

January 2010

It is my pleasure to invite you to attend the 2010 CEDA National Debate Tournament hosted by the University of California, Berkeley, March 24-28, 2010. We are excited for the first CEDA Nationals and NDT to be jointly hosted by a single university and at a single hotel/ convention facility. We have worked to create a great end of the year experience and we hope you join us in the Bay Area.

We are inviting all teams to attend this tournament. There are no entry limits and in addition to the open division championship we will be offering the second novice breakout elimination debates.

This invitation will provide all of the necessary information to enter and prepare to attend the tournament. Please review the materials, because there are several changes designed to improve your experience. The most significant change is that you enter the tournament 100% online. All registration information can, for the first time, be submitted online without the use of any traditional mail service.

Over the next few weeks we will update tournament information at the dedicated tournament thread in at cedadebate.org/forum as needed. Please feel free to contact me at (213) 915-8201 or stables@usc.edu if you have any questions.

We look forward to seeing you all in Northern California.

Gordon Stables, CEDA President

CEDA Statement of Principles and Tournament Governance

The Cross Examination Debate Association is committed to promoting ethical communication behavior as an important part of an activity that maintains a deep respect for freedom of expression. Its members recognize that the adversarial and competitive nature of academic debate places participant students, educators, judges and tournament administrators in the position of having to weigh the merits of competing strategies that may have ethical implications. Related to this principle is the belief that all members of this community will have access to CEDA debate activities without regard to race, creed, age, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, or non-disqualifying handicap.

In recognition that the Cross Examination Debate Association is an association of professional educators committed to promoting a respectful form of argumentation; the Association recognizes that behaviors which belittle, degrade, demean, or otherwise dehumanize others are not in the best interest of the activity because they interfere with the goals of education and personal growth. All CEDA participants should recognize the rights of others and communicate with respect for opponents, colleagues, critics, tournament hosts and audience members.

CEDA participants should also adhere to the CEDA Constitution, CEDA By-laws, and local, state and federal laws. Behaviors by any tournament participants occurring at Association supported, sanctioned or sponsored events that violate this standard of a healthy educational environment should be recognized as "Unprofessional Conduct;" and inconsistent with the mission of the Association. These actions are subject to sanction(s) by the Association. The community should continue to emphasize best practices for ethical and respectful forms of argumentation.

In keeping with these principles, the CEDA National Tournament will abide by the guidelines and procedures of CEDA's Statement on Discrimination and Sexual Harassment and the CEDA Statement of Ethical Principles. Please inform your students that a Sexual Harassment Officer will be available to hear any complaints at the tournament.

Entering the Tournament

I. Fees

Every school that enters CEDA Nationals must be a member of CEDA (i.e., current with their 2009-2010 CEDA dues). You may pay your dues along with your entry fees.

Despite tough economic times and additional costs incurred by the 2010 tournament, tournament fees are actually slightly lower than in 2009. This however, means that the planning will need to be very precise. We ask for your cooperation in correctly entering and quickly updating your entries if changes become necessary.

Entry fees are \$120.00 per team.
Judging fees are \$120.00 per uncovered two-person unit.
Host fees are \$40.00 per school.
Shuttle fees (optional) are \$40.00 per person.

Programs designed as 'emerging' should confirm their discounts in their entry fees when registering.

Payment can be made directly to CEDA using our paypal store linked at www.cedadebate.org You may also pay by check, made directly to CEDA. All mailed items should sent to: Jeff Jarman, Elliott School Of Communication, Wichita State University, 1845 Fairmount, Wichita, KS 67260-0031

All entries made by March 5th, 2010 will pay the above charges. Entries will be accepted until Friday March 12th, 2010, but entries made after March 5th, 2010 will incur a \$25 late charge added to each of the above stated fees. NO registrations will be accepted after March 12th. If your fees are not paid in full by the time of awards, your school will not be eligible to receive sweepstakes trophies or advance in elimination rounds. Changes, including drops or name changes, will be accepted by phone or email. If you make a name change after you mail in the registration, you are required to update your verification forms to include these students.

To make a change in your entry please contact Gordon Stables at (213) 915-8201 or stables@usc.edu

Your registration is not complete until you complete the check-in registration on March 24th. You will not be entered into the tournament if you do not complete check-in registration during the designated time for registration. If travel delays beyond your control occur, please see the tabroom staff as soon as you reach the tournament to verify your entry and judging preferences.

II. Entering your school, team and judges.

You may enter CEDA Nationals online at <http://www.debateresults.com/> The process will resemble other tournaments, but there are some additional requirements so please submit or make sure the site is correct for each of the following:

- A. Your teams and judges
- B. The total number of individuals in your party
- C. Email and cell numbers for all judges. This will be especially important as we utilize a system that allows email ballot entry.
- D. Judge philosophies for all judges
- E. Judge preclusions
- F. Any hired judging
- G. ADA information for any tournament participants. The tournament will make reasonable accommodations for all qualified tournament participants. Please include the name of individuals and the nature of the accommodation requested in your entry.

Sending congratulations to your universities: This year we will also be sending congratulation letters to the administrations of all teams clearing at CEDA Nationals whose directors provide an administrator's name and address. Please email that to stables@usc.edu

Hybrids: The practice of entering hybrid school teams is allowed. Teams may be composed of two students from different member schools, as long as the judging requirements are met. All hybrids should be confirmed with the tournament director to ensure proper round pairing.

Judging Requirements: Each school is responsible for providing one qualified judge for the first two teams entered. If more than two teams are entered, the school must either provide additional qualified judges or pay a judging fee of \$120.00 per uncovered team. In order to assure the best judging pool possible, *every qualified judge* should be in the pool for at least two preliminary debates. The tournament is also interested in hiring judges for additional rounds, please contact Gordon Stables if you are interested.

Judging Practices: All judges must render a decision in each assigned round. One team must win and the opposing team must lose. Speaker points on a range of 0 - 100 must be assigned to each speaker. The tournament will provide a scale for judges to use in assigning points. We ask that all judges seek to provide some level of differentiation between the points assigned to each speaker in a debate.

Decision and Discussion Time: In order to facilitate the tournament, we are requiring that all judges decide each preliminary debate by 2:45 after the announced start time. Fifteen minutes minimum will be allocated to post round discussion of the decision, but we must ask that the post-round cease 15 minutes after the decision deadline so debaters can move on to their next debate with adequate and fair time.

Judging Philosophies: All judges must provide a judging philosophy statement or they cannot judge. Philosophy statements from all judges for a school must accompany the school's entry and be entered electronically on <http://debateresults.com>.

III. Eligibility

Participating schools must be members of CEDA at the time of registration. Each debate team entered in this tournament must consist of two students, each of whom presents one constructive speech and one rebuttal speech. Unless otherwise provided dispensation by the CEDA Executive Council, the term "students" is defined as "officially enrolled undergraduate students in good standing at the college or university they represent in competition." Tournament contestants must not have competed for more than the maximum of five different, not necessarily consecutive, academic years. Participation in other forms of post-secondary debate will factor into eligibility calculation when conditions in subsequent

subsections are met. Three-person teams and one-person teams will not be eligible to enter or compete in the tournament. Students may participate in no more than four CEDA National Tournaments.

In the spring of 2009, we clarified our rules with regard to enrollment documents. Our new constitutional requirement specifies that, *“Each program entering the National CEDA Tournament is required to submit official documentation from their college or university verifying that each competitor is currently enrolled and in good standing.”* There is no required form for these documents. As long as your materials satisfy these criteria they will be accepted.

Thanks to the work of Jon Brusckie and legislative changes to our governing documents we can now have all schools submit their eligibility documents electronically. By Friday, March 5, 2010 (March 12th, 2010 for late entrants) all competitors must have submitted documents to confirm their academic eligibility. Documents can be entered online at <http://commweb.fullerton.edu/jbruschke/web/EligUpload.aspx>

If you prefer to mail eligibility documents, please send them to: Gordon Stables, USC – Annenberg. 3502 Watt Way, Los Angeles, CA 90089-0281

IV. Tournament Hotel

The tournament hotel for CEDA Nationals is the Downtown Oakland Marriott and Convention Center. This outstanding facility will host our assemblies and elimination rounds. It is the official tournament hotel for both the NDT and CEDA this year. We have secured a tournament rate of \$117 per night for up to 4 people per room, which includes internet access. We have a block of rooms and the block expires a month before the tournament begins. You can make reservations now by calling 1-888-236-2427 and asking for the national debate tournaments block. Please make your reservations at your earliest convenience. The cutoff date is February 24th but the block may fill before that. If you are attending both the NDT and CEDA you may make reservations that extend across both tournaments. For general info about the hotel go to <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/oakdt-oakland-marriott-city-center/> When making reservations please ask for the national debate tournament block.

You can directly make reservations at <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/oakdt-oakland-marriott-city-center/?toDate=4/3/10&groupCode=nadnada&fromDate=3/18/10&app=resvlink>

We are strongly encouraging schools to consider signing up for the tournament shuttles. Please remember that despite our negotiations, each tournament guest will be required to pay for parking at both the hotel and campus each hotel. The self-parking rate for the hotel is \$16 per day and the valet rate is \$26 per night.

The nature of an urban tournament does limit the availability of geographically close and low cost hotel options. If your program is interested in locating an option, please let us know at stables@usc.edu and we can help you match us geographic areas and potential hotel options.

Evidence/People shuttling: We can get you to and from campus for \$40 per person per tournament. We are utilizing charter buses and must have a solid count in advance of the tournament. We will accept all shuttle reservations made by the entry deadline (Friday March 5th). We cannot guarantee that any there will be any seats for individuals seeking use of the tournament shuttle after March 5th.

There is also a BART train station right across the street from the hotel and one 5 minutes from campus if you wish to go back to the hotel early in the day. You will be responsible for getting yourself to and from

the airport. We recommend two shuttle services: Bayporter (bayporter.com) or Super Shuttle (supershuttle.com).

Air Travel: Northern California is accessible by both the San Francisco and Oakland airports. The Oakland International airport is much closer to campus and is served by discount carriers such as Southwest and JetBlue. If you are interested in other options, the San Jose airport is approximately fifty miles from the campus.

2010 CEDA National Tournament Schedule

CEDA is committed to offering a high quality tournament experience. We also recognize that the average tournament day is very long. We have designed to a schedule that is realistic and should allow participants to leave at a reasonable time each evening. To stay on schedule, we are providing more pre-set and lag powered debates, utilizing a 2:45 decision time for all debates and adopting a voluntary system allowing judges to email their ballots to the tab room. . We ask for everyone's cooperation in doing your part to respect the schedule, so we can balance the rigor and quality of life for all participants.

Wednesday, March 24th – All Events at Convention Center attached to Marriott

2:00 PM	All judge preference forms must be entered	
2:00-3:00 PM	Executive Council Meeting	Room 203
3:00-4:30 PM	CEDA Business Meeting	Room 203
5:00 - 7:30 PM	Registration Confirmation	Room 208
8:00-9:00 PM	Awards Ceremony - (Day 1 Pairings Released at Awards Ceremony conclusion)	Calvin Simmons Ballroom (2nd Floor)

Thursday, March 25 – All Rounds at Cal campus

8:00 AM	Round 1
11:00 AM	Round 2
	Lunch on you own
2:45 PM	Round 3
6:15 PM	Round 4

Friday, March 26 – All Rounds at Cal campus

6:30 AM	Pairings released for rounds 5&6 online and at the Marriott
8:00 AM	Round 5
11:00 AM	Round 6
	Lunch on your own
2:45 PM	Round 7
6:15 PM	Round 8
9:30 PM	President's Reception
9:30 PM	Release of teams and judges for the first elimination round

Saturday, March 27 - All events at Cal Campus

8:00 AM	Partial Quad (if necessary)
10:00 AM	Release of pairings for Triple Octafinals

*** This is only if there are not Quad Octafinals. If quads are necessary, the triples pairings will be available immediately after the conclusion of quads.

11:00 AM	Triple Octafinals & Release of the full bracket
3:00 PM	Double Octafinals & Novice Breakout Semifinals
7:00 PM	Awards Ceremony (On Campus in Dwinelle 155)
9:30 PM	All Tournament Reception at the Marriott Calvin Simmons Ballroom (2nd Floor)

Sunday, March 28 - All rounds at Marriott

7:00 AM	Release of Octafinal judge cards
7:10 AM	Judge cards must be returned to the tab room
8:00 AM	Octafinal round
12:00 PM	Quarterfinal round & Novice Finals
4:00 PM	Semifinal round
8:00 PM	Final round

Tournament Procedures

Tournament Staff: Gary Larson, Wayne Kraemer, Gordon Stables, Mike Davis, M.L. Sandoz, Kathryn Rubino, Jeff Jarman, Greg Achten, Becky Opsata and Marissa Silber. Individual staff members will be dismissed from the tab room should they have teams in elimination rounds.

Equipment: Students using AV equipment in their debate rounds are asked to transport their own equipment. We cannot guarantee any debate team will be placed in a room with available AV equipment.

Divisions: All preliminary competition will be held in one division. This division is open to all eligible debaters. All debates will operate on a 9-3-6 model with 10 minutes per team for preparation. There will be a separate elimination round bracket for teams comprised of two Novices and declaring during the registration, their intent to participate in the Novice elims should they qualify.

Judging Assignment Procedure and Preference Forms: Assignment of judges will be done according to a mutual preference system from an available pool of critics. More details on the precise methodology will follow. Judges failing to pick up an assigned ballot will be assessed a \$30.00 fee. This fee will need to be paid to the Treasurer prior to the Awards Assembly. Any ballot not picked up in rounds occurring after the Awards Ceremony, will also result in a \$30.00 fee, billed to the school for whom the judge represents.

Preference forms turned in before 2:00 PM on Wednesday (3/24) will be honored for the whole tournament. Forms turned in after the 2:00 PM deadline but before the beginning of Round 1 will be honored in all rounds after Round 5. No forms will be accepted after the start of Round 1. Beginning with the Octafinal round until the semifinal round, we will also supply strike cards consisting of five critics selected by the mutual preference system. Each team will be allowed to strike one critic to determine the final panel of judges.

To assure that judges are assigned fairly, it will be the obligation of coaches, judges, and contestants to indicate any conflicts on the entry form. We urge judges to avoid the appearance of impropriety by excusing themselves from hearing teams with whom they have recent close association or imminent future associations. Associations include judging and traveling with a team, coaching a member of a team, being a recent graduate of that school, being romantically involved with member(s) of the team, etc.

Judges should also excuse themselves from judging teams from schools at which they are planning to coach next year.

Tobacco, Alcohol and Illegal Substances Policy: There will be no smoking, alcohol consumption or use of illegal substances in any competition at the 2010 CEDA National Tournament. Individuals violating this rule should expect to be asked to leave the tournament. We ask that all Directors of Forensics, coaches, and judges communicate this expectation to student competitors.

Matching: Rounds 1-4 will be preset according to rankings that evaluate each team's competitive record. Each team will debate a roughly equal schedule of a team in each of eight ranking groupings. Rounds 5 and 6 will be power matched from the first four debates with one high-low and one high-high pairing within win-loss brackets.

Elimination Rounds: Teams will break to elimination rounds and be placed in bracket order based on the following formula: win/loss record, adjusted team speaker points dropping the highest and lowest rounds, total team speaker points, double high/low, and strength of schedule. Brackets will not be broken in elimination rounds should two teams from the same school be scheduled to meet each other. Mixed-team schools will be granted "same team" status for matching purposes. In the event that two teams from the same school are scheduled to debate in the elimination rounds, the school involved must indicate to the tournament director which team will advance at the beginning of that round.

Novice Break Out Elimination Rounds: We will offer a breakout Elimination Round bracket for teams comprised of 2 Novices as per the CEDA definition. The bracket will qualify the top four eligible Novice entries. The Novice Breakout Bracket semifinals will take place during the open division double-Octofinals. The novice breakout finals will take place during the open division quarterfinals. All judges are obligated through the Double Octofinals of the National Tournament.

When you register please indicate any teams comprised of two Novice debaters who would like to be considered for the Novice Breakout Bracket. Judge preferences will be in effect for the Novice Breakout Bracket, with explicit instructions to the tab room staff, to first place judges in the National Championship Bracket rounds, then to place judges in the Novice Breakout Bracket rounds. A novice team may qualify and compete for the elimination rounds in the championship division. The only conflict would occur if and when a novice team reached the double-Octofinals. Any novice team qualifying for the Double Octofinals must continue to compete in the open division championship.

Awards: In addition to the annual CEDA awards, awards will be presented to all elimination round participants and to the top twenty speakers in the preliminary rounds. Sweepstakes awards will be presented as that information becomes available. Regional awards not already presented will be mailed to recipients at the conclusion of the National Tournament.