

**Bellingham United High School Tournament, Western Washington University
December 14th**

Dear Debate Coaches,

You are cordially invited to the Bellingham United High School forensics tournament to be held on December 14th. We are pleased to host you at Western Washington University in conjunction with Western's debate program. If you're unfamiliar with Bellingham United, we are Squalicum, Sehome, and Bellingham- the three high schools of the Bellingham School District. This will be my second time hosting a tournament, though some of you may remember that WWU used to host an annual high school tournament 10 years ago. We are glad to bring the high school debate community back to Bellingham and we hope you'll get a chance to tour our beautiful campus while visiting.

Please note- while we are hosting the tournament on campus, please make checks payable to Bellingham High School.

Aly Horry
Debate Coach, Bellingham, Squalicum, Sehome High Schools
Cell: 360-620-9664
E-mail: alyhorry@gmail.com

Dr. Steve Woods
Debate Coach, Professor WWU

Debate Events

For all debate, novices are considered 1st year debaters who have not trophied in novice division more than twice at tournaments with 15 or more schools. Juniors are 2nd and 3rd year debaters who have not trophied more than twice in junior division at tournaments with 15 or more schools. Open competitors are all others. Debaters may move up early, so a first year debater could be in junior or open.

Cross Examination Debate

1. We will offer three divisions: Novice, Junior, and Open unless numbers are low, in which case Junior and Open will be collapsed.
2. Novice teams must use the novice case areas approved by the WSFA
3. Computers are allowed. Please have a paper case ready to hand to an opponent or use a viewing computer. Competitors who refuse to allow an opponent to view a case may forfeit the round at judge discretion. See state guidelines on computer use.
4. To prevent damage, under NO circumstances are existing plugs to be pulled from walls to accommodate your laptop use, nor are any computers allowed to be plugged into our school computers to be plugged into wall sockets by judges or competitors.

Lincoln Douglas Debate

1. We will offer three divisions: Novice, Junior, and Open unless numbers are low, in which case Junior and Open will be collapsed.
2. We will be using the **November/December** Lincoln Douglas Debate. See CX #3 and #4 above on computer use.

Public Forum

1. We will offer three divisions: Novice, Junior, and Open unless numbers are low, in which case Junior and open will be collapsed
2. We will be using the **December** topic.
3. See CX #3 and #4 above on computer use.

Student Congress:

If numbers warrant, we will run novice and open houses in congress, but if not, they will be mixed houses. We will track top novices for awards either way. Make sure to note any competitors who are novices in your entry (first year of any debate). Congress competitors may use any of the bills or resolutions in the WIAA packet, but please note that if the school who wrote that piece of legislation is present, they have first priority of authorship. The method of determining congress winners will be scorer ranks from all three scorers, unless we are short of judges, in which case we will use ballot. Students may use computers, but they are expected to be on task and to use them for congress and not for doing homework or playing games. Internet access is not available, and students should not expect to have an outlet available, so fresh batteries are a must.

Rules:

State rules apply to everything. Refer to W.I.A.A. handbook. Rules interpretations and decisions are at the direction of tab in consultation with the tournament director, so questions and interpretations should be referred to them, and you should not penalize a competitor unless you are absolutely certain of the rule.

Judging Quotas:

One judge for every four LDers and PF teams. One judge for every four Congress entries. Please do your best to supply experienced judges but **we will supply judges at low-cost if needed** Please specify event preference and level competency and **we will do our best** to make sure your judges get those events and levels. Judges will need to sign in at the lobby of Communications Facility.

LD and PF will be double-flighted in order to use maximum tournament efficiency and to cover as many events as possible. We will try to use judges for the events they are registered to cover BUT we will need everyone to be flexible. This provides a diverse audience for the debaters AND keeps our tournament running on time.

Schools may hire policy, LD and PF judges for a fee:
\$20 for every uncovered debate entry

Schools will be charged if your judge fails to pick up a ballot or no-shows.

Please arrange with Aly prior to the tournament to hire judges! We want to make sure there is enough coverage.

To keep tournaments on time we will stress that all judges are to check into the hospitality room prior to each round starting. We are assigning ballots.

Location of Important Rooms:

Tournament Registration, maps, schedules: In the lobby of Communications Facility

Tab: Communications Facility 2nd floor

Hospitality Room/Judges' Lounge/Ballot pickup: Communications Facility 125

Ballot turn-in: Lobby of Communications Facility

Students' area: First floor of Communications Facility

Extemp Prep: Communications Facility 105

Awards: First floor of Communications Facility

NOTE: Tab is restricted to tab personnel only and the judge lounge is for judges and coaches only.

Awards

We will offer trophies and medals 1st-3rd if warranted by number of entries.

Debate: 1st, 2nd, 3rd in all divisions, all events. We do not offer speaker awards simply because they seem to either mirror top finish awards or be heavily influenced by one judge's low or high score.

Student Congress: 1st speaker in each house, regardless of novice/open status, 2nd and 3rd of each house get speaker award trophies, top PO in each house receives PO award

Registration

All registration will be done through www.forensicstournament.net, so please do not fax in entries.

We are trying to provide you with the best tournament experience possible, so please keep drops/adds, and judge no-shows to a minimum, as they are usually what cause a delay. **The final deadline for registration, changes, and drops is December 12th at 5:00 p.m.** and the registration site will close and lock entries at that point. No refunds for drops after that date. **Please only bring students that can compete for the entirety of the tournament.** Last year we had too many entries that could only participate for a few rounds and it was a detriment to the other competitors (not to mention a headache for Tab).

FEES: \$30 team fee, \$10LD/Congress entry, \$20 for Public Forum or Policy Team. All entries are done via Forensictournament.net, so please do not fax entries. Please make checks payable to: **Bellingham High School Debate**. **DO NOT send entries/payment to WWU.**

SCHEDULE

Saturday December 14th:

We want to keep this tournament running on time! Judges/coaches, please make sure you have your ballot prior to start time of next round. A runner will be picking up ballots from judges at each building. Please fill out your ballot first and then give a short critique. Please do not exceed more than a few comments.

Registration 8am-8:45am

Rd 1 Debate/congress 9am-11am

Rd 2 Debate/congress 11:15am-1:15pm

Rd 3 Debate/congress 1:30pm-3:30pm

Rd 4 Debate 3:45-5:45pm

Finals/Awards 5:45pm-7:45pm (Awards and Finals will happen concurrently.

Awards will be in Communications Facility

Registration will be in the Communications Facility lobby(see map)

LD and PF will be double-flighted in order to use maximum tournament efficiency and to cover as many events as possible. We will try to use judges for the events they are registered to cover BUT we will need everyone to be flexible. This provides a wide audience for the debaters AND keeps our tournament running on time.

Printable Campus Map: <http://www.wwu.edu/sites/default/files/campusmap.pdf>

We will be located mostly around South Campus (Academic West, Communications Facility, Environmental Sciences, and Arntzen Hall).

Parking Map: <https://www.ps.wwu.edu/parking/map/index.aspx>

South campus is close to parking lot 12A (lots are labeled) which is where you will want to park. FREE all Saturday/Sunday.

Directions to WWU:

From Interstate 5, take Exit #252 (Samish Way and WWU). Turn left onto Samish Way and follow the signs for Bill McDonald Parkway and the University Campus. Turn left onto Bill McDonald Parkway, following the road until you see gravel parking lots on either side of you (past Campus Services building on right). Parking lot 12A will be on your right.

Food:

We will have a hospitality room for judges and coaches on Saturday. Coffee and tea service will be available throughout the tournament. Students can visit the local eateries around campus, though hours are limited Saturday.

This is graduation weekend for WWU so please note eateries on campus will have limited hours, or may be closed. There are also numerous eating establishments near campus. Please note traffic and parking may be more congested than usual due to graduation. Please plan accordingly but we expect traffic to lessen as the day goes on.