

Pat Kennedy Round Robin Tournament

November 6, 2009 – University of the Pacific

August 6, 2009

Dear Colleague:

It is my pleasure to invite you and your top parliamentary debate team to make application to the fourth annual Pat Kennedy Round Robin Tournament. In just its fourth year, this tournament has become one of the most competitive invitation-only tournaments in the nation. We hope you will consider making application for this event.

Born of a desire to provide an outstanding weekend of debate competition in Northern California as well as encourage innovation in tournament formatting, the University of the Pacific welcomes all competitive bids. The tournament will feature twelve of the top NPDA schools in the nation in a modified double-elimination format tournament. Two rounds of preliminary competition will lead to elimination rounds (with all teams advancing), culminating in two single elimination rounds of debate to crown a tournament champion. This tournament, while offering the top-level competition of other Round Robin style tournaments around the nation, offers more teams more debates than any other format. We believe you will enjoy this unique tournament format.

While tournament particulars are noted below, each school will be required to supply one full-time critic in addition to the \$100.00 entry fee. Each team member and critic will be provided with a continental breakfast, lunch and awards dinner as well as a tournament jacket with their name and school embroidered. If you are able to attend the tournament, please respond to mbates@pacific.edu or konrad.hack@cui.edu by September 15th with the names of both debaters and the name of the critic who will accompany them.

We are very excited about the upcoming tournament weekend. I look forward to seeing your squad on the 6th of November in Stockton, CA.

For Pacific Forensics,

Dr. Marlin Bates, IV
Director of Forensics

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PROCEDURAL ISSUES

Disclosure

Ballots are absolutely due when indicated on the schedule. Especially for a tournament with multiple critics in each debate, one critic may return ballots while the other(s) give feedback. Only with your help can we stay on this very tight schedule. Delays attributed to judges may, at the tournament director's discretion, result in penalties to that school's teams.

Preparation

Prepared briefs may be used in preparation but not consulted in the competition room. In accordance with NPDA rules and current procedure, coaches are free to offer any advice to debaters provided that they do not hinder a timely start to the round!

Warm Room

Per NPDA Championship Tournament rules, the tab room will make results of preceding rounds available to debaters in a specified location. Every effort will be made to ensure that postings are timely, but keeping the tournament on time will supersede posting results.

PAIRINGS OF ROUNDS

Preliminary Round Debates

- Two preliminary rounds will be adjudicated by two critics in each debate. All teams competing in the tournament will advance to the double elimination rounds.
- Following Round Two, teams will be rank ordered first by ballots, then by total speaker points, followed by adjusted speaker points and finally judge variance (Z-Score).

Double Elimination Round Debates

- The pairings for the first elimination round will be high-low based up on seeding. The highest seeded team will meet the lowest seeded team.
- In the second and subsequent double elimination rounds, the remaining teams will be divided into two brackets – the undefeated and once defeated brackets. Teams will meet in the high/low fashion described above within each win/loss brackets.
 - In the event that the number of teams remaining is an odd number, the highest remaining seed who has not yet received a bye will be awarded a bye.
 - In the event that the number of teams in the undefeated bracket is an odd number, the lowest remaining seed from the once defeated bracket will be “pulled up” to meet the highest remaining team in the undefeated bracket.
- Double-elimination debates will be adjudicated by three critics. A critic that saw a team in preliminary rounds may judge that team again in double-elimination rounds.

Single Elimination Round Debates

- Once the field of teams without two losses has been reduced to four teams (this occurs following Round Six), single elimination debates will occur.
- Teams will be seeded first by their win/loss record in the elimination rounds followed by the seeding of each team from preliminary rounds.
- The single-elimination debates will be adjudicated by five critics. Teams may again be seen by a critic that saw the team in previous debates.

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ENTRY FEES AND JUDGING

We plan to regale you with fantastic trophies, quality competition, delicious meals and high-quality guest critics – all of which costs money. Consequently, each team entering the tournament will be assessed a \$100.00 entry fee.

Every School must supply one full-time critic who possesses a bachelor's degree or has exhausted her/his eligibility to compete. NO undergraduate with remaining eligibility may judge. Each critic is committed to the first six rounds of the tournament. Teams advancing to the fifth round (Elim 3) are committed through the semifinal round.

DIRECTIONS AND LODGING

To the University of the Pacific Campus

From Interstate 5, take the March Lane Exit and head East on March Lane. Make a right on Pacific Avenue. The University of the Pacific will be on your right.

Tournament Hotel: Holiday Inn

Thursday Registration and the *Hospitality Suite for Coaches and Critics* will be located HERE. The tournament rate for this hotel is \$79.00 + tax, 1-4 people.

The full service Holiday Inn - Stockton offers some of the finest accommodations in Stockton. Located off Interstate 5, the Stockton Hotel is the closest property to the University of the Pacific and is conveniently nearby many restaurants and shopping. A few highlights include Complimentary High Speed Wireless Internet Access in all rooms and public areas, a free hot breakfast is included in the price.

111 East March Lane, Stockton, California 95207

Reservations: 209-474-3301

Phone: (209) 474-3301 **Fax:** (209) 474-1701

Please ask for the "Paul Winters code"

Additional Lodging: Comfort Inn

To help cut your costs, we have secured an even lower rate for a new and nearby hotel. The hotel also features a free continental breakfast for all guests, as well as free wireless internet in all rooms for you and your students. This is a good BUDGET hotel offering a special rate for folks attending the tournament. The hotel is located near I-5 and March Lane, an area that features an array of restaurants. They have agreed to a special **group rate of \$69.99/room** per night for 1-4 people per room. A Breakfast (including waffles) is INCLUDED at that price. To make reservations, please contact them directly at:

2654 West March Lane, Stockton, CA, US, 95207

Phone: (209) 478-4300 **Fax:** (209) 478-1872

Ask for the "Paul Winters" Code.

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Schedule of Events

THURSDAY EARLY REGISTRATION AND SWING INFORMATION

See Marlin Bates - Hospitality Suite at The Radisson

7:30-8:00 a.m.	REGISTRATION – Grace Covell Dining
8:00	Topic Announced: Round One
8:20-9:05	Round One Debates (12 Teams, 6 Debates)
9:25	Ballots due to Table
9:25	Topic Announced: Round Two
9:45-10:30	Round Two Debates (12 Teams, 6 Debates)
10:50	Ballots due to Table
11:05	Topic Announced: Round Three
11:25-12:10	Elim Round One Debates (12 Teams, 6 Debates)
12:30	Ballots due to Table
12:15-12:45	LUNCH BREAK – Grace Covell Dining
12:45	Topic Announced: Round Four
1:05-1:50	Elim Round Two Debates (12 Teams, 6 Debates)
2:10	Ballots due to Table
2:20	Topic Announced: Round Five
2:40-3:25	Elim Round Three Debates (9 Teams, 4 Debates)
3:45	Ballots due to Table
3:55	Topic Announced: Round Six
4:15-5:00	Elim Round Four Debates (6 Teams, 3 Debates)
5:20	Ballots due to Table
5:30	Topic Announced: Semifinals
5:50-6:35	Semifinal Round Debates
6:55	Ballots due to Table
6:00 P.M.	Reception: Admin & Alumni–Raymond Great Hall
6:45 P.M.	AWARDS BANQUET – Raymond Great Hall
7:55	Topic Announced: Finals
8:15-9:00 P.M.	Final Round Debate