saturday, February 20th, 2016

9:00-9:30 AM	Arrivals; Roll Call
9:30-11:15 AM	Round #4
11:15 AM-1:00 PM	Round #5 and Coaches Forum
1:00-1:45 PM	Lunch
1:45-3:30 PM	Round #6 (Hidden Quarters)
3:30-5:15 PM	Semifinals and Junior Finals
5:15-7:00 PM	Grand Finals
7:00-7:30 PM	Awards Ceremony

This schedule is subject to change. Exact room locations will be announced once they are confirmed.

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Preliminary Registration Form

E-mail a completed preliminary registration form to harthousehs2016@gmail.com or fax it to Hart House, University of Toronto, at 416-978-8387. You will receive an invoice for the number of teams requested, and link for secure credit card payment, or can submit a cheque to:

Hart House Debates Committee
7 Hart House Circle
Toronto, Ontario M5S 3H3

By the January 20th deadline, we require a completed preliminary registration form, payment, and a completed team registration form, which will be available for your online completion.

(copy the boxes and fill them in to fit the number of teams being registered)

School Information
School:
Address:
Number of Teams (cap of eight):
Coach Information
Email:
Phone:
Dietary Requirements and Allergies? (e.g. vegetarian, kosher, halal, vegan)

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Registration Form

(copy the boxes and fill them in to fit the number of teams being registered)

Team Information
Team #:
1. Name (first, last):
Gender:
Dietary Requirements? (e.g. vegetarian, kosher, halal, vegan)
If so, do you have any allergies we should know about? (please explain)
2. Name (first, last):
Gender
Dietary Requirements? (e.g. vegetarian, kosher, halal, vegan)
If so, do you have any allergies we should know about? (please explain)